

UPWORDS

UNIVERSITY PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL
(UPCC) NEWSLETTER

Your Neighborhood Voice



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Parking Issues In University Park

It is the time of year to think about parking, actually it seems like it is always the time of year to think about parking especially if you live in north Cherry Creek, Capitol Hill or anywhere around DU. The Denver Parking Authority people are in the process of changing the way they issue permits on blocks with restricted

parking. It used to be that all you had to do is show proof of your address and you would receive a permit. Not a bad deal if you live in University Park but if you live in Capitol Hill it is a problem. If you give a permit to every person living in an apartment building there just are not enough spaces on the street to go around. Denver

Parking is just beginning to review how it goes about issuing parking permits.

We do have parking issues in our own neighborhood. The good people that live west of University Blvd. and surrounding the school are having a problem with students, faculty and staff parking all day on their streets. They do not have as much restricted parking as our U Park neighborhood. DU basically says that street parking is not a concern to them. They are not interested in building any more parking or in giving faculty and staff free parking in their lots. Everyone must pay to park in a DU lot.

They encourage residents close to the school to address the issue on their own. The concern of those residents is that if they put up restricted parking on their blocks then the problem just gets pushed to the next block. This is something we have seen on our side of University Blvd.

As of now it seems safe to say that DU will not help our neighborhoods deal with parking problems created by its students, faculty and staff. They will however deal with the construction parking while building their new school of engineering. All workers should be parking in a provided area and then be shuttled to the site. If anyone notices many construction trucks parked on their block during this project please contact the UPCC and we will contact DU.

If you have any concerns related to parking, parking permits or traffic please feel free to contact me: James Bettinger at traffic@upcc.us.

— James Bettinger

**Please Join Us For
The University Park
Community Council's
Winter General Meeting
Wednesday, February 5, 2014
6:30 p.m.**

University Park Elementary Auditorium

Thank you to the Accelerated Schools for providing refreshments.

- 6:30-7 p.m. — Social Time with Neighbors and time to talk with UPCC board members about volunteer opportunities and neighborhood questions.
- Welcome from the UPCC
Diana Helper — updates on local parks and INC news
Ski Denver announcement
Observatory Fund
Update on any license applications in the neighborhood
- ZONING 101 — a basic primer.
Presented by: Tina Axelrod, Principal City Planner; Pat Cashen, UPCC Zoning Chair; and Rosemary Stoffel UPCC's Small Area Plan Chair and Zoning Code Update Co-Chair.
Learn the basics of zoning — why we have it, what it does and doesn't do, and explanations of zoning issues in our neighborhood.

The meeting will adjourn by 8:15 p.m.

The Champion Trees At Denver's South High

by Sonia John, Friends and Neighbors of Washington Park (FANS)

Records of the largest trees of each species in our state are kept by the non-profit Colorado Tree Coalition. While many of these "champion trees" are found in private yards and along streets, one of the best places to look for such trees is often on institutional grounds such as school campuses, parks, and cemeteries. Our local South High in particular has more than its share of these living landmarks.

The South High campus at present contains approximately 50 different tree species. Six of South's trees are listed as "state champions": an English oak (#66), a yellow buckeye (#69), a ginkgo (#70), a Japanese pagoda tree (#73), a yellowwood (#75) and a European larch (#76). The numbers in parentheses refer to the diamond-shaped red plastic signs attached to those trees' trunks in 2010 as part of the Washington Park Tree Guide published by FANS. Use those numbers to walk around the east, north and west sides of the school building to easily locate and identify these champion trees, or better yet, for full descriptions

of the trees, purchase a copy of the tree guide at the Wash Perk coffee shop on Ohio at Emerson or at Creative Eye Framing at 1004 South Gaylord.

Besides the champions, there are some other majestic trees on the South High campus, including a large bur oak, black walnut and Kentucky coffee tree. Finally, there are some smaller trees that are uncommon in Denver, such as a pagoda dogwood and two purple beeches.

Like any other living organism on our planet, trees must overcome many challenges to reach maturity and great size. As with human beings, having good genetics is important as well as good nutrition, and the ability to fight off disease is critical. Trees also have to deal with the damaging activities of humans, such as their machinery:

cars, backhoes, lawn mowers, weed whackers, etc. But with all of those factors affecting trees everywhere in the city, how did so many champions come to occupy the South High campus?

