

JPUN

FEBRUARY
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., February 1st, 6:30pm
Riverside Baptist Church
2401 Alcott Street
Rear Chapel

UPCOMING MEETINGS

JPUN Land Use Committee
Wed., February 9, 6:30pm
Zocalo Condominiums
2195 Decatur Street
Ground Level Conference Room

JPUN Board of
Directors Meeting
Open to the Public
Sat., February 5th
9:00 am to 1:00pm
Zocalo Condominiums
21st and Decatur
First Floor Conference Room

JPUN YAHOO GROUP

Get neighborhood
updates at
[http://groups.yahoo.com/
/group/jpun/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jpun/)

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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

BOULEVARD TOWN SQUARE STREETSCAPE

MEETING ANNOUNCED



The mystery will be solved February 24th...

Streetscape Improvements for a potential demonstration project along Federal Boulevard, including Town Square in Jefferson Park, will be discussed at an **Informational Meeting on Thursday evening February 24th**. The proposed pilot study includes Federal Boulevard between 23rd and 26th Avenues and the Town Square block on 25th. Topics will include: project goals and objectives; illustrations of existing issues/challenges; examples of good streetscape improvements; plans for a Design Workshop and a schedule moving forward. The public meeting will be held at the **Adams Mystery Playhouse** with a social time at 6:00pm followed by the agenda at 6:30pm. This is also an opportunity for property and business owners and neighborhood residents to take a few moments to find out what is happening in Jefferson Park and along the Boulevard. **Come meet your neighbors at 6:00pm.**

Adams Mystery Playhouse is graciously donating their meeting space to the community. In addition, they are offering a complimentary dinner theatre ticket to be awarded to one of the lucky attendees at the meeting.

The Streetscaping project is a planning initiative sponsored by the Federal Boulevard Partnership in collaboration with Jefferson Park United Neighbors. Marshall Vanderburg from FBP heads up the FBP Streetscaping committee and Jerry Olson participates on behalf of the Jefferson Park neighborhood and JPUN.

For more information check out the FBP website at <http://www.federalboulevard.com/>.

Read more about Valerian, a Jefferson Park based business specializing in landscape architecture, master planning and urban design that has already generously donated their expertise to the Streetscape Project on p 4.



JPUN SAFETY CHAIR

Brings Expertise and Dedication to the Position

Katherine Meldrum, Jefferson Park resident since 1999 has seen things change in the neighborhood. When she first started as the safety officer in 2005 Denver Police assigned a patrol officer to the neighborhood and we would get a new officer every 6 months. When an issue came up it had to be resolved before the neighborhood officer changed, or the whole process would start over with the next officer. Officers Valdez & Bloom have been with the neighborhood for 2 years and are invaluable to the safety of Jefferson Park. In her position, Kat attends monthly District 1 Commanders Advisory Group meetings at police headquarters, keeps in close contact with neighborhood police, and serves as a liaison representing JPUN when safety related issues arise, such as when properties are placed under nuisance abatement by the city. She served a key role in helping neighbors concerned about a half-way house make sure they were in compliance with city codes, which ultimately led to the owner selling the property. After a short break from the position, JPUN Board members are grateful that Kat was willing to step into the position once again.

Great job Kat! Keep up the good work.

Open Position, President

Michael Guiietz, Co-Vice President
Kim Collie, Co-Vice President
zoid4@comcast.net

Doris Blyth, Treasurer
blythspirit@q.com

Cheryl Patrick, Secretary
Cherylpatrick@mac.com

Environmental Committee

Kari Mock, chairperson
kar@rk-tects.com

Communications Committee

Cristin Couzens and Jerry Olson
chairpersons
ckcouzens@gmail.com
jerryolson@comcast.net

Land-Use Committee

Raphael Espinoza, chairperson
raf@rk-tects.com

Social Committee

Brooke Bailey, chairperson
kromer2036@yahoo.com

Membership Committee

Unoccupied

Safety Committee

Katherine Meldrum, chairperson
kmeldrum@msn.com

Spanish Community Outreach

Unoccupied

Central Valley Improvements

Jerry Olson, chairperson
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

Northwest Denver Education Community Committee

to Hold February Meeting in Jefferson Park

This newly formed committee will hold their next meeting on February 9th at 5:30pm at CEC Middle College of Denver located at 2650 Eliot Street and is open to the public.

