

# Cook Park News

COOK PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

www.cookparkneighborhood.com

## Do YOU Want a Dog Park at Cook Park?

by Becca Reidy, Cook Park Neighborhood President



Many of us use our neighborhood park for recreation and relaxation and want to maintain that value for our community. This newsletter's purpose is to bring our neighbors current information that will affect the future of our park. In February, 2010 our monthly CPNA meeting brought many of our neighbors together to discuss changes that may be in our future. Following is a summary of that meeting:

The Department of Parks and Recreation proposed a Dog Park Master Plan which includes a dog park at Cook Park. The fenced in area for dogs would be placed in Northeast edge of the park, near the rugby field and parking lot. Over 40 residents showed up to protest the dog park. Councilman Charlie Brown wrote a letter opposing the dog park that was read at the meeting.

After the meeting, the Cook Park Neighborhood Association board voted to send a statement to the Director of Parks and Recreation formally stating our opposition to the dog park on the following grounds:

- Unknown environmental impact (water, air, soil)
- Site does not meet criteria defined by Parks and Rec. (including a clear separation from athletic fields; non-linear shape; trees or shade structures)
- Untrained or aggressive dogs will attack other dogs or people
- Dog urine and feces will inevitably be left behind killing vegetation and causing odor
- Dogs on the grass will tear up the fields, make them useless for sports

**CPNA  
meets the 3rd  
Tuesday of  
every month  
at 7p in the  
Rec Center**

- Not enough Parks and Rec. staff to properly oversee the dog parks or the licensing of the dogs who visit
- Negative impact on wildlife in the park, especially native birds
- Cook Park is too small to house a dog park in addition to the multiple sports fields and playgrounds that it already has

Parks and Recreation has stated that public feedback will be taken into consideration in creating the final recommendations. A copy of the plan for Cook Park (as well as the plan for the entire city) is available on the Denver Parks and Recreation website: [www.denvergov.org/parksandrec](http://www.denvergov.org/parksandrec).

**We need your opinions to be heard and greatly appreciate any feedback** our neighborhood members can share about the future plans for our park. You can comment directly to Parks and Rec. by emailing: [denverdog@denvergov.org](mailto:denverdog@denvergov.org).

If you send comments, please carbon copy the CPNA at:

[association@cookparkneighborhood.com](mailto:association@cookparkneighborhood.com). *The deadline for comments is March 15th.*

## Your Neighborhood

*Calling all Cook Park Neighbors:* Please support your Cook Park Neighborhood businesses. They support the news we bring to you and through their valued efforts they help make our community a vibrant place to live.

*Cook Park News* is distributed free to all Cook Park neighborhood homes. We hope you enjoy reading about news in your community.

### 2010 Officers and Directors

**President** – Becca Reidy  
([association@cookparkneighborhood.com](mailto:association@cookparkneighborhood.com))  
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located within *Salon on the Boulevard*  
1485 S. Colo Blvd. call **303-753-8660**  
to schedule your appointment or a FREE  
consultation with Angela Godteacher. To  
learn more about how to look your best visit:  
**www.anglashairdesign.com**

Paig Peaker **Delish**,  
A Personal Chef Service  
t: **720.840.6598**  
e: delish\_paig@msn.com

### **Virginia Village Liquor**

1455 S. Holly  
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**303-782-9900**  
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**303-691.3435**  
www.acehardware.com

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1441 S. Holly  
**303-757-7627**  
www.snapfitness.com

## **Happenings**

### **March 2010**

3/15 **Deadline** for opinions to be heard about the future plans for our park. You can comment directly to Parks and Rec. by emailing: [denverdog@denvergov.org](mailto:denverdog@denvergov.org).

3/16 **Cook Park Neighborhood meeting** 7:00 p.m. at Cook Park Recreation Center  
**Guest Speaker:** Mayor's Office Census Program Coordinator to discuss the 2010 Census

### **April 2010**

4/20 **Cook Park Neighborhood meeting** 7:00 p.m. at Cook Park Recreation Center  
**Guest Speaker:** Linda Neely of Wild Bird Information & Rehabilitation of Denver

### **May 2010**

5/18 **Cook Park Neighborhood meeting** 7:00 p.m. at Cook Park Recreation Center  
**Summer Events Planning**, including the June 19th Neighborhood Sale

### **June 2010**

6/19 **Cook Park Neighborhood Sale!!!!**

A full listing of events is available at:

**[www.cookparkneighborhood.com](http://www.cookparkneighborhood.com)**

Advertise in the Cook Park News for pennies per prospect!

