

Platt Park

The Official Newsletter of
Platt Park People's Association
Aug. / Sept. 2012
www.3pa.org

Past

Who Lives in Platt Park?

By Kathleen Gueymard

The last data about Platt Park demographics in 3PA files was from the 2000 Census. 2010 census data is out and here is what I learned from Platt Park demographic profile data. We have 5,393 residents. About a 1/5th are under 24, a quarter are 60 or older and about half are between 25-50 and 37% of all residents are between 25-39. We've got about 900 residents under the age of 19 and 400 of those are under 5. The median age is 36.

Platt Park is composed of 2,677 households of which 65% are owner-occupied with the remainder rentals. About half are families and 11% of residents are kids attending K-12 schools.

From other sources (2009 city-data.com), I learned that about 75% of homes here were built prior to 1939.

The median income in 2009 for Platt Park households was \$57,800.

Get to know a Platt Park Resident

Platt Park resident Julie Federico has just released her second children's book on violence prevention.

Her first book *Some Parts are Not for Sharing* is a child's first book on body safety.

Anger is OKAY
Violence is NOT is a child's guide to understanding feelings, families and anger. This book is reviewed by local company Blue Ink Reviews. www.blueinkreviews.com

BlueInk Review is a unique and personal company, formed by two book publishing pros with a single-minded purpose: to respectfully and professionally find and celebrate the best of self-published books."

Anger is OKAY, Violence is NOT, written by Julie Federico and illustrated by Glori Alexander, is a thoughtful, much-needed addition to pre-school teachers' and social workers' libraries.

With vibrant, TV-cartoon-like illustrations and simple, direct text appropriate for even the youngest children, this picture book explores the complexity and vitality of anger, and when it is appropriately expressed and when it is not.

True emotional intelligence is something recognized and respected but rarely taught and discussed, even among adults. The goal of this worthy project is to engage children in a safe, non-threatening exploration of complicated, often-frightening feelings. Federico lets



The Platt Park People's Association, a city of Denver Registered Neighborhood Organization, serves more than 3,000 homes and businesses in the neighborhood bounded by Broadway on the West, Downing on the East, I-25 on the North and Evans on the South. 3PA membership is open to all neighbors and business owners who live within these boundaries. Have a voice in your neighborhood and with the city: Join 3PA.

Join us Tuesday, August 14th for Happy Hour at the Black Pearl (1529 S Pearl St) from 5pm-7pm. Get to know your neighbors and learn more about what is happening in the neighborhood.

Thank you
3PA Volunteers!

To **Carrah Torrence** for stepping up to chair the 3PA Safety Committee and to the 20 residents who expressed interest in starting neighborhood watch programs on their block.

To **Tom Snyder** and **Renate Robey** who regularly contribute articles to Platt Park Post.

To **Richard Schutz** and local school volunteers who set up and man the 3PA booth at the Farmer's Market to answer your questions about the Platt Park Community.

To **Hope Community Church** for providing a place for 3PA General Meetings

Check out our website. Stay informed, learn about upcoming events, and more!
www.3pa.org

Continued on page 3

Neighborhood Notes

Summer came in with a blast this year welcoming us with 100-plus temperatures and smoke from an endless series of forest fires that clouded our, normally crystal clear, skies. The Rockies have not given us much to cheer about but somehow it's still fun to go to a game and we are all cautiously excited to see if Payton Manning will deliver. As always lots to get you caught up with so let's jump in.

In 2009, one of our own Platt Park neighbors, Karen Wee Lin Beckman, started selling at the Farmers Market some home cooking from her native city of Johor Bahru, Malaysia, building gradually a local reputation. Over the ensuing years, Karen branched out with a Malaysian food catering business. As Karen mentioned, "we met lots of awesome people (at the market) who kept asking us to open our own restaurant saying how we need a Malaysian restaurant in Denver". Karen spent over a year searching for the perfect space but kept being drawn to her own neighborhood. When the space at 1859 S Pearl Street became available in January they jumped on it and began the arduous task of remodeling the space. On June 4th they, with freshly minted operating license in hand, opened **Makan Malaysian Café**.