The stated goals of this committee include:

1. Improve academic performance
2. Establish clear ECE-12 feeder patterns
3. Support and inform long-term future options at North High School
4. Address school capacity, facility utilization, and continuity of programs
5. Address program offerings at existing schools including high school configuration
6. Consider options for new schools
7. Review strategies to meet the needs of English language learners and students with special needs.

These recommendations will inform any decisions made by the Board of Education on schools in Northwest Denver.

You can read more at <http://nwdenverschools.org/>

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JPUN Board News

2011 JPUN Board Meeting

The first 2011 JPUN Board Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 5th from 9:00am to 1:00pm at Zocalo Condominiums, located at W. 21st Ave and Decatur. It will be held in the first floor conference room and is open to the public. The board wishes to thank David Zucker, Principal at Zocalo Community Development for making this space available for Jefferson Park activities.

Chairperson of the Membership Committee Dave Strano, co-owner of P and L Printing and resident of Jefferson Park, has expressed interest in the position of Chairperson of the Membership Committee. A vote will be held at the February General Membership Meeting. P and L Printing is located in Jefferson Park, and generously offers discounted printing services to JPUN.

Two positions remain open on the JPUN Board, Spanish Outreach Coordinator and Board President.

For more information, contact co-Vice Presidents Michael Guiietz or Kim Collie at zoid4@comcast.net.

JPUN Logo Contest Reminder

Submit your ideas for a new JPUN logo to the JPUN Board of Directors (email Jerry at jerryolson@comcast.net) by February 15th for presentation at the March 2011 Community Meeting.

JPUN Happy Hour February 8th!



Adams Mystery Playhouse to Host

Adams Mystery Playhouse has generously invited their Jefferson Park neighbors of all ages to enjoy a pre-Valentine's Day happy hour on Tuesday, February 8th from 5:30 – 7:30pm. Not only was the playhouse voted BEST THEATRE of 2010 by Denver's Channel 7 A-List, but the building is a Jefferson Park landmark that offers historical insights into our neighborhood's early beginnings. Come mingle with your neighbors & Adams Mystery actors while enjoying complimentary appetizers and drink specials, and learning about this Jefferson Park treasure.



Adams Mystery Playhouse is located at 2406 Federal Blvd (Park and Enter on 24th Avenue).
www.adamsmysteryplayhouse.com

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

VALERIAN

Landscape Architecture, Master Planning, Urban Design

When Susan Lee Brown chose to locate her business at the site that previously housed the Old Homestead Bread Company in Jefferson Park, she envisioned a creative, sustainable space reflecting the community around her – principles that form the foundation of Valerian. Specializing in landscape architecture, Susan's eyes light up when she describes the outdoor spaces they have designed for which they plan everything from site grading, sidewalks, benches, trails, and other amenities. For the Cherry Creek Regional Trail, Valerian has created an ecological park including play areas using natural materials such as logs and stones, built sustainably for long life, with fun details like a computer kiosk augmenting the experience with scavenger hunts for both children and adults.

Jefferson Park was an attractive neighborhood for Valerian for many reasons. Proximity to downtown allows the woman-owned small business to engage more fully with the city of Denver. Susan also volunteers as a mentor for a family living just across Federal Boulevard.

We are lucky to have such a dynamic firm participating in the planning for the Town Square Streetscape Project. Susan envisions a unifying identity for the area with updates like matching light posts to tie things together. Surrounding the sidewalks, she sees xeric plants and a redirected water flow to keep the area looking good far into the future.

Valerian has already donated a significant amount of time on a plan to serve as a starting point for discussion about the streetscape project, and will be on hand at the public input meeting on February 24th (details on page 1.) Come learn more about Valerian, the streetscape project, and give your input!

You can read more about Valerian at www.valerianllc.com



BE IN THE KNOW ABOUT THE SNOW FROM DENVER PUBLIC WORKS

Denver requires property owners to clear their walkways so that everyone has safe access throughout the City. Senior citizens, people with disabilities, parents with strollers, and mail carriers -just to name a few -struggle to negotiate hazardous walkways...we need to do our part to make our community safe and accessible for all.

