

## NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE

**Saturday, April 17, 2010 9 am to 5 pm**

by Carol e Campbell, President

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Second Annual Spring Neighborhood Yard Sale, Saturday, April 17, 2010. Just in case, the rain date is Saturday, April 24. This will be the fourth neighborhood yard sale organized by our wonderful Yard Sale Co-chairs Anna Duarte and Susan Gurniak. We hold a sale each fall and spring with proceeds going to defray printing expenses of the association newsletter. If you have a closet, garage or basement to clean out, now's the time—we'd love your donations! Thanks to the

very generous support of U-Stor-All (1155 S. Huron), we have a free unit to store donations. We'll take donations the day of the yard sale, too.

To volunteer to help at the yard sale or arrange a donation drop-off, contact Susan at [susan\\_gurniak@yahoo.com](mailto:susan_gurniak@yahoo.com) or 303 955-4420 or contact Anna at 303 744-0304 or [annaduarte@hotmail.com](mailto:annaduarte@hotmail.com).

The yard sale will be at 740 South Bryant Street, between West Exposition Street and West Ohio Avenue. Hope to see you there! ■

## Alameda Bridge Reconstruction Begins

As this newsletter went to press, we received word that reconstruction of the Alameda Avenue Bridge over I-25 is slated to begin April 2, 2010. At this time, we have no details about plans to keep everybody moving throughout the construction process. Details will be e-mailed as information becomes available! ■

## Traffic Safety Changes At Schools

by Carol e Campbell, President

APNA representatives have been meeting with city and school officials about ways to improve traffic and pedestrian safety at the five schools located along South Tejon Street—Rishel Middle School, KIPP Denver Collegiate High School, KIPP Sunshine Peak Academy (KSPA), Mathematics and Science Leadership Academy (MSLA) and Valverde Elementary. Some decisions have been made—watch for changes to locations where buses park, new legal parking areas along West Virginia Avenue and South Tejon Street, and two new right-turn-only signs at Rishel and KSPA driveways—all expected in early April. A study is being conducted at the intersection of West Nevada Place and South Tejon Street to evaluate removal of the traffic signal and replace it with a new three-way stop. It also is possible West Nevada Place will revert to a two-way street. The feasibility of a new buses-only

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## LOWE'S Complete!

by Rick Taylor

It's been fun this past year watching the south portion of Alameda Square, the long-vacant graffiti-magnet that once housed Denver's first indoor mall being torn down and rebuilt as a Lowe's Home Improvement store. First was demolition, then excavation with huge mounds of dirt, the building construction and, now, the Grand Opening is scheduled for March 11, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

While the new store is a great improvement over what previously occupied the site, the work at Alameda Square is not finished. Soon, Brighton Corporation will begin making improvements to the east portion of the center, including a new façade.

Time will tell if this development will serve as a catalyst for other redevelopment along the commercial corridor of West Alameda Avenue. Since Brighton Corporation and Lowe's were willing to invest in Athmar Park during a recession, it's a good bet others will too as the economy improves.

As for Lowe's, the new store is 103,000 square feet selling everything from faucet washers to kitchens Monday through Saturday from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Lowe's hired around 150 people, many from southwest Denver. Sales manager Brent deRoos, among those who transferred from other metro-area stores said, "All of us who have transferred to this store are really looking forward to opening the new store and being very successful." ■

## Issue Highlights

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## Public Art Coming To Alameda Square

by Carol e Campbell, President

Exciting news! As part of the redevelopment of Alameda Square (2200 West Alameda Avenue) Brighton Corporation, the developer, is working with our community to select public art for the shopping center anchored by Denver's only Lowe's Home Improvement store. The budget for artwork is \$75,000. APNA hosted November and January public meetings to gather community input about the theme, look and artwork location. A Request for Proposals (RFP) for artwork at Alameda Square was sent out by Brighton Corporation the first week of February 2010. The RFP reflects community input from the community meetings. Here's the gist of what we're looking for in the artwork:

**The art chosen should be universally understood and seek to represent common community values around family/nurture, education/youth, nature/wildlife and/or multi-cultural-**

**ism. Additional common community values include peace, love, friendship, respect, the common good, truth, honesty, hope, vision, education, progress, industry, accountability, personal responsibility and respect for nature. The selected art must be general enough to remain pertinent after a tenant leaves or the neighborhood population changes.**

The art may be abstract or realistic as long as the meaning is clear, of excellent craftsmanship and timeless in appearance. The art should be appropriate to the urban neighborhood and project context.