Makan is tucked in the middle of the 1800 block of South Pearl and I drove past it twice before I saw it (and I was looking). Even if you have to circle the block a couple times the hunt is worth it. The interior is bright and cheerful with sort of a modern minimalist décor. The focal point is the new kitchen where Karen and her assistants do their magic. Must try items include the Curry Puff and Satay on the "Small Bites" side of the menu while we loved the Roti Prata and Kangkung from the "Larger Bites" side. The names on the menu were largely unfamiliar but the effect on the taste buds was all the same—delicious. We are looking forward to future exploration of the menu. So next time the line is too long at Park Burger, just cross the street and wander up to this wonderful new addition to our local dining scene.

Took a trip over to the currently more dusty side of the neighborhood to check out two new additions to the Broadway scene. Construction on Broadway, by-the-way looks to be coming along nicely with an estimated completion date sometime late this fall. Slipping into the neighborhood almost unnoticed in the past month is **Azucar Bakery** at 1886 South Broadway. New to Broadway but not new to the local baking scene Azucar has been around for awhile formerly located at 11 W. Hampden. Having long outgrown their facility on Hampden owner and founder Marjorie Silva began looking for new location and as seems to be the trend for bakeries these days (think Buffalo Doughboy Bakery...last issue...remember?) decided the space on Broadway was perfect. The space has been beautifully remodeled with that 'everything is new'

feel that invites you to hang around and try way too many of their sweet offerings.

Marjorie bills the establishment as a "Peruvian Bakery" featuring many delectable items from her native Peru. On her insistence I tried the Beef Empanada which was amazing and of course had to chase that with some Peruvian Flan and a Alfajor cookie which we will definitely be going back to get more of. They serve coffee, espresso drinks and a host of other beverages to enjoy with your sweet or savory choice. Marjorie's story is an interesting one as she immigrated here ten years ago with three cake pans, her husband, son and a dream to start her own business. With seed money coming in the form of a grant from the United Way she was able to get the doors open and the rest is a great story of a family succeeding in their dreams. Wonderful new addition to the ever improving Broadway scene!

Having a difficult time finding a table at **Stellas** recently? Then try heading over to Broadway and checking out the newest member of our coffee shop community, **Strange Grounds** located at 1417 S Broadway. Co-owner Frieda Dozoretz and her partners opened the doors this past month offering locally roasted organic free trade coffee drinks and a host of other delectable things to treat your palate to. Breakfast is served all day offering, according to Frieda, "a variety of light and not-so-light specials including pastries and sweets. Everything is made to order and baked or created in-house from scratch". The menu changes frequently but offers items like Flatbread Pizza, Middle Eastern dishes, salads, breakfast burritos, pancakes and so much more. The charming eclectic décor has just that right kick-back and relax feel to it that welcomes you to hang around for awhile. Still in the plans will be occasional live entertainment on selected evenings so stay tuned for more on that. Fun place, check it out!

Not too late to get a free tree from **The Denver Digs Trees** program sponsored by our own The Park People (who now office in the Park—that being Platt Park). For an application or more information, visit www.thepark-people.org, or call 303-722-6262.

Pearl Street has been the center of community life this summer. The **Farmer's Market** continues to roll on with more vendors and people than ever. Thanks to all who make that such a fun fixture of our summers around here! The market will be in full swing until November 4th. One more chance to get your dancing shoes on with the **Blues & Brews Festival** coming up on August 11th. Great lineup of music this year. Guaranteed to be a good time.

Amazing news flash and you heard it here first...by the time you are reading this issue the **Gates Rubber Factory** should be finally coming down. The much anticipated demolition of the 100 year old factory will mark the end of a

Continued on next page

Platt Park Resident Continued...

kids know that anger is normal, though managing its expression can be complicated.