- Homeowners: Once snow has stopped falling, residences have twenty-four (24) hours to remove snow from public sidewalks adjacent to their property.
- Businesses: Once snow has stopped falling, businesses have four hours (4) to remove snow from public sidewalks adjacent to their property.
- Report A Problem: Please contact Denver 3-1-1 to provide the address of unshoveled sidewalks.
- Enforcement: Denver performs proactive inspections in business districts, and we rely on citizen complaints to help us identify those property owners that need to be educated about sidewalk safety requirements.

Resources for those who cannot shovel their sidewalks:

- Catholic Charities – Karen Blacker 303-742-0823 ext. 2046. She's happy to take calls and connect people as best they can to a volunteer.
- DRCOG Area Agency on Aging – Kelly 303-480-6787 will make connections as best they can.
- VOA (HandyMan Program)– Amanda 720-264-3331 one-time service/connections
- Senior Resource Center – Ann 303-235-6973 will connect on case-by- case issues.

How to be the Denver Difference and become a Denver Snow Angel!

- Get to know your neighbors - keep a list of phone numbers on hand for emergencies.
- Check on elderly and/or disabled neighbors during major snow storms to be sure they do not need help.
- Go the extra step to make sure the sidewalk on your block is clear of snow so it can be accessible to all.
- Check out the resources available in your neighborhood - churches and other service organizations often have volunteers available to help those in need.
- Visit the Denver Office of Emergency Management to get more information on how neighborhoods can prepare for emergencies in Denver. www.denvergov.org/oem



Snow Daze Jefferson Park - BEST Snow Sledding in Denver!!



GROUNDWORK DENVER: Doing Good In The Neighborhood

In a modest house on W. 27th Avenue, Groundwork Denver is leading the charge for environmental justice. Focusing on the health of people, land, air, and water, the Groundwork Denver staff engages communities in systems solutions, improving physical surroundings and quality of life.

2010 projects included organizing a car-free month in Berkeley with events that encouraged residents to incorporate bicycle transportation and public transportation into their daily routines, while reducing carbon emissions at the same time.

The Porch Bulb Project continued to achieve success. Together with volunteers, inefficient light bulbs are swapped out, neighbors are signed up for recycling, city tree distribution, free energy audits, and discontinuing junk mail. In a one-day volunteer event 3600 porch light bulbs were replaced!

The Groundwork Denver Green Team, youth hired for positions that immerse them in environmental leadership and outdoor projects, have done great work in Jefferson Park – helping with the construction of our first community garden at CEC Middle College.

And in 2009, Groundwork Denver helped JPUN install the compact granite path on either side of the 23rd Avenue bridge.

You can learn more about Groundwork Denver and the many great things they do at www.groundworkdenver.org

Summer Job Openings – Apply Now!

One of Groundwork Denver's goals is to engage area youth, ages 14 to 24, in paid positions in the environment. In addition to activities such as community garden construction, summer employees complete a short internship at a national park. Send a cover letter resume to shane@groundworkdenver.org



Groundwork Denver Green Team with Jefferson Park Community Gardeners at the start of last season.



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Free Tax Help for Qualifying Families

Free tax filing is available for Denver families with income under \$49,000.

IRS-certified college students from Community College of Denver, Metro State College, and Emily Griffith Opportunity School will prepare and e-file tax returns for taxpayers whose household income qualifies!

Tax Help Colorado sites:

Manual High School

1700 E. 28th Ave, Third Floor

January 29th to March 12th

Sat., 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. • Thurs., 5 to 8 p.m.

Emily Griffith Opportunity School

1250 Welton Street

Sat., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., January 29th to February 26th

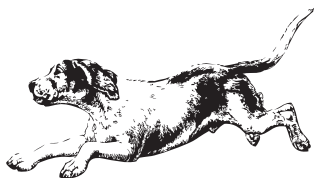
Tuesdays, 2 to 8:30 p.m., Febr. 1st to March 1st

Thursdays, 2 to 8:30 p.m., Febr. 3rd to April 14th

(closed March 24th & 31st)

Keep more of your refund, do not pay to have your tax return done.

Jefferson Park Pet of the Month



Name: Sasquatch Age: ? Breed: Mystery

Owner: Joan Bondy

Hello neighbors, I'm Sasquatch! I used to be a lean and mean tom, constantly on the move, seeking out the ladies and the fights. I had mangy fur and open wounds and a partially bald tail, but life on the edge was exciting.

