



**Rock 'n' Roll
Marathon
October 9th**

*Lots of Fun but
prepare for Street
Closures & No-Parking
Zones- See Page 2*

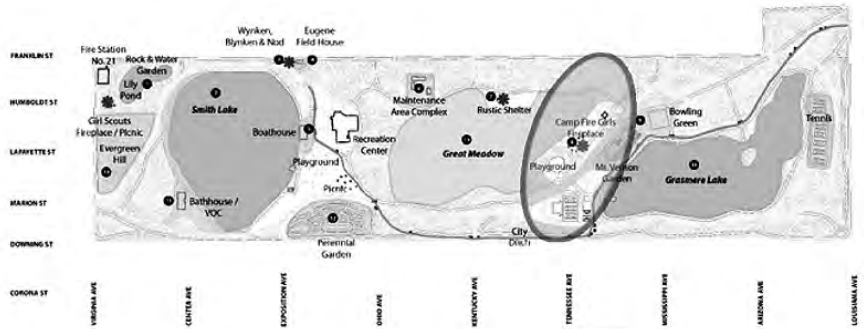
October - December, 2011

wwpna.org

*****OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING*****

**Give Your Input to the
Neighborhood, October 20!**

There is always a lot going on in West Washington Park. Join your neighbors on October 20th for a quick overview of the current topics and provide your thoughts on what is happening in the neighborhood.



**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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| Jim Jones
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303-744-3882 |
| Carol Bauer
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| Mike Rusconi
mike.rusconi@gmail.com | Byers |

Washington Park Master Plan

Find out about the improvements planned for our local Park.

Land Use and Transportation

What is up with the street maintenance? Why the 'new' lane configuration at Alameda and Downing? What is happening at the old Gates plant?

Zoning

How has the new Zoning Code affected our neighborhood? Lots of new restaurants in the neighborhood near homes, what's been done to protect residents peace & quiet?

What Topics would you like to discuss?

What is important to you? What questions do you have? Come and we'll see if we can find some answers. Councilman Nevitt has been invited so we'll find the answers together.

Meeting begins at 7PM at the Christian Indian Center - 509 S. Pearl. We don't expect it will go much beyond an hour. See you there!

**WSSC Fundraiser
Good Neighbor of the Year Award!
Thursday, October 13**

See more details about this Gala Event on Page 3

Anonymous Letters to the Association

Venting anger vs. working together

by **Charlie Busch, WWPNA Board Member**

The letter came in the post, addressed to the Association, without a signature, return address or ownership of any kind. A WWP resident very angrily took the Association to task for a new home being built in the neighborhood, which the letter writer considered “ugly” and “atrocious”.

When neighbors in the neighborhood contact the Association, it is usually because they are upset about something, so the anger and frustration is not new. The letter’s basic assumptions were wrong, and being anonymous, there is no way to start a dialog with the very offended person.

This complaint really struck a nerve for me. I was one of many volunteers working long days, months and years on the down-zoning and the Zoning Code Update to preserve, block-by-block, the unique character that is West Washington Park. However, in any construction situation, there are limits to what the Association can do.

As of now, there’s no way to contact the writer to say that s/he has a legitimate complaint. This property is well known at the City for the number of complaints received. WWPNA just received notice that this builder is requesting a variance. The writer of the letter may not be aware that WWPNA can help organize disgruntled neighbors during a variance hearing.

WWPNA is an association powered by volunteers. WWPNA has been fortunate to have a many neighbors serve on the Board and committees over the past 30 years. We volunteer our time for the benefit of the neighborhood. Many of the Board and Committee members have worked on zoning, land use, school issues, parks, etc. and are great resources when problems arise. But we can’t do everything. It is up to the residents who will be impacted by a change to invest energy and time to pursue their goals.

Working together we can accomplish almost anything. Pick up the phone and call us, or drop us an email. Start a conversation and let’s all work together for the benefit of the neighborhood.

Rock 'n' Roll Marathon & 1/2 - Denver Sunday, October 9

Denver is holding the second Annual Rock'n'Roll Marathon & Half Marathon. The race is expected to draw over 15,000 runners and will feature live entertainment along every mile of the scenic course. Runners will start at Civic Center Park and run past many of Denver's major landmarks and parks including: the Denver Public Library, Denver Art Museum, Larimer Square, the Pepsi Center, Union Station, Coors Field, as well as City, Cheesman, and Washington Parks.

Race begins at 6:55a.m. No Parking Zones Strictly Enforced!

