PLATT PARK Post
The Official Newsletter of
Platt Park People's Association
May / June 2021
www.3pa.org

Denver's Bring Your Own Bag Starts July 1

Courtesy Denver Recycles' Roundup

It's time to get serious about remembering to bring your own bag when you shop! Starting July 1, 2021, all retail stores in Denver will charge 10 cents for each disposable carryout bag provided at checkout.

The mandatory fee will apply to paper, plastic and even compostable bags to encourage shoppers to switch to reusable bags and help reduce the number of disposable bags that are used, littered and landfilled.

Here's what you need to know:

- The bag fee is not limited to grocery stores. Almost anywhere you shop in Denver, like convenience, hardware, liquor and department stores, will be required to charge 10 cents per carryout bag. The fee on disposable bags does not apply to restaurants.
- Stores will not charge for smaller bags such as those used to package bulk items, produce, meat or fish.
- People receiving support from state and federal Food Assistance Programs will not be charged for carryout bags.
- Charges for bags must be displayed separately on customer receipts and are not taxable.
- You can avoid the bag fee by bringing your own bags or by refusing a bag when you make a small purchase that is easy to carry without a bag.
- The City of Denver will give away reusable bags starting in June, while supplies last.
- Using reusable bags instead of opting for the disposable option can significantly reduce waste and save your money!

Reduce Waste:

Denver residents use more than 100 million disposable bags per year, but fewer than five percent are recycled. As you've likely witnessed, plastic bags have a way of getting into the environment and showing up everywhere. They're often found blocking storm drains, stuck in trees on windy days, clogging streams and rivers, or endangering urban wildlife. In addition, these plastic bags are made from oil, a nonrenewable resource, and are not accepted in the Denver Recycles program. In fact, when they do make it into purple recycle carts and then on to the recycling processing facility, they end up clogging machinery and cause costly equipment delays.

Continued on page 2

PLATT PARK PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION 3PA.ORG

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 and own property within these boundaries. Have a voice in your neighborhood and with the city: Join 3PA.

Check out our website. Stay informed, learn about upcoming events, and more!

www.3pa.org

For all 3PA and Platt Park Post communications email: Board@3PA.org

Platt Park People's Association Board
Ashley Arroyo
Joe Beierl
Benda Holder
Greg Pulliam

***Platt Park Post* Staff**
Editors — Gretchen Healey and Mark Newton
Contributing Editor — Tom Snyder
Ad Sales — Greg Pulliam
Layout Design — Ginger Mattson

This Month's Contributors:
Jay Adams
Jolon Clark
Jen Grauer
Libby Hodgin
Melina Hodzic
Benda Holder
Aden Holt
Cathy Proctor
Greg Pulliam
Celia Reyes-Martinez

Denver's Bring Your Own Bag Starts July 1

Continued from page 1

While paper bags can be placed in your purple cart for recycling, they require a large amount of water and energy to produce…to just be used once. The overall environmental and financial impact of disposable bags in our community is significant. Boulder's disposable bag free resulted in a 70% reduction in the number of disposable bags and Denver looks forward to similar results.

Save Your Money:
The first step to saving money is remembering to bring your bags with you to the store (if this very first step is hard for you, don't worry — you're not alone!) To get into the habit of remembering bags, consider trying some of these tricks:

- Write "bring bags" at the top of your grocery list and put your bags with your list.
- Post a sticky note by your door or on your dashboard.
- Hang your bags by your door or put them back in your car or bike basket as soon as you empty and clean them.
- Store or clip an extra bag in your purse or backpack.
- Keep a spare bag at work.
- Leave a few bags in your car.
- Put your coupons in your bag.
- If you regularly shop on a set day of the week, put a reminder in your phone or on your calendar to bring your bags.

Do you have other ideas? Help us spread the word and share your tips for remembering your bags with friends, family and your social networks.

If you are currently short on reusable bags, now is a great time to stock up before the fee begins in July. Remember that the best bag is a reusable bag that you use for years and years and that you can wash. While some of us may not have any reusables bags, others probably have too many (you know who you are). This means thrift stores and garage sales can be great places to pick up extras. The City of Denver and its community partners will also provide free reusable bags to Denver residents who need them.

