

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SERVING OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

JEFFERSON PARK NEWS



JPUN

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NEXT JPUN MEETING

JPUN General Membership Meeting Tues., November 13th 6:30 - 7:30pm Riverside Baptist Church 2401 Alcott Street Rear Chapel

UPCOMING MEETINGS

JPUN Land Use Committee Contact Rafael @ 303-815-0506 or espinr@gmail.com

HAPPY HOUR

Araujo's Mexican Restaurant Thursday, Nov 29th, 5:30 - 8pm 2900 W 26th Ave I 26th & Elliot

Celebrate the BID Success

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



Jefferson Park United Neighbors is on Facebook!

23rd Ave: A New Welcome to Our Neighborhood

By now many residents of Jefferson Park (especially those who live near 23rd Ave) have noticed a big change to the gateway area at the 23rd Avenue exit off of I-25. Tall weeds that were prevalent in that area were cut down and over a half an acre of recycled material (manure, cardboard, leaves) was laid down to accelerate the growth of native plants and grasses that only use runoff water for irrigation. By the summer of 2013 this area will showcase how permaculture can transform weed infested areas of our city.



Over a year in the making, this project was an amazing collaboration between city and state agencies, and local nonprofits, businesses, and community organizations. Each entity played a critical role in the project's success.

www.jpun.org



FOR EXAMPLE:

- Denver Public Works supplied trucks and a frontloader to haul tons of manure to the site, as well as recycled asphalt paving material
- Colorado Department of Transportation provided guidance, tons of rock and work safety signs
- Denver Park and Recreation provided seeding, wheelbarrows, safety vests, and tools
- Denver Recycles provided over 500 bags of leaves for mulching
- City of Denver Division of Real Estate provided a parking lot; used as the project's staging area

IN ADDITION:

- 22,000 square feet of cardboard was supplied by a variety of neighborhood sources including REI, Safeway, Mile High Youth Corps, Denver Zoo, Children's Museum of Denver and Stadium Management Company-Broncos. A Bobcat, supplied by the Stadium Management Company, helped create an asphalt paved walkway, as well as berms and swells to allow water to flow directly to plants.
- Local nonprofit organizations Mile High Youth Corps (1801 Federal Blvd) provided 90 volunteers to do the bulk of the heavy lifting by spreading manure over half an acre, covering it with cardboard, and creating rock borders. Groundwork Denver (2740 W 28th Ave) brought 60 volunteers to cover the cardboard with leaves and plant over 75 native plants, trees and grass seed.
- A.G. Spanos Co.-Element 47 provided woodchips and a variety of xeric plants.
- Harlequin Nursery donated many plants and provided others at a discount.
- Denver Fire Station #12 at 26th and Federal helped with watering and District 1 Commander Pazen helped with traffic control
- Support from nearby neighborhoods: West Colfax Neighborhood Association, Highland United Neighbors, La Loma Lincoln Park, and Sloan's Lake Citizens Group, many of whom volunteered through Groundwork Denver
- Support of Council members Ortega, Shepherd, Kniech, Montero and Mayor Michael Hancock

Special thanks to: Zocalo Development and Management, Boulevard School Condo Association, Children's Museum of Denver, Stadium Management Company, Jefferson Park United Neighbors, My Brother's Bar and many others Jon Handwork with Children's Museum of Denver supplied meeting spaces and fundraised, Cath Kleier with Regis University for plant review and advisory help and last but certainly not least the project's subject matter experts Deja Walker, and Creighton Hofeditz who moved rock, shoveled manure, laid cardboard, collected leaves and plants, managed volunteers, while providing the vision of how to transform a blighted area in to a welcome site for those traveling to work or home.

We want to share details of this project in hopes that other areas in Denver might benefit.

The Mayor's Office has expressed interest in promoting a handbook to other community groups.

