

General Information

BALLOT ISSUES FORUM

The Colorado Legislative Committee, Common Cause, and the League of Women Voters of Denver are sponsoring a Fall Forum on October 5th at the Montview Presbyterian Church located at 1980 Dahlia Street. The program will be a discussion of the pros and cons of the ballot issues. There will be a light dinner (undefined at this time) at 5:00 p.m. followed by the presentation from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. All are welcome. For more information, call 303-321-7571 or Marge Fisch at ralphmarj@msn.com.

GOOD-BYE AND THANKS FROM TYLER GIBBS

Tyler Gibbs, the Director of Plan Implementation for the Denver Department of Community Planning and Development, left Denver city government effective August 31st to become the Planning Director in Steamboat Springs. He sent the following note to the members of the INC Zoning and Planning Committee:

Thank you to all at INC for the very kind notes you sent recently on the occasion of my retirement from the City of Denver. It is a great privilege for all of us who have the opportunity to collaborate to preserve, sustain, and improve the city we love. Thank you for your encouragement, support, and constructive criticism through the years.

BABY SHOWER for DENVER HEALTH'S NEWBORNS in NEED!

Please join Councilwoman Carol Boigon on **Sunday, September 19th, from 1 to 3 p.m.**, in her backyard at 2001 Ivy Street for a baby shower to help thousands of at-risk babies at Denver Health this year. Your gift of one or more **new** baby essentials will help at-risk moms and babies have a good start going home. The Denver Municipal Band will play while we enjoy iced tea, hot dogs, and popcorn. The wish list of new items for Denver's new babies is (**All New Newborn Baby Essentials**) disposable diapers (size 1 or 2), wipes, diaper bags, onesies, undershirts, sleepers, sweaters, blankets, bibs, socks, booties, baby wash, baby shampoo, nursing supplies (pumps, pads, cream, et cetera), baby ear thermometers, baby picture books, infant toys, car seats, umbrella strollers, cribs, and crib sheets. **Remember, gifts must be NEW.**

Four thousand babies are born each year at Denver Health; 92 percent of their families are living below the poverty line and 42 percent of Denver Health's patients are uninsured.

Please reply to Rachel at 720-865-8100 or boigonatlarge@ci.denver.co.us

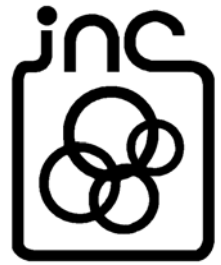
2011 OLD HOUSE FAIR

Denver's Old House Society announces today that the 2011 Old House Fair will be held Saturday, February 5, 2011, at the Tivoli on the Auraria campus, 900 Auraria Parkway. Specifically for owners of houses at least 50-years-old, the event includes workshops, exhibits, and tours of the historic venue. The date was chosen to coincide with the 2011 Saving Places Conference, held by Colorado Preservation, Inc., on February 2nd through 4th. The Society also announced the Old House Fair's first sponsor is the University of Colorado Denver's College of Architecture and Planning.

The Old House Fair attracts participants from throughout Denver, the metropolitan area, Boulder, communities along the I-25 corridor from Pueblo to Fort Collins, and mountain towns such as Estes Park and Evergreen. Workshops focus on enhancing energy efficiency, maintaining and restoring old houses, and appropriate design elements for specific architectural styles and eras. Exhibitors include companies that specialize in old houses and retailers and artists who cater to owners of Victorians, Bungalows, Denver Squares, Tudors, and Mid-century Modern homes.

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September
2010

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Denver Neighborhood
Connection

INC Member and Associate Organizations (Patrons in Bold)

Member Organizations

ABC Streets Assn
 Alamo Placita Neighbors Assn
 Athmar Park Neighborhood Assn
 Baker Historic Neighborhood Assn
Ball Park Neighborhood Assn
 Belcaro Park Homeowners Assn
 Bellevue-Hale Neighborhood Assn
 Berkeley-Regis United Neighbors
 Bonnie Brae Neighborhood Assn
Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods Inc
 Cherry Creek North Neighborhood Assn
 Cherry Hills Vista Community Assn.
 Cherry Point Homeowners Assn
 Civic Association of Clayton
 Colfax on the Hill, Inc
 College View Neighborhood Assn
 Congress Park Neighbors
 Cook Park Neighborhood Assn
Cory-Merrill Neighborhood Assn
 Cranmer Park Hilltop Civic Assn
Crestmoor Park Homeowners Assn 2nd filing
 Crestmoor Park Homeowners Inc Filing One
 Cultural Arts Residential Org (CARO)
 Curtis Park Neighbors
 East Montclair Neighborhood Assn
 Elyria Neighborhood Assn
 Elyria Swansea/Globeville Business Assn.
 Far Northeast Neighbors, Inc
 George Washington Homeowner's Assn. Inc.
 Globeville Civic Assn #1
 Golden Triangle Assn. of Denver
Golden Triangle Museum District
 Greater Mar-Lee Community Org
Greater Park Hill Community, Inc.
 Green Valley Ranch Citizen's Advisory Board
 Hampden Heights Civic Assn
 Harkness Heights Neighborhood Assn
 Highland United Neighbors Inc.
 Hilltop Heritage Assn LLC
 Historic Montclair Community Association, Inc.
 Humboldt Street Neighborhood Assn

Hutchinson Hills/Willow Point HOA
 Inspiration Point Neighborhood Assn
 Ivy Street Neighbors Assn
 Lighthouse at the Breakers HOA
Lower Downtown Neighborhood Assn (LoDoNA)
 Lowry Community Master Assn
 Lowry United Neighborhoods
Master Homeowner Assn for Green Valley Ranch
Mayfair Neighbors, Inc
 Mayfair Park Neighborhood Assn
 Montbello 20-20
 Morrison Road Business Association of Denver
 Neighbors and Friends for Cheesman Park
 North City Park Civic Assn
 Northwest Quadrant Assn
Overland Park Neighborhood Assn
 Park Forest Homeowner's Assn
 Platt Park Peoples Assn
 Rangeview Neighborhood Assn
 Rosedale Harvard Gulch N.A.
 Ruby Hill Neighborhood Assn - RHINO
 Sloan's Lake Neighborhood Assn
 South City Park Neighborhood Assn
 South Hilltop Neighborhood Assn
Southmoor Park East Homeowners Assn
 Southmoor Park Homeowners Assn
Southwest Improvement Council - SWIC
Stapleton Master Community Assn
 Stapleton United Neighbors
 Stokes Place Green Bowers HOA
 Sunnyside United Neighbors, Inc
 The Unsinkables
University Hills Neighborhood Assn
University Park Community Council
Upper Downtown Development Org
 Villa Park Neighborhood Assn
 Virginia Village/Ellis Community Assn
 Warrens University Community Council
 Washington Park East Neighborhood Assn
 West Highland Neighborhood Assn

West University Community Assn (WUCA)

West Washington Park Neighborhood Assn

Whittier Neighborhood Assn

Associates

Bernie Jones PhD
Bill Johnston
 Bonna Gayhart
 Brad & Christine Klafehn
 Cathee Fisher
 Clerk & Recorder Stephanie Y. O'Malley
Councilman Doug Linkhart
 Councilman Paul Lopez
Councilwoman Carla Madison
 Councilwoman Carol Boigon
 Councilwoman Jeanne Robb
Councilwoman Marcia Johnson,
Council President Peggy Lehmann
 Dennis Gallagher, Auditor
Denver Health Medical Center
Denver Mayor's Office
 Denver Public Schools
Denver Water
Downtown Denver Partnership, Inc.
 FRESC
Gertie Grant
 League of Women Voters of Denver
 Leetsdale Cop Shop
 LoDo District Inc.
 Rosy Griffiths
 Sandra D. Shreve
 Stephen Griffin
 Vicki Gritters

The only organization of its kind in the state, Denver's Old House Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating owners of old houses and helping them protect their neighborhoods. Founded on Colorado Day, August 1st, 2008, Denver's Old House Society, Inc. is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes and works through educational and advocacy efforts and does so in conjunction with local people and organizations.

Contact: Elizabeth Wheeler, 303-916-4359 or historicgenie@aol.com.