Visit Denvergov.org/BringYourOwnBag for a list of reusable bag giveaway sites and to learn more about the bag fee and the Bring Your Own Bag program.

Denver Animal Shelter Offers Modern Identification for Pet Parents

Courtesy Denver Department of Public Health & Environment

It's something frightening, upsetting and something pet owners hope they never have to experience — a missing pet. But a new pet license at Denver Animal Shelter (DAS) can help reunite you with your furry friend should he or she ever go missing.

It is essential to make sure your pet's identification is up to date. A lack of proper ID remains one of the biggest obstacles in returning a missing pet to its home.

ID tags and microchips can both be effective in reuniting pets with owners. But an ID tag attached to a pet's collar can clearly accomplish this more quickly. If a pet is found by a neighbor or passerby, they can easily contact you from the name and phone number etched on the tag. Sometimes, though, that contact information is worn away by use and time.

DAS has a solution to that problem. When you license your pet in Denver, you now receive a PetHub ID tag. It uses smart technology. The tag has a scannable QR code. The barcode stores all your pet's important information, like owner contact, medical records, microchip, and dietary restrictions. It's quick and easy to update the tag information. You can do it from your smartphone in minutes. And anyone with a smartphone can scan that QR code and immediately pull up your pet's information.

While microchips are also effective, they require a special tool to read, which means before you can find out who owns a lost pet, the animal must be taken to a veterinarian or a shelter and the tag scanned there. Plus, many owners don't take the time to update information on the microchip or they don't know how.

You may not ever think you'll have to worry about losing your dog or cat. But leashes break, doors and gates get left open, and house fires and other emergencies erupt. Losing a pet is always a possibility. Protect your pet and act today by licensing him or her.

Licensing means protection, licensing means love. But it's also the law. Denver requires all dogs and cats six months of age and older to be licensed within 30 days of moving to the city. You can purchase a license online at PetData.com or in person at 1241 W. Bayaud Ave. in Denver.

Licensing fees are affordable: A one-year license is $15; a three-year license costs $41; and a lifetime license is $150. Replacement tags are available free of charge at the shelter. You can also order a replacement tag online for a $6 processing and shipping fee. For more information on licensing visit: Pet Licensing.

Please spend a few moments this week, making sure your furry family members are safe and can be quickly returned to you if they're lost.

Neighborhood Notes

Neighborhood Notes is expected to return in the July/August issue of The Platt Park Post.

Denver City Council Lucky 7 District News

by Jolon Clark, Denver City Council

Happy spring Platt Park neighbors! As more people get vaccinated, the city has moved to a phased approach to reopening facilities.

- Most library branches are now open to the public to access the collections, check out materials, use computers and more. Meeting rooms, study rooms, and ideaLABs remain closed and in-person programming and events are suspended. Locations are open with limited hours to allow for cleaning and with limited capacity. Visit denverlibrary.org/locations for in-person and curbside pick up hours.
- Some Recreation Centers re-opened on May 3 — including the Platt Park Rec Center. Registration is required for one-hour workout blocks or group programming and can be viewed at denvergov.org/recreation. Parks and Rec will implement a phased reopening of recreation centers, pools, registered programs and other activities through fall of 2021. Reopening plans have been developed based on equity; community vs. individual benefit; maintaining other essential city services and partnerships; and current staffing levels.
- Starting July 1, retail stores in Denver will be required to charge 10 cents per disposable carryout bag. Now is a great time to get into the practice of bringing your own bag!
- The bag fee does not apply to restaurants, beauty salons and other businesses where retail sales are not the primary business activity. Please visit the website for more exemptions.
    - The fee will not apply to some bags such as those used to package bulk items, produce or meat.
    - Participants in state and federal Food Assistance Programs will not be charged for carryout bags.
    - Shoppers can avoid the charge by bringing their own bags. The city will give away reusable bags for free while supplies last starting in June 2021.
    - Portions of the fee will be kept by the store to cover the cost of implementing the bag fee program and by the city to address the impacts of disposable bags and single-use products.
    - Learn more at DenverGov.org/BagFees or by calling 311.