The answer is lack of competition. Going back seven, eight and nine decades, most people in Denver planted only a very narrow range of tree species, like silver maple, American elm, and cottonwood. In contrast, trees of a number of unusual species — for that time in history — were planted at South High. Those trees had several decades' head start — before the general public appreciated the new tree options — to

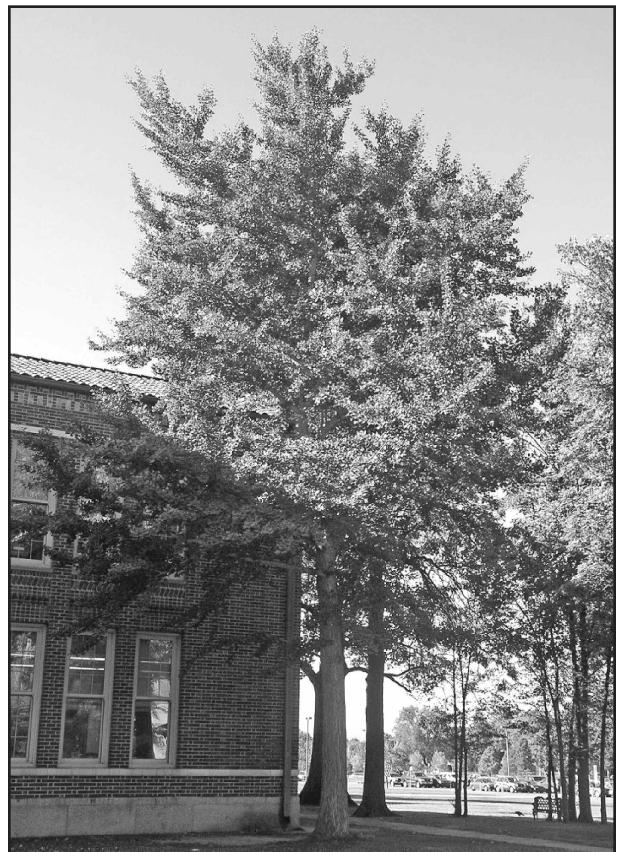


Photo: S. John

Colorado's third-largest Ginkgo — one of the most ancient tree species still living — stands near the northwest corner of the school.

develop to maturity.

The reason that unusual tree species were pioneered at South High is that the landscape architect M. Walter Pesman was in charge of designing the plantings at the many new Denver public schools built in the 1920s, as South High was. Pesman (1887-1962) and his fellow Dutch immigrant S. R. DeBoer were the two foremost Denver landscape architects of their time. Pesman, who lived near Washington Park and whose wife was a teacher at South High, had a very high interest in botany and tree diversity, and wanted to prove that more than the usual handful of tree species could thrive here. He therefore went out of his way to import new types of trees to use on the Denver Public School campuses. In later years Pesman was a founding member of the Denver Botanic Gardens, wrote several books on botany, and taught widely at area colleges. The landscape he designed for South High was at one time considered Denver's best arboretum.



Photo: S. John

Colorado's third-largest European larch — a type of conifer that drops its foliage every fall — is on the east side of South High School.

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University Park Directory

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University Of Denver Celebrates Its Sesquicentennial

As the oldest private university in the Rocky Mountain region, the University of Denver, will celebrate its 150th anniversary during 2014 by looking backward at its gold rush beginning to the present and future as a gold standard of academic excellence.

The community will be invited to be part of the University of Denver's Sesquicentennial through a full array of events, celebrations and community service projects.

Here are some of the events taking place during the winter quarter:

"Tradition and Legacy" Exhibit

Jan. 13 through the end of Dec. 2014

Anderson Academic Commons

This year long, interactive, multimedia exhibit introduces visitors to the people, programs and traditions that shape the University of Denver into a truly unique campus and community.

Exclusive Screening of

Downton Abbey Season Premiere

Saturday, Jan. 4, 2014, 6 p.m.

Davis Auditorium in Sturm Hall

More information and registration:
<http://du.edu/alumni/traditionsevents/foundersday/index.html>

"Decade of Gifts and Discoveries" Exhibit

Thursday, Jan. 9, 2014

Panel On Pot Shops February 8

UPCC hosts the INC (Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation) city-wide meeting Saturday, February 8 at the Heritage Club, 2020 S. Monroe. Meet and greet at 8:45 a.m. and program 9-11 a.m. There will be a panel discussion with Q&A about retail marijuana stores in neighborhoods. UP already has a handy array of such emporiums, and more may be on the horizon. Please plan to come welcome our friends from around the city and share information. Our thanks to the Heritage Club which furnishes the space and the refreshments!

— Diana Helper, UPCC Open Space & Parks chair; INC and DU rep

Myhren Gallery in the Shwayder Art Building

Surviving the Srebrenica Genocide, a First-Person Account

Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2014, 4:30 p.m.

Boettcher Foundation Community Room, Craig Hall

Speaker: Hasan Hasanovic, curator and interpreter of Bosnia's Srebrenica-Potocari Cemetery and Memorial Centre

Winter Carnival

Jan. 31-Feb. 2, 2014

Keystone Resort

For the first time in the 53-year history of the Winter Carnival — an annual student event — we invite alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends to join students for a weekend of skiing, snowboarding, tubing and other high-country fun at Keystone Resort.

Discounted lift tickets and accommodations are available for students, faculty, staff, parents and alumni.

More information: See DU website at <http://alumni.du.edu>

Bridges to the Future

Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014, 7 p.m.

Newman Center for the Performing Arts

With one event each in the Winter, Spring and Fall quarters, this series brings provocative speakers and panelists to the University for an evening of discourse on a variety of topics.