Delegation Recap

By Ray Ehrenstein

The August 14th Delegates Meeting was brought to order by Chair Steve Nissen at 9 a.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Our hosts were the Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods (CHUN) and we were greeted with the news that, taped underneath some chairs, there should be tickets to CHUN's upcoming wine tasting. There was a general hunt for the lucky seats. After some successful finds we proceeded. Councilwoman Jeanne Robb was introduced and she welcomed us. Then she took a moment to introduce Tony Young who will be handling Heather Barry's Neighborhood Liaison job whilst she is on maternity leave. Steve took a moment to have us approve the minutes of the July Delegates meeting. Karen Cuthbertson moved and Steve Lawrence seconded that motion and they were approved unanimously.

The Chair then gave Jeanne Robb the opportunity to explain Council Bill 607 that she introduced before City Council to limit the growing of marijuana in residential neighborhoods. It seems that Council approved in January a model for dispensaries, caregivers, and the growing of the marijuana. It was determined that a caregiver could grow the medicine for up to five clients, six plants per patient, for a total of 30 plants. She said her bill would limit a household to 12 plants in a residential unit. Assuming that the people who live there have medical marijuana cards, they would be limited to two patients with six plants available to each. She foresees possible problems in cases where the patients have too small a house to grow plants or where children are present in the house. In these cases, patients would have to ask caregivers to grow their medicine in another location and, if that requires a warehouse growing situation, it would raise the cost to patients. Another problem is that the wording of the original law gives patients the right to require more than the six plants "if they need more." Robb will be returning to Charlie Brown's Special Committee on Medical Marijuana on August 30th for more discussion.

Jeanne then asked for questions and comments from the delegates. Randle Loeb knows professional growers and they tell Randle that one well-managed marijuana plant

could probably last a patient for a lifetime. At this time Michael Henry moved that the delegates vote to communicate to the Council INC's support of Councilwoman Robb's Council Bill 607 and asked for a second. _____? seconded. The discussion then continued with Captain Nagle, Head of the Denver Police Department's Vice and Narcotics Squad, coming forward to speak. Captain Nagle pointed out that the rush of caregivers and applicants for the medical cards has resulted in significant impact on the community and he feels some rational limits on this onslaught would be beneficial. So he supports Robb's Council Bill 607. He said that we have increasing cases of vacant houses being converted to growing the plant throughout the structure, thereby generating a very strong odor about the neighborhood. He says the smell is pervasive and it is very difficult to control. Besides, this is in effect converting a residential use structure into a commercial facility within a residential zone. The Captain feels this bill will help force the caregiver to grow the product in the patient's house and actually get to know and develop a relationship with the patient as the original law intended. (He said that presently many caregivers do not even know their patients' names!) The Colorado Department of Revenue is developing the licensing for the three different types of medical marijuana facilities. One of these is a Medical Marijuana Center, a dispensary. There will also be a Medical Marijuana Infused Products Manufacturer. And you can have associated with either of these an Optional Premises Cultivation Operation that is expected to grow at least 70 percent of its product within these Centers or Manufacturing plants. The remaining 30 percent must still be gotten from within Colorado. All this is in an effort to prevent product being grown and supplied from outside Colorado's borders - such as by the Mexican drug cartels. Delegates posited that the dispensaries are already in residential neighborhoods and the smell is very apparent. Ray Ehrenstein stated that he knew of someone who is currently selling equipment that is designed to eliminate this odor problem. The Captain responded that he knows of only one dispensary so far that has installed this equipment but that it does in fact stop the odor. We further learned from Jeanne Robb and the Captain that the police cannot enforce the removal of overproduced numbers of plants because of the threat of expensive liability. Consequently, any enforcement must be implemented by first proving zoning infractions. When Ken Beaudrie asked why the medical component in marijuana could not be extracted and used without the need to smoke the plant, Captain Nagle said that this indeed has been used since 1983. However, Councilwoman Robb says that many patients say that the extracted ingredient (THC) from marijuana does not work as well as smoking it does. Captain Nagle added that the AMA has endorsed the use of medical marijuana but is seeking ways of using the THC in a non-smoking manner that still can be as effective as smoking since they know

that smoking in any form is detrimental to one's health. Ray Ehrenstein recalled hearing from a WW-II veteran who had served in the U.S. Army Air Corps in India. The veteran claimed that, in the U.S. planes based there, the emergency aid kits were packed with two or more rolled marijuana cigarettes. These were for wounded crewmembers to use for pain. This was an early example of medical marijuana use. However, the Army veteran continued, it was found that the plane's flight crews and other personnel took to removing the rolled joints for partying purposes and so eventually the higher brass found another pain killer to substitute in the kits.

Councilwoman Robb then asked the INC Delegates to support her bill and Michael Henry rose to finalize his motion. When the Chair asked for the vote to communicate to City Council the INC's support for C.B. 607, the vote count was 23 to approve, two against, and three abstentions.

The Chair reminded folks to write their neighborhood's news on the circulating clipboard titled "Around the City."

Steve asked Larry Ambrose to come forward to present a Parks and Recreation Committee resolution; it was termed a Resolution in Support of Denver's Parkways. Larry read the resolution to the assembled delegates and offered it as a motion. Michael Henry seconded and then discussion followed. Bill Johnston offered a friendly amendment to ask that the setbacks on fronting private properties be zoned as open space also, along with the median part of the Parkways. Mr. Ambrose accepted the friendly amendment and the motion came to read as follows:

"Whereas, Denver's designated parkways and boulevards were carefully designed to create an urban framework for the early City of Denver, and; Whereas, beginning in the 1870's the city grid was enhanced by the creation of park-like streets that were built as broad tree-lined avenues connecting the city's parks, neighborhoods and civic spaces, and; Whereas, today, 35 streets are officially designated by city ordinance as Denver's Designated Parkways and Boulevards; Now, therefore, Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation hereby recommends: That Denver Parks and Recreation, Denver Public Works, Community Planning and Development, and the Landmark Commission adopt and implement the recommendations from the November 2005 design guidelines prepared by the landscape architecture firm of Mundus Bishop Design, Inc. entitled "Denver's Designated Parkways and Boulevards - Assessment and Management Recommendations and Design Guidelines" which includes historical development, condition assessment, management recommendations, and design guidelines, and; That all designated parkways, setbacks and boulevards be added to the new zoning map and to council district maps as open space, and; That boulevards and parkways be added to the Denver Parks and Recreation guide/map upon occasion of its next printing."

The vote was taken. The Delegates voted 25 to pass with zero against and no abstentions.

Chair Nissen recognized Heather Barry who had lately arrived and she spoke a moment. Heather praised Tony Young as a good replacement at her job while she left to have her baby. (Editor's Note: Baby girl London was born weighing 8 pounds, 3 ounces). Even so, Heather told us she had taken notes and also would take our positions and messages to the City. The popular Mrs. Barry was warmly applauded as she resumed her seat.

The Chair asked Mr. Henry to speak about the candidates and other forums the INC, Denver League of Women Voters, and Channel 8 have regularly offered. Michael told us that regrettably, because of the City's and thereby Channel 8's reduced budgets, there will be no funding for any more forums this year. Then Michael asked us to approve a motion for the INC to ask the Mayor, City Council, and Finance Office to find funds to support such forums by the Spring of 2011 because of the very important City elections expected at that time. Brad Zieg seconded the motion. The vote was 23 for and 2 opposed.

Diana Helper informed us of a loophole in the code regarding Medical Marijuana dispensaries. It seems that while none is allowed within a certain distance of day care centers, church day care facilities are not listed and so now, there is a dispensary opening in the same block as a church day care center. She advised us to check in our neighborhoods to insure that the City and zoning code enforcement people know of the existence of such church day care providers to prevent such mistakes.

Chris O'Connor from Lowry Neighbors was recognized by the Chair and asked if it would be appropriate at the next regular meeting to bring information about the upcoming ballot issues for the INC to discuss? Steve said that would be okay.

Steve took a moment to point out the mountains of boxes around the delegates and told us these were the dictionaries, labeled and sorted by school, that were finished last Thursday by some 45 volunteers.

Steve asked the Delegates to write their questions on the cards provided for the panelists of the Education Forum that would proceed after the break.