Lastly, as a reminder, nearly all pharmacies and mass vaccination sites are taking in walk-in appointments for the COVID-19 vaccine. If you know of anyone who needs a vaccine refer them to vaccinefinder.org to find a site nearby. Thanks for taking care of each other!

3PA President's Corner

by Benda Holder, 3PA Vice President

Hello Platt Park neighbors!

Summer is here and we can't wait to see you in person. Join us Tuesday, June 15 at 6:30 p.m. in Platt Park for our first in-person general meeting in over a year. Meet some neighbors and hear updates about what's happening in the neighborhood and beyond.

Also, mark your calendar for our annual Movie in the Park on Saturday, Aug. 21.

Don't forget to check our website and Facebook page regularly for more fun events to come.

We're so excited to see you all soon!

LIVING AND SELLING PLATT PARK
SINCE 2006

We are passionate about our neighborhood!

- Consistently recognized by the Denver Metro Board of Realtors and 5280 Five Star Professionals for production and client satisfaction.
- Over three decades of combined real estate experience.
- A family business backed by the power and reach of LIV Sothebys International Realty - ask us how this benefits your real estate goals.

Contact us to help you with your real estate needs

www.RuleProperties.com
303.324.1703
team@ruleproperties.com

LIV Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY
RULE PROPERTIES

News from the Office of the Denver Clerk and Recorder Paul D. López

by Celia Reyes-Martinez

Learn more about how to do business with our office remotely, via mail or dropbox, whenever possible. Marriage, civil unions, committed partnerships, and recordings are by appointment only. You can apply for a marriage or civil union license online.

As of May 21, we are waiting for Gov. Jared Polis to sign HB-1287. This bill will allow us continue to do our online appointment pilot for two more years.

The Office of the Public Trustee, which is part of the Denver Clerk and Recorder, has hosted five online forums to in partnership with the Office of Financial Empowerment and Protection (OFEP), Denver Housing Authority (DHA), Brother's Redevelopment, and NEWSED to provide resources to homeowners who are in the process of foreclosure or are at risk of falling into foreclosure. The town halls have included one conducted in Vietnamese and one in Spanish. Click HERE to view the previous town halls and to see the schedule of upcoming forums. For Public Trustee or foreclosure concerns, call 720-865-2633.

Don't forget that there is an election on November 2, 2021. If you recently moved, turned 16-years-old, recently became a U.S. citizen update or register at https://www.sos.state.co.us/voter?vrdid=001.

Visit www.Denverclerkandrecorder.org for more information to stay up-to-date with all things Denver Clerk and Recorder.

Photo by Phillip Goldsberry on Unsplash

McKinley-Thatcher Elementary News

Courtesy of Sonia Geerdes, Principal

Summer Activities and Summer Learning
We encourage you to get your children off of their screens and get outside this summer! Please help them keep reading and writing over the break because we don't want them to lose any of the progress they have made this year. Here are some great summer opportunities to check out.

- Regis University's Summer Reading Skills Program.
- DPS created this list of summer programs with many free and low-cost options for families.
- Great Outdoors Colorado and Generation Wild's 20 Ideas for 20 Minutes Outside.

Community Garden
We have been working hard in our community garden. Be sure to stop by and see it!

PTA Volunteers Needed
One last reminder from our PTA: We really need your help as a PTA volunteer! If you are available to participate on the PTA leadership board or on the auction committee, please reach out at mckinleythatcher@gmail.com.

New School Hours for Next Year
McKinley will be operating on a new bell schedule next year! School will start at 7:30 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. The return to a seven-hour school day means that we are excited to bring back a lot of the hands-on learning that we had to let go of this year.

Discovery Link Morning Care Next Year
Discovery Link will be offering before- and after-school care next year. We are excited to bring back morning care for our families. Discovery Link will operate from 6:30-7:30 a.m. and 2:30-6 p.m. For more information and to register please, see the Discovery Link website.

