

**CONTACTING
WWPNA**

Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month at the Washington Street Community Center, 809 South Washington Street

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- | | |
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**2011 July 4th Neighborhood
Picnic in the Park
at Dos Chappell Bath House!**



You won't want to miss this event, bring your picnic lunch, blankets and folding chairs, and join us from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bath House on Monday, July 4th!

Summertime is special at Washington Park because of all the wonderful activities the park offers during the warm-weather months. One of the most anticipated events is the 9th annual Washington Park July 4th Celebration and neighborhood picnic co-sponsored by the Washington Park East and West Washington Park neighborhood associations and local business owners. This year's event will be held Monday, July 4 at the bath house across Smith Lake from the boat house renovation work (Dos Chappell Bathhouse, 600 S. Marion Pkwy., Denver, CO, 80209; on the Virginia Street side of the park's main entrance).

The festivities kick off at 11 a.m. with kids and their parents exploring the Station 21 fire truck in the bath house parking lot, visiting with the Denver Mounted Patrol horses, picnickers listening to the patriotic music played by the Denver Municipal Band's Brass Quintet, and attendees checking out free giveaways and information at the sponsors' tables. We will also be honoring veteran and active duty military at the event and collecting items to send overseas to military units.

Make sure you arrive early so that your children can decorate their strollers, trikes, and bikes for the parade, which begins about 11:45 a.m., with free decorations provided. The bike parade starts from the parking lot just west of the bath house. The procession takes 15 to 20 minutes with each participant receiving a ribbon at the end.



HONORING OUR VETERANS!
During the event, we will be collecting personal care items for the troops!

For the first time this year, we will also be honoring veteran and active duty military at the celebration and collecting items to send overseas to military units. Troops have little storage and must carry 50+ pounds in gear, so the smaller the items the better. Think "camping": travel sizes only, no aerosols, and nothing that will melt.



Continued on Page 2

July 4th Wash Park Celebrations *Continued from Page 1*

Free ice-cream and beverages are provided immediately following the parade, while they last. And remember, traditionally the full 40 piece concert band returns that evening at 7:30 p.m. in the meadow (south of the recreation center) for your listening pleasure.

We also need sponsorships to help make this event a success. The July 4th picnic has truly become a neighborhood tradition, enjoyed by neighbors of and visitors to the park alike. This is a wonderful op-

portunity to contribute to the community and strengthen your company's name or organization's visibility in both the west and east Washington Park neighborhoods. If you are interested in being a sponsor, please contact Mike Archer at jmichaelarcher@mac.com.

As is true every year, volunteers are essential to making this event a success. We are looking for people to volunteer for one hour or more with decorating the boat house, outlining the parade route with American flags, setting-up and staffing the food/beverage areas, and removing decorations and cleaning up after the event. In addition, parade route monitors are also needed to assist with bicycle safety and to help clap for and cheer on our parade participants.

Denver Recycling is Now Accepting Mixed Plastics

Are you a dedicated recycler? With a view towards continually reducing our land-fill waste, we've now made it possible for you to throw those clamshell containers in the recycle bin along with other plastics like:

* beverage, soap, and shampoo bottles * milk, detergent, and kitty litter jugs * yogurt, sour cream, cottage cheese, and butter tubs * peanut butter and mayonnaise jars * "take out" drinking cups * microwave trays * salad mix, berry, and baked goods containers
Denver Recycles now accepts all rigid plastic bottles, jugs, jars, tubs, cups, trays, and containers marked with the #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, and #7. Please empty containers and remove lids before recycling. To receive more information, sign up for Denver Recycles updates.

★ Are you a VETERAN of the U.S. Military?

At this year's WP July 4th Celebration we will be honoring retired and active U.S. military. If you have a family member who did serve or is currently serving, please let us know!

★ Are you interested in VOLUNTEERING for the Wash Park July 4th Celebration?

We need help planning and setting up to decorate, work tables, and general assistance with the event.

★ Do you have a pop-up TENT or TABLES we can borrow for the day?

Since this year's celebration is at the Bath House, we need more stand-alone tents and tables.

★ Are you a local BUSINESS or know of one that would like to be a sponsor for the event?

This is a great way to get your name out to the community, while helping with a worthy cause.

If you are interested in helping or participating in the day's events please contact Lori Poole at pooleLL@hotmail.com or 303-903-5892 for more details.

