

JPUN

MARCH NEWSLETTER

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SERVING OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

A Publication of Jefferson Park United Neighbors

JEFFERSON PARK NEWS

www.jpun.org



JPUN

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Streetscape Meeting Recap 3
- Stand for Children 5
- Business Spotlight 7
- The Safety Zone 8

NEXT JPUN MEETING

JPUN General Membership Meeting
 Tues., March 1st, 6:30pm
 Riverside Baptist Church
 2401 Alcott Street
 Rear Chapel

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- JPUN Land Use Committee
 Wed., March 9, 6:30pm
 Zocalo Condominiums
 2195 Decatur Street
 Ground Level Conference Room
- Federal Boulevard Partnership
 Public Meeting
 Tues. March 15, 6:30pm
 Adams Mystery Playhouse
 2406 Federal Boulevard

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



Bronco Arch Bridge is Coming Down

by Jerry Olsen

Colorado Department of Transportation is scheduled to make its final contractor selection for demolition and reconstruction of the Bronco Arch Bridge on March 10th. Work will begin in late April or early May and continue for 550 work days ending in October 2013. In addition to bridge construction, I-25 between 23rd Avenue and the bridge will be realigned to improve the highway curve radius. This will increase highway sight distance and thereby public safety. Although all eight lanes of the highway will remain open during the day, lane closures may be required between 9:00 PM and 5:30 AM. Bike/Pedestrian paths and streets below will be closed as required. Although the arched bridge is a handsome structure, erosion and deterioration in advanced stages are easily seen walking along the bike path.

CDOT Region 6 will issue public notices on all scheduled construction activities. Jefferson Park neighborhood and JPUN will be notified and briefed in public meetings yet to be scheduled. CDOT has worked well with JPUN previously in expediting the replacement of the 23rd Avenue Bridge railings.

Business Sponsors and Artists Needed for Neighborhood Clean-up and Celebration

On Saturday, May 14th, neighbors will participate in the Great American Clean Up, combing the streets and alleys and collecting trash in the morning, followed by a community celebration in Jefferson Park in the afternoon. JPUN relies on dedicated volunteers and business sponsors to make this event a success.

Are you a Jefferson Park business looking to get involved in the community?

There are multiple sponsorship opportunities for this 501(c)3 event, including cash donations to help fund a face painter and other events for kids, tables and tents, band, balloon arches and more. In-kind donations are also welcome such as raffle prizes, garbage bags, beverages, burritos. Do you have rakes and other garden tools to loan? We'll also be re-mulching landscaping in the park. There is also table space available for businesses at the event. Business sponsors will get special mention in the event flyer, the newsletter, and on site at the event.

Contact Brooke at kromer2036@yahoo.com or 303.667.1710 for more information.



The 11th Annual Jefferson Park Day is fast approaching!

Are you a local artist looking to introduce yourself to the neighborhood?

JPUN will have table space available for local artists. Contact Cheryl at cherylpatrick@mac.com.

JPUN BOARD

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

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

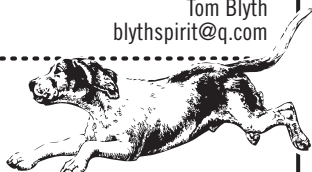
Neighborhood Liaison

Cristin Couzens, chairperson

Member-at-Large

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

Jefferson Park Pet of the Month



Name: Precious Sky P.S. I Love You (a.k.a. SKY) **Age:** 3
Breed: Australian Shepherd / Blye Healer / **Owner:** Lisanne Libner

After seeing the movie Best In Show, I couldn't help but come up with a poking-fun show-dog kind of name. Really my name is Sky, and I'm cool like that. I have an incredible talent and desire to catch things, fetch things, bring them back to you, rinse, repeat. Repeat. Repeat. I am really quite tireless. I love parks, hikes, mountains, the great outdoors so I'm glad to be a Colorado girl. I am also a very talented swimmer. I love the water. I am a happy spirit and I want you to be happy to. Some people just look at me and a smile comes to their face. I am always smiling. My motto is: "Practice random acts of kindness every day. Oh, and throw that ball like 50 feet for me, while you are at it!"