New Families: Welcome to McKinley-Thatcher for the 2021-22 School Year
We want to make the transition to McKinley-Thatcher effortless and fun for our new students and families. With that in mind, please mark your calendars for some important upcoming events:

- School Registration (online only): August 9-16
- Open House: Thursday, Aug. 19 (times to be determined)
- First Day of School and Welcome Celebration: Monday, Aug. 23 (times to be determined)

Stay connected to McKinley-Thatcher before school starts!
We don't yet know what next year will look like in terms of our COVID health and safety guidelines. We will keep our website updated, so check back in over the summer for the latest information. Families may also visit the DPS website for more information on next school year's in-person learning option as well as the remote learning option.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call us at 720-424-5600 or email us at McKinleyThatcher@dpsk12.org.

Photo by Martin Knîže on Unsplash

South High School Update

by Melina Hodzic, Denver South High School

We are closing out one of the craziest school years we have ever experienced. We have changed our structure, changed our schedule mid-year, and to top it all off, we have even rebranded our school with a new mascot, the Raven!
We are proud of our students, staff, and community for adapting to changes throughout the year and making the best out of the situation for our students.

To end the year, and back by popular community demand, South celebrated our seniors with a car parade celebration through the Washington Park community. This experience has helped unite all South Ravens, past, present, and future. We look forward to keeping the tradition alive in coming years.

This fall, we are planning to return with a typical schedule. Students will have the opportunity to attend school back in-person five days a week or opting-in virtually through a DPS online option. Our hopes are for students, staff, and as many community members to take advantage of the vaccinations so all this could be possible.

We look forward to starting the year with a later start time, a new EMT program partnership with Denver Health, and the return of regular fall sports featuring football, volleyball, and boys soccer! Throughout the year we will continue to provide support to every student academically or social emotionally regardless of any personal situation that happened throughout the pandemic.This will be achieved by hiring more teaching interventionist and community liaisons.

Due to such a trying and atypical 2020-21 school year, we will be hosting a ninth grade academy as well as a tenth grade academy for the current freshmen this August. It is important to ensure we make up for lost time and all of our students receive a proper celebratory introduction to South!

We hope to see you all during our Homecoming events in the fall!

We are Denver South! Go Ravens!

For Grant Beacon Middle School updates visit their website.

To Advertise in the Platt Park Post
contact Greg Pulliam at board@3pa.org

Advertising Rates

Small = 3.66"wide by 2" tall (Business card size):
Six issues (full year) -- single payment of $426 per year [$71 per issue]
Single issue (if space available) -- $79 per issue

Medium = 3.66"wide by 3" tall:
Six issues (full year) -- single payment of $636 per year [$106 per issue]
Single issue (if space available) -- $118 per issue

Large = 3.66"wide by 4" tall:
Six issues (full year) -- single payment of $846 per year [$141 per issue]
Single issue (if space available) -- $157 per issue

Connect with 3PA!

Interested in getting connected with 3PA? "LIKE" us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/plattpark3pa or sign up for email notifications on www.3PA.org, to get updates on events, meetings and news from around the neighborhood and city.

6 Easy Swaps to Green Your Kitchen Sink (No Vinegar Involved)

by Jen Grauer

What we make healthy, makes us healthy. A greener kitchen is healthier for us, our family, friends, and the air, water and soil that gives us life.

Reducing, reusing, recycling are great ways to green our lives. Another is simply replacing items we currently use for healthier options.

These six replacements at our kitchen sink reduce our single-use plastic, toxic load, and production of greenhouse gases:

BAR DISH SOAP

We love the bar of dish soap that lives next to our kitchen sink! It is kept on a soap saver in a ceramic soap dish. We just rub the top with a scrub brush, dish cloth, or loofah sponge for easy cleaning. It is also mild enough for hand washing.

What to do with the still half-full plastic bottle of dish soap? I keep mine under the sink. It has come in handy on rare occasions (mostly for creating a very bubbly death bath for Japanese beetles) and it looks like it will last us years!

DISHWASHER DETERGENT IN A CARDBOARD BOX

This dry-powder dishwashing detergent, without chlorine or phosphates (you are welcome, little fish), does a great job cleaning our dishes and rinses clean and clear without the need for rinse aid.

The bonus? For sparkling clean sinks, pots, and pans, sprinkle them with powdered dishwasher detergent and easily scrub away stains and stuck on food! It's amazing!