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Summer 2011 Traffic Update

Jim Jones, Chair of the WWPNA Land Use and Transportation Committee

If it seems like there is construction everywhere in and around the neighborhood, there is. Public Works is sequencing several construction projects through South Denver this summer. And plans are underway for improvements to the Broadway Interchange and South Broadway, plus construction continues on the Alameda Bridge and interchange. Please be aware of the following construction activities. And, as always, be courteous and careful in the construction areas.

Curb & Gutter Upgrade

As you have inevitably noticed Public Works is currently upgrading the curb and gutter throughout the neighborhood. As part of this project they are also adding handicap ramps at the corners. This is a welcome improvement that will enhance the walk ability of our neighborhood.

Ongoing Improvements to Washington/Emerson

You may have noticed that the work on Washington/Emerson stalled last summer before the paving and bike lanes were completed on both streets. This was to permit the upgrades to the water system to be completed, avoiding patching brand new pavement on Washington. Once the curb & gutter work is completed this summer, Washington Street will be repaved and the striping for the bike lanes completed on both streets. This will fulfill the improvements promised by Public Works. In 2014, Public Works will revisit the decision to complete the reversion of Washington/Emerson back to their original two-way configuration.

Changes Coming to Alameda

Later this year Public Works will make changes to Alameda Avenue between Downing and Franklin Streets. The block west of Downing, which currently has two lanes each direction, will be altered to merge eastbound traffic down to one east bound lane, with one left turn lane (north on Downing) and one right turn lane (south on Downing), with one west bound lane expanding to two between Downing and Corona as you head west. On the east side of Downing, Alameda will have one lane each direction, with a turn lane in the middle.

This is being done to better facilitate traffic turning into the local businesses without impeding through traffic. This should also make it easier for traffic on Marion Parkway to cross Downing. After traffic patterns have a chance to settle, they will look into improving the pedestrian signal in front of Steele Elementary to better function in conjunction with Downing and Marion Parkway. The four lane configuration west of Corona will not change.

I-25 and South Broadway Construction update

Design work has begun on improvements to the Broadway Interchange and Broadway south to Arizona. WWPNA is working with Public Works to ensure safer pedestrian crossings and to ensure the designs accommodate future traffic loads without causing cut-through traffic in the neighborhood. The initial designs look promising with much improved signaling and pedestrian access. Portions of the design will be finalized this year, and reconstruction of Broadway from Exposition south to Arizona could begin as early as next summer. You can view the current designs at the City of Denver web site:

<http://www.denvergov.org/SouthBroadwayI25/tabid/379069/Default.aspx>

Construction will complete later this year on the Alameda Bridge, though work will continue for another year on the highway. Once the bridge is completed, all turn movements along Santa Fe/Kalamath will resume. This should reduce congestion along the Alameda corridor and improve access to I-25.

Design work continues on the Santa Fe interchange, though no funds are available to begin construction. You can view the new design for both interchanges on the CDOT web site:

<http://www.coloradodot.info/projects/I25Alameda>
<http://www.coloradodot.info/projects/I25SantaFe>

A more thorough report will be provided later this year on improvements to I-25.

Portraits in the Park

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Denver Water Testing Lead Lines

Denver Water is looking for single-family residences with lead service lines to participate in a study. Participants in the program who provide a water sample will receive a \$50 reduction on their water bill. To qualify, the house should have been built in 1910 or earlier.

Participation in the survey is a two-step process. First, a representative from Denver Water performs an inspection to determine whether or not the home contains the original lead service line. If it does, the resident is given a bottle to fill with tap water after the water lines have been still for at least six hours. The Denver Water chemistry lab then tests the water sample and the results are provided to the CDPHE. Data collected is part of a

multi-year survey of residential water service lines the EPA is conducting across the country.

The deadline for receipt of data for the current-year survey is September 1, 2011. Residents who wish to participate are encouraged to contact Denver Water to arrange for testing.

Participants in the program who provide a water sample will receive a \$50 reduction on their water bill. Residents who would like to apply for participation in this program, or who have questions, should contact Water Quality Investigator Ryan Gregg at 303-628-5967.

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Washington Street Community Center

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 Get all the latest news from WSCC including upcoming events, classes, No Cook Nites, photos and more!

Or keep up via email

Be sure to sign up for our monthly e-newsletter on our homepage at wsc-denver.org.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

WSCC No Cook Nights and Friday Breakfast!