In order to support our local arts community, we requested the RFP include a requirement that the selected artist/s live and work in Denver or along the Front Range. The RFP response deadline is March 1. The projected timeline for the selection process continues through April 7 when final approval of a project is expected. The anticipated date for completion and installation of the art is August 31, 2010. ■

## AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD FARMER'S MARKET

Did you know we have a farmer's market just down the road from our neighborhood? Denver Urban Homesteading is located at the building on the northeast corner of Second Avenue and Santa Fe. They are open every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. They also offer classes in gardening, composting, using fresh herbs, restoring wood furniture, and raising chicken. Information at [www.denverurbanhomesteading.com](http://www.denverurbanhomesteading.com). ■

## APNA'S ON FACEBOOK

Get to know more neighbors by joining APNA on Facebook! Just type Athmar into the fb search bar... APNA will come up. Click and join! Great place to post about a yard sale, a lost or found pet, ask for recommendations on tree trimming or a plumber; start or join a discussion; find a walking partner! Get APNA meeting reminders and be the first to know when something happens in the neighborhood. It's all about building more community in Athmar Park. Join us on fb!

## APNA E-MAIL LIST

Ever wonder what's going on in the neighborhood? Interested in getting involved but not sure how? APNA sends out FRIDAYNEWS to over 300 households and businesses by e-mail every week with all sorts of neighborhood and city news and we'd love to include you! Examples of what's in the FRIDAYNEWS...a notice about a found kitten; news about a low-cost dog vaccination clinic and a free spay/neuter clinic for feral cats; information about trying to get a turn signal at West Alameda Avenue and Tejon Street; news about the upcoming neighborhood yard sale in April; notices for community meetings; and information about the Lowe's opening, job opportunities there and more! We keep the APNA e-mail list safe from spamming. To get in the loop with what's going on in the neighborhood, send your contact information and e-mail address to [athmarparkna@comcast.net](mailto:athmarparkna@comcast.net). ■

## RETIREMENT PARTY FOR POLICE DISTRICT 4 COMMANDER

Commander Rudy Sandoval, our police district's leader, will be retiring April 30,

2010. District 4 neighborhood organizations (including APNA) are hosting a retirement party for him Saturday, April 10, at the Police Protective Association, 2105 Decatur Street, between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. The free event is open to the public, so please feel free to stop by and help honor a man who has dedicated his adult life to serving the public and providing for their safety. ■

## 2009 CRIME STATISTICS AVAILABLE

Of the 24 categories of crime that Denver Police track, Athmar Park's crime percentages were down in 2009 (as compared with 2008) for 12 categories and stayed the same for four categories. The biggest decreases were seen in Fraud (down 33%), Drug Abuse Violations (down 24.2%), and Weapons charges (down 50%). The biggest increases

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# Spring Lawn and Garden Preparation

by Ed Berkopec

Spring is just around the corner. Now is the time to prepare your lawn and gardens for the new growing season. Proper preparation in spring can make the rest of the year much easier and March is a great time for clean-up. The worst part of winter is over and new growth has not yet begun so garden clean-up can be done without damaging new spring sprouts. Pick up limbs, twigs, and trash which accumulated on the ground over winter. Remove dead branches or stalks from plants and pull mulch covering plant crowns back. Inserting a shovel, spade or fork into the soil will break up the hard crust that formed over the winter. This makes it easier for air and water to penetrate the soil to loosen it and facilitate new root growth. After breaking the crust, add compost and fertilizer around the plant and gently till it in. If you till, be sure the ground is dry to a depth of 6 inches. Do not till wet soil. Tilling when the soil is wet will break down the soil structure causing the soil and nutrients to break apart.

For annuals and vegetables, the rule of thumb in Denver is to not plant until after Mother's Day. Denver's weather is just too erratic to plant earlier. If you do plant earlier, keep old sheets, five gallon buckets, etc. around to cover plants in case of a late freeze. The best preparations for your lawn include: thatch raking, aeration, re-seeding, and weed control. Thatch raking removes the packed down old growth. Again, this makes it easier for the new growth to take hold and spread.

