

# JPUN

## APRIL NEWSLETTER

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SERVING OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

A Publication of Jefferson Park United Neighbors

# JEFFERSON PARK NEWS

www.jpun.org



## JPUN

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### NEXT JPUN MEETING

- JPUN General Membership Meeting
- Tues., April 5th, 6:30pm
- Riverside Baptist Church
- 2401 Alcott Street
- Rear Chapel

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

- JPUN Land Use Committee
- Wed., April 13, 6:30pm
- Zocalo Condominiums
- 2195 Decatur Street
- Ground Level Conference Room

- JPUN Board Meeting
- Public Meeting
- Saturday, April 3, 2 pm-5 pm
- Zocalo Condos
- 2195 Decatur Street

### JPUN YAHOO GROUP

Get neighborhood updates at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jpun/>

### SUPPORT JPUN

As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, your contribution to JPUN is tax deductible. Send your contribution to: JPUN, 2240 Clay St #200, Denver, CO 80211

## Volunteers Needed for Jefferson Park Day

JEFFERSON PARK DAY, ON MAY 14TH, IS A DAY THAT IS CREATED JUST FOR US!

It's simple to participate and there are plenty of opportunities for you!

SAVE THE DATE  
MAY 14TH



There's the morning neighborhood clean up. All you need to do is show up at 8:30 to have a great breakfast with us and then head out into the neighborhood to make sure our streets and alleys are clean. It's a fun and easy way to pitch in and do something great for your community.

Maybe the clean up isn't for you, or you're not an early-riser. Well come a couple of hours later and help us get the park ready for our BIG neighborhood celebration that begins at 11:30. We need help setting up tents and getting all the fantastic kids' activities ready for our neighbors. Then, enjoy a free lunch, music, sack races, a petting zoo, fire trucks, and more! It's also a great way to get to know your neighbors."

**Are you an artist?** Bring your art out for display in our first Jefferson Park Artopia, to be displayed during Jefferson Park Day. Get the word out about your art and help show neighbors the amazing creativity in our neighborhood

## Grow a Garden, Grow a Community

Garden plots are now available in the Jefferson Park Community Garden!!

As a resident or business-person in Jefferson Park, you have first dibs. If any spots remain open by June 1st they will be offered to residents across the city. Denver Urban Gardens has a long waiting list. This is a rare chance to stake your veggie claim!

#### THE DETAILS:

- Location: CEC/Middle College at W.27th/Clay
- Plot Size = 6'x10'
- Plot Fees: One time deposit = \$10 / Plot Fee = \$25
- Financial Assistance is Available
- Background Check Required (per Denver Public School rules)
- Garden Work Days and Maintenance are a team effort.
- Community Gardeners are happier than non-gardeners. (It's proven!)
- Gardening is a great way to incorporate inexpensive, fresh, healthy food into your diet, while getting to know your neighbors.

There are just a few spots left, and they will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

To sign-up, attend the JPUN General Membership Meeting on April 5th.

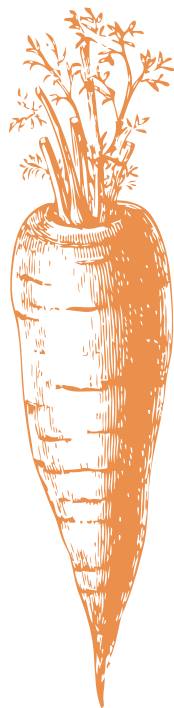
Or contact the garden membership coordinator,

Doris Blyth at: [dorisyblyth@gmail.com](mailto:dorisyblyth@gmail.com) or 303.617.0472.

Lotes para el Jardin de la Comunidad son disponible, Para mas informacion dirigase a las pagina 4

Free Flower and Vegetable Seeds Available at the JPUN General Membership Meeting on April 5th, 6:30pm, Riverside Baptist Church, Rear Chapel.

Tendremos semillas de flores y vegetales disponibles en la Asamblea General de JPUN en Abril 5 en la Iglesia Riverside Baptist destras de la capilla a las 6:30 p.m.