When the meeting resumed, the Chair introduced Bill Johnston of our INC Education Committee. Bill described the efforts of his Committee that included Billie Bramhall, William Cornell, Michael Henry, and Karen Cuthbertson to bring our organization a proper forum for the many issues, good and bad, facing the Denver Public Schools. Another sign-in sheet was found for some late arriving delegates and then Bill introduced Karen Cuthbertson as our Panel Facilitator. Karen then introduced Laurie Zeller, President of A+ Denver; Dr. Nate Easley, President of the Denver Board of Education; Dr. Shelly Zion, Executive Director of the UCD School of Education and Human Development; and Colorado State Senator Michael Johnston who repre-

sents Northeast Denver at the Statehouse and is a member of the Education Committee. Senator Johnston previously had served as a teacher and school principal for some eight years. Karen asked the panelists to please stand and give a ten-minute overview from their perspectives. She began this time on the right with Senator Johnston; however, Michael instead deferred to Dr. Easley as Denver School Board President.

Dr. Easley claimed, "I am standing!" When the laughter subsided, Nate told us that, despite misinformation that we may have heard or read, DPS is actually doing quite well. DPS is not in financial ruins and is also doing a good job of educating our kids although we can do better. We learned that when bussing was ordered in the 1970s in many cities across the South, Denver was the only northern city that was found in violation by having segregated schools. Consequently, when Denver's neighborhood schools were integrated by bussing between different neighborhoods, it resulted in "white flight" to the suburbs that then became predominately white resulting in Denver ironically becoming increasingly segregated. Dr. Easley said the answer to that quandary is to offer higher quality (school) options in every Denver neighborhood. He pointed to DPS having real gains in ninth-graders continuing on to graduation. Also, since 2006, the DPS college enrollment rate has increased by 52 percent. He said good news like this does not make it to Fox News and other media "because good news doesn't sell as well as controversy." He regards his role as welcoming the colleges under this new partnership, to help in insuring that DPS continues to grow their resources, to promote friendly competition among schools, and offer wider choice to attract families. He said we have just received a \$25,000,000 federal grant to improve education for students learning English as a second language. There is a \$2,000,000 Gates grant given to aid in teacher improvement. With other grants, the total DPS has received is well over \$50,000,000. However, Dr. Easley pointed out that a great deal of what educates kids is determined by involving the parents at home to enable the student to achieve. He said that we have a Parents' Forum that meets at various places around the district once during the day and once during the evening to connect parents with Superintendent Boasberg. There are two parents selected by the principals of each school to serve and "dialogue" with the Superintendent. This committee meets every other month and has open meetings. He noted that, "There is a ways to go here with a lot of controversy between the community and the district in terms of how we are performing in the schools." Dr. Easley thanked Senator Michael Johnston for "shepherding Senate Bill 191" for which Nate also was an early proponent. The School Board has recognized that the present CSAP is not the best measurement tool. Easley said that while this year we must use it, next year CSAP will be part of a hybrid with other revised standards and the

following year there will be a completely new and different standard. This is a quick turnaround. He ended by praising Denver Superintendent Tom Boasberg for meeting with many Colorado college presidents to determine what qualities they expect from Colorado's high school graduates that would enable them to fit into their college programs; this is a first by any Superintendent. Realizing that a lot of the work is in front of us still, Dr. Easley wants Denver parents to know that the DPS is the kind of place where you want to send your kids and grandkids. It is a school system offering a high quality education that makes sure students are ready for life after they leave the system.

Senator Michael Johnston spoke next. He said he agreed with Nate with the progress DPS has been making. He would address four topics; the first would be Teacher/Principal effectiveness, second would be school "turnarounds," third would be the "Common Core" standards that we may have read or heard about, and fourth would be funding. He said, "The single most important variable affecting the success of the child in school by far is the effectiveness of the teacher" and that "The second most important variable by far and away is the effectiveness of the Principal." He maintained that such issues as the impacts of class size reduction, new curriculum, and after school programs are miniscule in comparison to a highly effective teacher. He said if we care about closing the Achievement Gap and if we care that every DPS student graduates ready for college or a career, the only solution is to hire great teachers and a great principal. He gave as an example: If you take a student who is performing in the lowest quartile and put him in a class with a effective teacher, within three years that student will have closed the achievement gap. He said, "That is how the great leaders and teachers bill (S.B.191) began."

We learned that we spend 43 percent of the state budget on K-12 education. Michael said we must insure that each student shows growth in each academic year. But only when we have built effective evaluation tools with which to measure their progress can we make important decisions to make changes.

He addressed "Non-Probationary Status", commonly called "tenure" for teachers, and said that this is one of the most important privileges that we have to attract and keep good teachers but that it must be "earned and kept based upon strong performance and not just based on being in the system for four years." He said an effective measuring system for both teachers and their students is being built over three years. He spoke of principals and pointed out that great principals attract and keep great teachers and that bad principals drive away such teachers.

Michael informed us that 2,000 high schools in the entire nation account for 50 percent of the country's dropouts or about 30 schools per state. And nothing has proven more effective in getting a turnaround in troubled schools than getting a effective principal.

As regards college standards and assessments, he said the Colorado Legislature has passed a resolution to join a consortium of 42 states who have adopted "common core" standards for English language, arts, and mathematics. So together with those 42 states, we can build a common assessment standard for college entrance. He told us that student testing needs to be more frequent and that under the new standards it should be shorter, occur at least four times a year, and supply quicker feedback.

Finally, Michael said that on the funding front we needed to convince Coloradans that we need to finance higher education and K-12 fully. The Senator said to do so we must address in 2011 the really hard issues with a ballot amendment to make some dramatic changes in TABOR and ease the budget restrictions now facing both higher education and K-12.

After Anthony Thomas inquired, we learned that Michael Johnston had been a Principal at Mapleton School of the Arts in Adams County for 4 years and before that a teacher. He said that now "I'm just a State Senator, but education is my passion".

Dr. Shelley Zion informed us that she had never been a principal and that "I wear big shoes so that I look taller." Shelley told us that, through grants, her department has been able to travel around the country learning techniques of reform. They learned considerably from the Research Partnership with Chicago Schools Consortium that has proven very successful. She told us that UCD now "partners" with various DPS schools, modeling this program after the Chicago Project. UCD wants to have their students working in the partnered schools from the moment they start classes to learn better themselves as well as give feedback. They are working now on a research partnership with DPS for which funding is promised. They are helping DPS by supplying the best research and best evidence that they have available to help with things like teaching strategies and are assisting with studying organizational structures such as changing school hours. Shelley agreed with the important priorities as noted by Senator Johnston that focusing on teachers and principals are important but also stated that we need to involve community and family as the third leg of that stool. The department has found that working to promote friendly cooperation and communication between schools districts and community partners is difficult to achieve but is very valuable when it works within a city. Shelley pointed out that, while the teacher and principal parts of reform are progressing, it is in the area of family/community involvement where most school

systems are less effective. Schools need to learn that there are benefits to be gained by community ties including bringing resources to bear in the classrooms. Dr. Zion feels that school systems most often fail by not recognizing the important role community ties play; this includes the important roles supplied by community involvement in training their students for career options. Shelley pointed out that, in spite of the millions poured into the efforts at education reform since 1983, those reform efforts have always concentrated on small-scale efforts dealing with a school here or a charter school there and have never really focused on the large scale and sustainable changes or reforms of a whole school system.

Laurie Zeller admitted that she is tall but has a little tiny voice. She said she just had a second child graduate from Denver Public Schools. She mentions that because, for a lot of audiences, the fact of her having her own children in DPS can help to establish her legitimacy to speak. A+ Denver is based on the premise that the well-being of our schools and the performance of the students of DPS are everybody's responsibility and particularly the responsibility of the civic leadership. The mission of A+ Denver is harnessing the public will and to advocate for the reforms necessary to dramatically increase student achievement in public education in Denver. They are a membership organization of around 100 civic leaders. INC's Billie Bramhall is a member. Business leaders, faith-based leaders, neighborhood activists, and civic leaders form the broad-based membership that are joined together to advocate for the schools. Last week she said we had the CSAPs and that DPS showed greater gains than schools in the rest of the state. While that is good news, the goals that the Denver Board of Education set for itself have not been met. The modest gains set at 3.5 percent were not reached. Thus A+ Denver's goal as a "critical friend" of DPS is to ask them to reach out for those foundation grants and reach out to the political leadership to find new ways to make sure that DPS is in a state of continual improvement both as a district and within each individual school. There are tremendous opportunities available with federal grants and Gloria praised Senator Johnston's S.B. 191. Gloria said we also have policy tools in place that promise great things in Denver. So for A+ Denver, it is about the promise but it is also about holding folks accountable; those who must make reforms work in the district level, especially in underperforming schools. The way A+ Denver works is that they have two committees; one that submits positions and one that looks at chronically underperforming schools and the

Data Corrections

Keep INC informed of changes in your organization's president and delegates. Notify the membership chair at 303-798-9306 or kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net.