ORGANIC COTTON DISH CLOTHS

Is it time to ditch your synthetic kitchen sponges that need replaced frequently to avoid bacteria overload? We happily replaced those blue throw away sponges with reusable organic cotton dishcloths to wipe up crumbs and spills. After using, we hang it on the edge of the sink to dry and then toss in a wicker basket to be washed. Is organic cotton really better? Read more here.

All my kitchen cloths (dish towels, dish cloths, napkins, tissues, and even masks) get washed in the "sanitize" cycle and hot dryer. The scrub brushes go into the dishwasher. Read below to find out what we do with the loofah sponge!

NATURAL LOOFAH SPONGE

We couldn't completely let go of having a sponge, even though we have a scrub brush. So, I found an unexpected natural and chemical-free alternative to the synthetic sponge, a loofah. A loofah in the kitchen? I only thought of these as shower sponges and personally was not a fan. However, in the kitchen the loofah is awesome!

Continued on page 9

Continued from page 8

No plastic or chemicals used to manufacture or package. Extras take almost no space in my drawer, as they are sold flat and dry.

Economical! I cut one sponge, while dry and flat, into several pieces and each piece seemingly lasts forever.
They have a lot of holes, dry quickly, and have never started stinking or looking gross.

They look Instagram-worthy next to the sink and the bar of dish soap.

Those fibers are soft and pliable to grip, but also good for scrubbing — a two-for-one!

When they finally look worn out, toss in the compost!
GROW your own loofah sponge! Really! Loofah or luffa are actually gourds.

DENVER COMPOST

Did you know that food and yard waste buried in the landfill without oxygen is broken down by bacteria and those little munchers create methane? Yep, the same methane produced by coal, gas, oil, and cows. The same methane, along with carbon dioxide, that is contributing to a rapidly changing climate (more hurricanes) and warming climate. (Denver is 1.1 degree warmer than just 10 years ago).

By replacing some of our landfill waste, through backyard or industrial composting, we can reduce our methane production. To compost all sorts of things that cannot go in your backyard compost (meat, cheese, compostable bags… but never pet poo), call 411 and sign up to take part in Denver's industrial composting with your own bin.

Bonus? Composting in the green bins is a closed-loop system. So cool! Your leaves, twigs, weeds, buffalo wing bones, apple cores, pet hair, coffee grounds, wooden popsicle and chopsticks get turned into compost that can be put back on grass and gardens.

Don't have room for your own green bin, ask to share with a neighbor.

Need a compelling reason, a strong motivation, your deep personal "why" to make these swaps?

- The Story of Plastic–short animated
- A Plastic Ocean Movie Trailer (this one really did it for me!)
- Reducing the Impact of Wasted Food by Feeding the Soil and Composting, EPA Article

COMPOSTABLE TRASH BAGS

For both our landfill and compost waste we use compostable — made from plants — trash bags. Although plant-made, compostable trash bags most likely won't be broken down in our landfill anytime soon, we still use them because they aren't made from plastic. Yikes! When filled with food waste and put in the green bins, Denver's industrial composting facility is able to super heat and compost the bags. No need to bag yard waste, it can go directly in the green bins.

Be sure your compostable bags say they are made from plants, as some are made from plastics that are just easily broken down into microplastics.

Now that you feel super motivated to make these swaps, do you need some feel-good inspiration – like when you need to watch a silly sitcom after a scary movie or eat something tasty after that food experiment gone wrong? The following are sure to lift your spirits!

Tomorrow
Zero Waste Home
Down to Earth

Slow Your Roll on Watering: Let Mother Nature be Your Guide

It's still cool out there, so don't rush in to irrigation season right away

by Cathy Proctor, Denver Water

Denver Water's annual summer watering rules started May 1 and last until Oct. 1, but weather plays an important role in deciding when and how much to water.

Plants don't need much water in the cooler months, like May. And late spring snows will bring Mother Nature's water to your yard.

Not to mention, the average last freeze date in Denver is May 4, but that's just the average, according to the National Weather Service. In 2019, the last freeze was recorded on May 22.

Freezes can wreak havoc on automatic sprinklers that have already been turned on, as the water expands inside the pipes, leading to costly breaks and issues throughout the system.

So, ease into summer slowly. Keep the sprinklers off for a bit longer and use a hose and nozzle if there's a dry patch that needs a bit of extra attention.