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!

Printed By: P&L Printers | pandlprinting.com
2727 W 27th Ave, Denver, Colorado - (303) 433-1852

Design by: Kym Foster Design | kymfosterdesign.com
2606 River Dr, Denver, Colorado - (303) 480-0521

JPUN Board News

2011 JPUN Board of Directors

The JPUN Board of Directors held their first 2011 meeting on February 5th. 2010 accomplishments were reviewed which included events such as the successful neighborhood clean up and celebration at Jefferson Park Day, August National Night Out, JPUN night at an Outlaws game, a new Community Garden, and more.

2011 goals were set which included a continued focus on building community, ensuring neighborhood safety, and guiding smart growth that retains the diversity and character of the neighborhood.

The Land Use Committee will engage in a review of the new zoning codes, and define their role accordingly. There was interest in new projects such as advocating for a safe play area with new playground equipment in Jefferson Park, as well as the formation of a history committee to investigate the history of the neighborhood.

The Board elected Michael Guietz and Kim Collie to the position of Co-Presidents.

JPUN Board Open Positions

Spanish Outreach Committee, Membership Committee, and Vice President.

For more information, contact Co-Presidents Michael Guietz or Kim Collie at zoid4@comcast.net.

Spanish Translation for Newsletter

Can you help with translating portions of the newsletter into Spanish? **Please contact Cristin at ckcouzens@gmail.com**

March General Membership Meeting

The JPUN Board has begun the process of inviting political candidates to attend upcoming meetings. There will be an opportunity to hear candidates running for City Council and Mayor at the March and April Meetings.

urban veterinary care

mention this ad for 10% off your first visit

contemporary.
compassionate care.

full service veterinary hospital
303-477-1984

dr amy d rupp
teresa dye DVM, ACVS

2899 n speer blvd suite 104
denver 80211

www.urbanvetcare.com



North Denver's Most Hilarious Show!



Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre

Every Friday
and Saturday Night!

Private Party and Wedding Space Available

Full Bar and Great Food

Team Building and Company Parties,

Kids Shows,

Birthday Parties for all Ages

Phone: 303-455-1848 Fax: 303-477-5900
2406 Federal Boulevard, Denver, Colorado

www.adamsmysteryplayhouse.com

Streetscape Meeting is Huge Success

The Streetscape Kickoff meeting Thursday night was huge success. Sixty-five property owners, residential and commercial, met to discuss streetscape, what it is and what to do to improve Federal Boulevard and Town Square on 25th Avenue. Streetscape encompasses all elements (man-made and natural) that contribute to our experience as we walk, bicycle or drive through an area. The goal is to enhance that experience and promote private economic development.

Following introductory remarks the participants divided into four sub-groups to identify the challenges and opportunities along Federal Boulevard and 25th Avenue in Jefferson Park. The groups reported out their recommendations which will be presented in a preliminary document at a Public Design Workshop scheduled for Saturday, April 2nd, details to be announced. The final vision plan will be an important document to be used in requests for planning and project assistance from the City of Denver.

Sponsors of the project, Federal Boulevard Partnership www.federalboulevard.com and Jefferson Park United Neighbors www.jpun.org, will post updates on their websites. Thanks go to Marne and Carlos at the **Adams Mystery Playhouse** located at 24th Avenue and Federal for their generous hospitality.



5 Homeless Bronze Kids

JPUN is looking for a permanent home for them in the Jefferson Park neighborhood.

They also need a flagpole.

E-mail your suggestions to jerryolson@comcast.net.

Denver Police District One is now on Facebook

The site has been up for a couple weeks now and the police of District 1 has posted information on how to prevent crime as well as some crimes that have happened in the district.

Find out what is happening in the district by becoming a friend of Denver Police District One.