Clear language and child-friendly art invite a direct, straightforward examination of when anger is appropriate and how to safely express it through art, physical activity, tears. What's not OK is hitting, biting, throwing and hurting. The book gently and clearly reminds its vulnerable audience that adults can find the journey just as tricky as children do. If an adult hurts a child or someone they love, Federico instructs her young readers that telling a trusted adult is a safe and right action for them to take.

Needless to say, this is complex emotional territory, and Federico's tone is perfect: even, loving, simple, clear. Educators and caregivers may well find this a helpful tool in eliciting important conversations, and the book includes contact information for The National Domestic Violence Hotline and other respected sources of support.

Neighborhood Notes Continued...

historic era and will begin to usher in one of the most exciting potential infill projects in Denver history. Stay tuned for more on that.

As always too much going on to cover in this issue. We'll try to get you up to date on some of the big projects going on in and around our neighborhood next time. In the meantime have a good rest of the summer. Take some of those sick days off you've been accumulating. Keep the barbecue always warm and ready. Be sure to say hi if you see me pulling weeds or cruising around on the bike.



See you around the neighborhood
Tom Snyder

The Dentists on Pearl is joining your community.



DR. WRIGHT AND DR. STRATIL

We are looking forward to serving patients of all ages in our new, environmentally friendly practice!



303-498-9207 | thedentistsonpearl.com
1905 SOUTH PEARL ST., DENVER, CO 80210

OPENING SOON! SUMMER 2012

Twenty Platt Park Residents Sign Up for Neighborhood Watch

District 4 Commander Lisa Fair and Community Resource Officer Nicolas Grove explained at the June General Meeting how Neighborhood Watch block programs reduce crime. It is important to know your neighbors who are the first to see unusual activity around your household. Your across-the-alley neighbors are an important resource as they will notice if you leave your garage open and either can close it if you have given them permission or contact you. Organizing Neighborhood Watch on your block requires 75% neighbor participation and creates community and an exchange of contact information.

Carrah Torrance has volunteered to Chair the 3PA Safety Committee and will be in touch with those interested in setting up Neighborhood Watch on their street. To sign up or learn more, contact Carrah at ct3pasc@gmail.com.



Call me today for the
attention you deserve.



Charles F. Simmons
(303) 722-0191
797 S. Pearl Street
Denver
CFSimmons@allstate.com



Allstate.
You're in good hands.

Charles Simmons is a Platt Park resident and neighbor.

Insurance subject to availability and qualifications. Allstate Insurance Company and Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company, Northbrook, Illinois. © 2009 Allstate Insurance Company.

**Your neighborhood sanctuary
for rest, guidance & inspiration**

- "Pay What You Can" meditation, massages & classes
- meditation supplies
- mind-body therapies
- unique gifts



Beginners welcome!
303-832-0033

Open 7 days a week
1804 S. Pearl St., suite D

www.mayusanctuary.com

DPL Floats Collection

Since April, Decker Library customers browsing our shelves are noticing a greater variety of materials from which to choose. This is due to the Denver Public Library implementing a floating process for its circulating collection.

With floating, collection materials “float” freely among locations rather than being “owned” by one. When a customer returns a circulating item, it is shelved at the location where it was returned instead of being sent back to the “owning” location. Upon check in, the location is automatically updated in the library catalog to show where it now resides.

The floating process has been successful for many libraries and is becoming more prevalent in the public library world. In the Denver metro area, Jefferson County Public Library has been successfully floating their collection for years.

Floating provides many benefits to a library system and its customers:

- Items will be able to check out more frequently because they’ll be back on the shelf, not waiting in delivery.
- It’s great for the budget. We can purchase fewer titles because they’ll have a chance to live on the shelves of various locations.
- It’s efficient, with less shuffling of items just to move them to “home”.
- Ergonomic concerns are reduced by staff not having to physically handle as many items.
- And most apparent to Decker customers, our continuously refreshed collection results in a much improved browsing experience.

Decker Library Hours for 2012

1501 South Logan Street
720-865-0220

www.denverlibrary.org

Monday 12 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Thursday
10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.,

Tuesday, Friday, Sunday
CLOSED.