Organizations and persons not affiliated with INC should also communicate their desire to obtain this newsletter or submit address changes to the editor at 303-798-9306 or kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net.

strategies the district has to address these. She pointed out that, in Northeast Denver schools, the grade-schools are often overcrowded but, in high-school, there are seats vacant because parents often opt at that point to chose to send their kids to other schools in Denver. Gloria challenged the INC delegates to educate their selves on the schools in their neighborhood, to judge whether their schools are among the high performers or the underperformers, and to work to raise all the Denver schools to high standards.

Karen Cuthbertson, our Facilitator, began with the first delegate's question: "If the teacher's tenure is based upon the scores of the student's test results, are the students getting a well rounded education and how will the new tests address students who do not test well?"

Senator Johnston responded that ongoing test assessments needed to demonstrate growth of the student. He believes that this is measurable regarding mathematics, reading, writing, and in other subjects. He used the example of his own kids who are graduating from high school and are going to the University of Colorado at Denver or to Metropolitan State University and will have to take an accu-placement examination that will reveal if they are ready for English 101. Now, if they do not pass that examination, they will have to take an additional remedial course that they will have to pay for out of their own pockets before they can take English 101. At that point, Michael's concern is not about whether the accu-placement is or is not a fair test but that his kids will have to pay extra before proceeding in college. A follow-up question asked how the test results could affect the curriculum. Michael said that the curriculum should be driven by schools and teachers who have successful results. And Dr. Easley weighed in with a similar answer, that there is no point in having a curriculum dictated from the top down when a school is demonstrating good results. He added that he is a strong opponent of teaching to the test.

The next question was, "We constantly read how education in the U.S. is abysmal compared with other countries. What education model or portion thereof from other countries would you like to appropriate for Denver?" Dr. Easley responded to this question. He had worked in D.C. prior to coming here and part of his job was international so he often traveled to Europe on educational matters with the European Access Network. He traveled to Germany, France, the U.K., and other countries; he said they would have an exchange of ideas. He found it interesting that in one grade-school classroom in The Hague in Holland, the kids were mainly minority kids with immigrant parents - Singhalese, Indonesians, Eastern European, and so forth. When you first walked into the room, there were two or three teachers walking around seemingly aimlessly, but the kids were really engaged and, as you observed, there was actually a great deal of learning going on although the kids almost seemed like they were milling around. Impressed by the scene, Dr. Easley asked, "Where did you get this great

idea?" His hosts answered, "Chicago." He continued that it turned out that, all around Europe, there were many instances where the models came from the U.S. He was pleased to hear from Dr. Zion about the Chicago studies and that Denver is benefiting from this American model. He said we just needed to work at the things we have always done well and use that as a basis to build upon. He reminded us that America was number-one in the world in education for a very long time. He took a moment to reflect on the third-grade. He and Superintendent Boasberg had spoken with a group about how at one time a child could not leave the third-grade if he could not read. Dr. Easley said this is how it was determined if a child could advance to the fourth-grade. Some teacher had asked in surprise, "Oh, can you do that?" Dr. Easley still believes that one should not be passed ahead if they cannot yet read. Returning to the question, he said that, while we may learn from what teachers do in Japan or Germany, we should examine our own history and work to bring back to our school system those methods that worked so well in years past. Lastly, he described how his Mother had graduated from a segregated school system in the South; she later got her college degree when she was in her forties. Why was that possible? Because there were seeds planted in that primary-school early on that education is important. So in spite of coming from a segregated school that had practically no resources, there existed at that time a symmetry between the schools and parents that is often lacking today. His mother would often say, "If the spanking started at school, it would finish at home." and "If the praising started at school, it finished at home."

Michael Johnston added, "If we look at Singapore, Finland, Sweden, and the highest performing countries in, say, mathematics, in those countries there are about three pages in their suggested standards. If you look at the Colorado standards of about a year ago, it is more like 85 pages. We can learn from those countries to have fewer, clearer, and higher standards."

Question number three was, "There is a dramatic increase of about 20 percent in homeless families just in the last year and the kids in those families lose about one-half a grade when they are bumped from their housing. What can we do to insure that kids coming from these marginal situations can succeed?"

Dr. Zion responded that the real challenge is in having the schools collaborate with social service agencies. Dr. Zion was familiar with this topic since years ago she had been a social worker in Denver. They were starting to work on this problem in the late 1990s; even at that time there was something coming out of the Chicago Study. The schools need to work with the social and community agencies to insure that the newly homeless child can remain in their school regardless of the family's situation and "not have to move from school to school to school." Dr. Easley added that the state has implemented an "identifier

number" for each child (not a Social Security number) that will remain throughout the school career. This should enable the tracking of a child who becomes homeless but this is so new that it has no history to track so far, so this is only a basic foundation with its application yet to be explored.

Question number four was, "How successful has Open Enrollment been?" All the panelists seemed to agree that Open Enrollment is effective for the parents and children with access to automobiles or who live close by to the chosen school but, for the poor and those lacking transport, it is neither much of a choice nor opportunity.

Question number five was, "Considering the state of Colorado's budget, what other options are we pursuing for funding?" Michael Johnston responded that frankly, we would have to address taxes as our long term solution but that, in the short term, we have to apply for as many federal grants as we can. In 1919 there was a Supreme Court decision called "Pierce v. Society Systems" that involved some kids who wanted to go to a private secondary school. People questioned whether this was even legal in view of our mandated public education. The Court ruled that this was constitutional and that, if you have the money, you can in effect pay your way out of the public schools. Johnston continued that in 1973, in the midst of the integration battle, the City of Detroit was under an integration order, and was 99.9 percent Black. So Detroit came up with a solution that would in effect cut the City up like the slices of a pie and give each slice a middle class, White suburb with which to integrate its students. The Supreme Court decided, in a very controversial decision, that this was unconstitutional and so in effect drew the boundaries around the City giving it no chance at integrating its schools with its suburban communities. One INC delegate spoke up proudly and informed us that it was her Stepfather who sued the Governor of Michigan to enforce integration. ("Wow!" said Senator Johnston and we were all impressed when she went on to say that the gentleman was now 86 years old.) The delegation applauded. Since 1973, Senator Johnston continued, we have had school districts being separated by town boundaries that, for example, does not allow for a Denver student to transfer to an Englewood school or vice versa.

At this point, Karen informed us that we had run out of time. Bill Johnston thanked the panelists and said those wishing to could stick around as we concluded our business. Bill encouraged INC members to join the committee. The delegation gave the Education Committee a big hand.

Chair Steve Nissen called everyone's attention to the surrounding boxes piled around and told us that they contained 7,000 dictionaries destined for all third-graders in the DPS. This year we were unable to afford the thesauruses that we usually provide but INC is still trying its best.

Larry said that, at the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting last Thursday, the Board voted ten to seven to allow Admission Based Events even though the vast majority of speakers testified against beginning the practice.

The meeting was adjourned at Noon.

Executive Committee Recap By Ray Ehrenstein

The INC Executive Committee (EC) meeting of August 9th was called to order by Chair Steve Nissen at 7:00 p.m. There was a quorum present consisting of the Chair; Vice-chair Brad Zieg; Secretary Ray Ehrenstein; and Delegates-at-large Larry Ambrose, Randle Loeb, and George Mayl. Also present were Membership/Newsletter Chair Ken Beaudrie, Parks and Recreation Co-Chair Katie Fisher, Zoning and Planning Chair Michael Henry, Safety Chair Anthony Thomas, and one invited guest, Mr. Anthony Graves.

Steve introduced Mr. Graves as the new Government Affairs Director of Visit Denver; Michael Henry added that Anthony is also a board member of CHUN. The Chair reminded us that Visit Denver is the sponsor of our yearly Presidents Dinner. The Chair asked Anthony to speak.

