



# PLATT PARK POST

## NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

Local Live Music Venues,  
Jolon Clark, Gelli'e Fridge,  
Desert Social

### FEATURED ARTIST

## VICTORIA EKELUND

An artistic look at some  
of the beauty  
within Platt Park

## PAWS AND REFLECT

Have you spotted Queen Nala  
roaming Platt Park?

### A LOOK AT

## LANDMARKING IN PLATT PARK

Preserving the character  
of older homes

[WWW.3PA.ORG](http://WWW.3PA.ORG)



## FAMILY FUN THINGS TO DO THIS FALL

Pumpkin Patches,  
Leaf Peeping,  
Corn Mazes & More!

**SOUTH PEARL  
STREET BEAT**

Every Issue!



# NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES BY TOM SNYDER

Ah the dog days of summer. Still holding up that Denver Nugget's trophy up in my mind... that was sweet. At least we have the Rockies to pass the time now (zzzzzz) but sitting outside on a Denver evening with a cold beverage watching a game is pretty nice... winning can be overrated I guess sometimes. Hope you have been getting outside to do whatever you do to enjoy another beautiful summer. Let's get you caught up on a few happenings around here.

**Local man finds job!** Local Platt Park resident **Jolon Clark** became officially unemployed when the clock timed out on his job with the City of Denver on July 17th. Fear not however as Jolon has managed to land a new gig as the Colorado state director for Environmental Defense Fund which is a nonprofit environmental advocacy organization based out of New York.

"During my eight years in the public sector, I have been proud to work alongside the environmental community to push forward our shared priorities at both the municipal and state level .... Addressing the real concerns of communities overburdened by climate pollution will be top of mind as we work with policymakers, other NGOs and industry toward meaningful solutions that support both our environment and the economy in Colorado," Clark said in a statement.

We are grateful to Jolon for his service and advocacy for Platt Park over the last eight years. Jolon will be succeeded on the City Council by Flor Alvidrez who won the runoff election on June 6th. We'll be reaching out Councilwoman Alvidrez at some future date to get her take on matters related to the Platt Park's slice of District 7. Stay tuned.

**Live music in the 'hood!** I get asked periodically about this, so I thought I'd put together a little directory of the local music scene. Let me know if I've left something off this list:

First mention, of course has to go to Platt Park's only fully dedicated music venue which is **Herman's Hideaway** located at 1578 S Broadway. Herman's has been around for over 55 years as a venue and regularly hosts a variety of both local and national bands. Great place to watch a show in a small venue. Full bar to quench the thirst while you are out there hitting the mosh pit. [hermanshideaway.com](http://hermanshideaway.com)

Next on this list would be **Lincoln's Roadhouse** at 1201 S Pearl. Lincolns has been serving up Cajun Food and live music for decades. There is live music every Friday and Saturday night starting at 8:00 pm. Blues and Jazz are the dominant music themes. The building is currently up for sale but no word yet on the long-term future of this historic Platt Park venue. [lincolnsroadhouse.com](http://lincolnsroadhouse.com)

There are a number of other local haunts that also feature live entertainment:

**Trashhawk Tavern** at 1539 S Broadway features bluegrass music

every other Thursday evening. [trashhawktavern.com](http://trashhawktavern.com)

**Grandma's House** at 1710 S Broadway. Guess it's not music but Grandma's offers a weekly comedy show every Saturday evenings at 9:00 pm. [grandmasbeer.co](http://grandmasbeer.co)

**Jack's on Pearl** at 1475 S Pearl has live music on the upstairs patio every other Thursday evening from 5:30 till 8:00 pm. [jacksonpearldenver.com](http://jacksonpearldenver.com)

**South Pearl Farmers Market** has live music every Sunday morning to enhance your shopping pleasure. [southpearlstreet.com](http://southpearlstreet.com)