Together, we hope to have planted a seed that will germinate throughout the city.JPUN Co-Presidents

Kim Collie and Michael Guiietz



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

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Neighborhood Liaison Open Position

Member-at-Large

Kari Mock kar@rk-tects.com Jeff Archambeau archambeau.jeff@gmail.com Tom Blyth blythspirit@q.com

Jefferson Park Pet of the Month



In Loving Memory Harley The Collie



4/15/02 10/22/12

A JPUN tribute to a neighborhood icon on the southside of Jefferson Park -Neighbors, dog-walkers and football fans will miss him greatly.

Would you like to see your pet featured? Please send a photo and a few tidbits about your favorite pet to Ćristin at ckcouzens@gmail.com or drop it in her mailbox at 2819 W. 25th St. Ór maybe, Jerry the "pet whisperer" will catch you in the park!

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Photography by: Jerry Olson | jerryolson@comcast.net

In the TABOR election November 6, the vote ended up closer than anticipated with the Federal BID winning 31 to 26. Supporters worked hard helping to articulate a message of vision with economic, business and community development opportunities the FBID will bring. The opposition seemed to gain traction from questioning whether true local control would be exercised and that the district could grow without the advocacy and resources the FBID would bring. In the end, the voters decided.

The FBID was three years in the making. Beginning with the Streetscape Project organized by the Federal Boulevard Partnership (Partnership) in 2010, recommendations from the conclusion of the project proposed the creation of the FBID. In early 2012, the Denver Office of Economic Development provided a \$61,000 grant for the Partnership to organize the FBID. After a long and formal community public process, City Council and then the voters supported our new Business Improvement District.

Congratulations to Jefferson Park and the Partnership!

Federal BID Passes

TABOR Election By Marshall Venderburg

August 6, 2012, Denver City Council passed and created the Federal

Boulevard Improvement District (FBID). Over 60% of FBID commercial property owners signed a petition in support helping City Council with its

unanimous vote. Though City Council had created the FBID, State Law

requires a TABOR election to approve the mil levy on commercial property.

PUN Happy Hour



Celebrate the success of BID in a Local Jefferson Park Restaurant

Traditional | Mexican Plates | Tacos & Burritos | Kids Plates \$2.50 Tecate & Modelo I All Day, Everyday

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2900 W 26th Ave | 26th & Elliot Thursday, November 29th • 5:30 - 8pm

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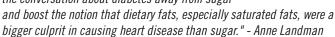
Cristin Couzens Exposes Sugar Industry Lies

Jefferson Park is home to highly qualified people.

Cristin Couzens, editor of this newsletter is one of those. She teamed up with Gary Taubes, a renowned science writer, to expose how the sugar industry conducted a PR campaign to suppress scientific research which affects the health of all Americans. The following Internet links will lead you to her amazing journey and conclusions. — *Jerry Olson*

"The November/December issue of Mother Jones magazine has an explosive new analysis of more than 1,500 pages of internal documents from the archives of now-defunct sugar companies that reveals that for 40 years, the sugar industry engaged in a massive PR campaign to sow doubt about studies linking sugar consumption to disease. After a growing body of

independent research started implicating sugar as a significant cause of heart disease, tooth decay, diabetes and other diseases, the sugar industry responded by developing a PR scheme that included secretly funding scientists to perform studies exonerating sugar as a source of disease. The sugar industry also secretly created a front group, the Food and Nutrition Advisory Council, that they stocked with physicians and dentists who were willing to defend sugar's purported place in a healthy diet. Sugar companies also worked to shift the conversation about diabetes away from sugar and beset the potion that distant fats, aspecially sate



Blog Post

http://annelandmanblog.com/2012/10/23/exposed-sweet-lies-from-the-sugar-industry

Mother Jones Link

www.motherjones.com/environment/2012/10/sugar-industry-lies-campaign

About Cristin Couzens

www.motherjones.com/environment/2012/10/former-dentist-sugar-industry-lies



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New Pub in Jeff Park to Serve 16 Craft Beers

hy Jerry Olson

In January, Jefferson Park will be home to a new gathering place where you can meet old friends or make new ones over a fine craft beer. Christopher Mohaupt and wife Nikki have leased the bar immediately north of Jack n Grill's restaurant. To gain an appreciation of Christopher's hospitality expertise, check out Billy's Inn at 44th and Lowell which he set up in 2008 and managed, followed by the opening of Lowry Beer Garden for Larimer Associates. Christopher was operating partner at both businesses. This new venture will be solely owned and operated by Nikki and Christopher.