We learned that Bill Mitchell was Anthony's predecessor at Visit Denver and Mr. Graves pledged to continue the good relationship between Visit Denver and INC. We learned we have preliminarily scheduled this year's dinner at the Double Tree hotel for January 26th. Michael Henry, in jest, wanted to know if Anthony could help us graduate to the Brown Palace hotel; merriment ensued. Mr. Graves doubted that, with Visit Denver's fixed budget, this could be managed but he went on to praise the work of INC and its member organizations warmly. Anthony told us that Wendy Smith would be the new contact person for INC. Steve said we had 200 people at last year's dinner and this year he would like to invite the editors of neighborhood newspapers such as the *North Denver News* and *The Washington Park Profile*. Anthony did offer to "throw himself under the bus" and be an emcee or be available if we need a speaker. Michael Henry recalled that Visit Denver had hosted an INC Delegates Meeting some five years past and went on to suggest that we might benefit from a monthly program from Visit Denver - which "has a lot to share." Steve asked whom we should contact for such regular presentations and Anthony offered himself as our contact person. The possibility of the use of Visit Denver's spacious conference room (in the old Denver Dry Goods building) for INC meetings was advanced and Mr. Graves was prompt to offer its use. When asked about parking, he stated that on-street parking and pay-lots were practically the only parking available since it is an inner city location. However, Light Rail is available. The Chair thanked Mr. Graves who was invited to stay for the rest of the meeting if he so chose. Anthony thanked us all and

shook hands around. He told us that, since assuming his new job with its increased time demands, his chief concern was "staying married" and so he would instead please his wife and depart for home.

Returning to regular business, Brad Zieg moved and George Mayl seconded a motion to approve the July Minutes; approval was unanimous.

Larry Ambrose spoke as a former INC Secretary to commend the present Secretary's patience and hard work. This Secretary thanked Larry for his kind words.

The Treasurers report, unavailable at this time, was deferred until the next meeting.

The Chair next presented a colorful map of registered neighborhoods for review. Steve demonstrated how it could be used as an insert in our Neighborhood Brochure.

Steve said the dictionaries are in and invited us to join the volunteer labelers at Our Savior's Lutheran Church on the coming Thursday. He also said that we have taken in \$18,700 this year, the expenses to date are roughly \$2,000, thus leaving a DDD bank balance today of \$16,640. An invoice totaling \$12,000 for the dictionaries is in from the publishers. Katie observed that we are ahead of the game by some \$4,000 but only because we did not order the Thesauruses. The brochure passed out at the President's dinner has brought in, as of this time, \$1,330. Michael believed it would be good to approve the dictionary payment. Brad moved and Ray seconded the motion to approve the payment. After discussion, the motion carried with one abstention.

The Education Committee input from Billie Bramhall and William Cornell was presented by Michael Henry who was impressed by the makeup of the panel for our INC Education Forum for the August Delegates Meeting. He praised the work of Billie Bramhall, William Cornell, and Bill Johnston for selecting a fine group of panelists.

The Membership and Newsletter reports were interrupted by Michael Henry with news of a double rainbow outside the windows. (Ray decided to take a picture and the group told stories of rainbows we have seen from New Orleans (where they are very common) to Overland Pond in Denver (where they are not).

Anthony Thomas recounted getting an email from someone using the logo of the INC atop an announcement that was about purchasing peaches. All agreed to keep a watch out for non-approved emails purportedly from the INC. When Ken was allowed to proceed, he reported that we have 81 member organizations, 17 of which are patrons, and we now have 28 associates, 10 of which are patrons. This includes one new associate - Clerk and Recorder Stephanie O'Malley. Regarding the newsletter, Ken will not be in town to edit October edition as he is traveling to his class reunion. Michael Henry volunteered Karen Cuthbertson to fill in for Ken and the EC members all agreed she would be the perfect choice, especially since Karen was not present to defend herself.

Katie and Larry of the Parks and Recreation Committee reported that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) is on the verge of approving Admission Based Events in Denver's parks. They stated the PRAB meeting coming Thursday August 12th is likely to pass Manager Kevin Patterson's request to endorse Outdoor Cinema's movies in Denver parks.

The issue of the "Green Dispensers" with replaceable boxes, that the Park's Department prefers over the "white tubes" that the neighbors favor (and are willing to refill), was discussed. Here we seem to be at a standstill with the Manager and his staff; more negotiations are ahead. Also, we were warned to expect more so called "natural areas" in our parks as more and more park lawn-areas are shrunk to save water. Some observed that the natural areas were little more than patches of weeds in search of goats.

Anthony Thomas of the Safety Committee reported that he has attended two Safety Meetings with the Manager of Safety, Chief of Police, and Chief of Patrol David Quinones. There was concern expressed about gang activity. While crime in Denver is down ten percent, there are neighborhoods where this is not the case. Randle Loeb summed up by saying that "We all have a responsibility to watch out for one another." Anthony will follow up with the Manager of Safety on insuring that the police districts send officer(s) to the respective RNO meetings to hear neighbors concerns.

Brad Zieg informed us that the Transportation Committee now includes Anthony Thomas who also has been selected to serve on the Realignment Committee for I-70. Anthony then passed along maps identifying four proposals. He stated the possibilities: tear I-70 down from the Mousetrap east, make I-70 two to three lanes wider in both directions, put one section atop the other, or level the whole thing...and so forth. He suggested citizens go to the web site for further information. The Secretary could not keep up with all the possibilities and conversations. It seemed apparent that the Purina plant and the Stock Show venue would have to be eliminated. Alignment decisions will be made in April 2011.

Michael Henry's next ZAP meeting will be on August 28th with two main agenda items: The Director of the Board of Adjustments, Janice Tilden, will be there to give us the criteria for variances under the new code and folks from Historic Denver and the Landmark Commission will talk about the upcoming Denver Historic Survey which is soon to start. Then George Mayl presented his concerns about the use of very short-term rentals (some 91 in Denver) by people who illegally rent out their properties by the day or week. Michael wants George to attend the ZAP Committee meeting on the 28th to present a short motion before the Committee to condemn and halt the practice via proper enforcement; this motion will be passed on to the INC Delegates for approval. Thus, we expect that INC will be taking a stand on this issue. As George put it..."You're

(running) a short term motel in a residential neighborhood." George gave VROB as a site to Google to locate the 91 lawbreakers here in Denver. Mr. Henry added one final note concerning the Neighborhood Notification issue - still it is not as helpful regarding nuisance abatement as it should be.

Steve shared his idea of what the INC brochure should look like and asked us to contribute to its design. He pointed out that the last one was published five years ago.

The Chair asked Michael about the status of INC's and the League of Women Voters of Denver's election forum (s) with Channel 8. So far, there is no movement on that matter since Channel 8 continues to say they lack funds for the project. Larry suggested involving "The Colorado Channel" since it has lots of time available. Michael thought that was a great idea. We were told that tomorrow (the 10th) there would be a conference call with Channel 8, the League, and other parties. We await with interest what this may produce. Larry proposed checking on "Open Media" as a possible forum opportunity.

Michael suggested that we dedicate another Saturday meeting to the Manager of Safety, Police Chief, and the new Fire Chief. We agreed to have the City Forester at a future date. Larry repeated his call to have INC business ahead of any featured speakers. Randle Loeb will meet tomorrow with Michael and other representatives of Denver's Road Home to discuss Denver area homeless shelters, temporary and otherwise, that will be available this coming winter and other issues pertinent to the homeless in our neighborhoods. One of the issues raised by Randle was "Wet Shelters" which is a place where people can go when they are intoxicated from whatever causes. The board members look forward to learning the outcome of this meeting as doubtless so do our neighbors.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Dollar Dictionary Drive

By Cathee Fisher

THANK YOU!! Every year more people join the stalwarts of the Dictionary Labeling Crew. The old timers did themselves proud and the rookies pitched in without a major Roseannadana! (Think SLN - "It's always something!") Thank you, one and all, for a wonderful day of camaraderie and fun. The volunteers appropriately counted, labeled, and packed 7,000 dictionaries for 94 Denver Elementary Schools. Check out www.DictionaryProject.org state projects CO for pictures.

The dictionaries are now in those 94 schools and into the hands of this year's third-graders. Unfortunately, the thesauri (thesauruses) are NOT coming with the dictionaries for the 2010/11 third-graders who started the school year on August 19th. The good news is the school year lasts until May of next year. INC has joined those whose

philosophy is "pay as you go." This means the money designated (and restricted) in the bank for the Dictionary Drive is only sufficient to purchase the dictionaries but not the thesauri - YET! When donations have reached the pay/go level, INC can purchase 7,000 thesauri and distribute them to this year's third-graders if we wish.

This INC program is supported by community donations. This includes individuals, neighborhood associations, businesses, and groups such as Kiwanis and the League of Women Voters of Denver. Third-grade is not only a window but also a door to the wide-open spaces of learning. Having the resources of a dictionary and thesaurus of their own and the additional resources provided in each dictionary gives tools for learning to our youngest citizens.