Ballet Ariel School Open House

The Ballet Ariel School fall session begins Monday, August 20th. The School will be hosting two open houses on Tuesday, August 14th from 6:00-7:00 pm, and Saturday, August 18th from 1:00-3:00 pm. We invite families to visit our studio and learn about our excellent ballet program. Our beautiful studios are located at 1930 South Broadway, with convenient parking behind the studio. Information about our School is also available at www.balletariel.org or by calling 303-945-4388.

Ballet Ariel is a “ballet company that is becoming an absolute gem,” says Donald K. Atwood MFA, PhD, at www.worlddancereviews.com. Founded in 1998 by Artistic and Executive Director Ilena Norton, Ballet Ariel has a reputation as a strong classical company, presenting original ballets that combine classical tradition and images of contemporary culture. The Ballet Ariel School is part of this vision, providing dance education and performance opportunities, while fostering appreciation and awareness of the art of ballet. Students from our school dance with our professional company in the Nutcracker and season concerts, and perform original ballets by our acclaimed choreographers. We offer a warm and close community of experienced teachers and professional dancers that fosters a healthy approach to learning the art of ballet.



MORTGAGE WEST
HOME LOANS

Your Neighborhood Lender

13 years on South Pearl Street

Fast, Attentive Service

Very Competitive Rates

FHA, VA & Conventional

*Call and ask about our
ZERO Closing Cost Loans*



Mark Gill



1705 South Pearl Street
Denver, Colorado 80210
303.282.7777 • MtgWest.com



What's Happening on South Pearl?

By Marilyn Kablich

The South Pearl Street Farmers' Market is flourishing and is about to be in full bloom with more farmers' crops coming in weekly! Fresh corn on the cob and cherries have made their appearance, beets and peaches are just about to join the fun! Come see the 90+ weekly vendors that have all things food to offer. Don't forget to save your appetite for the restaurants on the street or the unique food trucks. Thirst quenching, fruit enhanced lemonade, Yerba Mate tea, Chai tea or smoothies are all on hand to compliment your shopping experience.

The Farmers' Market is every Sunday thru October from 9am-1pm.

Don't forget the specialty fairs still to come:

August 19: Eat Local Buy Local Day

September 16: Pet Fair/Pet Adoptions

October 21: Chili Cook Off

October 28: Halloween

The next South Pearl Music Festival is Blues and Brews on Saturday, August 11th. The full band list is on their website: www.southpearl-street.com. Plenty of food and 8 microbrewies will be there to keep you going. The Festival is on the 1500 Block of S. Pearl Street. Gates open at noon -10pm. See you there!

kitchens • additions • basements • whole house renovations and much more...



CLASSIC HOMEWORKS
DESIGN/RENO/REMODELERS

3430 E. 12th Avenue, Denver, CO 80206 • (303) 722-3000
www.ClassicHomeworks.com • info@ClassicHomeworks.com

You can now join 3PA at 3PA.org where you can fill-in the form online and pay through paypal. Go to 3PA.org, click on "Join 3PA."

Platt Park People's Association (3pa.org) New or Renewal Membership Form Annual Dues: \$20

Name _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____

Phone _____

Would you like to volunteer for a committee:

Membership Picnic/Events Safety

Responsible Development Website

Communications (writing articles) Distribute Newsletters

Mail with check payable to 3PA,
P.O. Box 100848, Denver, CO 80250-0848



West Washington Park Clinic
wwwppclinic.com
Since 1984
New Patients Welcome!

Specializing in Family Medicine
811 S. Pearl St. • 303-744-9120



verde denver
at Home REAL ESTATE

Paddy McClelland
Real Estate

303.858.8100
720.300.0276
paddy@verdedenver.com





CAPITAL TEA
PREMIER TEA OF TEXAS

**Whole-leaf teas
Great food & treats
Teaware/Gifts**

1450 S. Broadway
303.777.2255 captea.com
Tues-Sat: 9:30-5:30, Sun: noon-5



What is a 3PA E-Blast?