Don't forget the regular No Cook Nights and Friday Breakfasts at WSCC, 809 S. Washington St. No cook night is always the third Thursday of each month and runs from 4:40-6:30PM. Cost is only \$5 per person. Most Fridays they serve all-you-can-eat breakfast from 8:30-10:00AM. Cost is \$5 for non-members and \$4 for members. Check the WSCC calendar at www.wsccl-denver.org.

Gleaning West Wash Park

Did you know that food banks will take the excess fruit from your trees and vegetables from your home garden? Do you have extra fruit or vegetables that you don't have time to pick, and would like to donate to a food bank? We are organizing a crew to help our neighbors help the needy. If you have any fruit or vegetables you need help picking and would like to donate, or want to volunteer to help, call or email Mike Thomas at 303-765-4308 or mthomas@interfold.com. We will pick the items as you direct and provide you with a receipt from the food bank. If you want to help or drop off a donation yourself, here is the website of local food banks: feedingamerica.org/foodbank

Home Improvement Tips

When work is done without permits, it comes to light at the time a property is sold, refinanced or when a contractor or neighbor notices a problem and reports it to the City.

Protect Yourself with Building Permits

- * Permits protect your safety.
- * Permits protect the resale of your home and are required by lending institutions.
- * Unpermitted work can void insurance coverage and violate local Zoning and Building Codes.
- * Permits add value to your project and require that

inspections be performed to verify that work was done correctly.

- * Have your contractor pull a permit because the permit holder is responsible for compliance with the Building Code.

Common Projects That Do Not Require a Permit

- * Replacing an electrical fixture with a like fixture
- * Replacing a plumbing fixture with a like fixture
- * Painting * Carpeting * Floor tile

Projects That Require a Permit

- * Most decks * Additions
- * Bay windows * Patio Covers
- * Garages * Car Ports
- * Basement Remodels

Utilizing Contractors

- * Seek at least three bids.
- * Verify that your contractor is licensed.
- * Check web sites like the National Association of Home Builders for helpful tips.
- * Have a written contract detailing that the contractor will pull a permit and outlining the work to be performed, cost associated with each task and timeframe with estimated start and finish dates.
- * Always get a receipt for payments made to contractors.
- * Make payments beyond a deposit to your contractor only when you get something in return, such as materials delivered to your address.
- * For large projects, before each payment, ask for a walk through with the contractor explaining the work done so far and what will happen next.
- * Never pay in full until the job is complete, has been inspected and the building permit has been closed.

Learn more at www.DenverGov.Org

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Parking: Available out front
Other: Outside seating



by Cathy Roy, Contributing
 Writer- West WP Resident

It used to be the only smell assaulting you as you passed by Logan and Alameda was Chinese food, but now there's Larkburger. I went on a Saturday at lunch time and decided to join the 40 patrons that were in the restaurant to see why Larkburger is so popular.

I ordered the 1/3 lb. Larkburger with cheese, fries and large homemade lemonade. Though busy, my order was delivered in fewer 10 minutes. I have a habit of ordering my meat well done so it will come out medium, but was glad to see the terms for rare/medium/medium well/and well done were defined on their menu. The burgers are delivered wrapped in paper and cut in half. You could see the juice running out of it, along with the crisp onion and lettuce I had requested on the burger. The burger was cooked as I had ordered. More surprising was the amount of string fries that accompanied the order. Reminder to self - next time split order with someone or do an extra workout. The fries

were crispy, hot, and just salty enough to make you want more. The burger was juicy, messy and 100% Black Angus beef goodness. It was a perfect combination of beef, bun, lettuce, onion and tomato. The 1/3 lb burger was huge, so I was glad to see they offered a smaller version called the Little Lark.

For those who don't feel like beef, don't worry. You can have your choice of a turkey burger, tuna burger, grilled cheese or a field green salad. If for some crazy reason you don't want fries, or truffle and parmesan fries you can order soy beans. Beer is available also.

Larkburger prides itself on being eco-friendly. All stores are 100% wind powered, oil is recycled, and the plastic cups and salad containers are made from a biodegradable product.

The opinions expressed herein are the express views of the author and not necessarily those of the WWPNA newsletter or the WWPNA Board.

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Plan to attend the 2011 Washington Park July 4th Celebration and Neighborhood Picnic at the Dos Chappell Bath House

You won't want to miss this event, so bring your picnic lunch, blankets and folding chairs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bath House on Monday, July 4th

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- This is a contribution, or gift membership for _____.
- My address has changed and is corrected above.

I am interested in the following committees:

- Zoning Land Use/Transportation Communications
- House Tour/Fundraising Green Team Newsletter/Ad Coordinator
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