Where Do You Stand on Northwest Denver Schools?

by Janel Highfill

Four years ago when my husband and I enrolled our kids at Brown Elementary, we were part of the first wave of parents investing our children in a school with a shaky history that had recently launched a radical change process. Today, Brown's growth to a Meets Expectations rating and near at-capacity enrollment is a testament to the hard work and commitment of teachers, administrators, parents, and community members. I am very pleased to have witnessed this shift, but as I prepare to send my kids to their next school, it's clear that this type of work must happen in many more Denver schools. That's why I have been working with Stand for Children.

The keys to Brown's success have been strong leadership, a clear vision for the school that treats all students as valued learners, and active, engaged parents. The question that we now face is why haven't our neighborhood middle schools or North High School progressed on pace with Brown?

The answer to this question is not simple. The lack of District attention and accountability, school leadership challenges and inconsistency, and poor or incomplete school plan implementation are part of the issue. That said, one piece of the solution to building stronger community schools remains clear: the importance of parent, educator, and community engagement and input at the school, district, and state level. As one parent said to me last night, "When one parent shows up to a school board meeting, those in charge think that person is a wacko. When 100 parents show up, the people in charge realize they need to listen."

Stand for Children is working to engage 100 members in Northwest Denver to make sure our schools will prepare our children to become successful adults.

Will you join us?

Visit www.stand.org/co to learn more about our work.

For more information, contact Janel Highfill at jhighfill@stand.org.

Do You Smell a Skunk?



Porches, patios, crawlspaces, and basements in Jefferson Park, are ideal places for skunks this time of year.

These critters are more common in the city than you might think. February is mating season, and male skunks have been busy, roaming more than a 10 block radius to find a partner.

If you suspect a skunk, a licensed trapper can help with humane removal.

Roofing • Painting • Windows
Siding • Gutters

Locally Owned & Operated
Right in this Neighborhood



ROOFING & EXTERIORS, INC.

720-382-5280

2649 W. 26th Ave
Denver, CO 80211



Neighbor Special

10% OFF
your next project



March is Denver's Snowiest Month



DEVELOPERS CORNER

Three new businesses have opened recently in Jefferson Park.

Tapas de Espana

Spanish small plates, paella, desserts, sangria. Located within El Senor Sol at 2301 Seventh Street, across from the Children's Museum.

Barber Inc.

Haircuts, Fades, Tapers, Razors, Kids. Located at 2851 W. 25th Ave.

Gordo Loco

"Over-the-top" Mexican food. Read the Westword review at <http://tinyurl.com/659cawe>. Located at 2637 West 26th Ave.

Denver Water Rebate Changes

If you have been thinking about replacing an old toilet or washing machine it is time to do it because starting March 16th, Denver Water will reduce their current residential rebates for high-efficiency toilets and washing machines. The cost of purchasing high-efficiency products has come down in recent years, and the new rebate amounts are still generous:

\$75 for qualifying toilets and \$100 for qualifying washing machines.

DEMENDOZA INSURANCE AGENCY, LLC

HOME - AUTO - CONDO - RENTER'S - RV - RECREATIONAL VEHICLES - MOTORCYCLE BOAT - JET SKIS - SNOWMOBILE - SR22 - DUI



2012 Federal Blvd
Denver, CO 80211
Tel. 720-341-4715
demendozaagency@yahoo.com

M-F 9:30 - 6:30
Sat 9:30 - 3:00



Maria T. Demendoza
Insurance Agent • Public Notary

Ofrecemos Los Sigüientes Tipos De Seguro:

AUTO - CASA - CONDO - ARRENDATARIO - RV
MOTORCYCLE - BOTES - SR22 - DUI
¡Aceptamos Licencia mexicana y de cualquier País!
¡Los mejores precios!