Remember to sign up for the 3PA E-Blast. You can be more informed by simply sending an e-mail to Plattparkpres@yahoo.com. Write E-Blast in the subject line. An e-mail is sent out every two weeks with time sensitive information and general updates that don't always make it into our printed publication. Try it. If you don't like it, you can easily unsubscribe. The blasts are designed to be easily read in a moment or two.

GO SOLAR. GO LOCAL.



Located right here in Platt Park!

Save money on your electric bill!
New rebates and tax incentives can pay for
60% of a Solar electric system's cost!

303.434.5961
www.GOGREENELECTRICINC.com

BRINGING COLOR TO PLATT PARK

Ireland's Finest^{inc.}

Painting Company

• Complete Interior and Exterior Painting •
Quality Work by Trusted Craftsmen Since 1995

CALL (303) 512-8777
www.irelandsfinestinc.com




MICHAEL CRAIG - RE/MAX Central Alliance

37 years - Resident of Platt Park
34 years - Real Estate Broker Listing/Selling Homes in Platt Park
23 years - Continuous Period of my Children in Local Schools & Counting

I LOVE THIS NEIGHBORHOOD - I KNOW THIS NEIGHBORHOOD

LET MY EXPERIENCE WORK FOR YOU

303.898.0493 CELL
303.757.7474 OFFICE
mrcraig5451@aol.com





I LIVE in Platt Park, I SELL Platt Park!

I am an expert on the value and unique benefits of this neighborhood and I am proud to offer 10+ years of real estate sales and marketing. Call me to find out how I can help you achieve your real estate goals.



ERIN RULE
Broker Associate 303.324.1703
Erin@KentwoodCity.com
www.TheDenverRealEstateTeam.com



“Better Know a Teacher” Series

– second installment - DPS



Our “better know a teacher” installment this month focuses on Kevin Croghan, an 8th grade teacher at Grant Beacon Middle School for the past 5 years.

Q1: What do you love most about Grant Middle School?

There are many things I love about my school; it’s very hard to choose. The location is great, the community is vibrant, and I work with the best group of teachers and support staff that a teacher could ask for. But I would have to say what motivates me the most is the students. I can’t get over how cool it is whenever I see the expression on a student’s face when something clicks and they suddenly “get it.” I especially love it when student come back to visit from high school and let me know how something from my class helped them in a class years later.

Q2: What is the biggest challenge teaching your grade?

The biggest challenge is making sure that I have done everything that I can to ensure their transition into high school is as smooth as possible. It’s more than just content, they need advanced academic skills in note taking and organization, plus they need knowledge of pathways to college and career readiness.

Q3: If money was not an issue, describe your dream class field trip – where would you take your class and what would you do?

I cannot get past the passion I have for Civics! I would have to do something like a “Foundations of Democracy Extravaganza!” We could start with a mini trip to government buildings in Denver, then fly to Washington, DC. There, we could tour the American History Museum at the Smithsonian, go to the Library of Congress, National Archives, The White House, the Capitol Building, Supreme Court Building and see all the monuments. After that, I would want to take the kids to Rome, where they could see the birthplace of Republican government. After that, maybe we could go out and get some ice cream.

Q4: Describe a memorable experience with a teacher you had growing up.

I remember Mr. Shea, my high school Latin teacher. One year when I was in high school, during spirit week, we had a 60’s day. Mr. Shea said he would wear some of his old clothes from that time period. I was excited, because I just couldn’t imagine him as a hippie. He showed up in a white T-shirt and jeans. I immediately confronted him for not wearing

a tie-dyed shirt and bell-bottoms, to which he replied that not everyone wore those clothes in the 60’s. In fact, he was wearing exactly the kind of outfit that he would have worn in that decade. What I took from his lesson was that too often we let preconceived notions get in the way of understanding people and history.

Q6: Name one thing the Platt Park community could do to help you achieve your teaching goals.