Area along the route will be marked as “No Parking- Tow Away Zones.” Please adhere to the dates and times posted; all zones will be enforced. Please check the web site listed below for the numerous road closures in our area during the marathon. For a complete course map, list of road closures and No-Parking Zones go to:

<http://runrocknroll.competitor.com/denver>

There will only be minor delays to the light rail service. For more detailed routing info please visit: rtd-denver.com



Traffic Update on Alameda

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

As reported in the previous newsletter, Public Works has changed the lane configuration on Alameda at Downing and east to Franklin. The new configuration reduced the through lanes on Alameda to one in each direction, adding a turn lane in the middle. Though not requested by WWPNA, this was done to better facilitate crossing at Marion Parkway and to make it easier to make left hand turns between Downing and Franklin. We have posted an overview provided by Public Works to our web site.

However, since making the change, the performance of Alameda has degraded, with neighbors experiencing significant back-ups in both directions from Downing. We are also getting reports that it is more difficult to turn left to go north from Alameda due to the traffic stacking up in the west bound lanes.

WWPNA, as part of our ongoing Land Use and Transportation planning, will work to ensure that Alameda performs well as a

corridor. When major streets in and around the neighborhood degrade, we experience cut-through traffic as commuters attempt to circumvent traffic jams.

We have been in contact with Public Works about remediating the issues. They are monitoring, and have already adjusted the signal timing in an attempt to alleviate the traffic congestion. According to Brian Mitchell, Director of Traffic Engineering Services & City Traffic Engineer, "The new striping design is under review, and ... can be changed back to the previous design if it is judged to be the wrong design for this section of Alameda Avenue." Mr. Mitchell indicated the evaluation period will last for at least several months (up to six) before making another change or reverting the configuration back. So look for another update soon.

Please contact Jim Jones at LUT@wwpna.org with your experiences related to this change. We will forward your comments on to Public Works to aid in their evaluation.

DPD Notes on Safety in West Wash Park

The following items were reviewed by Denver Police Department District Four Commander Joe Montoya at recent community meetings:

The police department has been addressing the problem of bicyclists riding on sidewalks on South Broadway, a violation of Denver Municipal Code and a hazard to pedestrians. Uniformed officers patrolling on bicycles issued several tickets and made four arrests over a two-week period in July and August. It seems that the worst violators are individuals on parole or probation and who have had their driver licenses suspended.

Citizens who live near Broadway and Bayaud Avenue have asked the police to assist in removing homeless and intoxicated people from their porches. In addition to ordering additional patrols of the area, Commander Montoya indicated that he would contact the Coalition for the Homeless to help address the problem.

The Broadway Cop Shop, a volunteer-staffed office of the DPD's

Volunteers in Policing Unit, has relocated to 407 South Broadway, #500 (between Ace Hardware and the Dollar Tree stores in the Broadway Market Place). Office hours are 11:00am to 3:00pm, Monday through Saturday. The Cop Shop is seeking a donation of some industrial shelving to store graffiti abatement supplies at its new location. After the telephone system is re-installed, the phone number will remain the same: 720-865-2206. In the meantime, visitors and potential volunteers & donors are asked to stop by during business hours.

Community meetings are held at the DPD District 4 substation, 2100 South Clay Street, every other Wednesday and alternating to start at 10:00am and 6:00pm. The public is invited and encouraged to attend these meetings. For the date and time of the next meeting and for more information, call District 4 at 720-913-0200. If you would like to be added to the email notification list of upcoming meetings, send a message to Dist4news@aol.com.

• WSCC Fundraiser 'Good Neighbor of the Year' • Thursday, October 13

This year the *Jane Kraft Good Neighbor of the Year Award* goes to **Anita Martin!** Anita has been involved in WWPNA, the Home Tour and the new MWWP, the WWP Merchants Association.

**Join us on October 13th at Washington St. Community Center
(809 S. Washington) from 5:00-7:30PM.**

*Cocktails and an array of gourmet delights will be available
as we honor Anita with an elegant evening.*

Tickets are \$25, call the WSCC to purchase tickets 303-733-4643.

Grant Avenue Community Center

by Sandi Segal

At first glance, it looks like a very old church. Yes, it is that, and so much more. Eighteen years after its first congregation met in a tent near South Sherman and Maple Street, the doors to The Grant Avenue Methodist Church opened in 1908.

The Church, now known as the Grant Avenue Community Center and Sacred Place, has grown into a Center that serves its Congregations as well as the surrounding Denver community.