**Adelita's** owner and founder Sylvia Andaya is partnering with her son and daughter-in-law Victor & Manda Ayala to open up a new cantina (bar) at 1312 S Broadway called **Desert Social**. I caught up with Victor the other day to learn about the project. Victor said with the crowds that now regularly visit Adelita's and **La Dona Mezcaleria**, a bar across the street (Louisiana) where people could hang out before or after dinner seemed a natural. The new décor has much the same rustic flavor of the other family spots with both indoor and outdoor seating. Victor's goal is to offer high quality cocktails but not at typical top-shelf pricing. Light bar munchies will be offered but no kitchen items as guest will be also be welcome to bring in food—ideally takeout from the family eateries! Live music will be on deck weekly (so add this to the above list). Looks like another great place on Broadway to hang out with friends. [desertsocialdenver.com](http://desertsocialdenver.com)

While we are at it, in the coming soon department a new restaurant, Joe Willy's is going in next to Desert Social opening in the fall. We'll get back to you on that one.

If you happen by **Ruby's Market** at 1569 S Pearl St you might notice out front a colorful shed housing of all things a refrigerator. It's not there because Ruby's ran out of frig space but rather it is a **Gelli's Fridge** which is part of a worldwide effort to help ease those who suffer from food insecurity. Owner Michelle Lasnier partnering with local Platt Park resident Lisa Ridenour have spearheaded this effort. Denver and specifically Platt Park might look like a prosperous area but there are people who struggle to just put food on the table everywhere. Just check the local free school lunch program statistics to gain an idea about how many families struggle with this basic need every day.

Gelli's Fridges partner with local shops and restaurants to take unused food that typically just gets thrown away and is used to stock these community fridges with things that can go a long way to ease suffering and cost nothing other than a few volunteer hours. Said Lisa, each week our own Farmers Market vendors donate hundreds of pounds of quality food that would otherwise just end up in landfills but instead goes to needy people. Gelli's is always looking for volunteers to help with the project, you can get involved by emailing at [info@gellisfridge.org](mailto:info@gellisfridge.org).

There you go, you are all caught up and in the know. See you around the neighborhood!

*Tom*

A real estate advertisement for Tom & Denise Snyder. It features a photo of the couple, a QR code, and the following text:

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# PAWS AND REFLECT



I'm not sure if I want to introduce myself because I'm a bit reserved but my family wanted me to so I agreed. I'm very loyal to them although I don't always want to cooperate when they ask me to do things. My name is Nala, which means "Queen" and my wonderful family sometimes calls me "Queen Nala". I know it's redundant but that's ok because I'm as beautiful and poised as any queen could be around Platt Park! I'm a full bred Basenji with a long distinguished history, having originated in Africa in the wild before the time of the Egyptian Pharaohs. Can you believe it?! People used to give dogs like me to the rulers of Egypt who prized the beauty and hunting skills of Basenjies. My family of rulers now are the Framke's, Campbell, Anja, Erin and Kirk. Here's a picture of me with them when we celebrated Christmas. Now really, don't I look regal?

The Framke's decided to bring me to Colorado all the way from a breeder in Texas. Basenji's aren't easy to find so it all worked out like a bit of a miracle. Kirk was going to Texas anyway to participate in a triathlon (he's very athletic like me) and I just happened to be ready for my coronation into a new home. So off we went to Colorado where I fell in love with the family (well not immediately, remember I'm a little reserved). They love me because I'm quite playful and I have lots of energy. Kirk even takes me running with him around Wash Park and I can keep up with him for a long run. The family also likes to go to Chatfield Reservoir to swim which is great exercise for them but there's no way I'm dipping my little white toes into the water! That's one thing I don't like!

They also love me because I'm sleek and smooth, hypoallergenic to humans, and I don't bark. Sometimes I yodel, but it's not loud like so many other dogs who just can't be quiet!

When the family takes me for a walk they have to keep me on a leash because I really love to find little animals of all kinds and chase them. Being a hunting and chasing dog, they might lose me if I get away. It's not that I don't love them, it's just my nature to hunt with determination into vast distant lands. In fact, the African breed name for me means "jumping up and down dog" and that's perfect because I'm an excellent vertical leaper which is a skill I use when I'm hunting in tall grasslands (remember... I'm from Africa). So be sure you build a tall fence if you get a dog like me.