If you're excited to get out and start playing in the yard like me, now is a great time to prepare for some landscape upgrades.

At our house, we put down plastic several weeks ago on a section of our lawn. This makes it easier to remove the turf that we'll be converting into a low-water flower garden this year.

We're doing this with the help of plants from Resource Central's Garden In A Box.

I'm also looking at pictures at Plant Select and considering where new plants and flowers that use less water could take up residence in other areas of our landscape.

Plant Select is a nonprofit collaboration of Colorado State University, Denver Botanic Gardens, and professional horticulturists. Its mission is to seek out and distribute the very best plants for landscapes and gardens from the intermountain region to the high plains and beyond.

Lawn Watering Times

Minutes to Water Per Zone

(For lawns, based on watering three days per week.)

Watering Months	Fixed Spray Heads	Rotor Heads	Rotary Nozzles	Manual Sprinklers
January–April	Water trees/shrubs as needed.			
May	12	24	30	18
June	17	35	43	26
July	18	36	45	27
August	14	27	34	20
September	11	23	28	17
October–December	Water trees/shrubs as needed.			

These times are based on a sprinkler system running at an efficient level.
Watering is not allowed between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

If you're looking for inspiration, there are many examples of beautiful water-wise yards scattered throughout the Denver metro area.

This includes "functional landscapes," which fit the needs of the homeowner and family. Examples of functional landscapes include having multiple areas for different activities, such as grass for kids and pets to play on, vegetable gardens to grow food, sheds for storage, patios and decks for entertaining, and flower gardens for visual beauty.

Go HERE, to watch how two Denver residents worked to make their front yard more functional, including building a walkway over the mud patch, enlarging the garden, and adding water-efficient plants.

Changing your landscape to be more water efficient? Denver Water wants to speak with you!

Do you happen to know of anyone making landscape changes to make their yard more water efficient — like doing a xeriscape garden? Denver Water is looking to feature some people doing it to beautify their lawn and save water along the way. If interested, contact Jay Adams at Jay.Adams@denverwater.org.

South Pearl Street Association

by Aden Holt

Hello from the South Pearl Street Association!

We represent the merchants from the 1200 to the 1800 blocks of South Pearl Street.

As you all know by now, our three street arches were erected recently and the response has been amazingly positive. On May 4, we had an official ribbon-cutting ceremony that featured Denver's Mayor Michael B. Hancock and Denver City Council Lucky District 7 Councilman Jolon Clark. The featured speaker was our president Mark Gill, who started the project over ten years ago with fellow board members of the association. We are very excited to have a new landmark in Denver that will represent our street for decades to come.

South Pearl Street Farmers Market's first month was a great success! Although Mother Nature gave us some up-and-down weather every Sunday, we still set near-record-setting sales each week.

On May 30, we adjusted our attendance policy to let shoppers in with no lines. This change was due to the change in Denver's city guidelines for outdoor events. This COVID-19 restriction was reversed and we are now open at full capacity. Masks are still recommended but not required. If you are still weary of large groups, we recommend you get to the market at 9 a.m. sharp before it becomes crowded in the next half hour or so.

First Fridays are now happening on the first Friday of every month on South Pearl. Merchants along the six-block corridor are asked to provide some extra entertainment from 5-9 p.m. in or around their place of business.

So far, the Fridays have been a big hit and the momentum is growing throughout participating merchants. Music, performers, live artists, and interactive options are happening up and down our sidewalks.
We hope to see you all out enjoying what our merchants have to offer up and down South Pearl Street! (Please Note: Merchants' open and closing times may change. And, many of these merchants have events and entertainment scheduled each month.)

Businesses open, but closing time TBD:

- 5 Green Boxes
- Gallery 1505
- Hazel
- RPO Framing
- Ruby's Market
- Ruffly Rose
- Second Star
- Stella's
- Wheelhouse Gifts

Businesses open until 9 p.m.:

- Chook
- Etc. Eatery
- Izakaya Den
- Kaos Pizza
- Park Burger
- Pearl Wine Company

Businesses open until 10 p.m.:

- Bird
- Que Bueno Suerte
- Sweet Cow
- Uno Mas Taqueria y Cantina

Businesses open until 11 p.m.:

- Platt Park Brewing
- Sushi Den

Platt Park Information

✠Family and Kids
✦Adult
✪ Health and Recreation
⅄ Education and Life-Long Learning
◆Social and Arts
❋ Business and Government

❋**COVID-19 Updates**
Check out the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment website.
Check out the City and County of Denver public health orders website.
Check out the City and County of Denver vaccination website.
Check out the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention vaccine finder website.