Aeration also prepares the lawn for new growth by breaking up the soil and aiding in air and water absorption, but only thatch raking will remove matted old growth. If you do both, do the thatch raking first so the nutritious soil plugs left from aeration aren't wasted as they dissolve back into the soil.

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## Zoning Code Update in Last Stages

by Karen Cuthbertson

For nearly five years, members from various city agencies, councilpeople, and members of the public have spent countless hours rewriting Denver's zoning code from scratch. The fourth and final draft of the code and the proposed final zoning map for Athmar Park can be viewed at [www.newcodedenver.org](http://www.newcodedenver.org). APNA members have reviewed the code, as well, to advocate for zoning designations around our neighborhood perimeter that offer the most 'buffering' to residents and to ensure residential density abutting the perimeter does not overwhelm the less-dense interior areas. The schedule for final review and adoption of the new code still is in flux, but the latest information targets completion by June 2010. ■

## Thank You for Sponsoring the Newsletter!

St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church  
O'Brien Concrete Pumping/  
U-Stor-All  
El Forajido  
American Vision Center  
Gamino Printing  
Grease Monkey #9  
Nghe Si Quan  
Crystal Windows  
Video Panorama  
Salon Ocampo



# Board Recaps

**27 October 2009**

Valverde Presbyterian Church

Denver Police Officer Chris Jones reported thefts from motor vehicles are up, as are thefts of "puffer" cars (autos left outside running in the winter while they warm up).

Dr. Lynne Lopez-Crowley talked about the three schools now at Rishel Middle School--KIPP Denver Collegiate (currently ninth grade only, but expanding through twelfth), Rishel Middle School (phasing out next year), and the Mathematics and Science Leadership school (currently kindergarten through second grades, expanding through fifth grade). Lopez-Crowley said the Principals are talking with their students about how/where to cross streets and noted there are drop-off/pick-up spots for the various schools on different sides of the building.

People are needed to serve as block contacts; please contact Andy Archuleta or Carol Campbell. APNA also is looking for someone to attend the District 4 Police Commander's meeting. If inter-

ested, please contact Andy or Carol.

**24 November 2009**

Valverde Presbyterian Church

The latest undercover graffiti sting involved ten officers, including four undercover, encompassed the area between Sheridan and Federal Avenues, north to Sixth and south to Evans avenues, and resulted in 11 arrests, including one "big fish." The narcotics unit made a methamphetamine arrest at Alameda and Santa Fe. Officers recovered \$10,000 cash and one pound of meth.

District Seven Councilperson Chris Nevitt noted possible changes to the traffic light configuration at Tejon Street and Alameda Avenue.

Liz Mendez, Denver Public Schools (DPS) Operations Project Manager for the Office of School Reform and Innovation, spoke about parking issues for the schools along Tejon.

**26 January 2010**

Valverde Presbyterian Church

Denver Police Lt. Williams asked that residents call the proper police number to report crimes in progress. (Non-emer-

gency 720-913-2000) and Williams said police will be trained on laws regarding medical marijuana dispensaries.

Denver Digs Trees tree distribution will be Saturday, April 17. The annual neighborhood-wide picnic will be Sunday, August 15.

Pat Ayres reported the River South Greenway Master Plan is complete and the city is applying for a grant to help implement the plan. Attendees discussed the Dog Park Master Plan and passed a motion to support a fenced, off-leash dog area at Vanderbilt Park.

Carol Campbell outlined the art selection process Brighton Corporation and the Denver Urban Renewal Authority (DURA) have pursued for the new Alameda Square.

Anna Valdez, the new NIS Inspector, introduced herself. ■

## Athmar Park Neighborhood Association

2010 Annual Membership ☐ Renew ☐ New March 2010

☐ **Regular Membership \$10/yr**

Any person, age 18 to 64, who owns or rents property in the APNA area; all adults living at one address pay one annual household dues of \$10.00. Each adult is entitled to one vote.

☐ **Senior Membership \$5/yr**

Any person, age 65 and over, who owns or rents property in the APNA area; all seniors living at one address pay one annual household dues of \$5.00. Each adult is entitled to one vote.