You might say, well hey, just teach the dog not to run away but I have a very independent spirit so I might know that you want me to come to you but that doesn't mean I'll actually do it when you give the command. I can't really help myself, I'm smart and stubborn and I have a high prey drive so I'm easily focused on squirrels and cats and any other small animals that roam wildly in Platt Park.

I have a little mischief in me too and when I'm feeling mischievous I might grab something off the counter and run away, or take some human food when you aren't looking. Once I distracted the family while they were eating dinner and when they went into another room to find me, I quietly and quickly jumped on the table and picked a little meat and veggies off their plates. Clever huh?

Ok, you're probably saying to yourself, "well that dog sounds like a handful" but I'm a cuddler too, especially with Anja. Here I am taking a cozy nap with her.

I may be 90th on the list of the top 150 most popular dog breeds but I'm exactly what the Framke's wanted so I'm a very good dog for them. And they let me do all kinds of great things like playing with Banksy and Charlotte, the Golden Retrievers next door. I love playing with them so much, especially Charlotte, that I've become part of the Golden Pack! In my heart I'm as big as they are, and we roughhouse all the time until I come home all wet and slobbery.

**“ THEY ALSO LOVE ME BECAUSE I'M SLEEK AND SMOOTH, HYPOALLERGENIC TO HUMANS, AND I DON'T BARK! SOMETIMES I YODEL, BUT IT'S NOT LOUD LIKE SO MANY OTHER DOGS WHO JUST CAN'T BE QUIET!**

If you see me on the street walking with Kirk or Erin, Anja or Campbell, don't be offended if I don't just run up to you and wiggle and lean on your leg for a pat-pat. Remember I'm the regal and dignified Queen Nala, so approach me with care and respect like you would any queen. I won't bite you but it might take me a few minutes to decide if I want to let you pet me. If I don't, it's ok. You can admire my sleek reddish brown hair, perky ears, white paws and chest, curly tail, and beautiful face from a distance!

Story by Kit Eschner

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# FAMILY FUN STUFF THIS

# FALL



**South Pearl Oktoberfest**  
1800 South Pearl  
Sept. 16

PLATT  
PARK



**Denver Fall Bazaar**  
Sloans Lake  
Sept. & Oct.



**Chatfield Farms Corn Maze**  
Littleton  
Fri - Sun, Sept. 15 - Oct. 29



**Maize in the City**  
Thornton  
Sept. 23 - Oct 31



**Anderson Farm Pumpkin Patch**  
Erie  
Sept. 20 - Oct 30



**Cottonwood Farm Pumpkin Patch**  
Lafayette  
Sept. 23 - Oct. 31



**Rock Creek Farm Pumpkin Patch**  
Broomfield  
Oct. 1-31



**Little Man Pumpkin Patch**  
LoHi  
Oct. 1 - 31



**Botanical Gardens Pumpkin Festival**  
Chatfield Farms  
Oct. 6 - 8



**Witch Paddle**  
Chatfield Park  
Oct. 7th



**Lakewood Cider Days**  
Lakewood Heritage  
Oct. 7 - 8



**Glow at the Gardens**  
Denver Botanic Gardens  
Oct. 17 - 22



**Halloween Goat Yoga**  
Aspen Grove  
Oct. 22nd



**Kids Halloween Parade**  
1400 South Pearl  
Oct. 29th (Farmers Mkt)

PLATT  
PARK



**Tennyson Fall Fest**  
Tennyson Street  
Oct. 29th



**The Magic of the Jack O'Lanterns**  
Hudson Gardens



**Arvada Turkey Trek**  
Arvada  
Nov. 18th



**Pumpkin Pie 5k**  
City Park, Denver  
Nov. 18th



**Mile High Turkey Trot**  
Denver  
Nov. 23rd



**Broomfield Turkey Day**  
Broomfield  
Nov. 23rd



**South Pearl Winterfest**  
1500 South Pearl  
Dec. 2 - 3

PLATT  
PARK



AN AUTHENTIC MIX OF REAL PEOPLE, LOCALLY-OWNED ONE-OF-A-KIND SHOPS,



SCENES FROM FARMERS MARKET





**1800 BLOCK** **2PM-10PM**

# Oktoberfest

**ON SOUTH PEARL STREET**

## SATURDAY SEPT 16TH

**COLORADO CRAFT BREWERIES  
LIVE MUSIC • STEIN HOISTING  
BRATS • PRETZELS • FOOD TRUCKS  
FACE PAINTING • COSTUME CONTEST  
SAUSAGE EATING CONTEST  
FAMILY FUN ZONE**

