

UPWORDS

UNIVERSITY PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL
(UPCC) NEWSLETTER

Your Neighborhood Voice



April 2013 • www.upcc.us

University Park's Annual 2013 Home Tour And Tour de Classics Car Show

University Park Elementary School's largest annual fundraiser is held this year Sunday, May 5 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The University Park Home Tour opens the doors to some of the most varied and inspiring homes in the neighborhood while raising money for vital programs and learning tools for the school. "On the day of the event, neighbors come together to celebrate the beauty of the neighborhood, tour beautiful new and older homes, and feel

the pride of a top rated Denver public school," says Katie Mochan, home tour committee chair and parent volunteer. Here are highlights of the top homes lined up for the tour this year.

This Year's Tour Homes

A gorgeous Craftsman bungalow built in 2008. The open-concept floor plan brings the living and kitchen areas together and opens up to the magnificent outdoor living area that features professional landscaping, a



Craftsman Bungalow



Denver's largest surviving elm tree resides on this property.

kitchen, and play area for the kids.

A 1910 home that flawlessly balances old charm with updates. With everything from original quarter-sawn red oak floors to honed Carrera marble countertops, this house stuns inside and out. Not to be outdone is the gorgeous back yard, home to the largest surviving elm tree in Denver.

A beautiful modern Mediterranean-inspired home, every detail was handpicked by the homeowners (a long-time Denver family). Built literally from scratch on an empty Denver lot, people are greeted with a custom fountain in the foyer and Brazilian

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UPCC's 2013 Spring General Meeting Wednesday, May 1, 2013 • 6-8 p.m.

Our next neighborhood General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1 at the University Park Elementary School auditorium. We begin at 6:30 p.m. with a half hour of socializing (thank you to RoofStar Colorado for providing refreshments), followed by a full agenda. We will have a home tour overview, neighborhood development updates, DU's Allan Wilson will talk about pending construction projects at the University of Denver, Councilman Charlie Brown will be present and we will talk about the proposed development on the 2400 block of University Boulevard. Below is the proposed agenda. Visit www.upcc.us closer to the meeting date for final agenda.

6:30-7:30 p.m. — Social Time with Neighbors. Thank You to RoofStar Colorado for providing refreshments.

7-7:10 p.m. — Welcome & Development Updates from the President of UPCC, Dana O'Connor

7:10-7:15 p.m. — University Park Home Tour Details

7:15-7:35 p.m. — Allan Wilson, University Of Denver Assistant Director Facilities Management & Planning: Pending Construction Projects at the University

7:35-7:45 p.m. — Updates on the 2400 Block of University Boulevard

7:45-7:55 p.m. — Councilman Charlie Brown

7:55-8 p.m. — Vote on 2013-14 UPCC Executive

8-8:05 p.m. — Questions/comments

Taking Steps To Make Harvard Gulch Trail All That It Can Be

by Dana Strand O'Connor
UPCC President

Over the years I have walked my dog along the trails of Harvard Gulch, and have thought to myself "this could be so much better." The trail is tired, way-finding, offers only one curb cut through in our entire neighborhood, has very few proper pedestrian crossing signs at streets, and overall, is in "plain-old" poor condition. I decided to begin a journey to get the trail on the radar and in the plans of the city. I found this to be more of an **ultra-marathon** than a journey, but I think it can be done. My initial steps were to create a "residents call to action" document that is in the hands of various city departments and I am also working with the Greenway Foundation's Jeff Shoemaker, who is

foundation's executive director and a former University Park resident and now a neighbor in Wellshire (<http://www.greenwayfoundation.org/web/>). Jeff and I are engaging in a dialogue with the various stakeholders in the Harvard Gulch trail, including Urban Drainage, Denver Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Schlessman YMCA, representatives from the city's Bike Master Plan, Councilman Charlie Brown, and Councilwoman Peggy Lehman. As meetings take place and discussions happen, I will keep you informed of our progress. If you are interested in helping with this effort and possibly representing our neighborhood in the cause, please contact me at president@upcc.us or 303-920-0193.