Speaker: Susan Schulten, PhD, chair, Department of History

1864 Week Celebration

Feb. 28-March 5, 2014

This event-packed week is a celebration of the University's sesquicentennial — 150 years of looking forward.

Founders Day Gala

Wednesday, March 5, 2014, 5:30 p.m.

Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center

We will toast the founding of the University and the many alumni, donors and friends who have contributed to its development. At the gala, previous honorees will be recognized for their impact on the University's past, present and future.

PARKS & TRAIL NEWS

We can't be everywhere, so thank you all for letting us know what's what in the parks! Linda Steves is an official Parks/Rec Volunteer who asked DPR for graffiti paint for the Buchtel Trail/Prairie area, and who regularly fills the dog-bag dispensers all along there. (We keep a supply of bags!) She also alerts us to other concerns in the area such as the missing trash can at St. Paul/Buchtel — now replaced thanks to an email to Jill Coffman at DPR. The Steves went to a great DPR Volunteer dinner party at the Zoo recently, saw the Zoo Lights, and received prizes!

Susan Tamulonis asked about the southwest corner "park" at South Colorado Boulevard/East Yale, where

backups occur for those turning right onto South Colorado. Jennifer Schmidt wondered about a turn lane on that corner property. Our email from Joe Sloan at Denver Water (which owns that lot) advised that there's a major water vault under there. If the city should say they need to put a lane there — they would be responsible for paying for moving the large water installation. So, it's back to backups, but we can mention it to Public Works.

Susan also asked about a new contraption on a pole along Yale at McWilliams Park, and Jill advised it is an update for an emergency signal.

— Diana Helper

DU 'GOOD NEIGHBORS' NOTES

Summary Of November 20 Meeting

Allan Wilson and Will Jones of DU imparted this info:

DU sold its building in the 2400 block of East University to the developer who now owns the entire east side of that block except 7-Eleven. He is aware this is zoned for three stories but says he cannot make \$\$ unless it is rezoned higher. DU does not "get involved" in such zoning matters, but agrees with the developer. A 7-Eleven will be going in part of Jordan's former space, with another business TBA in the rest of the space.

DU is paying to have a Business Improvement District (BID) study, to make University/Evans safer and more vital, and is trying to make students pay attention to traffic.

DU has sold 11 of its houses on

UPCC Email Notification List

Stay connected and informed by signing up for the UPCC email notification list. We send monthly emails as well as emails when there is something time sensitive that needs to be communicated to our residents. To sign up for our notification list visit www.upcc.us/email.

South High (1800-2000 blocks) to a developer who will raze them and build pre-sale 2-1/2 story row homes with detached garages. This is figured at least to double the density. It appears likely that any buyers will then rent to students.

New engineering campus is being designed west of Music building.

DU is trying to raise its "green" reputation thus will not add parking to campus, or incentives to use campus lots. Overflow to UP streets is UP's problem to solve.

Parking was big topic — see James Bettinger's article on page 1. The next Good Neighbors meeting will be in February.

— Diana Helper

STAR-NIGHTS At Chamberlin Observatory

The Denver Astronomical Society at DU's Chamberlin Observatory offers public star viewing. January 11, February 8, March 8, April 5, May 3, 7-10 p.m. weather permitting. DU's Dr. Robert Stencel encourages you to visit the website (or call) for full info on these and other star-times:

http://www.twitter.com/Chamberlin_Obs or 303-871-5172.

UPCC EVENTS CALENDAR

UPCC Neighborhood General Meetings

- Winter:
Wednesday, February 5, 2014
- Spring:
Wednesday, May 7, 2014
- Autumn:
Wednesday, October 1, 2014
Social Hour starts at 6:30 p.m.
General Meeting begins at 7 p.m.-
8:30 p.m. at University Park
Elementary School
(on Iliff Ave. and S. Saint Paul St.)

Additional Neighborhood Events

University Park Home Tour

Sunday, May 4, 2014

An annual fundraiser by the University Park Elementary School PTA.

For more information and to purchase tickets:
www.uparkhometour.org.

Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale

June 6 & 7, 2014

Neighbors host their own yard/garage sale. Organizers coordinate promotion and pickup of charitable items. A notable event for sellers and buyers.

Independence Day Parade

July 4, 2014, 10 a.m.

A festive event held on Warren Avenue at Observatory Park. Features include the Children's Bike, Trike & Buggy Parade, Denver Fire Department pumper truck and the VFW Band.

Band In The Park

A summer evening event — TBD

Enjoy a casual summer evening listening to a live band at Observatory Park. Bring a picnic and meet neighbors and friends in the beautiful park.

It Is The Snowy Season!

Clearing the sidewalk of snow and ice is required 24 hours after the snow has stopped. If you know your neighbor is elderly, disabled, or experiencing a difficult time, surprise them by shoveling their walk. If you need a service, refer to your *Purple Pages*. It is also available at the UPCC website (www.upcc.us).