Donations are tax deductible. Please send to:
PO Box 18347 Denver, CO 80218
www.neighborhoodlink.com/INC/home (click on Dollar Dictionary Committee)

The third-grade students at all 94 DPS elementary schools send their thank-you to the RNOs who have made generous donations to the Dollar Dictionary Drive so far in 2010. Please thank your members and our supporters!

Alamo Placita Neighbors Assn.
Baker Historic N.A.
Ballpark N.A.
Bear Valley Improvement Assn.
Bonnie Brae N.A.
Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods
Cherry Creek North N.A.
Cherry Point H.O.A.
Civic Assn. of Clayton
Congress Park Neighbors
Cory-Merrill N.A.
Crestmoor Park H.O.A. (2nd Filing)
Cultural Arts Residential Org.
Elyria N.A.
Far Northeast Neighbors
Golden Triangle Assn. of Denver
Green Valley Ranch Citizens Advisory Board
Harkness Heights N.A.
Historic Montclair Community Assn.
Hutchinson Hills/Willow Point H.O.A.
Inspiration Point N.A.
Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation
Lowry United Neighborhoods
Mayfair Neighbors
Neighbors and Friends for Cheesman Park
Northwest Neighbors Coalition
Overland Park N.A.
Park Forest H.O.A.
Sloan's Lake N.A.
South City Park N.A.
University Hills N.A.
University Park Community Council

Zoning and Planning Notes

By Diana Helper

The INC Zoning and Planning (ZAP) Committee met August 28th. Jeremy Wells and Savannah Jameson of the Denver Landmark Preservation Commission and Alice Gilbertson of Historic Denver discussed the new citywide historic survey that is funded by a State Historic Fund grant. With these funds, consulting firm Winter and Company, in partnership with the City, will study survey methods. New technologies will be used. Community involvement is needed. The chosen method should be in place by May 2011. When the effort is completed, every property owner can know the historic evaluation of each building and know whether it has the potential to be designated as officially historic. Visit www.historicdenver.org for more information.

Janice Tilden, Director of the Board of Adjustment Appeals, spoke on the operations of the Board and the differences in criteria for variances in the new Zoning Code. Because both the old and new codes may be used until December 30th, the Board has not yet encountered new situations. After that date, any changes in Board policies will emerge as cases come to it. Again, ZAP members expressed displeasure that there is no notification to registered neighborhood organizations (RNOs) when "administrative adjustments" are decreed by the Zoning Administration. RNOs may appeal these decisions if they are able to learn about them. There was discussion of the Board's work process; neighbors are advised to be at variance hearings in person because it is more effective than sending a letter. Ms. Tilden mentioned that many realtors and developers appear to be surprised and baffled to learn that there is a new zoning code.

A cautionary tale was related by Diana Helper about bright, young, professional residents - college graduates not new to Denver. They were astonished to learn that small houses nearby could be razed and be replaced by an apartment building; they said they never would have bought their new house had they known this fact. There are already some apartments on the block and, when told that the zoning had allowed this since 1956, they admitted they just do not know anything about zoning. We fear this is all too typical. What is to be done? Is this a task for ZAP and all neighborhood organizations?

ZAP then discussed the growing problem of single-family homes being used as short-term "vacation house" rentals. By law, such rentals must be for a minimum of thirty days, but enforcement is lacking. ZAP members voted unanimously in favor of two motions made by

George Mayl of the Cory-Merrill Neighborhood Association to take to INC Delegates. One motion was to condemn and halt this practice by enforcing the law. The other motion was to take a position in opposition to Cases 107-10 and 108-10 at the Board of Adjustment hearing on October 26th. These refer to an appeal to allow continuance of short-term "vacation house" rentals for two particular properties; the result of this hearing would be precedent setting for all other similar cases. These two motions are printed below.

In other discussions, Steve Nissen proposed that dumpster companies be made responsible for keeping their dumpsters free of graffiti; Ray Ehrenstein related the truly shocking way that pond fish in some parks are counted; and ZAPers were encouraged to attend Denver Parks and Recreation meeting for non-profits September 2nd, from 1 to 5 p.m., and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting on September 9th at 5:30 p.m. Both are at the Webb Building.

The next ZAP meeting will be October 23rd; all are welcome. Call Chair Michael Henry at 303-377-6609 if you would like to be placed on the agenda mailing list.

ZAP Motion

By Michael Henry

MOTION REGARDING SHORT-TERM RENTALS IN RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS

The following two motions were passed unanimously by the INC Zoning and Planning Committee on August 28th. Delegates should be prepared to vote on these motions at the Delegation meeting on September 11th:

- 1) Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation should strongly urge the Denver Zoning Administration and Neighborhood Inspection Services to condemn and halt, through more effective enforcement, the practice of SHORT TERM RENTALS for less than 30 days in residential zone-districts. These short term rentals violate Denver's zoning code which provides that properties can be rented but for no less than 30-day periods.
- 2) INC should oppose the variances requested in Case Numbers 107-10 and 108-10 before the Board of Adjustment. These cases concern short-term rentals in the Cory Merrill and Stokes Place-Green Bower Neighborhoods. Although INC does not normally take positions on specific variance cases, these cases are precedent setting and will have citywide impact.

Delegate George Mayl of the Cory-Merrill Neighborhood Association advised the ZAP Committee that, on the national VRBO and Home Away web-sites, at least 90 residential homes are listed throughout Denver for rental by the day or by the week. Some of the rentals have been for large and noisy parties; large portions of them are managed by out-of-state companies. This business can and will

have an impact on our neighborhoods if left unchecked. Other neighborhood organizations are requested to join in this opposition.



Berkeley-Regis United Neighborhoods (BRUN) – BRUN's Big Zukes II, Northwest Denver's biggest Zucchini Contest is Thursday, September 2nd from 4 to 7 p.m. located four doors east of the Oriental Theater at 44th Avenue and Tennyson Street. All of the proceeds benefit Northwest Denver Schools. Anyone can enter; winners will be selected from various age groups. Contact Heather Noyes at 303-455-3779.

Congress Park Neighbors – We are working with SCPNA (see below) on common parking issues.

Cory-Merrill N.A. – We are addressing Vacation Rentals by Owners (VRBO) along with Stokes Place Green Bowers H.O.A. at the October 26th meeting of the Board of Adjustment for Zoning Appeals. We are totally against short-term rentals in neighborhoods zoned R-1. We also request the City to enforce ordinances 59-2 through -197. Contact George Mayl at comayl@aol.com or 303-999-8802

Curtis Park Neighbors – We are hosting the next INC meeting.

Golden Triangle Museum District – Today, August 14th, is the first day of the Denver Plein Air Art Festival that runs until September 14th with over 500 artists coming into the neighborhood to paint outdoors and finishing a work in one day. It is open to all artists and the public. The event is free.

Green Valley Ranch Citizen's Advisory Board – Save the date of the Annual Gobble Wobble SK Run/Walk at the Golf Club at Green Valley Ranch, 4900 Himalaya Boulevard. More details follow at mygvr.org.

Sloan's Lake N.A. – The Dragon Boat Festival had a huge turnout; it was an uneventful event with the exception being massive parking and traffic impacts on the neighborhood. The twenty-four unit condominium complex at 18th Avenue and King Street was cited for more than 180 code violations. The July shooting at this location resulted in the gang murder of one person and the police-shooting of another.

South City Park N.A. (SCPNA) – SCPNA is disappointed in ABE vote. We are working with Congress Park on the SPP.

Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) – SUN is sponsoring a Transportation Oriented Communities (TOC) forum on October 7th at the Denver School of Science and Technology. The groundwater meeting is on September 23rd; more than 100 homes are pumping water daily. The Colorado Symphony Orchestra's first concert in Central Park drew 2,500 from all around Denver; there were no parking problems. DPS ribbon cutting for the new Evie Dennis K-12 campus at Green Valley Ranch drew hundreds from neighborhoods. The campus is a model of solar and geothermal energy efficiency.

From the Chair By Steve Nissen

In 1979, INC was instrumental in getting the Neighborhood Notification Ordinance approved through the City Council process. For years, the notifications were executed through the paper process and delivered by the USPS. Times 'are a changing' in the 21st century and currently 99 percent of notifications are executed electronically. This process requires attentiveness and constant updating of information on the part of RNOs if they wish to remain current in the notification process.