In the 1920's the Center, committed itself to "its neighbors, the surrounding community," Today, the Center maintains their dedication to the artistic, cultural and spiritual development of the community.

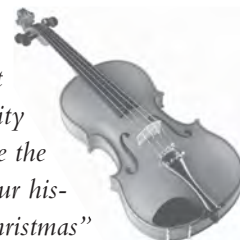
The 30,000 square-foot historic structure is part of the newly designated Grant Street. Historic District. Complete with its beautiful Sanctuary, theater, and many rooms of varied sizes, the--Center keeps to its values and goals by renting space at reasonable rates to nonprofits and the general community. Along with its 47 off-street parking spaces, the Center is the perfect West Washington Park venue for parties, weddings, classes, meetings, musical events, theater productions, dance performances, church services, neighborhood events and more. Hosting an event at the Center is made easy by the warm hospitality and support of Pastor and Director, Ken Berve, Administrative Assistant, Cheryl Blahnik, and other members of the staff and Board.



The Colorado Honor Band, Colorado Wind Ensemble, Mile High Freedom Band, Paul Green's School of Rock, The Upper Room Church, Grant Avenue United Methodist Church, and others like Mr. B's Ballroom Dance Academy currently call the center home. Many of the events and activities at the Center and Sacred Place are open to the public. Watch ShopWestWashPark.com for more information about upcoming Center events, and learn more about The Grant Avenue Community Center at GrantAve.org.

Denver Pops Orchestra Performs

On Sunday, December 11, 2011 at 4:00 PM, the Grant Avenue Community Center & Sacred Place is pleased to have the Denver Pops Orchestra performing in our historic sanctuary. "The Seven Joys of Christmas" with special guests "The Golden Concert Choir" will be entertaining us with several familiar Christmas tunes. We are located at 216 South Grant Street/ Denver, 80209. For additional information and ticket prices, please visit www.DenverPops.Net. We look forward to seeing you there.



Join us for

BEAUJOLAIS NOUVEAU NIGHT

A Night of Wine and Celebration

Friday, Nov. 18 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Grant Avenue Community Center
216 S. Grant Street



Get tickets & info at ShopWestWashPark.com

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Washington Street Community Center

Keeping up with the Neighborhood

As most community centers have closed their doors in our city, The Washington Street Community Center continues to grow by changing along with the needs and wants of its neighbors. This year it's especially true. Improvements in landscaping are just the beginning of new ideas and new happenings that invite a greater variety of "neighbors" to participate in all sorts of ways. Many of you are familiar with the children and senior programs, but there are quite a few more offerings that just might pique your interest, and give you an excuse to saunter INSIDE, where the new look continues.

For example, this year, the new Board President, Anita Martin, will be honored with Washington Park's Jane Craft Good Neighbor Award on October 13th. Anita has been instrumental in spearheading new ways to reach out. It was her idea to host the first annual "Homemade for the Holidays" Craft and Bake Sale on Sat. November 5 from 10-3. Artisans should not miss the chance to display at this event, and the bake sale will be heavenly. Who can turn down freshly baked apple bourbon pecan pie? After all, you can walk it off on Monday at the New Walking Club, hosted by Tanya Hammar, the new Senior Program Director. Tanya has also started a Book Club whose participants keep growing in number at their Friday gatherings. She is also interested in start-

ing a bridge club, so pass the word to any players you know. And if that isn't enough, you'll have to try the monthly "Cook's Night Off" and check out the new mellow dining atmosphere and improved menu. Very relaxing. But wait- have you heard about their Friday breakfasts from 8:30 to 10 where you can meet family and business colleagues for a bite and use the free Wi-Fi? Don't wait till the spring "Share our Future Auction" to find an excuse to walk in the door.

Go to the website at www.wscc-denver.org and between Tae Kwon Do and Yoga and Zumba there will be no more excuses not to come in and check things out for yourself.

Put it on your calendar!

Home(made) for the Holidays

Neighborhood Craft Fair

Start your holiday shopping early on **Saturday, November 5** from 10am to 3pm. Purchase one of a kind handmade items from local artisans while you munch on goodies from our bake sale!



Washington Street Community Center
809 S. Washington St. (at Ohio)

303.733.4643
www.wscc-denver.org

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Saturday - 7:30 am to Noon

AFTER HOURS PAGER: 303-855-1671
EMERGENCY SERVICE: 303-874-7387

www.washingtonparkvc.com • washingtonpark@msn.com





Washington Street Community Center

We're now on Facebook!