Denver Water Board Declares Drought Watering Restrictions To Start April 1

The *INC Community News*, in a report from its March 15, 2013 edition, gave the rundown on the Denver's new watering restrictions, set to begin April 1. Citing low snowpack, above-average temperatures, and low reservoir levels across the state, the Board declared a Stage 2 drought that will set in motion watering restrictions to start April 1.

The utility asks customers to be cautious with water use this spring. While April is a good time to get irrigation systems set-up and examined, they don't need to be used yet. Instead, postpone turning on sprinkler systems and hand-water sloped areas of the lawn or sections that are receiving full sunlight. April is typically a cool month

with some precipitation, so it may not be necessary to water lawns two days a week, which will help save water.

Watering Schedule

Mandatory watering restrictions mean Denver Water customers may only water two days a week and must follow this schedule:

- Single-family residential properties with even-numbered addresses: Sunday, Thursday
- Single-family residential properties with odd-numbered addresses: Saturday, Wednesday
- All other properties (multi-family, HOA, commercial, industrial, government): Tuesday, Friday

Watering Rules

In addition, customers must follow these annual watering rules:

- Do not water lawns between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- Do not waste water by allowing it to pool in gutters, streets and alleys.
- Do not waste water by letting it spray on concrete and asphalt.
- Repair leaking sprinkler systems within 10 days.
- Do not water while it is raining or during high winds.

Find watering tips and more information at www.denverwater.org.

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UPWORDS is published five times a year, prior to the fall, winter and spring general meetings, the special Holiday issue for the Sing and Sleigh, and the summer issue for the 4th of July Parade.

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OPEN

Looking For Sponsors To Serve Refreshments At The UPCC General Meetings

We are looking for refreshment sponsors at the general UPCC meetings. You can be a family, business, or organization, and we will recognize your contribution at the meeting and in other UPCC communications. If you are interested, please call Dana O'Connor at 303-920-0193.

My Neighborhoods

by UPCC Co-Treasurer June Morgan

June Morgan moved from Texas to Colorado, and has resided in University Park since the late 1950s, where she met her second husband, and still enjoys her true love of planting flowers and tending her gardens.

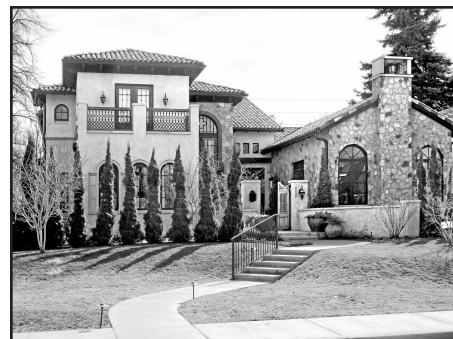
I want to start with the house I was born in and lived in for the first 16 years in a very small town in Western Oklahoma. I moved on then to Temple, Texas, for training to be a nurse and married my childhood sweetheart during the middle of World War II.

After the war ended we moved to Amarillo, Texas, where we resided for five years and planted a large vegetable garden. I still visit with friends from my old neighborhood in Amarillo. During the next five years, we built a new home in southwest Amarillo on soil that had never been anything but native grass. We planted mixed vegetables and flowers, and got acquainted with the new neighbors, leaning on the spade and hoe and swamping iris tubes and dividing the extra perennials Mom and Dad had passed on to us.

We loved our neighbors and this southwest Amarillo home, but only lived there for five years before my husband was called upon to set up a new Trans World Airlines (TWA) office in west Oklahoma City. During those years, I traveled to 98 countries, and met a whole new set of neighborhood friends at the grade school across the street on Cashion Place.

But working in the travel business, we were called upon yet again to make a move, which landed us in Colorado, where my husband set up yet another TWA office for the Denver area. The year was 1958 when we moved to our first home in our beloved University Park on St. Paul Street, across from the elementary school. This was my introduction to a "Great Neighborhood."