Michael Guietz, Co-President  
zoid4@comcast.net  
Kim Collie, Co-President  
CollieK@ccl.org

Open Position, Vice President

Doris Blyth, Treasurer  
blythspirit@q.com

Cheryl Patrick, Secretary  
Cherylpatrick@mac.com

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chairpersons  
ckcouzens@gmail.com  
jerryolson@comcast.net

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raf@rk-tects.com

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kromer2036@yahoo.com

**Membership Committee**

Dave Strano

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kmeldrum@msn.com

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jerryolson@comcast.net

**Neighborhood Liaison**

Cristin Couzens, chairperson

**Member-at-Large**

Sara Walker  
sara.m.walker@lmco.com  
Jeff Archambeau  
archambeau-g@comcast.net  
Tom Blyth  
blythspirit@q.com

# JPUN Board News

## On the docket for the April JPUN General Membership Meeting:

- Anya Thomson – The Music Train to discuss proposed summer concerts in Jefferson Park.
- Janel Highfill - Stand for Children (Advocacy group for Children’s Education) She will discuss issues in Northwest Denver education.
- Update on Jefferson Park playground redevelopment.
- Mayoral and city council candidates.
- Vote for your favorite logo for Jefferson Park.
- Sign-up for a Community Garden Plot.

### Next Board Meeting

April 2nd. 2:00pm to 5:00pm. Zocalo Condominiums. 2195 Decatur St. Ground Level Conference Room.

### JPUN Board Positions

Congratulations to our two newest board members, Dave Strano, elected as Membership Committee Chair, and Andrew Romero, elected as Spanish Community Outreach Chair. The Vice President position remains open. **For more information, contact Co-Presidents Michael Guietz or Kim Collie at zoid4@comcast.net.**

### Need Help with Your Taxes?

From the Economic Prosperity Center at King Trimble Denver Asset Building Coalition (DABC)’s Free Tax Preparation starts on Saturday January 29th!

**TAX DAY IS APRIL 15TH**

This service is offered for individuals and families earning less than \$49,000 annually. This Free Tax Supersite will be open from 1/29/11 through 4/16/11 – Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays: 5:30pm – 8:00pm and Saturdays 9:00am – 3:00pm  
[www.denvergov.org/economicprosperitycenter](http://www.denvergov.org/economicprosperitycenter)

## Jefferson Park Pet of the Month



**Name:** Zuri **Age:**  
**Breed:** Micro Tea Cup Chihuahua / **Owner:** Todd

Hello Jefferson Park Neighbors!  
My name is Zuri and I'm a micro tea cup Chihuahua. I live in the neighborhood with my owner, Todd, and I enjoy playing games at home, cuddling, and nice long walks in our very own Jefferson Park during nice weather!  
I enjoy other people and I like meeting my canine and feline neighbors.

Would you like to see your pet featured? Please send a photo and a few tidbits about your favorite pet to Cristin at [ckcouzens@gmail.com](mailto:ckcouzens@gmail.com) or drop it in her mailbox at 2819 W. 25th St. Or maybe, Jerry the “pet whisperer” will catch you in the park!

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2606 River Dr, Denver, Colorado - (303) 480-0521

Photography by: Jerry Olson | [jerryolson@comcast.net](mailto:jerryolson@comcast.net)

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# Streetscape Design Workshop Scheduled for April 2nd

By Jerry Olson

The Streetscape Public Design workshop, part two of neighborhood meetings, is scheduled for the morning of Saturday April 2nd at the Mystery Dinner Theatre. On February 24th, seventy-seven participants identified Issues and Opportunities for improving the Federal Boulevard Streetscape. Their recommendations include the commercial block on 25th Avenue between Eliot and the Boulevard.