❋ ⅄ **The Decker Library branch** in Platt Park is now open. For current hours for all branches, click here.

❋ ✪ **Denver Parks and Recreation announced a phased reopening** of Denver Recreation Centers, pools, registered programs and additional activities beginning May 3. The Platt Park Recreation Center opened May 3. Eight outdoor pools, including Harvard Gulch, are scheduled to be open June 7-August 14 for aqua aerobics, lap swim, group swim lessons and open swim. Seven Summer in the Parks youth day camps and Youth Sports Camp locations will also begin in June. Detailed information about which facilities will be opening and on which dates, as well as how to make a reservation, will be available online at denvergov.org/Recreation.

❋ **Colorado State University Extension** offers multitudes of information for gardeners and homeowners, families and consumers, educators and youth, and more. Visit HERE. Also, check out the Master Gardener section HERE.

⅄ **The University of Denver Enrichment Program** connects the intellectually curious adult to DU's outstanding faculty, facilities, and programming, and Denver's rich cultural community through non-credit courses. More than 50 live, online courses and one-night lectures, via Zoom, this winter/spring. Classes meet evenings and on occasional weekends. Details: https://universitycollege.du.edu/enrichment/.

⅄ **The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the Unversity of Denver** is an adult learning membership program designed for inquiring adults, age 50 and "better," who wish to pursue lifelong learning in a relaxed non-competitive atmosphere. Details: https://universitycollege.du.edu/olli/

❋ **Brita has issued a new version of the Longlast filter used in Denver's Lead Reduction Program.** Customers enrolled in the program will receive the new filters on their regular replacement schedule. The new version has new colors, with yellow on the box and a light blue filter inside. Like the previous version, the filter will work with your existing water pitcher and is certified to remove lead. More information can be found HERE.

❋ **City of Denver parking enforcement season has begun (street sweeping, vehicle registration).**

❋**Denver Water outdoor watering rules are in effect May 1 to October 1.** Follow the summer watering rules, which incorporate best practices for efficient outdoor water use that help keep landscape healthy.

❋ **Denver retail stores will begin charging 10 cents per disposable carryout bag** beginning July 1. Get in the habit now of bringing your own bag. CLICK HERE for all the details.

◆ **SCFD Free Days** – Organizations from across the metro area provide hundreds of free days and free programs each year made possible, in part, by funding from SCFD. CLICK HERE for all the details.

Platt Park Information, continued

◆ **Levitt Pavilion Denver** announced its 2021 season with a series of free shows, beginning May 14, that will include performances from some of the region's most impressive performers, including Central City Opera, Denver stand-up Adam Cayton-Holland, DeVotch-Ka, Flobots, Neoma, and others. For more information, CLICK HERE.

⅄ **Coffee Commutes with Bicycle Colorado.** Each Friday meet at a different Denver coffee shop for a commute downtown! Rides leave at 8:15 a.m., so come early if you'd like to grab a beverage and meet your ride leaders. All rides terminate at Skyline Park in downtown Denver at approximately 8:45 a.m. Rides will be led by an expert team of education staff, and group sizes are limited to just six riders. All you need is a functioning bike and a fun attitude to kick start your Friday in the best way possible–on a bike! The closest coffee shop is Wash Perk, just north of Platt Park on East Ohio Street. That ride is scheduled for June 18. CLICK HERE for more information.

YOUR TWO CENTS:

❋ **Eviction Defense Right to Counsel Survey** Councilwoman Candi CdeBaca is exploring ways to avoid evictions. To obtain a comprehensive understanding of the issues, concerns and experiences of renters and landlords, please take this survey.