All four of our children graduated from South High School over the next 11 years and I continued to work at University Park Medical Clinic until 1972. Our neighbors on the south were the Morgans, and on the north were the Briggs. Don Etter lived across the back alley from us. I met John Helper at one of the University Park Community Council meetings and thus began a real interest in UPCC. Jackie Morgan and Bob Henderson both died within three months, and Joe (Morgan) and I married three years later on February 2, 1972. We moved to our Monroe big house where I still live — planting my big vegetable garden and my flowers and enjoying my wonderful neighbors, and also hosting the regular UPCC board meetings in my home.



Mediterranean Home

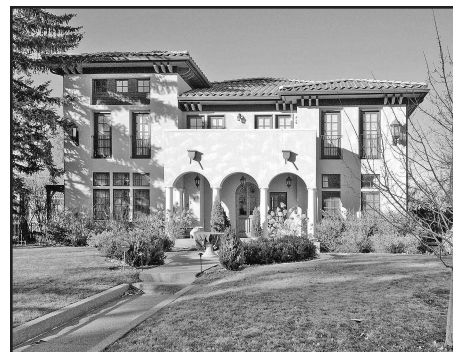
2013 Home Tour And Car Show

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cherry floors throughout.

Other homes include a Spanish Colonial with Islamic influences; a new home blending family and comfort with beauty; and the home of the builder of the newest development in the neighborhood.

In addition to celebrating some of the most remarkable homes in the area, festivities include the 2013 Tour de Classics Car Show, featuring decade-defining makes and models including Ferraris and others to get your heart racing. Steuben's Food Truck and Menchie's Frozen Yogurt will also be on hand for anyone who wants to grab a bite to eat. A silent auction, bake sale and book fair are also on the docket, and the Chamberlin Observatory will be open to visitors.

Advance tickets are \$20 and can be purchased in the office at University Park Elementary School, 2300 South Saint Paul Street in Denver or at <http://www.uparkelementary.org/home-tour>. Tickets are \$25 the day of the tour. This year's major sponsors include Adams Company, Metro Brokers; M2 Lending Solutions; Ferrari of Denver; Slifer, Smith, Frampton - Denver, Inc.; and Frontgate Realty.



Spanish Colonial

Star Gazing At The Chamberlin Observatory

The Denver Astronomical Society at DU's Chamberlin Observatory offers public star viewing. For information about the Observatory and the schedule for public night sky viewing, go to Observatory Director Dr. Robert Stencel's website at <http://www.du.edu/~rstencel/Chamberlin>, or to www.denverastrocity.org/ (see link to Chamberlin Observatory). Chamberlin Observatory is also on Twitter at: www.twitter.com/Chamberlin_Obs.

New UPCC Logo

Thank you all who voted for the concept of our new UPCC logo and a special thanks to neighbor Betsy Welty who designed the new logo. We are happy to display the new logo on this UPWORDS newsletter and keep an eye out as we roll it out in other ways over the next few months!

PARKS & TRAIL NEWS

by Diana Helper, Open Space/Parks Chair

Observatory Park Community Garden

Here's a great opportunity to grow and harvest veggies, as well as help supply a neighborhood food bank which is in great need of fresh produce. To sign up to volunteer an hour or two weekly on a schedule for June, July, & August, please contact parks@upcc.us or call 303-733-4902. The garden will be planted by volunteers from Outdoor Colorado on May 23, 5:30-7 p.m., if you'd like to watch. Parks Department will water and close down the garden in fall. Grow Local Colorado will have short meeting of all volunteers in May—you'll be notified.

Prairie Park

There are many ways to help with this project on the north side of Historic Buchtel Blvd. Trail. We are designing an informational sign to describe the prairie's history, importance and future plans. Councilman Brown has offered to pay for this sign! We need help with cleanup of the prairie itself — path-sweepers, trash-toters, pricker-pickers, etc. to plan for a native plant garden, and other plantings; to identify added pathways and raise matching funds to make them; to locate a site for a view plane request; to work on a way to procure an appropriate piece of public art. Please join in this great UPCC Project – contact parks@upcc.us or call Diana at 303-733-4902.