Five Star Service for Every Price Range



Sharon Blotcher
Broker Associate
Real Living CO Properties
480 S. Holly St
Denver CO 80246

englishaccentonhomes@gmail.com

Cell 303 908 1370

Office 303 377 8100

Fax 303 377 8101



Recipient of the FIVE STAR Real Estate AgentSM award in 2010, based on an independent survey of overall satisfaction for the Denver Area.

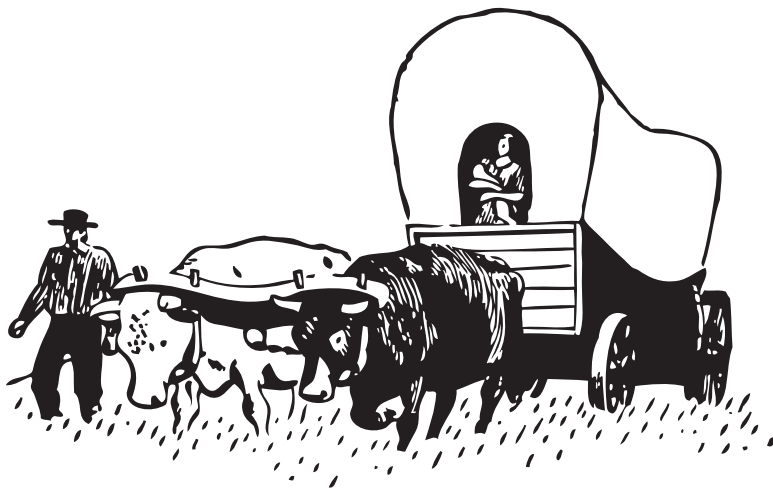


FOR ALL OF YOUR
REAL ESTATE FINANCING

BRETT BAIRD LMB
CHERRY CREEK FUNDING
480 S. HOLLY ST
DENVER CO 80246

CELL 303 548 7334
OFFICE 303 565 3294
FAX 303 474 3063

LICENSED MORTGAGE BROKER
SE HABLA ESPANOL



Is Jefferson Park in the Highlands?

Or is Highland in Jefferson Park?

by Cristin Couzens

Would you believe that you need to know Civil War history to answer this question? Denver's origin reflects much more than homesteaders and gold strikes. The original U.S. land claims in the 1850's, near present day Confluence Park, are a microcosm of the political chaos that led southern states to secede from the Union in 1861. Rival political parties wrestled for control when this land was still considered Kansas Territory, in anticipation of a new state. Whether the constitution of a new state was pro-slavery or a "free state" could tip a delicate political balance. Highland (and Jefferson Park!) was mixed up in it all.

Kansas Territory, in the 1850s, was a disordered and violent place. Four different constitutions had been proposed in preparation for Kansas statehood with "free-staters" and pro-slavery groups vying for power. Rumors of Pike's Peak gold began spreading through Kansas Constitutional conventions. Opposing political factions began scheming to explore the area that is now Denver, with their eye on new gold fields and a new state that might support their individual causes. The first towns, Auraria and St. Charles on opposite sides of Cherry Creek, represented different Kansas political parties. The claim for St. Charles was later "jumped" by yet another faction, sent by the short-lived territorial Kansas governor, James Denver.

Each group that arrived at the mouth of Cherry Creek in 1858 surveyed the land and created a plat map, with the area across the Platte River labeled as Highland. Yet to be official, a town company had to incorporate in the Kansas Territory legislature back east, which was in chaos. There is evidence of the incorporation of a Highland Town Company in 1859. But soon after, the new residents near Cherry Creek began organizing their own legislature, and so began Colorado's own road to becoming a territory and eventually a state. New constitutions were proposed, with the old Kansas rivalries remaining front and center. Attempts at claiming land in Highland were made during this time, but never officially recognized.

After several unsuccessful attempts at statehood (we could have been living in the state of Jefferson or Shoshone), Colorado was officially accepted as a new territory in 1860. In 1864, the U.S. Congress issued a land grant defining the boundaries of Denver. It included the area called Highland bound by present West 26th Ave, Zuni St. and Colfax Ave —most of it below the bluffs bordering the river. This was the only area of Highland that had any development to speak of in 1864, and it is entirely contained within the boundaries of present day Jefferson Park.