❋ **Proposed Voting Locations for the November 2021 Coordinated Election** Clerk and Recorder Paul López is seeking your input on proposed voting locations for the November 2021 Coordinated Election. To submit your official comments regarding existing and proposed voting locations, CLICK HERE. Comments are open until further notice.

❋ **The Denver Department of Transportation and Infrastructure's 5280 Trail on 21st Street project** seeks to reimagine and repurpose shared public spaces that will link neighborhoods, connect people, and highlight key landmarks. How would you like the trail on 21st Street to incorporate or highlight the diverse mix of local culture, iconic features and history of the neighborhoods it will connect? Help prioritize activities along the trail by taking THIS SURVEY.

❋ **RTD Citizens Advisory Committee** call for applications. Residents of the Regional Transportation District (RTD) who are interested in public transit issues and community engagement are encouraged to apply for one of three vacancies on the RTD Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). Applications must be received by the close of business on June 7, 2021. CLICK HERE to apply.

❋ **Provide input into Denver's economic recovery**. Denver is making a once-in-a-generation investment into our city's economic recovery. The strategy focuses on community and business support, as well as infrastructure investments to build back Denver's economy in a way that is equitable, sustainable, and supports communities most impacted by the pandemic. With $308 million from the American Rescue Plan Act and our own $400 million General Obligation Bond, Denver is preparing to invest more than $700 million into our city's recovery. Join the conversation and share your input on our investment priorities and sign up for a telephone town hall at RiseTogetherDenver.org .

Telephone Town Hall:
- Sunday, June 6 at 11 a.m.

Residents can dial in to a meeting:
To join the telephone town hall in English, call 1-888-400-1932
To join the telephone town hall in Spanish, call 1-888-400-9342
Interpretation options for Vietnamese and Amharic will be available through the engagement website.

❋ **Provide input into Improvements to Civic Center.** The City and County of Denver and the Civic Center Conservancy are inviting the public to participate in the next phase of community conversations on future improvements to Civic Center Park. The workshop is part of the *Civic Center Next 100* initiative which envisions improvements to Civic Center Park and the portion of Bannock Street in front of Denver's City & County Building. Members of the public can provide feedback at the second public workshop on Thursday, June 10 at 5:30 p.m. over Zoom. A public input survey from the second workshop will be launched immediately following the meeting at www.denvergov.org/theoutdoordowntown.

Platt Park Events Calendar

✠Family and Kids
✦Adult
✪ Health and Recreation
⅄Education and Life-Long Learning
◆Social and Arts
❋Business and Government

JUNE

6 – Sunday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
❋◆ South Pearl Street Farmers Market, check HERE for details

7-10, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Harvard Gulch Park
✠✪⅄◆ Denver 4-H Healthy Minds and Bodies Camp
Aims to help youth ages 11-14 years old (middle schoolers) build life skills that lead to healthy lifestyle choices – all while having fun! CLICK HERE for details.

13 – Sunday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
❋◆ South Pearl Street Farmers Market, check HERE for details

15 – Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
❋◆ 3PA General Meeting, Platt Park, check 3PA website for details

19 – Sunday, 5 p.m.
◆ Denver Municipal Band Show Band concert, Platt Park, check HERE for details

20 – Sunday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
❋◆ South Pearl Street Farmers Market, check HERE for details

27 – Sunday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
❋◆ South Pearl Street Farmers Market, check HERE for details

JULY

2 – Friday, 4 p.m.-9 p.m.
❋◆ South Pearl Street Farmers First Friday
Art walk, eating and shopping, 1200-1800 blocks
4 – Sunday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
❋◆ South Pearl Street Farmers Market, check HERE for details

11 – Sunday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
❋◆ South Pearl Street Farmers Market, check HERE for details

18 – Sunday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
❋◆ South Pearl Street Farmers Market, check HERE for details

22 – Sunday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
❋◆ South Pearl Street Farmers Market, check HERE for details

AUGUST

21 – Saturday, 6:30 p.m.
◆ Denver Municipal Band Brass quintet concert, Platt Park, check HERE for details

21 – Saturday, dusk
✠◆ Movie in the Park, Platt Park, check 3PA website for details.

SHARE YOUR EVENTS!

Please send Information and calendar submissions for the next issue or our 3PA Facebook page:
board@3PA.org