☐ **Organizational Member \$25/yr**

Any club, church, business, educational institution or organization (except registered neighborhood associations) in the APNA area. One representative entitled to one vote.

☐ **Associate Member \$25/yr**

Any person who, or organization which wishes to support APNA activities but does not own or rent property in the APNA area; no vote.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Join a Committee!**

- ☐ Adopt-a-Spot (graffiti removal)
- ☐ Animal Issues
- ☐ Annual Picnic
- ☐ Block Contacts (APNA volunteer)
- ☐ Code Enforcement/Zoning
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Membership
- ☐ Newsletter
- ☐ Parks
- ☐ Planning and Economic Development
- ☐ Speed Enforcement
- ☐ Safe Neighborhood
- ☐ Yard Sale
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** APNA, P.O. Box 19732, Denver, Colorado 80219

## Membership Update

Carol Warner, Membership Secretary

Thank you to all who have joined APNA or have renewed their memberships in 2009. If you would like to join or renew, please see the membership form on page 4 of this newsletter for a form, or contact me at carolswarner@hotmail.com or 303 935-9526. Thank you!

And, of course, we thank our new and renewing members since our last newsletter: Leslie Aguillard and Ference Gyulafia; Patrick Ayres and Kristi Goodwin; Keysha Boggess and Jackie Bott; Susan Borgeteien; Don, Carol, and Chloe Campbell; Kirsten Castagnoli and Bobbi Gallardo; Crystal Window and Blind Cleaning; Karen Cuthbertson; Andy and Margaret Davis; David Dye; Reuben and Mardelle Espinoza; Rod and Collette Fraid; Marshall Gourley; Frieda Greenwood; Susan Gurniak and Robin Faliveno; Jeff Keene and Anna Duarte; Wayne Knox; Stephen Matyjevich and Deborah Munoz; Kimberly Means; Mary Mees; Mary Mirgon; Irene Padilla; Salon Ocampo; Video Panorama; and Bob and Lu Zaragoza. ■

**Spring Lawn and Garden Preparation**

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Seed or re-seed your lawn early. Grass seed isn't affected by late freezes or fluke snow storms so common to Denver. The longer grass seed is on the ground, the more time it has to root.

Fertilizing early gives it more time to work into the soil so it's ready when new grass growth begins. If you plan to fertilize, consider one of the many new organic fertilizers. Fertilizers come with a three number designation such as 5-10-5 or 10-5-5. The first number is the percent of nitrogen content; nitrogen promotes green growth and is great for

greening your lawn. The second number is the phosphorus content which promotes root growth. The third number is the potassium content which is good for both roots and blooms. Use a high potassium fertilizer for your flower beds.

Weeds are much easier to kill in their seed state so attack early using a pre-emergent to fight crabgrass and dandelions before they start to grow.

Spring is the best time to prune. Wait until greenery begins to show as that makes it easier to see any dead wood needing removal or to prune for shape. It's best to prune flowering trees and scrubs after they flower.

If you want help or advice about gardening there are some excellent web sites that can answer almost any question. Go to [www.ext.colostate.edu](http://www.ext.colostate.edu) and click on Lawn and Garden. Plant Talk at [www.ext.colostate.edu/ptlk](http://www.ext.colostate.edu/ptlk) offers recorded lawn and garden information. Another option is the Denver County Extension Service at [www.denverext.colostate.edu](http://www.denverext.colostate.edu). HAPPY GARDENING.

**Editor's Note:** Very special thanks to David Arabie, Athmar Park resident and Lawn and Garden manager at Ace-Alameda Station, for his great help with this article. ■

# CHICO'S STORY

Alison Kapsalis

Many of us have seen or know someone who chains their dog for long periods of time—sometimes days, sometimes months. These dogs sit at the end of their tether, alone and bored, unexercised and trapped, some for their entire lives. Canis familiaris, otherwise known as the dog, is simply a domesticated wolf. Wolves and dogs are pack animals that thrive on the company, interaction, and feedback of their pack. Dogs adopt their human family as their pack, and need daily and frequent interaction from their pack in order to maintain a healthy mental state. Chaining dogs in the backyard alone, unsupervised, and unsocialized is never a good idea. Long-term tethering of dogs is associated with many negative issues—both the physical and mental health of the dog is damaged, attacks on children increase by 5.4 times, public nuisance problems like barking increase, and dog fighting and drugs are also associated with dog chaining.