Andale! Andale!

WITNESS CULINARY
HISTORY!

BUFFALO CHI CHIS

**DEEP-FRIED
BACONBURGERS**

SONORAN KOBE DOGS

HORCHATA SHAKES

GORDOLOCO

99¢ BURRITOS

**NOW
OPEN**

@

2637 W.26th at Clay 303-433-TACO

Interest in land on the bluffs west of the Platte River didn't rekindle until the end of the Civil War. Horatio Bearce, a leader in the war, laid out "The Town of Highland" in 1871. His plat map was recorded in the Book of Plats of Arapahoe County, Colorado Territory in 1873. It included land between present day W. 26th Ave, Federal Blvd., W. 23rd Ave, and Zuni St (before Zuni St. was erased by I-25). Others began platting nearby neighborhoods, like Highland Park. The Town of Highlands was incorporated in 1875 and Bearce (whose house is in present day Jefferson Park on Federal Blvd.) served as its first mayor. The "s" was added to represent subdivisions joined together. The Town of Highlands included land between W 38th Ave, Lowell Blvd, Colfax Ave., and Zuni Street. In 1890, the western boundary of the Town of Highlands expanded to present day Sheridan Boulevard, and brought the number of residents above 2000, making Highlands a city according to Colorado statutes. A new town hall at the corner of W. 26TH Ave and Federal, where the fire station now stands, was dedicated in 1890 to the new City of Highlands. Six years later, the City of Highlands was annexed to Denver, but that's another story for another time!

In Jefferson Park today, our boundaries include the very first Highland, the first Town of Highlands, and the original town square of the City of Highlands.

Are you interested in the history of Jefferson Park?

A new history committee is forming!

The first project will be to collate information for a plaque in the park.

For more information, contact Jerry at jerryolson@comcast.net

JPUN BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

AMBROZIAK KITTO, P.C.

Business Law

Do you have a business, or are you thinking of starting one?

Ambroziak Kitto, P.C., a business law firm located at 2539 Eliot Street in Jefferson Park, can help you meet your commercial objectives whether you need a company formed, a lease reviewed, intellectual property advice, or employment issues discussed. Northwest Denver families can also get sophisticated legal advice right in the neighborhood regarding wills, power of attorney, and estate planning – including guidance for same-sex couples.

The husband and wife team of Mike Ambroziak and Jo Kitto began their law practice in 2004. After choosing to reside in northwest Denver, Mike and Jo began looking for a nearby location for their business offices. In 2006, they found a duplex on Eliot Street, built in 1883, that had been through a long period of neglect. With a keen eye for the potential of both the building and the neighborhood, the couple chose to renovate. The building now houses the law offices of Ambroziak Kitto and Free Range Title, a real estate title insurance and escrow company started by the couple in 2009. This allowed Mike and Jo to expand services to their real-estate clients, and provide in-house escrow, keeping costs down. Two additional businesses, Failsafe, a mortgage company and Fulcra Networks, occupy the northern half of the business-zoned duplex.

With a vibrant future on the horizon, Jefferson Park's designation as an Enterprise Zone and its proximity to downtown, were key factors in the decision to locate Ambroziak Kitto in our neighborhood. They have been good neighbors - donating their professional services pro bono to Jefferson Park United Neighbors when legal advice was needed. If you are in need of legal services for your business, estate planning for your family, or are a real-estate investor with an eye on the neighborhood, think local, and help a Jefferson Park business thrive.



REALARCHITECTURE
UNREALCONSTRUCTION
2931 W. 25th Ave #101
Denver, Co 80211
Ph: 303 - 477 - 5550
www.realarchitecturs.com



NORTH DENVER DESIGN/BUILD

Group Leaders Needed for JPUN Clean-Up

Saturday May 14th

I am looking for volunteers to be a group leader for the JPUN clean up on Saturday May 14th.