Contact CPNA at [association@cookparkneighborhood.com](mailto:association@cookparkneighborhood.com)

# **Cook Park News**

COOK PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

# Carrots Love Tomatoes Even in Our Cook Park Neighborhood

And, what could be better than the LOVE for growing fresh vegetables (carrots AND tomatoes) to serve on your table? Truthfully many of us don't have room in our own urban yards to grow fresh vegetables but there is a delicious alternative within our own Cook Park neighborhood: A community garden! Exploring the options of a community garden is becoming a popular urban alternative. Through Urban Gardens or DUG, an organization that believes in "growing community" — one urban garden at a time" you can participate in your own love for the "growing experience". Did you know there are over 90 DUG gardens in the metro area, including one right here in our own Cook Park neighborhood? Yes! And, it's located at 1700 South Holly, just minutes from all of us.

Number of plots: 60

Average size of plots: 10' X 10' or 5' X 5'

Year founded: 1985

The DUG project assists neighborhoods with the planning, design, coordination and construction of the gardens, most of which are located in urban neighborhoods and are active and flourishing throughout the gardening season beginning in May and running through October. Through these urban oases, community gardeners collectively assume responsibility to improve their neighborhoods, initiate a sense of pride in their surroundings, and grow fresh, organic food close to home. Community gardens are not just for growing vegetables as you can see. While tending a garden may be the initial goal, empowerment, self-sufficiency and pride in our neighborhood are the true, and valuable ends.

The DUG gardens are community initiated and maintained projects. DUG assists neighborhoods with the planning, design, coordination and construction of the gardens. To get involved or to participate simply contact the Denver Urban Gardens office at 303.292.9900 to obtain the name and number of the garden leader of your chosen garden site. Once you contact your garden leader they will assist you to secure your plot. If a plot is available (waiting lists are common so we suggest you act quickly), the garden leader will meet you at the garden to select a plot and will also share information about social events, maintenance guidelines, fees and forms that need to be completed. Once you have secured the appropriate information you can begin to plan your garden and you'll be well on your way to reaping the benefits of fresh vegetables, neighborhood interaction and making a positive impact on your diet and community!

If you'd like to get a jump start on the necessary paperwork that DUG requires you can begin by downloading the forms online and have them ready to turn in to your garden leader after your plot is assigned. And, if you would like more information, please visit the DUG website <http://www.dug.org/gardens.asp>.

DUG also has opportunities for sponsorships or volunteer work so there are many alternatives to turn your thumb GREEN!

Good news for those participating in the composting program. We had initially learned that the program would come to an end due to grant funds discontinuing. But now there is a pay option to keep the dream alive. Those who want to continue the service can do so by agreeing to pay a total of \$29.25 three times this year, in April, July and October. Residents wishing to continue compost-collection service uninterrupted must respond to mailed notifications and start paying for service by April 15.

For more information and if you'd like to add your name to the list, call 311.

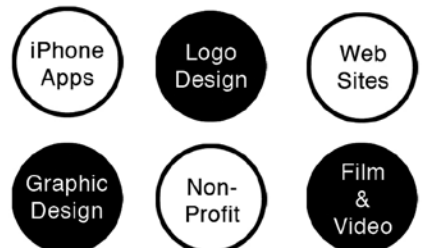


*Please visit these businesses that support our community*

Michael Beninati  
**CORE Real Estate Services**  
**303.627.7667**  
[www.linkedin.com/in/michaelbeninati](http://www.linkedin.com/in/michaelbeninati)

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# Biennial of the Americas

Arts and culture programming for the Biennial of the Americas is beginning to take off. As more and more learn about Denver's 2010 "Hemis-faire" the partnerships being made are blossoming.

One of the early success stories of the Biennial are the efforts of Museo de las Americas (861 Santa Fe Drive). This notable institution is building its summer programming around the Biennial, featuring an artist's call around the museum's exhibition theme of "Liberadores/Liberators of the Americas."

"The response to our call was fantastic," said the Museum's executive director, Maruca Salazar. "We will have artists from throughout the hemisphere exhibiting some of the most compelling art we have ever shown."

Another notable addition to programming is being offered by the Denver Museum of Nature and Science (2001 Colorado Boulevard). They will be hosting at least two memorable events.