I first became interested in dog chaining this past October, when the season's first blizzard hit Denver. Hearing whimpering that snowy morning, I tracked it to a young male Rottweiler chained to my neighbor's back porch. The occupants had moved and nobody lived there so, being concerned, I checked on him during the day. A day and night passed, nobody came for him, so I called Denver's Animal Care and Control and Denver Dumb Friends League to see if there was anything they could do. There was not. He had access to shelter (a box

springs on the porch), water and food, and that's all the law requires. Even though it was 9 degrees and he was shivering and freezing, there was nothing they would or could do within the limits of Denver's animal welfare law.

The Rottie's owners moved in several days later, and he was moved to a tow truck strap attached to a doghouse in the backyard. He stayed on that strap for months, day in and day out. It became my mission to free this guy—it was painful listening to him whimpering to himself, and seeing him pacing and lunging against his chain, unable to exercise his big muscles.

Having exhausted Denver's very limited legal route, I contacted Carol Campbell, APNA's Board President, who put me in contact with Sherrie Miller and Bob Zaragoza, both APNA members. One especially cold 2-degree night, Sherrie and Bob were kind enough to visit the Rottie's owners and offer blankets, which he accepted and put into the doghouse. I decided to have someone talk with the owner to see if he would give up the dog. Bob and other caring people went over several times to see what could be done to free this friendly pup from his chain. We needed a home for him and, after looking high and low, I found Debbie and Anthony, who were looking for a Rottie and excited about the prospect of saving one from a chain.

In mid-January, I orchestrated a meeting between Debbie, Anthony, and several others to go speak with the owner about giving him up. Feeling bad about leaving his dog outside and wanting a better home for him, the owner offered to let them take the dog immediately,

which was gladly accepted. The Rottie, now called Chico, is living inside a house with two Spaniel buddies, enjoying daily walks and exciting interaction with his new dog and human pack. It ends up this furry young guy simply was too big and rambunctious for his owner's small house, was not housetrained, and they couldn't control him. Not knowing how to train or handle such a big and excitable dog, they chained him outside... not from malice, but ignorance.

Though this particular dog's story has a happy ending, many chained dogs' lives do not. There are several dogs here in Athmar Park spending their lives at the end of a chain, doing time for uncommitted crimes.

Denver's tethering ordinance, Sec 8-131, currently states no one shall: "Tether and leave, or permit to be left, unattended any animal on a leash, cord or chain of less than six feet in length for longer than one (1) hour." This means as long as the chain is six feet, it is perfectly legal to keep a dog chained its entire life, never being walked, exercised or let free. This is unacceptable and needs to change. We are looking at proposing legislation to limit or ban the cruel practice of long-term tethering altogether.

If you are interested in learning more or helping change this ordinance, please contact Alison Kapsalis at [alisonkap@yahoo.com](mailto:alisonkap@yahoo.com).

**Editor's Note:** Many thanks to our wonderful Animal Issues Chair, Sherrie Miller, for arranging free obedience classes for Chico and his new owners to help ensure a successful transition and placement. ■

### Around the Neighborhood

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were in Offenses against Family/Children (up 125%), Forgery/Counterfitting (up 125%), and Criminal Mischief (up 36.1%). Athmar Park ranks in the middle citywide, showing a minor increase in overall crime. Not bad, but you can help change our crime statistics for the better by becoming more aware and taking action. Call the Police non-emergency dispatch number, 720 913-2000, to report suspicious persons/activity. Know your neighbors. Consider starting a Neighborhood Watch on your block. Community Resource Officer Nick Grove, 720 913-0276, will be happy to help setting up a Neighborhood Watch.

For more information regarding crime statistics, visit [www.denvergov.org/sopa](http://www.denvergov.org/sopa). ■

### ATHMAR PARK LOSES ITS LIBRARY SATURDAYS

The current economic situation has caused the Denver Public Library to cut its hours of operation throughout the system. Our Athmar Park branch now will be closed each Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. We are very sorry to lose our neighborhood branch on Saturdays and hope the hours cut won't last long. Current hours for the Athmar Park branch are: Tuesday, 10: a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 12:00 noon to 8 p.m.; Thursday, 10a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. After School Programming at the Athmar branch continues as before the cutback. This program is held between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and consists of an assortment of fun activities for all school aged children. The program runs through mid-May. The Denver Public Library's most popular children's event, the Summer Reading Program, starts on the last day of school in May and the Athmar Park branch will participate. Kids love to get prizes for reading books.