Just as with new processes in any endeavor, this notification is subject to glitches for whatever reason. We recently realized there were some glitches of some kind occurring and INC wrote a letter to the proper City officials to address those glitches. We are grateful for the positive response. We have since received notices regarding 'nuisance abatement' issues as well as 'sales of city property.' We had not been receiving notices on these two subjects.

We have recently received paper notices from another City agency (the 1 percent) and I have passed that information on to the Community Planning Department (CPD). Perhaps this is just one agency who has not yet got on board with the others in this new electronic age, but I am confident they will be on board in the future if that is appropriate for them as well.

The notification process has to be a two-way street if it is to be effective for all parties concerned. All RNOs should have two contact email-addresses on record with CPD at all times. Please check to see if your RNO has two contact persons of record. Only 75 of the 200 plus RNOs currently have two contacts registered. If you have a change in contact person, let CPD know immediately; do not wait until the next neighborhood registration deadline. This is critical if we are to be advised of what is happening next door to us in our neighborhoods. The neighborhood notification process is a critical 'lifeline' for all neighborhoods. I strongly urge any RNO that feels it is not receiv-

ing notifications to contact myself or Mike Henry immediately. Our contact information is on the last page of this newsletter.

Denver Recycles By Tom Strickland

Safely Dispose of your Household Hazardous Waste

For many of us, early fall is a time when we clean out our garages. However, you may find yourself at a loss as to what to do with the leftover fertilizers, pesticides, stains, varnishes, and compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL) that you no longer need but know are not safe to throw in the trash or pour down the drain or storm sewer. Denver's **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program** can help you safely dispose of chemicals and other household hazardous waste that you come across during your fall cleaning.

Residents of the City are eligible once per year for a household hazardous waste collection. Residents living in single-family homes or buildings of seven units or fewer may schedule a door-to-door collection. For Denver residents living in larger residential buildings, a drop-off appointment at the Denver Regional Household Hazardous Facility may be arranged. Materials accepted through the program include: adhesives, aerosols, automotive fluids (degreasers, oils, et cetera), batteries, caulk, grout, cleaners and polishes (drain, oven, carpet, et cetera), CFL and fluorescent tubes, expired medications, fertilizer, garden chemicals, gasoline, kerosene, hobby supplies, insecticides and poisons (bug spray, weed killers, et cetera), lubricants, paint, photography chemicals, sealants, stains and varnishes, solvents and thinners (turpentine, et cetera), pool chemicals, and thermometers. To ensure that the limited budget is maximized to serve the most residents and provide disposal options for those hazardous products for which a retail drop-site option does not exist, we have some detailed requirements on the specific types and quantities of hazardous materials since each collection appointment costs the City about \$100. Call **1-800-HHW-PKUP (1-800-449-7587)** to determine if you meet the program criteria and, if so, to schedule an at-home collection. A \$20 co-payment is required for each appointment.

To prevent an accumulation of leftover chemicals in your home, here are some ways you can reduce your use of products containing hazardous chemicals:

1. Look for the least toxic products or make nontoxic homemade solutions to do the work;
2. Buy only what you need to complete the job;
3. Use up what you buy; and
4. Share extra materials with a friend, neighbor, or family member.

FREE DROP OFF OPTIONS: If you only have latex paint, automotive fluids, auto batteries, household batteries, CFLs, or expired medications, rather than making a collection appointment, please consider taking these items to retail drop sites instead. For a list of retail drop-sites (most of which are free), please visit us online at **Denver-Gov.org/DenverRecycles** or call **3-1-1**.

Recycle Right: Paperboard

You might ask, "What exactly is paperboard?" Paperboard is a sturdy, paper material that is lighter and thinner than corrugated cardboard. **Many consumer food boxes and cartons are made using paperboard.** Food boxes such as cereal, cracker, pasta, multi-pack soda-cans, and cake boxes are all made using paperboard. Other paperboard items include face tissue, office supply, toothpaste, bar soap, and over-the-counter medicine bottle boxes. Paperboard also includes items such as

paper tubes from paper towels, toilet paper, and wrapping paper. Even refrigerated food boxes (like butter, cheese, and frozen foods) that are not heavily coated in plastic or foil, clothing inserts, and the paper backing that can be detached from plastic packaging for things like children's toys and packs of pens are all made from recyclable paperboard. Paperboard, including all these items, can be recycled in your Denver Recycles purple cart. When recycling paperboard boxes, be sure to **remove plastic bags, plastic windows, and plastic film** from the boxes. Paper egg cartons can also be recycled but not plastic or Styrofoam cartons. Most paperboard today is made from recycled papers so be sure to buy products in paperboard boxes marked with the "100% recycled" logo or text. Also, there is a constant need for recycled paperboard so make sure you recycle all that you can.

For more information on materials accepted in the Denver Recycles program, visit us online at **Denver-Gov.org/DenverRecycles** or call **3-1-1**.



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by the 20th of the month.

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changes to their president and delegate
data to the membership chair at
kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net

Delegates' Meetings are held on the second
Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m.
See this issue for location.

The INC Executive Committee meets
monthly at 1201 Williams Street in the
19th floor meeting room.

RNOs are welcome to reprint the articles
in their own newsletters.

Parks and Recreation Notes

By Diana Helper

The INC Parks and Recreation Committee (INCPR) met August 17 at the Heritage Club.

Present were co-chairs Larry Ambrose and Katie Fisher as well as members Steve Fisher, Marlene Johnson, Kathleen Wells, Bill Johnston, Michael Smilanic, James Sample, Raymond Ehrenstein, Carolyn Etter, Cathy Donohue, Steve Nissen, Diana Helper; also attending were Angela Casias of Denver Parks and Recreation (DPR) and Paul Ryan and Darrell Watson of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB).

The flushing of sludge from City Park Lake was done on a Sunday with no advance notice to the public. This is one of the items the Notification Policy should address. A discussion followed regarding the recycled water (purple pipes) being used in the Denver Parks and Parkways System. There are some questions about the filtering and testing of the water, its quality, and a concern about the effect of its salinity on trees, grass, and shrubs. INCPR plans are underway to organize a public educational meeting on this topic this fall, which will include a scientist who is an expert in this field. A chart will be prepared to show the origin and destinations of the recycled water.

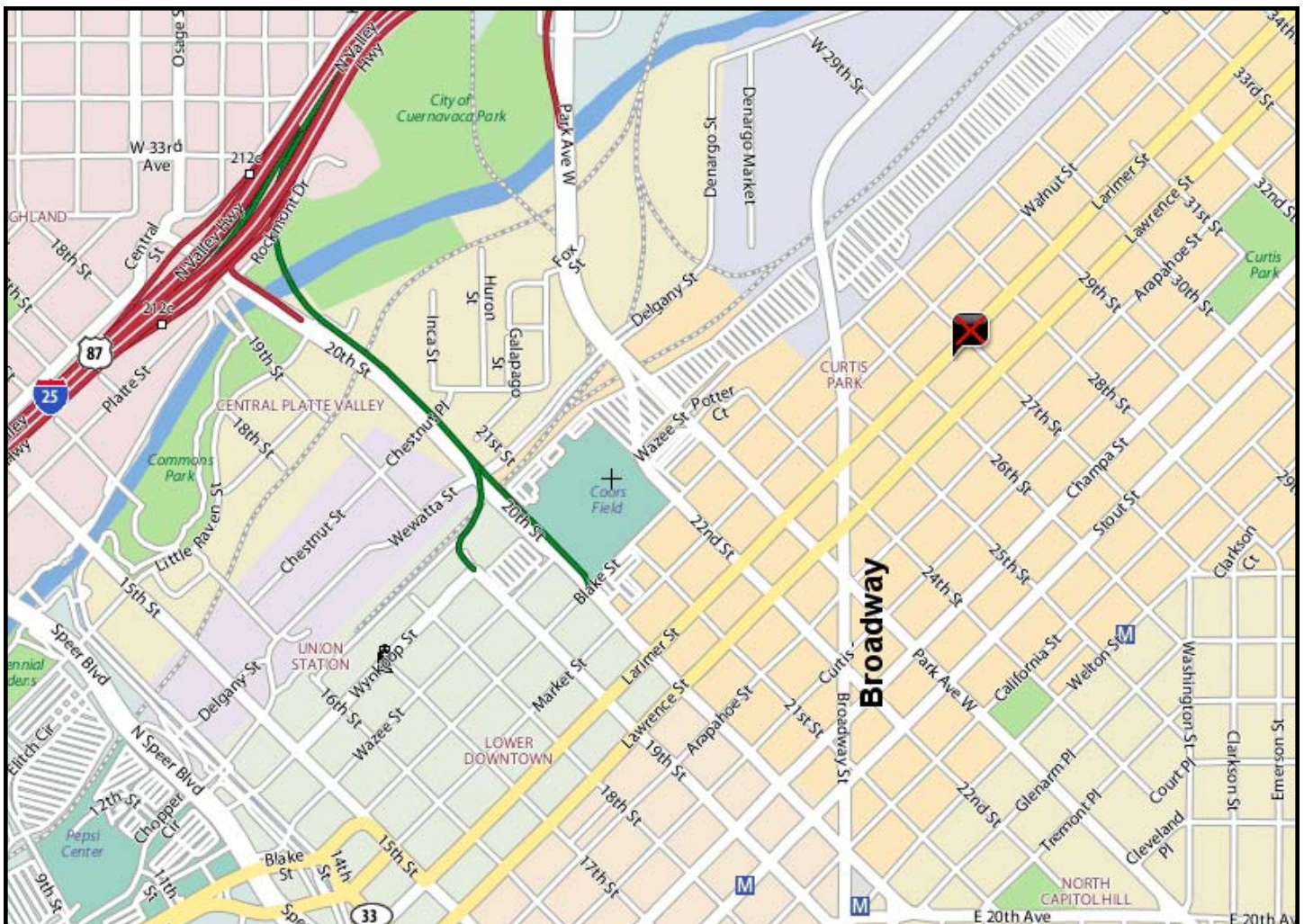
Angela reported that the re-draft of the Public Engagement (Notification) Policy has been delayed awaiting a report from the City Attorney's Office on what notice needs to be sent out regarding the parkway portion of the Parks and Parkways System. INCPR has generally requested all information be sent on the System so recipients may be aware of any plans or programs of any sort.