## Participant input was grouped into several categories for further discussion.

### Issues included:

- Neighborhood Character
- Maintenance and Site Conditions
- Lighting, Safety and Security
- Traffic
- Landscaping; Street Amenities
- and Community Development



Opportunities will be further identified from the Issues and presented in a public meeting to be scheduled in May.

On April 2nd we'll organize into four groups which will tour each block, discuss conditions and possibilities then go back to the meeting space to work with a design professional and facilitator to develop preferred streetscape design elements for each block. Join your neighbors in this community building initiative.

## Cultivar Un Jardin, Es Cultivar o Desarrollar Una Comunidad

### Lotes para jardin son disponible en el Jardin de la Comunidad de Jefferson Park!

Como residente o persona de negocio en Jefferson Park usted tiene primer opcion para apartar su lote. Si para el primero de Junio todavia hoy lotes disponibles seran ofrecidos a residentes de la ciudad. Denver Urban Gardens tiene una lista muy larga de residentes que estan esperando un lote. Esta es una oportunidad muy rara para que usted aparte y tenga un lote para jardineria!

#### Los detalles son:

- Localizacion: CEC/Middle College en la W. 27 / Clay
- Tamano de el lote = 6' x 10'
- Costo por lote: Deposito solamente una vez = \$10/renta por lote = \$25
- Ayuda financiera esta disponible
- Se requiere verificacion de antecedentes criminales (por parte de reglas de Denver Public School)
- Los dias de trabajo en el jardin y mantenimiento son esfuerzos de equipo.
- Los jardineros de la comunidad son mas alegres que los que no son jardineros. (Asido comprobado!)



La jardineria es una muy buena manera de incorporar comida que sea fresca, saludable y economica dentro de su dieta a su vez es una gran oportunidad de conocer a sus vecinos.

Nomas quedan unos pocos sitios y seran asignados a el primero que se presente. Para inscribirse, solo asista a la Asamblea General de JPUN en Abril 5. O ponganse en contacto con Esther Meehan, que es la miembro coordinadora de jardin, a [es.meehan@yahoo.com](mailto:es.meehan@yahoo.com), 303-809-5801.



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# Food Producing Animals in the City

Printed in the North Denver Tribune on March 17, 2011  
by Paula E. Sandoval, City Council District 11

## Should the City of Denver allow six to eight chickens and two dwarf goats as a use by right?

Two competing efforts at backyard farming are currently being considered. The first effort consists of a citizen's initiative that would allow up to six chickens. The second effort is an ordinance sponsored by Councilman Chris Nevitt that would allow up to eight chickens and two dwarf goats. Denver currently allows both chickens and goats through a permitting process. Applicants pay a fee and undergo an environmental health inspection of their chicken coop. There is also a waiting period to allow for public input from the immediate neighborhood and neighbors. A "use by right" as is being suggested by the Nevitt ordinance and the citizen's initiative would allow a resident to keep chickens and goats without the benefit of an inspection by environmental health or input from other residents.

There are good arguments for allowing food producing animals in the city in a controlled way. That is why it is something that Denver already allows. There are also very good arguments for not allowing a "use by right". I read in a blog on the subject, "Our neighbors influence us in a city... how would my neighbors feel if I allowed flies to develop, or had a pool of mosquito-breeding rancid water, or let the chickens get sick, or poop all over. City ordinances keep things clean and safe. Goats and chickens are big projects that require managing flies and manure in a responsible way. I like rules- I just don't like draconian ones." The proponents think that the current rules are draconian. And the comment seems a little on the extreme side, or is it? The rules may actually be a way to keep things clean and safe.

Denver residents have been emailing me regarding their feelings on allowing food producing animals in the city. The best comment came from "Karen" who asked, "If the Denver City Council approves a zoning amendment that would allow for food producing animals to be kept in backyards, can I get a chicken or two and claim an agricultural exemption like Tom Cruise?" (Currently any land that is used for agricultural purposes becomes eligible for the agricultural exemption which in "every day speak" amounts to lower property taxes.)