The branch also will provide Census information from March 19 to April 19. Forms are available but this library is NOT a drop-off location (forms must be sent to a different location). For more information, contact them at 720-865-0230. For all things library, go to [www.denverlibrary.org](http://www.denverlibrary.org). ■

### GET RID OF THAT OLD SOFA!!!

Once every nine weeks, the City provides FREE Large Item Pickup (LIP) service so unwanted large items such as sofas, chairs, mattresses, etc. can be disposed of properly. The next LIP week for people living south of Exposition is March 15 (area nine); and for people living north of Exposition (area six), the LIP week is April 26. Place large items for removal four feet away from dumpsters or cans. There is a maximum of five large items per household for disposal. LIP weeks for the balance of 2010 for area nine are May 17, July 19, September 20, and November 22 (holiday week); and for area six, pick-up weeks are June 28, August 30, and November 1. Please help keep our alleys clean. Do not set out large items any time besides your LIP week.

Do you need to dispose of an appliance? Call 303 430-7142 to schedule FREE appliance pick-up. Appliances' include a refrigerator, freezer, stove, washer, or dryer.

If you have questions about collection days or what items can be collected call 311. ■

### FREE FUN

The City of Denver has some wonderful attractions for the enjoyment of residents and visitors. Following is a list of when you can enjoy these attractions for free in 2010.

#### Denver Art Museum

100 West 14th Avenue Parkway, Denver, 720 865-5000

Free the first Saturday of every month and Saturday, April 3; Saturday, May 1; Saturday June 5; Saturday, August 7

#### Denver Botanic Gardens

1005 York Street, Denver, 720 865-3500  
Thursday, April 22; Thursday, July 22;  
Wednesday, August 25.

#### Denver Botanic Gardens @ Chatfield

8500 Deer Creek Canyon Road, Littleton, 303 973-3705

Friday, April 2; Friday, May 7; Friday, June 4; Friday, August 6.

#### Denver Museum Of Nature And Science

2001 Colorado Boulevard, Denver, 303 322-7009

Sunday, April 18; Sunday, August 8;  
Monday, August 30. ■

### HOLIDAY DISPLAY AWARDS

Seventy-nine homes and one non-residential address (St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church!) received Beautiful Holiday Display awards thanks to the efforts of neighbor Alan Marsh! Alan says, "I wanted to especially recognize those 'pioneer' homes that were the only bright lights in an otherwise dark block. Spread the word, and the electrical cords! I also want to thank the few who e-mailed me with particular addresses, and let them know they were recognized appropriately. I'm already looking to next Christmas season's motivation for people to let their 1,000s of lights shine! I didn't realize how many really high-quality displays there were in the neighborhood until I started looking at every, and I emphasize EVERY, block! I apologize to any homes with festive decorations I missed because they just weren't on when I drove by." Our THANKS TO ALAN, for spreading the holiday spirit! If you want to be part of spreading holiday cheer next December, let Alan know at [marshfamily9@comcast.net](mailto:marshfamily9@comcast.net). He'd love the help! ■



# Spay Neuter Clinic For Athmar Park

Sherrie Miller

Athmar Park is working towards controlling the feral cat population of 2,000+ in our neighborhood. Feral cats can start breeding at four months old and have up to three litters a year. Each litter can have three to eight kittens. The Trap, Neuter, Release (TNR) program reduces the number of offspring produced and keeps outside colonies from expanding into our neighborhood. Fixing cats also reduces or eliminates spraying, late night yowling, and the spread of disease. Be aware, feline leukemia is present in our neighborhood, so consider adding this vaccine to immunizations your house cats receive, especially if they go outside.

The Divine Fix will be in our neighborhood Tuesday, March 23. Drop cats off at 1526 West Dakota Avenue the evening before or between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. that day. All cats will be in a heated garage for the night. I also am available to help trap cats. Please e-mail [lady\\_tiki@hotmail.com](mailto:lady_tiki@hotmail.com) or call 303 881-4821 to reserve space or get assistance with trapping.