Then my guardian (Joan Bondy) took me to the vet a year ago and boy, have things changed for me (and my former victims). Now, I like to mostly lounge around the house supervising things, and yes, I've put on a little weight, but doesn't my fur look wonderfully fluffy?

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 or drop it in her mailbox at 2819 W. 25th St.

Or maybe, Jerry the "pet whisperer" will catch you in the park!



REALARCHITECTURE
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Ph: 303 - 477 - 5550

www.realarchitecture.com



NORTH DENVER DESIGN/BUILD

JOIN THE NEIGHBORHOOD TEAM!

Planning for Jefferson Park Day 2011 on May 14th is just beginning.

Volunteers are needed to reach out to businesses and residents to coordinate the day of neighborhood clean-up and festivities.

Contact Brooke Bailey

at 303-667-1710

or e-mail at

Kromer2036@yahoo.com



Another successful
Jefferson Park Day
- Coordinator 2009
Barbara Baker

FEBRUARY EVENTS *In and Around Jefferson Park*

Children's Museum Day Out of School Camp – February 20,21

SCFD Free Days Denver Art Museum – February 5th
Denver Zoo – February 6, 19
Museum of Nature and Science – February 14, 27
Botanic Gardens – February 21
Visit www.scfid.org for more info about upcoming FREE DAYS.

REI Snowshoeing Basics – February 3, 6:30pm, Free
Maps, Compasses and Orienteering –
February 4, 18, 1:00pm, Free

PPA Events Center (2105 Decatur)
Shaken, Not Stirred Martini Party
Benefiting Boys Hope Girls Hope of Colorado.
For Tickets: Call 720-524-2061. Or purchase tickets
online at [http://www.boyshopegirlshope.org/
colorado/MartiniPartyTickets.aspx](http://www.boyshopegirlshope.org/colorado/MartiniPartyTickets.aspx)

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

Highlands Pajama Crawl Benefiting Denver's Road Home:
The City's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness
Friday, February 11th 6:00 - 10:00pm
For participating locations and information on how to
sign up visit <http://www.pjday.org>

Denver Restaurant Week
Participating restaurants offer a multi-course dinner at \$52.80
per couple or \$26.40 for one, not inc. tax or gratuity.
www.denver.org/denverrestaurant Sat,
February 26 thru Fri, March 11

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The Safety Zone

TAGGING IN JEFFERSON PARK

Occasionally, I get questions about the graffiti around the neighborhood. You might have noticed some common letters, BTS & OTD, in the central and northern sections of Jefferson Park. When one set of letters pops up, they are soon replaced by another.

- **BTS represents the tag of an "anti-establishment" group**
- **OTD is reported to be a small gang**

When graffiti is not cleaned up quickly, it encourages the taggers to continue to deface property in our neighborhood.

For information on graffiti removal please see the JPUN website:
<http://jpun.org/graffiti-removal/>

In other safety news, there has been recent drug activity near 25th Ave & Eliot. An arrest was made after a police officer noticed a hand to hand exchange with a person in a blue car. Our District 1 Officers have encouraged neighbors to call the police department if any suspicious behavior is witnessed.

Please continue to report crimes as we have better "eyes" on what is going on in the neighborhood and any information we can give to the police to help them helps us tenfold.

An example of this is last month in the Sloan's Lake and West Highlands neighborhood, a resident reported a suspicious vehicle and gave them details about the truck, ie; color & license plate number. Two officers saw the truck in an alley, and were able to arrest both criminals for numerous burglaries in the Denver Metro area. Overall, I am pleased to report that crime dropped in Jefferson Park in 2010.

- Katherine Meldrum

FREE Street Trees for Jefferson Park Residents!

To apply or to learn more visit
www.theparkpeople.org or
call 303-722-6262

Application Deadline: February 15

Pick up your tree(s) on April 16



Árboles para las calles gratis por todo los residents de Jefferson Park!

Para aplicar o pedir más información,
visite o llame, www.theparkpeople.org
or 303-722-6262

Plazo para aplicar: 15 de Febrero

Recoja su árbol(es) el 16 de Abril

JPUN

BECOME A PART OF THE STORY

Send your stories, comments or ideas to Cristin Couzens or Jerry Olson
ckcouzens@gmail.com | jerryolson@comcast.net

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1/8 Page Ad: \$15

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