I specifically wanted to let the community know about these two efforts because I may be voting on these in the near future. And is very frequently the case, a small vocal minority sometimes leads us to believe that their viewpoint is the majority viewpoint.

## Eliot Street Café featured in North Denver Tribune



Elisa Cohen gave the student run Eliot Street Café rave reviews in the February 17th issue of the North Denver Tribune.

Located at CEC/Middle college, prices range from \$2 to \$5.50. Stop by and support a great program that's right here in the neighborhood.  
2650 Eliot St. – 720-423-6645  
Tuesday – Friday 11:30 to 1:30



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# DEVELOPERS CORNER

## Jefferson Park Census Results Are In

At the end of March, detailed census results were released. Jefferson Park is Census Tract 6, Denver County, Colorado. A searchable database of results can be found at: <http://projects.nytimes.com/census/2010/map?hp>

Here are details of 2010 population statistics for Jefferson Park:

### Census Tract 6

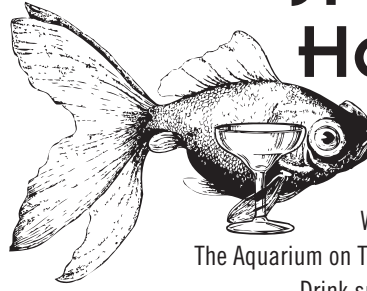
Population in 2010: 2,552

Change Since 2000: - 23.4%

	Share of Population	Change from 2000
Whites	39%	+110%
Blacks	1%	+19%
Hispanics	56%	-48%
Asians	2%	+179%
Native Amer.	1%	-45%
Multiracial	2%	+77%
Other Groups	-	-

# JPUN's April Happy Hour

The Aquarium  
April 21st from 5-7pm



We will be having our April Happy Hour at The Aquarium on Thursday evening, April 21st from 5-7pm. Drink specials and "munchies" will be provided.

We will probably get validation for parking but this decision is still travelling through corporate channels. For those who haven't been to the bar at the Aquarium, it's a cool, cave-like atmosphere with big windows on one of the giant fish tanks. Kids are encouraged to join their parents for Happy Hour!

## Zang Brewmaster Home at 2345 7th Street built 1889

### Are you interested in history?

The Jefferson Park neighborhood, once part of the Town of Highlands, was home of the Zang Brewery, artesian wells, railroads and horse drawn streetcars. Explore the 19th Century with your neighbors. JPUN is now forming an informal group of history buffs. E-mail me to get started. [jerryolson@comcast.net](mailto:jerryolson@comcast.net)



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# Under Construction!

Invesco Stadium Management held their quarterly neighborhood meeting on March 8th. The agenda included an update on scheduled stadium events and speakers from CDOT responsible for replacement of the Bronco Arch Bridge and also an update from RTD on FastTracks construction. Bridge work is to be completed in October 2013 and the West Corridor of FastTracks is to open in September 2013.

**Time for a grand opening!**



New I-25 Bronco Arch Bridge | Source: CDOT

## Cranes along the South Platte River

Construction on the new Bronco Bridge is anticipated to begin in late May. Very large cranes will be used to remove steel arches of the existing bridge and install precast concrete girders as shown in the above drawing. CDOT will keep the neighborhood and I-25 travelers informed of construction activities as part of their project. People can keep fully informed in real time through e-mail or wireless alerts by signing up on CDOT's project information page. [www.coloradodot.info/projects](http://www.coloradodot.info/projects)

Further north, I-25 will be widened to eliminate the bottleneck which develops between 20th Street and Speer Blvd. The project requires replacement of the 15th Street Bridge and construction of retaining walls. This project will be advertised in August with an anticipated construction start date of December 2011.

## RTD FastTracks moving quickly

Three major construction projects are taking place between the South Platte River and Federal Boulevard. Floodplain and bank improvements are under construction on the South Platte River and on Lakewood Gulch, while the West Corridor light rail is being built as the Federal Boulevard bridge is replaced to accommodate the new line. To gain an appreciation for how much work is taking place, explore the area or check out the West Corridor website for Area 3 Construction [www.rtd-fastracks.com/wc\\_120](http://www.rtd-fastracks.com/wc_120).