The Rocky Mountain Alley Cat Alliance (RMACA) has a clinic for tame and feral cats daily Wednesday through Saturday. Surgery is \$20 for feral cats which includes a rabies shot, and \$35 for tame cats with vaccinations an additional \$10. To make your own reservation, and view discount dates, go to Feline Fix at [www.rmaca.org](http://www.rmaca.org).

For information on discount spay and neuter clinics for dogs and tame cats, go to [www.ddfl.org/sn\\_help.htm](http://www.ddfl.org/sn_help.htm).

Anyone wishing to help can contribute to the Athmar Park Animal Issues fund. We have been able to fix feral cats thanks to generous donations. Sherrie is willing to help trap and transport and is hoping to reach a goal of 250 cats this year. Anyone wishing to help tame or adopt a kitten, please contact Sherrie and she will let you know when they are available. ■

## Traffic Safety Changes At Schools

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road located along the western boundary of the schools' property, running from West Virginia to West Alameda avenues, also is being considered to further increase safety by separating bus riders from vehicular traffic on South Tejon Street.

High traffic volume on West Alameda Avenue (50,000 to 60,000 cars a day) permits either a protected-turn or a four-way-red for pedestrian crossing (not both). Because as many as 170 pedestrians per hour cross West Alameda Avenue at South Tejon Street, the group determined pedestrian safety with the four-way-red was more essential than a protected turn.

A follow up meeting to evaluate effectiveness of the traffic changes and any unintended impacts is planned for October.

Bond money will allow the unused baseball field south of Valverde Elementary School to be replaced by a 25-space parking lot and a new 'learning landscape' will replace the rock playground west of the school, both will be completed in 2011. Planning has not begun yet for another new parking lot on Rishel Middle Schools grounds. ■

## APNA INFORMATION AND 2009 BOARD MEMBERS

APNA meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month (except December) at Valverde Presbyterian Church, 430 South Tejon Street.

### Upcoming Meetings:

March 23, April 27 and May 25

#### President

Carol e Campbell- 303-698-0161

*Business Committee Chair, Zoning Chair  
and Denver Digs Trees Chair*  
[athmarparkna@comcast.net](mailto:athmarparkna@comcast.net)

#### Vice President

Rick Taylor- 303-922-5916

*Planning & Economic Development Chair*

#### Recording Secretary

Karen Cuthbertson- 303-936-9206

*Mayor's Graffiti Executive Oversight Committee,  
Inter-Neighborhood Chair, Adopt-a-Spot Chair,  
and Newsletter Advertising*

#### Membership Secretary

Carol Warner- 303-935-9526

#### Newsletter Editor

Ed Berkopce 303-936-5340

[editorAPNA@aol.com](mailto:editorAPNA@aol.com)