The neighborhood will be divided into 5 sections and the group leader will be responsible to coordinate the group to cover all the streets and alleys in the section.

If you would like to volunteer to be a group leader please email Katherine at kmeldrum@msn.com or give me a call 303-455-9312.



Help keep Jefferson Park beautiful!

MARCH EVENTS

In and Around Jefferson Park

Children's Museum Ukulele Sing & Strum-A-Long with Swallow Hill - Wed. in March
Second Saturday Sing-a-Long with Swallow Hill - March 12th
www.mychildsmuseum.org

Denver Free Days Children's Museum - March 1
Chatfield Botanic - March 4
Art Museum - March 5
Doll and Toy Museum - March 6
Railroad Museum - March 12
Denver Botanic Gardens - March 20
Visit www.scd.org for more info about upcoming FREE DAYS.

REI Open Climb Night with the Colorado Mountain Club - March 2nd
Volunteer With Big City Mountaineers This Summer! - March 7th
www.rei.com/stores/18

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.
Sat, February 26 thru Fri, March 11
www.denver.org/denverrestaurant

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

Invesco Field GoAuto Super Car Sale - March 9 - 12



BROOKE BAILEY JPUN SOCIAL COMMITTEE CHAIR

Brooke has amazing drive and brings an effervescent energy to projects and programs. She has the ability to lead and collaborate which makes her a valuable asset on the projects

she works on. Brooke has revitalized our neighborhood happy hours with a chance to meet your neighbors in a fun and relaxed social setting. She was instrumental in reformatting JPUN Days, spearheading the push to promote artists, music, nonprofits, businesses and the individual talents of people within Jefferson Park.

She has crafted an event that encourages responsible community involvement while celebrating the diverse cultures that make up our community. Additionally, a great number of children are indebted to Brooke for a day of face painting, bouncy castling, fire truck riding, zoo petting, mascot hugging, milk drinking, mystery theater solving, sing alonging Jefferson Park Day that has even more in store for them this year.

The Safety Zone

Theft from Motor Vehicles

There has been an increase in theft from motor vehicles (TFMV) in the neighborhood. The police find -"Leaving unsecured valuables in vehicles account for a large percentage of the 'THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLES' crimes that occur in our neighborhoods."

Simple steps you can do to reduce TFMV:

- Do not leave valuables in your vehicle: Cell phone, GPS devices
- Lock your vehicle and take the keys with you

In many cases thieves simply go from car to car searching for unlocked doors.

- Remove cash and change from your car ash trays

The issue of safety is a high priority for the neighborhood.

In order to keep crime low we need to play an active role with the police department and understanding how criminals work helps us in that role. The majority of the crime that happens in the neighborhood are criminals walking through the neighborhood or criminals that live in the neighborhood. Criminals that walk through the neighborhood on there way to or from downtown will walk the road less traveled i.e.; a side road or through the alleys to avoid contact with the police. If you see someone walking by cars checking to see if they are unlocked or a group of people walking through an alley and they stop for more then a few minutes call the Non-Emergency police line @ 720-913-2000 to report the suspicious activity. Criminals that live in the neighborhood are usually here on a temporary basis. They usually rent and get evicted after a short stay. If you see any suspicious activity or rental units that are not in compliance with neighborhood inspections such as couch in front of the house where criminals are hanging out, please report it. The more we can do to discourage illegal activity in the neighborhood - the more the crime will drop.

- Katherine Meldrum



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

ADVERTISE

Discounted monthly rates available
Advertising in the JPUN Newsletter generates business for you and keeps the newsletter thriving.
Contact Cristin Couzens or Jerry Olson
ckcouzens@gmail.com | jerryolson@comcast.net

Full Page Ad: \$100
1/2 Page Ad: \$50
1/4 Page Ad: \$25
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