Harvard Gulch East Park

Harvard Gulch East Park resides at the east end of the Gulch Trail that starts in University Park at McWilliams Park. The Trail needs some cleanup, and we urge you to take a walk with a

sack or two to collect any trail-trash you might come across. Although the "Gulch Day" cleanup was cancelled for now, let's all help keep University Park clean and trash-free.

Sundial Gnomon Still Missing

We recently reported the apparent theft of the sundial gnomon (upper part) from Buchtel Centennial Park. It has not surfaced and we would still be very happy to get it back into its original home, as the precise shadow of the gnomon helps us read the time. Bill Berg made this gnomon as a replacement for the original one, which also was taken long ago. With summer coming soon, it would be great to have it back, so any leads, please contact us!

Dictionaries For Kids

Each September every 3rd grader in the Denver Schools receives a Free Dictionary, thanks to a longtime project of the Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC), of which UPCC is a Patron Member. This year there will be over 6,700 3rd graders, so the need for funds is high. For some children this is the first book they ever owned. Teachers report that in this era of electronics, they are happy to have the children use a "real book." To contribute, send checks made out to DDD (Dollar Dictionary Drive), to P.O. Box 300684, Denver 80218, or by secure online site: www.denverINC.org clicking on Dollar Dictionary Committee.

Come Hear The Music Playing!

Let's have another Band in the Park party! Bands have volunteered, and all we need is someone to head up this event! It could be any time this summer, perhaps as a prelude to a Star-Gazing night at the Observatory, (August 17 and September 14). If you are interested in heading this up, please contact president@upcc.us or call 303-920-0193.

Mr. University Park

John Ross was "Mr. University Park." He did a lot of "Everything" for University Park for years, including the plan he created for Buchtel Blvd. in 2000. Then he moved from University Park, and created other civic outdoor projects in North and East Denver. John passed away March 13, after an illness, and is very much missed by everyone who knew him.

3rd Annual University Park Neighborhood Garage Sale

June 7 & 8, 2013

From 8 a.m. To 2 p.m.

All University Park neighbors are invited to participate. Organizers will advertise the sale, create maps for participants and schedule a Salvation Army "pick-up" for your unsold items. Then you host your yard sale/garage sale at your home. To participate in the event and/or to schedule the Salvation Army pick up, please notify Pam Adams adamscore@aol.com, 303-898-3598 or Tracy Samaras at samaras@msn.com, 303-282-7281 by May 30. Provide your address, phone number, email for contact purposes and "yes" or "no" for the Salvation Army "pick up" list. (No one else will be given this information). Start gathering your sale items and have them in your front yard ready to sell by 8 a.m. each day. Then sit back, collect money and watch your "stuff" disappear! Salvation Army "pick-up" starts promptly at 2 p.m., Saturday, June 8. If you have items for the Salvation Army, please bag all items and have them clearly marked SALVATION ARMY or they will not pick them up.

Advertisers & Volunteers Wanted For The Purple Pages

The Purple Pages, University Park's neighborhood directory, is published each year. Do you want to advertise in the Purple Pages? It's a great community resource, packed with frequently needed municipal and neighborhood contacts, and is a great way to advertise your business to the community and support UPCC.

We are also looking for volunteers interested in working on the 2013-2014 Purple Pages – University Park's Neighborhood Directory. So if you are interested in working on or advertising in the Pages, please call Janet at 303-756-4212 or email her at pp@upcc.us or jkwardwell@gmail.com.

Graffiti Cleanup Supplies

UPCC President Dana O'Connor continues to offer help with eradicating neighborhood graffiti. She has worked with Denver Solid Waste Management to provide graffiti wipes, dumpster paint, and green paint, at no cost to you and you can pick it up here in our neighborhood. If you have graffiti and want to take care of it yourself, contact Dana at 303-920-0193 or president@upcc.us.