West Corridor tours are available on the 3rd Friday of each month April through September. Sign up well in advance to reserve a place.



## Do you need some Spring Cleaning Inspiration?

Go Green Warehouse, a new discount home improvement warehouse, is opening in West Denver this Spring. They are accepting donations now.

See a complete list of eligible items on their website:

[www.veteransgreenjobs.org/warehouse-donations](http://www.veteransgreenjobs.org/warehouse-donations)

To schedule a pick-up, call 720-236-1340 Tues.-Sat. 10am-4pm | 6th & Federal | Denver Store sales will support Military Veterans.

**Andale! Andale!**

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# JPUN BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Do you have a business in Jefferson Park that you would like to see featured in Business Spotlight? Jefferson Park News aspires to strengthen community connections by raising awareness of local businesses. To see your business featured, contact Cristin Couzens at [ckcouzens@gmail.com](mailto:ckcouzens@gmail.com) or 503-754-3825.

Deadline is the 15th of the month.

## Jefferson Park Logo Contest

**We're changing our look!**

As we work to improve JPUN Communications in 2011, we decided it was important to have a fresh new logo to tie things together.

Below are the entries into the JPUN logo contest submitted by volunteers from both inside and outside the neighborhood.

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE AT THE JPUN GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON APRIL 5TH.



## Exciting New Contest Added to Jefferson Park Day Festivities

Are you always doodling?  
Do you have a natural talent for sketching?  
Do you just enjoy drawing?  
Or are you a full-blown artist?  
Well JPUN has the contest for you!



During the week leading up to the Jefferson Park Day, "artists" from all over Jefferson Park are invited to pick up some chalk from organizers and create their best Jefferson Park Day-related art on the sidewalks of Jefferson Park. Judges will keep track of each work as the sidewalks are decorated, and on Saturday, May 14th, the best drawings will be awarded and great prizes will be handed out to the winners.

Remember, Jefferson Park Day is about helping to clean up the neighborhood, getting to know our neighbors, and having a great time with everyone, young and old. So get your thinking caps on, and start working on your chalk art entry.

Then contact Brooke Bailey at 303-667-1710 about registering for this fantastic contest. Anyone and everyone from in and around Jefferson Park is invited to participate.



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# APRIL EVENTS

In and Around Jefferson Park

**Children's Museum** Free Play, April 5th 4pm to 8pm  
Free Events Celebrating Dia del Nino / Children's Day,  
April 30th, 10:00am to 12:00pm  
[www.mychildsmuseum.org](http://www.mychildsmuseum.org)

**Denver Free Days** Chatfield Botanic—April 22  
Denver Botanic Gardens—April 22  
Art Museum—April 2, 24  
Nature and Science—April 1  
Visit [www.scfid.org](http://www.scfid.org) for more info about upcoming FREE DAYS.

**Eliot Street Studio** (W. 25th and Eliot)  
Offering classes for children and adults throughout March.  
Yoga, music and more. Visit their website at  
<https://sites.google.com/site/eliotstreetstudio/>

**Highlands Masonic Center** (3550 Federal Blvd)  
Denver Community Contra Dance, 2nd and 4th Fridays  
Lesson 7:15 - Dancing 8 to 11 pm  
[www.cfootmad.org/dances.htm](http://www.cfootmad.org/dances.htm)

**Invesco Field**

Sun. April 3	Bridal Festival
Sat. April 16	College Lacrosse
Sun. April 17	Mile High Mile Run
Sat. April 23	Lacrosse Tripleheader
Sat. May 21	U2 Concert

**Platte Valley Trolley** Opening Day April 16. Volunteers needed!  
[www.denvertrolley.org](http://www.denvertrolley.org)

**South Platte River Cleanup** April 23rd  
[www.greenwayfoundation.org/events/index](http://www.greenwayfoundation.org/events/index)