To treat Denver's refined beer pallet, Christopher stated that their concept is simple. They will open with 16 fine craft beers on tap from all over Colorado and the nation. Your choices in beer will continually change as they have set a goal to feature a beer from every state in the country in the first year. Topping off the shelf will be an informed selection of tequila.

The menu will include appetizers like chicken wings with multiple sauce choices and beer bites, along with gourmet burgers, sandwiches and salads. Eventually they will be offering a unique brunch menu on Saturdays and Sundays. Nikki and Christopher are still developing the full menu.



"Old Micky Gets a New Make-Over"

Between now and opening in January, Christopher and Nikki will complete interior remodeling. The work includes relocation of the bar to the front, installing beer coolers and a new kitchen. In April they plan to build a patio on the south side of the building, away from the noise of Federal Boulevard. Christopher, an ex-smoker commented the restaurant and patio will be 100% non-smoking. If you don't ride in on your bicycle, you'll find there is plenty of parking in their large lot. Christopher commented in December, they will have a firm date for the soft opening. Jefferson Park residents and those living west of Federal Boulevard are anxiously waiting to meet their new neighbors.



Barth Quenzer Wins National Education Award by Jerry Olson

Bronze Statue Finds a Home at Brown Elementary By Jerry Olson

The art instructor at Brown Elementary, Barth Quenzer, relaxes with five bronze kids in front of the school at 26th and Lowell. A plaque mounted on the pedestal reads in part "Thank you! Jefferson Park Neighborhood & friends for your spirit of community..." So who are the Jefferson Park friends?

In 2010 Jefferson Park residents and I noticed the bronze in front of a vacant office building at 27th and Alcott. Realizing the building was to be razed, the owner Lauren Brockman with Allied Realty was asked to donate the statue for the playground in Jefferson Park. After securing Lauren's gift, David Berton with RealArchitecture moved the statue to a secure storage location at the home of the Daniel Rice family pending City of Denver approvals.

Very quickly it became certain, clearing the City's hurdles made installation in Jefferson Park unlikely. I was advised however that Brown Elementary School had a very progressive art program and may be interested. When asked, Principal Suzanne Loughran consulted the school's visual arts instructor, Barth Quenzer, and the decision was made to install the bronze sculpture at the front entrance to the school. With further volunteer assistance and donations from school parents and Jefferson Park residents, the statue was dedicated in April 2012. The statue is now a handsome addition to Brown Elementary. **Check it out**.

Mr. "Q" as his students know him won the Milken Family Foundation Award for his exceptional work as a visual arts teacher and as a contributor outside the classroom. Barth is passionate about helping kids appreciate the rich world of color and texture. The Milken Award has national significance and to underscore that, Mr. "Q" received a check for \$25,000 to be used at his sole and personal discretion.

No one can apply for the Milken Award. In fact the identification of recipients is a highly confidential process. Former and current supervisors, professional colleagues and peers are interviewed. At Brown Elementary, the only people who knew the details were the Principal and the Vice-Principal. Barth Quenzer and his family were kept in the dark. When the selection is made, the award ceremony is orchestrated to create a maximum impact.

Mr. Quenzer was advised the \$25,000 cash award was intended to emphasize the national importance of this "Oscar in Education". He was also advised his life was going to be different as a result of this award experience. That may be already happening. In an interview Mr. Quenzer expressed a strong interest in creating an imaginative children's story about art. It will be interesting to follow this project as it unfolds.