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 wscc-denver.org.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

WSCC No Cook Nights & 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

DPS Middle & High School Expo Info - Oct. 19

(DPS) is hosting the Middle & High School Expo, providing families with the opportunity to visit with principals, teachers and students from traditional, magnet and charter schools. The event will take place from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Infinity Park. All Denver-area families with children in grades ECE through 8th grade who are interested in learning more about DPS middle and high school options. More info call: (720) 423-3414 or <http://dpsk12.org/expo>

Art Opening- Gayle Carson

Friday, October 7th,
West Wash Park Neighbor



Alliance Francaise Denver Art Gallery will show **THE GOLD COLLECTION** and the impressionistic painting by Gayle Carson, a 75-year-old Artist with a world of experience portrayed on canvas. In her repertoire, there are more than 400 acrylic and oil paintings sure to appeal to every one's taste.

-OPENING NIGHT-

"The Gold Collection"

Alliance Francaise Denver Art Gallery

Friday, October 7th 2011 • 5:00p.m. - 8:00pm

571 Galapago St. Denver 303-831-0304

-Refreshments will be served-

The "**GOLD COLLECTION**" Exposition will be on display from October 7th through November 29th, 2011. Enjoy the beauty of this talented colorist, inspired by all of creation! Gayle will be showing her newest collection of GOLD paintings and her selected impressionist oil paintings. Gayle also gives private Art lessons in her West Washington Park home. An art lesson in her home is a unique experience, whether the students paint in her English garden in the shadow of this old Victorian home or in her amazingly colorful studio.

For more information call Gayle at 303-733-2067

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LaScala Trattoria

Location: Logan/Alameda

Lunch:

11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Happy Hour:

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Dinner:

4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Parking: Directly in front



by **Cathy Roy, Contributing Writer - West WP Resident**

I believe every neighborhood should have a cozy Italian restaurant and I'm happy to announce West Wash Park now has it's own. *LaScala Trattoria on the corner of Alameda Ave. and Logan St.*

Happy hour was quiet, but gave me a chance to sample some smaller versions of the dishes offered. The ravioli of day was butternut squash in a crème sauce with truffle oil. A plate with 3 raviolis covered with a rich crème sauce was smooth as velvet. The sauce was rich, but not heavy and combined with a Caesar salad and glass of white wine was perfect meal for me.

On a recent lunch visit, I ordered the Eggplant Panini and my guest chose the Chicken parmigiana Panini. Lunch came with a house salad of mixed greens, candied walnuts, candied cranberries and gorgonzola with a balsamic vinaigrette dressing. I loved the taste of the sweet candied walnuts and cranberries contrasting with the strong gorgonzola. The generous portion paninis were presented as a large balanced sandwich with a small side of roasted potatoes. Impressive how there was rich, thick tomato sauce on the paninis, but the bread wasn't soggy. I'd recommend a fork and knife to work your way through the layers of sauce,

bread, chicken, and mozzarella.

The weather turned cold and grey and I wanted comfort food - Chicken Marsala. A traditional marsala with a fragrant dark sauce was served over garlic mashed potatoes, helped to warm me up and instantly improved my mood. Completed with a glass of vino - Bon Appetite! Service at LaScala is friendly and prompt. I liked LaScala and plan to go again and take some friends. You should too.

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- I'd like to join WWPNA. I'd like to renew my membership.
- 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
- Other _____

Mail this coupon with checks payable to WWPNA, PO Box 9866 Denver, CO 80209.
For more information, please contact Charlie Busch at 303 722-6220.



Discover what's NEW about South High!

Please join us for an
Open House

Thursday, November 17, 2011
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Meet South High's new Principal, Dr. Kristin Waters, and hear about her plans for your neighborhood school.

Learn about South's stellar academic offerings and dynamic electives, sports and clubs.

See for yourself what all the fuss is about.

If you aren't able to join us, please arrange for a visit.
Go to www.denversouth.org
and look for the "Want to Visit South?" link.

South High School
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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Denver Police

Emergency 911
Dispatch 720 913-2000

DPD District 4 Offices

2100 S. Clay St., Denver 80219
Main Office (non-emergency) 720 913-0200

Neighborhood Police Officers

Ian Wallace 720 641-1401
Chris Evans 720 641-1403

Gang Unit 303 331-4081

Graffiti Hotline 720 865-7867

Broadway Cop Shop 720 865-2206

Chris Nevitt

City Council President- District 7

Phone: 720 337-7777

Email: chris.nevitt@denvergov.org

Councilman Nevitt holds office hours for our neighborhood the last Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at Michelangelo's Coffee Shop, at One Broadway.