**Rail Heritage Society** Quarterly public membership meeting,  
April 21 at 7:00 PM at REI [www.denvertrolley.org](http://www.denvertrolley.org)

**REI** Many free events throughout April  
[www.rei.com/stores/18](http://www.rei.com/stores/18)



## JOAN BONDY JPUN Garden Angel

In the summer months, it's hard to miss the beautiful flower garden surrounding the Jefferson Park sign at corner of Clay and W. 23rd. The garden will celebrate its fourth anniversary at Jefferson Park Day this year. In 2007, neighbor and landscape designer Steve Smith mapped out a plan and donated plants to jump start the project. Kari-Elin Mock helped with approval from Parks and Rec. and documenting community hours donated to the project. JP Day Volunteers turned over soil and planted an array of annuals and perennials.

**That was the easy part.**

Ongoing maintenance became JPUN's responsibility. Over the years, many generous neighbors have donated flowers. But one neighbor, Joan Bondy (a Jefferson Park resident since 1984), has carefully watched over the plot, ensuring a bright and colorful entrance to the park.

The garden, like life, didn't stick to the plan. Grass crept in. Some plants thrived, others wilted. Weeds were a constant presence. Last year, the sprinkler system wasn't turned on at the park until June, leaving the sprouting flowers thirsty and at risk. But Joan came to their rescue – she fought back the invading grass, tended sick plants, weeded, and carried buckets of water from her house on River drive to keep them alive!!

Joan is already planning for the garden this year. Would you like to get involved? She'll be working on garden maintenance at Jefferson Park Day and would love to have helpers. You can also get involved by donating flowers, like chrysanthemums and petunias, toward the end of May, and by participating in an hour or two of ongoing maintenance throughout the summer. Contact Joan at [joan.bondy@hotmail.com](mailto:joan.bondy@hotmail.com). **Joan – THANK YOU for your dedication to the garden in the park! It gives us another reason be proud of our neighbors and our neighborhood.**

# The Safety Zone

## Working Together Works

Theft From Motor Vehicles (TFMV) was down in March. After several months of increases, this is a welcome result! Your reports help police learn the most common time and location of thefts, guiding them to step-up patrols and to be in the right place at the right time. **Great job!**

After a community complaint about suspicious activity at a house in the 3400 block of Federal, officers initiated a “knock-and-talk” which led to several drug arrests. This is an example of how sharing suspicious information with the police can stop neighborhood crime. If you see something suspicious, don't be afraid to call the **Non-Emergency Police Line: 720-913-2000.**

A proactive police effort to identify renters with outstanding warrants before they sign a lease in our neighborhood resulted in several arrests last month. Prior to meeting the landlord, the neighborhood officers made contact with the applicants, found they were wanted and in possession of narcotics and a weapon, and made the arrests. Kudos to the neighborhood officers for initiating this effort!

The graffiti team located in District 1 teamed up with officers in District 4 for a successful graffiti sting on Friday March 18th. Seventeen arrests were made. When you report graffiti and it is recorded by the city, multiple occurrences can be linked together, increasing property damage estimates leading to a longer sentence.

- Katherine Meldrum



## JPUN BECOME A PART OF THE STORY

Send your stories, comments or ideas to Cristin Couzens or Jerry Olson  
[ckcouzens@gmail.com](mailto:ckcouzens@gmail.com) | [jerryolson@comcast.net](mailto:jerryolson@comcast.net)

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## COMMUNITY RESOURCE

Police, Fire or Medical - EMERGENCY	Dial 9-1-1
Gas Leak or Electrical Emergency - Xcel	800-895-4999 select # 1
City of Denver 311 Help Center	3-1-1 or 720-913-1311
Police - City Non-Emergency Information	720--913-2000
Police - District 1 Station Information only	720-913-0400
Paula E. Sandoval - Council Member District 1	303-458-4792
Denver Public Library	720-865-1111
Regional Transportation District	303-299-6000