For an enjoyable read, do a Google search using the words "Denver Post Quenzer" or click here http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_21702897/dps-art-teacher-wins-milken-award-at-surprise







Winter Furnace Safety Tips

As colder temperatures roll in, it's important to take steps to ensure your furnace is in good working order.
Good maintenance helps ensure your health, safety, and your furnace's energy efficiency.

Additionally, taking a few simple steps can keep you warm throughout the winter months:

1. Change your air intake filter monthly during the months that you use the furnace. Changing your air filter monthly reduces air borne pollutants and allows the most air flow through your system. Too much air drag can tax the fan motor. If you have air conditioning that you run in the summer then your system air filter should be changed during those months as well.



2. Make sure the return air vents in your home are kept clean. Most people aren't aware that the system circulates the air

throughout the house by bringing air back to the system. These ducts are often found in the walls about 4-6 inches off the floor. In older homes they are found in the floor. Periodic vacuuming of the duct grill can help with airflow and keep your filter cleaner.

- 3. Check your thermostat. Every home should be using a programmable thermostat that allows you the most efficient use of your system. Your high setting should be no more than 5 degrees from the low setting.
- 4. Check for air leaks around the furnace and any accessible duct work. A \$10 roll of metallic duct tape can go a long way in covering leaks in the system.

Lastly, having your furnace inspected and cleaned annually by a professional Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning company can go a long way in avoiding costly repairs down the road.



Children's Museum Play with the Laws of Motion!

In a life-sized marble run where balls cascade down ramps, roll along tracks, travel through tubes and launch overhead, children will think like Newton. Explore physical science and discover the fundamentals of forces and motion - through play. Kinetics!, an innovative science and engineering exhibit, will thrill guests of all ages as they learn firsthand that for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.

Educational Concepts and Skill Development

This Playscape is carefully designed to support the development of these important early learning principles:

- Science Content Knowledge: Explore forces and motion, momentum, gravity, speed and direction
- Science Process Skills: Observe, question, design and build, test, evaluate, reflect, compare and contrast
- Spatial Reasoning: Develop an understanding of directionality, order and position of objects
- Language and Literacy: Describe observations, communicate questions and ideas, use position vocabulary (such as up, down, over, under, top, bottom, through, taller, shorter, longer, further) in meaningful context
- Mathematics: Measurement and comparison of height, distance and speed; geometry (slope, angles, symmetry, balance)
- Logic and Reasoning: Make predictions, explore cause and effect relationships, engage in creative problem solving
- Physical Development: Large and fine motor skills
- Lifelong Learning: Develop attitudes toward learning including initiative and curiosity, persistence and attention, inventiveness and a sense of self-efficacy



Starting November 5, 2012, the West Rail Line will be activating the overhead electrical wires that are hung above the tracks. A high voltage of electricity runs through these wires and should be considered constantly energized and active at all times. Stay away from the wires and keep objects away from them as well, to avoid serious harm to yourself or the electrical system. We appreciate your cooperation.

For questions or additional information please contact Brenda Tierney, West Rail Line Public Information Manager at brenda.tierney@rtd-denver.com.



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Jefferson Park **Community Cycling Update**

by Matt Couzens, member of Mayor's Bicycle Advisory Committee

1. 23rd Avenue Resurfacing and Bike Lane:

Unfortunately, the City of Denver did not accomplish the planned resurfacing of the 23rd Avenue bridge over I-25 during the road work season. The city does realize how vital this stretch of bike path is and all communications indicate that while the project was not accomplished during 2012 resurfacing season, it is still on the list and will be a priority for the 2013 season.

2. Jefferson Park **BCvcle Station:**

Denver BCycle has announce plans for a Jefferson Park BCycle station at the corner of 23rd Avenue and Clay Street. The proposed location is the Northwest corner of the intersection, along the sidewalk in front of the apartment building. If you not familiar with Denver BCycle or bike sharing in



Denver, check them out at: http://denver.bcycle.com.