The next steps in opposition of the Admission Based Events (ABE) Policy, which PRAB passed 10-7 on August 12th, will be to continue to request that this policy not be implemented. The decision is now Kevin Pattersons, Manager of DPR. Angela said he and Mayor Hickenlooper already have begun to meet about this. One hundred citizens appeared in opposition, representing individuals as well as the populations of 81 INC neighborhoods. The board vote did not seem to be a mandate. There are still many questions regarding scheduling, review, budget, lack of sufficient public space, and charter. There appears to be great confusion between what is an admission based ticketed commercial event that fences off part of a public park, something that **never** has been allowed, and someone paying to have a picnic in a public park. An accounting of recent years requests for and income from uses such as picnics, weddings, et cetera was requested.

INCPR members agreed that the concerns with Denver's public Parks and Parkways System are indeed Systemic. The level of frustration with park and parkway issues is very high. The solution to the ABE concerns is to add to this great System a Festival Park, as other cities have done. As has been described before, this large park would be away from neighborhoods; accessible easily by public transportation; have the needed bathrooms, shelters, parking, lighting and sound; and with room for more than one event at a time. What a legacy that would be for any administration.

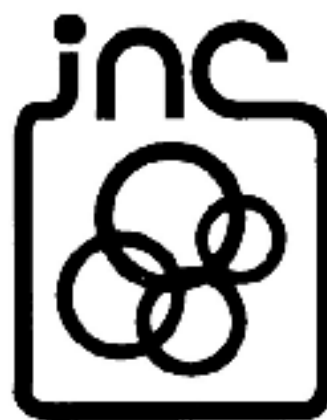
A number of complaints about construction in parks were described, including timing, lack of completion, lack of notification, and graffiti tagging on equipment.

Angela reported on progress of the Parkway/Setback/Right of Way Committee; the vendor policy; the Rec Center Memo; Ruby Hill, Cheesman, and Observatory Parks; and more. Her presence is appreciated.



Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation

2010 Membership Application



INC is a consortium of Denver neighborhood representatives who believe that neighborhood organizations deserve a greater participation in city government and possess a shared vision that individual neighborhoods are stronger when they work together and learn from one another. **To join as a member neighborhood organization, the organization must be registered with the city as a Registered Neighborhood Organization. Log on to Denvergov.org for details. The names of Patron members and associates are listed in bold in our newsletter.**

We wish to donate \$_____ to the Dollar Dictionary Drive.

Join as a voting neighborhood organization: Regular Member (\$35) ☐ Patron (\$75) ☐
See below to apply as an INC Associate

Organization name: _____
Address: _____
Borders: North _____ East _____
South _____ West _____

President's Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____ President is a voting delegate: ☐
E-mail Address: _____
Send newsletter via: E-mail [☐] U.S. Mail [☐] Don't want newsletter [☐]

Voting Delegate Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____ E-Mail Address: _____
Send newsletter via: E-mail [☐] U.S. Mail [☐] Don't want newsletter [☐]

Voting Delegate (if President is not a voting delegate)
Delegate Name _____
Address: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____
Send newsletter via: E-mail [☐] U.S. Mail [☐] Don't want newsletter [☐]

Join as a non-voting supporting Associate : Regular (\$20) ☐ Patron (\$75) ☐

Organization Name: _____
Organization Address: _____
Agent's Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____
Send newsletter via: E-mail [☐] U.S. Mail [☐] Don't want newsletter [☐]

Bring this form to an INC meeting or mail to:

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, PO Box 181009, Denver, CO 80218-1009

**Meeting Saturday
September 11th**
The public
is welcome to attend.

**Volunteers of America
2660 Larimer St.**

See map on page 14

8:30 a.m.

Coffee and Chat

9:00 a.m.

Welcome from co-hosts
Curtis Park Neighbors,
Whittier Neighbor Assn., and
Councilwoman Carla Madison

9:10 a.m.

INC Business

9:15 a.m.

Around the City

10:00 a.m.

Break

10:15 a.m.

Elbra Wedgeworth of
Denver Health
150 Years of Level One Health-
care for All

10:30 a.m.

Melanie Lewis and Debra Gray
Denver's Road Home + Q&A

11:30 a.m.

Committee Reports

Noon Adjournment

You can always view upcoming INC
meeting locations and get informa-
tion about presentations on our web-
site. Click on the "meetings & more"
link.

[www.neighborhoodlink.com/
INC/home](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/INC/home)

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation

P.O. Box 181009

Denver, CO 80218-1009

Officers/Executive Committee/Chairs

Steve Nissen, Chair & DDD Co-chair
303-733-8524

pennissen@cs.com

Alamo Placita Neighbors Assn.

Bradley Zieg, Vice-Chair

303-994-1395

bradleyzieg@msn.com

Bellevue-Hale Neighborhood Assn.

Karen Cuthbertson, Treasurer

303-936-9206

athmaratlarge@ecentral.com

Athmar Park Neighborhood Assn.

Ray Ehrenstein, Secretary

303-698-0337

james_bear_sample@mac.com

Overland Park Neighborhood Assn.

Larry Ambrose, Delegate-at-Large, Co-

chair of Parks and Recreation Cmte

303-571-1744

lda@earthnet.net

Sloans Neighborhood Assn

William Cornell, Delegate-at-Large

303-295-1149

william.cornell@northcitypark.com

North City Park Civic Association

Eugene Howard, Delegate-at-Large

303-929-6467

president@sunnysidedenver.org

Sunnyside United Neighbors

Randle Loeb, Delegate-at-Large

303-620-1999 msg, 720-292-0757 cell

randleloeb@gmail.com

Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods

George Mayl, Delegate-at-Large

504-339-9119

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Cory-Merrill N.A.

Ken Beaudrie, Chair, Newsletter & Mem-
bership Committees

303-798-9306

kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net

Unaffiliated

Billie Bramhall, Chair, Education Commit-
tee.

303-534-2272

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Golden Triangle Assn.

Cathee Fisher, Co-chair, Dollar Dictionary
Drive

303-333-3141; 303-548-5769 cell

cathee@earthlink.net

Unaffiliated

Katie Fisher, Co-chair, Parks and Rec-
reation Committee

303-744-3888

kfisher@iliff.edu

Mike Henry, Chair, Zoning & Planning
Committee

303-377-6609

michaelhenry824@comcast.net

Capitol Hill United Neighborhood, Inc.

Dave Webster, Chair, Transportation
Committee

720-941-8026

dj-jl-webster@att.net

Colfax on the Hill, Inc.