Students benefit greatly from strong community partnerships. Involved parents, neighbors and business leaders are such an important part of a student’s academic success. People outside the teaching profession have so much more to offer than just financial support. It’s important for students to get exposure to the larger community, and for them to know that people beyond the walls of the school care about their success. Truly, I feel that our school is more than the brick and mortar, and it’s more than just the playground or teachers; it’s the feeling of being part of a larger community.

•••••
• **To advertise in the next Platt Park** •
• **Post, contact Penni Dorwart,** •
• **303-715-0024,** •
• **pdorwart@yahoo.com** •
•••••

PARK ANIMAL HOSPITAL & WELLNESS CENTER
CHRISTINA SPEARS, DVM

Now Open!
Call Today to Schedule Your Appointment

\$25⁰⁰ Off
Your First Exam in August

710 E. Louisiana Ave. (at Buchtel Blvd. South)
303-534-5440
parkanimalwellness.com

Find us on: facebook.

Platt Park Events Calendar

OLD SOUTH
Frame & Gallery

THE Art
OF FINE FRAMING

1588 S. Pearl St.
303-715-3828
Mon. - Sat., 10 to 6

Impeccable
craftsmanship,
personal service,
design excellence.

**Membership form on
page 5!!**

LEO'S
Automotive

1563 South Pearl Street, Denver, CO 80210
303-722-5530 Fax: 303-722-6361
www.LeosAutomotive.com

FRIENDLY, GUARANTEED SERVICE SINCE 1984



Tom & Denise
Snyder

Platt Park
Residents




2011
FIVE STAR PROFESSIONAL
Real Estate Agent

5280 MAGAZINE 5-STAR REALTOR



Your
Neighborhood
Specialists!

303.877.3097

Cherry Creek Properties office 303-713-9000

SNYDER REALTY
T E A M

**Wednesday, August 1,
22, 29**

Storytime and Craft
Decker Library 10:15am

**Wednesday, August 1,
22, 29**

Book Babies
Decker Library 11:15am

Thursday, August 2

Dream Catcher Craft (Preschoolers to
age 12)
Decker Library, 10:30am

**Sunday, August 5, 12,
19, 26**

Farmer Market
South Pearl Street, 9am to 1pm

Saturday, August 11
Blues & Brews

South Pearl Street, noon to 10 pm

Tuesday, August 14

3PA Happy Hour (in place of the
General Meeting)
Black Pearl, 1529 S Pearl St, 5pm-
7pm

**Thursday, August 23,
30**

Book Babies
Decker Library 11:15am

**Sunday, September 2,
9, 16, 23, 30**

Farmer Market
South Pearl Street, 9am to 1pm

**Wednesday, Sept. 5,
12, 19, 26**

Storytime and Craft
Decker Library 10:15am

**Thursday, September
6, 13, 20, 27**

Book Babies
Decker Library 11:15am

**Wednesday, Sept. 5,
12, 19, 26**

Book Babies
Decker Library 11:15am

Tuesday, Sept. 11

General Meeting - Update on Real
Estate Values and Sales in Platt Park
Hope Community Church, 1801 S
Pearl St, 6:30 pm

Saturday, Sept. 15

Chamber Music Concert, 2pm
Decker Library

PLATT PARK REC CENTER

1500 S. Grant St. Denver, CO. 80210;
720-865-0630

Open Monday-Friday from 8:00-am
4:00pm

Platt Park will be closed on the
following days:

Friday, August 31st - Citywide
Furlough Day

Monday, September 3rd - Labor Day

DPR has Drop-In Pickleball for Seniors!

Come play on Tuesdays/Thursdays at
Cook Park and Scheitler Recreation
Centers!! Call these centers for more
information.

Wii Bowling at Platt Park

every Friday from 10:00am -
12:00pm.

Come join a team and revive your
bowling skills!

Mah Jongg for Beginners

every 2nd and 4th Tuesday from
12:45pm-2:45pm.

More experienced players needed to
assist with instruction.

Other activities include: Cooking
Classes, Line Dance Lessons, Ballroom
Dance Lessons, Grocery Bingo, Silver-
Sneakers Exercise Classes, Language
Classes, Craft Classes, and more!