3. Confluence Park Master Redesign Master Plan:

Denver Parks Planning has been engaged in a series of planning efforts along the South Platte River, most recently the South Platte River Vision Implementation Plan that has led to significant successful fund raising for improvement and alignment of partners for implementing phases of recommended improvements. Denver is poised to begin what will be a transformational project for the City. An important aspect of the plan are multiple improvements to Confluence Park. Improvements will allow cycle traffic to flow through the park with improved sight lines along separated paths for bicycles and pedestrians.

The plan is still a work in progress, here are some links to find more information:

- Project Website: http://www.denvergov.org/rivervision
- Mark Bernstein, Denver Parks & Recreation: mark.bernstein@denvergov.org

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January 27

Sports Authority Field Neighborhood Calendar 2012

*Parking restrictions including Zoning Enforcement and Right of Way Enforcement will likely be scheduled for this event. Illegally parked vehicles in the neighborhoods surrounding Sports Authority Field at Mile High may be ticketed and towed.

November 18 *Denver Broncos vs. San Diego Chargers December 1 December 2 *Denver Broncos vs. Tampa Bay Buccaneers

*CHSAA Football Championships

December 23 *Denver Broncos vs. Cleveland Browns *Denver Broncos vs. Kansas City Chiefs December 30 **Bridal Festival**

2:15 pm 5:15 pm 11:00 am 5:30 pm 2:05 pm 5:05 pm

2:05 pm 5:05 pm 2:15 pm 5:15 pm 12:00 pm 4:00 pm

* One change for the Sports Authority Field at Mile High event calendar. We do not plan to have parking enforcement scheduled for the December 1 – CHSAA Football Championships. We are expecting about 10,000 people and parking is free to attendees.

Matt Selby leaving Vesta Group for the Corner

House By Patricia Calhoun

Reprinted with permission from Westword



No sooner had Josh Wolkon broken the news that executive chef Matt Selby was moving on after fifteen years at Vesta Dipping Grill (and then Steuben's and Ace) that just where Selby is moving became clear:

Selby will join James lacino and Scott Kinsey as a full partner at the Corner House, slated to open in late November in the Jefferson Park neighborhood. Selby will serve as both executive chef and general manager. "This is just such an incredible opportunity," Selby said in a statement. "I'm excited to be working with James and Scott. A smaller, more intimate concept is definitely something that I've always wanted to do, and it's a chance for me to really cook again."

SEE ALSO:

- James Iacino, president of Seattle Fish Company, opening the Corner House
- Vesta Dipping Grill owner Josh Wolkon reflects on fifteen years of success
- Chef and Tell: Matt Selby

"We are extremely honored and excited to partner with chef Selby and bring his unique talents to Jefferson Park," said lacino in the same statement. "He's a Colorado boy, just like me, and his vision for the cuisine and love of hospitality fits right in with what we were already planning." lacino and Kinsey both live in the RiverClay building, where the Corner House will be located.

Here's the note that Josh Wolkon had sent to the media shortly before the Corner House announcement arrived:

Chef Matt Selby is moving on. Initially hired as a young sous chef 15 years ago, Selby has grown with Vesta and will remain in Denver, involved in the flourishing chef community he helped create and nurture. Chef Brandon Foster, who has been serving as Executive Chef of Vesta for the past 5 years, will continue to run the kitchen at Vesta, while Chef Brandon Biederman will continue in his role of the past six years as Executive Chef of Steuben's and now Ace. Both plan to continue the community relations that have always been a core value of the company.

"Jen and I will be forever grateful for everything Chef Selby has helped us accomplish," said Wolkon, founder of Vesta, Steuben's and Ace. "We have grown up together, shared marriages, births, travels, and memorable food and restaurant related experiences. As a team, we have participated in countless community events."

"It's time for a new and different challenge," said Chef Selby. "It's been an incredible 15 year run and I am proud of everything Josh, Jen and I have accomplished. We have built three successful restaurants together, appeared on four Food Network shows, had multiple visits to the James Beard House and written a cookbook. We have travelled the world and done a ton of philanthropy work together. It is just time for me to take what I have learned and try something on my own. It's time to leave the nest."