#### Treasurer

Susan Borgeteien- 720-935-7174

#### NW Quadrant Leader

Adriana Alvidrez- 720-261-3414

*Mi Colonia and Welcome Chair*

#### NE Co-Quadrant Leaders

Nadine Ortega- 303-722-5241

Sherrie Miller- 303-881-4821

*Animal Issues Chair*

#### SW Quadrant Leader

Wayne Knox- 303-934-8707

#### SE Quadrant Leader

Andy Archuleta- 303-979-6639

*Community Accountability Board (CAB)*

#### At-Large:

Patrick Ayres- 720-261-3663

*Parks Chair and Transit Oriented Development Rep.*

Leslie Aguillard- 303-698-4882

Andy Davis- 303-935-7078

Kathe Greenstein- 303-922-1736

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

#### Block Contacts

Robin Faliveno- 303-955-4420

#### Education Committee

Michelle Warren 720-472-0871

#### Speed Enforcement Committee

Tracy Cochran- 303-934-8838

#### Yard Sale Co-Chairs

Susan Gurniak- 303-955-4420

Anna Duarte - 303-744-0304

## RESOURCES

<b>Abandoned Vehicles</b> .....	303-295-4367
<b>Alley Cleaning</b> .....	311
<i>through the Juvenile Youth Offender Program</i>	
<b>Alley/Street Repair</b> .....	311
<b>Animal Control</b> .....	303-698-0076
<b>Athmar Branch Library</b> .....	720-865-0230
<b>Building Inspections</b> .....	720-865-2505
<b>Building Permit Verification</b> .....	720-865-2790
<b>City Information</b> .....	311 or <a href="http://www.denvergov.org">www.denvergov.org</a>
<b>Denver Mediation Center</b> .....	720-865-2998
<b>DPS Security</b> .....	720-309-3777
<b>Drug Hotline</b> .....	720-913-DRUG (3784)
<b>Dumpster Violations</b> .....	311
<b>(Dumping IN PROGRESS)</b> .....	311
<b>Environmental Health</b> .....	311
<i>unsafe/overcrowded housing and food peddlers</i>	
<b>Environmental Protection</b> .....	311
<i>Noise and fumes</i>	
<b>Forestry</b> .....	720-913-0651
<b>Gang Hotline</b> .....	303-331-5912
<b>Graffiti</b> .....	<a href="http://www.denvergov.org/graffiti">www.denvergov.org/graffiti</a> or 311
<b>Neighborhood Inspection Services (NIS)</b>	
<a href="http://www.denvergov.org/NIS">www.denvergov.org/NIS</a> ; select "Neighborhood Concerns Report"	
<b>Complaint Line</b> .....	311
<b>Athmar Park's Inspector Anna Valdez</b> .....	720-865-3181
<b>Neighborhood Liaison, Mayor's Office:</b> Heather Barry.....	720-865-9103
<b>Parks and Recreation:</b> Jill Coffman.....	303-937-4638
<b>Planning:</b> Karen Wenzara.....	720-865-2940
<b>Police</b>	
<b>Dispatch (non-emergency)</b> .....	720-913-2000
<b>District 4 Station</b> .....	720-913-0200
<b>Community Resource Officers</b>	
<b>Dean Christopherson, <a href="mailto:dean.christopherson@denvergov.org">dean.christopherson@denvergov.org</a></b> ....	720-913-0277
<b>Nick Grove, <a href="mailto:groven@ci.denver.co.us">groven@ci.denver.co.us</a></b> .....	720-913-0276
<b>Strategic Crime Attack Team (SCAT1)</b> (Wednesday through Saturday)	
<b>Sgt. Tom Sherwood</b> .....	720-913-0287
<b>Strategic Crime Attack Team (SCAT2)</b> (Sunday through Wednesday)	
<b>Sgt. Rudy Suniga</b> .....	720-641-1367
<b>Chris Jones and Jon Crowe</b> .....	720-913-0226
<b>Potholes</b> .....	311
<b>Right-of-Way/Dangerous Sidewalks:</b> Troy Aguinaldo.....	303-446-3656
<b>Street Light Repair</b> .....	1-800-895-4999, #4
<b>Trash and Large Item Pick-Up</b> .....	311
<b>Wastewater Hotline</b> .....	303-446-3700, #1
<b>Zoning/Permits</b> .....	720-865-3000

## CITY COUNCIL

**District 3** (west of Zuni) Paul Lopez, 303-922-7755, [paul.lopez@denvergov.org](mailto:paul.lopez@denvergov.org)

**District 7** (east of Zuni) Chris Nevitt, 720-865-8900, [chris.nevitt@denvergov.org](mailto:chris.nevitt@denvergov.org)

#### At-Large

Doug Linkhart..... 720-865-8000, [linkhartatlarge@denvergov.org](mailto:linkhartatlarge@denvergov.org)

Carol Boigon .....720-865-8100, [carol.boigon@denvergov.org](mailto:carol.boigon@denvergov.org)

## STATE HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE

**District 2** (all of Athmar Park) Representative Mark Ferrandino 303-866-2911,  
[mark.ferrandino.house@state.co.us](mailto:mark.ferrandino.house@state.co.us)

## STATE SENATOR

**District 34** (west of Raritan appr) Senator Paula Sandoval 303-866-4862,  
[paula.sandoval.senate@state.co.us](mailto:paula.sandoval.senate@state.co.us)

**District 31** (east of Raritan appr) Senator Pat Steadman 303-866-4861,  
[sen.steadman@comcast.net](mailto:sen.steadman@comcast.net)