On July 20, the Museum will present "Digital Earth: Explore the Earth from Space" in Gates Planetarium. This Biennial exclusive will allow attendees the chance to see Colorado and all of the Americas in a whole new way, with views that illustrate our cities, our natural resources, and our impact on the planet.

On July 28, the Museum will offer visitors an opportunity to meet renowned photographer Tory Read. His photo exhibition, entitled "Where Pink Dolphins Swim" will be at the Museum throughout the month of July and features more than 30 black and white images documenting a journey down the Amazon River.

The exhibition also includes eight large-format color pinhole images that convey a dreamlike impression of life along the river. These are but a sampling of the kind of programming the Biennial will be featuring. Details of these and other offerings will begin to populate the Biennial website as July nears. Visit [www.biennialoftheamericas.org](http://www.biennialoftheamericas.org)

for more info on other exhibitions and performances that will make the Denver Biennial the place to be in July 2010.

## It's All Happening at Cook Park

**Improvisation with Shakespeare**  
Nicola Kearns-Beattie graduate of the London School of Dramatic art offers a class in fast improve around Shakespeare's plays. Last class a presentation of history, tragedy and comedy all in 30 minutes plus other stand-up silliness. The children should be able to read. Minimum 5. Maximum 10.

Age: 8-10 Fee: \$15  
Session Dates: 4/5/2010-5/3/2010  
Days/Time: Mon, 4p-5:30p

**Summer Camp 2010**  
Denver Parks and Recreation Summer Camp is a structured recreational day camp for youth that offers safe and engaging activities for children 6-12 years. The Cook Park camp is dedicated to providing children with meaningful and enjoyable opportunities from which to grow a life-long, positive self-image. The camp features an array of wonderful activities, special events and field trips to enrich each camper's experience. The Cook Park staff is licensed by the Colorado Department of Human Services and our staff follows all of the regulations and procedures mandated by the state. Cook Park camp is five days per week, for eight weeks.

Age: 6-12 years Fee: \$915  
Session Date: 6/7/2010-7/30/2010  
Days/Times: Mon-Fri 9a-4p  
Registration is Tuesday, 3/9/2010 at 6p

**Love & Logic for Early Childhood Class**  
Description: Join thousands of Colorado parents who've learned easy & practical tips to end whining, arguing, power struggles and more! The 5 week Love & Logic Parenting Class gives you new strategies for bedtime, morning and an alternative to time-out. Shelly Moorman, facilitator of the class, has taught over 1000 parents in the past 5 years. More information can be found on the website: [www.HeadandHeartParent.com](http://www.HeadandHeartParent.com) Experience what other parents have said: "It's the most valuable tool you can have as a parent. It really works!"

Age: Parents of kids under 6  
Fee: \$125 single/\$195 per couple

Session Date: 2/26/2010-3/26/2010  
Days/Times: Friday, 6:30p-8:30p  
Register: Cook Park or  
[www.HeadandHeartParent.com](http://www.HeadandHeartParent.com)  
Questions: Call Shelly at 303.941.6278

## Need A Job?

The Denver Workforce Centers are recruiting job seekers to fill up to 300 job openings in the following fields: construction, energy, health care, retail and hospitality. The Denver Office of Economic Development will host Workforce Information and Pre-Recruitment Events that jobseekers must register for at [www.connectingcolorado.com](http://www.connectingcolorado.com) as well as reserve a seat by calling 720.865.0068. For more information, visit [www.milehigh.com](http://www.milehigh.com) Special accommodations can be requested by calling 720.865.5580 at least two days before the event.

## Denver Mountain Parks Guidebook

For the first time in more than 40 years, a new Denver Mountain Parks guide is available. *The Adventurer's Guidebook to Denver Mountain Parks* provides information on key parks, indicates recreational opportunities — including road biking, backcountry hiking, scenic viewing and fishing—for each of them and includes a brief history of the Denver Mountain Park system. Guidebooks are available at the Denver Parks and Recreation office at 201 W. Colfax Avenue on the 6th floor, or at any Denver Rec Center. Please visit <http://www.denvergov.org/> for a FREE PDF copy.

## Free Days for All

Colorado History Museum—free until 3/28, when it closes to move.  
Denver Botanic Gardens—4/22, 7/22, 8/25, 9/26, 10/28  
Denver Art Museum—  
First Saturday of every month  
Denver Zoo—10/13, 10/21, 11/7, 11/13  
Denver Children's Museum—  
Free Play the 1st Tuesday of every month from 4p- 8p