"We have been blessed to have Matty with us for the past 15 years. In this business such a long run is a rarity," Wolkon continued. "Chef Selby's mark will forever be left on Vesta, Steuben's and Ace, but I am confident that Executive Chefs Foster and Biederman will continue to excel in their respective kitchens."

The loss of Chef Selby is tempered with the excitement of welcoming back former Steuben's General Manager and 12 year team member, Dave Zahradnik, to the Vesta, Steuben's and Ace family. David will rejoin the group in November at their newest venture, Ace Eat Serve.

Wolkon will be talking to the staff of the three restaurants later this afternoon about other plans for the future.

23rd Ave Exit **Before...**











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AFTER
this spring!



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Apartment Rental Safety Zone and Home Rental Safety Practices

Recent demographic studies of the Jefferson Park neighborhood reveal that as many as 70 percent of the households in our community are occupied by someone other than the owner. With such a high percentage of renters this month's safety corner is dedicated to providing these neighbors with some safety and security tips. In most cases, these are best practices that should apply equally to homeowners and renters.

- Don't give burglars an opportunity to gain easy access to your home. All exterior doors should have deadbolt locks. Keep your windows locked at all times. Landlords are required to provide effective locks for residences contact your landlord if you have concerns about any security devices in your house. Locks should be rekeyed or replaced with each new tenant. Provide a spare key to your home to a trusted friend or relative so that they can access your home in case of emergency. If you have a car, make sure you keep those doors locked as well.
- Do not automatically open your door or the door to a common area. Keep it locked until you can safely verify who is visiting. Never let strangers in to the rental property without proper identification, including maintenance, service or repair persons. Keep valuables out of sight from prying eyes.
- Make sure there is more than one exit to your home or apartment. Have an escape plan and make sure all family members or roommates know it. Identify an outside meeting place and never return to a burning building. No matter where you live, or who is responsible for smoke alarm installation, make sure that smoke alarms are installed on every level of your home and outside of sleeping areas. Make sure the furnace and water heater is checked annually to avoid carbon monoxide leaks. A carbon monoxide detector is an inexpensive but important safety devise in your home. Test all alarms on a monthly basis and change the batteries at least once a year. Learn the sound of your building's fire alarm and keep emergency numbers saved in all telephones. Be sure to participate when your building holds a fire drill and always leave your building when the alarm sounds, even if you believe it is a false alarm.



• Obtain renters' insurance to cover your possessions. Renters' insurance pays for damaged, destroyed, or stolen personal property. This insurance is not very expensive, but it is important to have because your landlord's insurance will not cover damage to or loss of your possessions. Start with the company where you already have an insurance policy, such as car insurance, because discounts may be available if you carry more than one policy with the same company.

If you have a problem with your landlord you can find help through Community Housing Services at 303-831-1935 or Tenant Landlord Counseling at 303-237-0230.

Renters and homeowners alike are affected by high crime rates or unsafe conditions in their neighborhood. Insurance and mortgage companies factor the community's livability characteristics when setting rates. Landlords incur increased cost in communities where risk is greater. The best way to remain safe and reduce risk in your home or apartment is to know your neighbors and help them be safe by watching out for them. Get to know your neighbors and let them know you.

One way to connect with your neighbors is through https://nextdoor.com. JPUN holds monthly meetings and frequent social gatherings to increase the connectivity of our community. Join in. When you see a situation that could cause harm to anyone in your community don't ignore it. Take the steps necessary to eliminate that harm knowing that you and your neighbors will benefit from your action. Emergency: Dial 911 District 1 email: 1.dist@denvergov.org Phone: 720-913-0400

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13TH FROM 5:30 - 8:30PM AT HOTEL VQ ON THE TOP FLOOR



Denver City Council Representatives

Susan K. Shepherd, Council District 1 720-337-7701 | Susan.Shepherd@denvergov.org

Robin Kniech, Council-at-Large 720-337-7712 | kniechatlarge@denvergov.org

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