IS IT ALREADY SEPTEMBER??? What happened to summer? For South Pearl Street businesses, it has been a thriving one! It's so great to see so many people out enjoying all of the shopping, dining and community events we've had these last few months. The South Pearl Farmers Market has been maintaining record breaking numbers every week with several thousand people looking for fresh produce, unique culinary discoveries, local artists, live music, and all that our merchants have to offer every sunday from 9am to 1pm!



After several years in absence, we are bringing back our annual [Oktoberfest](#) on South Pearl Street on September 16th on the 1800 block between Platt Park Brewery and Park Burger. Dawn your best Lederhosen, and start training for our stein hoisting competition. We will have fun for the whole family including costume contests, face painting, live music, and of course pretzels, brats, and BEER! The event starts at 2pm and ends with a Journey Tribute Act!

The first weekend of December, we will kick off the holiday season with [Winterfest](#) on Friday evening and all day Saturday throughout the 1500 block. Hay rides, live music, holiday vendors, olde world santa, roasted chestnuts, and hot toddys are included in our annual holiday tradition. Make sure and pick up our Holiday Passport with great specials from all of our South Pearl Merchants!

# Winterfest

**on South Pearl Street**

**DECEMBER 1ST & 2ND ON THE 1500 BLOCK**

## FEATURED ARTIST

# VICTORIA EKELUND

THOUGH I WAS FEATURED IN THE PLATTE PARK POST YEARS AGO, IN LIGHT OF ALL THE RECENT DEVELOPMENT GOING ON, I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED TO SEE PAINTINGS I HAVE DONE OVER THE YEARS IN AND AROUND OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. TAKE A WALK WITH THESE IMAGES TO SEE WHAT CHANGES HAVE HAPPENED OVER THE YEARS.



1

1 Let's start in winter between Ogden and Corona in the 1500 S. block. I had come home one day in January and saw this crew working and the sun shining and set up my easel to do a quick study. I did this larger painting from the study. The year is 2010 and the view is looking North from Iowa St.

2 This summer painting is from the 1600 S. block, also between Corona and Ogden, also in 2010, looking south. These hollyhocks grew up from a pile of fall clean up I had throw down prior to putting it all in the dumpster at one time. Remember dumpsters?

3 This "Barn Alley" painting is from 2011. It is 1400 S. between Emerson and Clarkson also looking south. There is a man mowing his grass way in the back.

4 For "Bloomin' Spring" I was painting in the alley when this sassy Westie came towards me with her mistress. I quickly added the dog and the owner bought the painting. I did this larger version later. This was also 2011 and the location is 1500 S. between Ogden and Emerson looking south. The truck is parked at Firehouse 16.

5 This is called "After the Rain." This alley has probably changed the most. The year is 2012. The location is looking south from Iowa St between Pearl St and Pennsylvania St.



3

6 "Orange Bug Blues" is also from 2012. I saw this while walking back from Decker Branch Library, so it is the 1400 S. block, looking north between Logan and Pennsylvania.

7 Same year, but now we are looking West down Iowa St. from Ogden - "Morning Glory" - November.

8 Here is another alley looking south in early spring. It is the 1400 South block between Clarkson and Washington. That is a local sculpture's trailer on the left which he replaced many years ago.

With all the 3 car garages going up with the new builds so much of the character of our alleys is being lost. I had no idea when I started painting the neighborhood how fast it would start to change.

I hope you enjoyed this little tour from the past.

If you care to see more of my work, please visit my website at [victoriaekelund.com](http://victoriaekelund.com) or stop by and say hello. I am often working in my yard across the street from Firehouse 16.

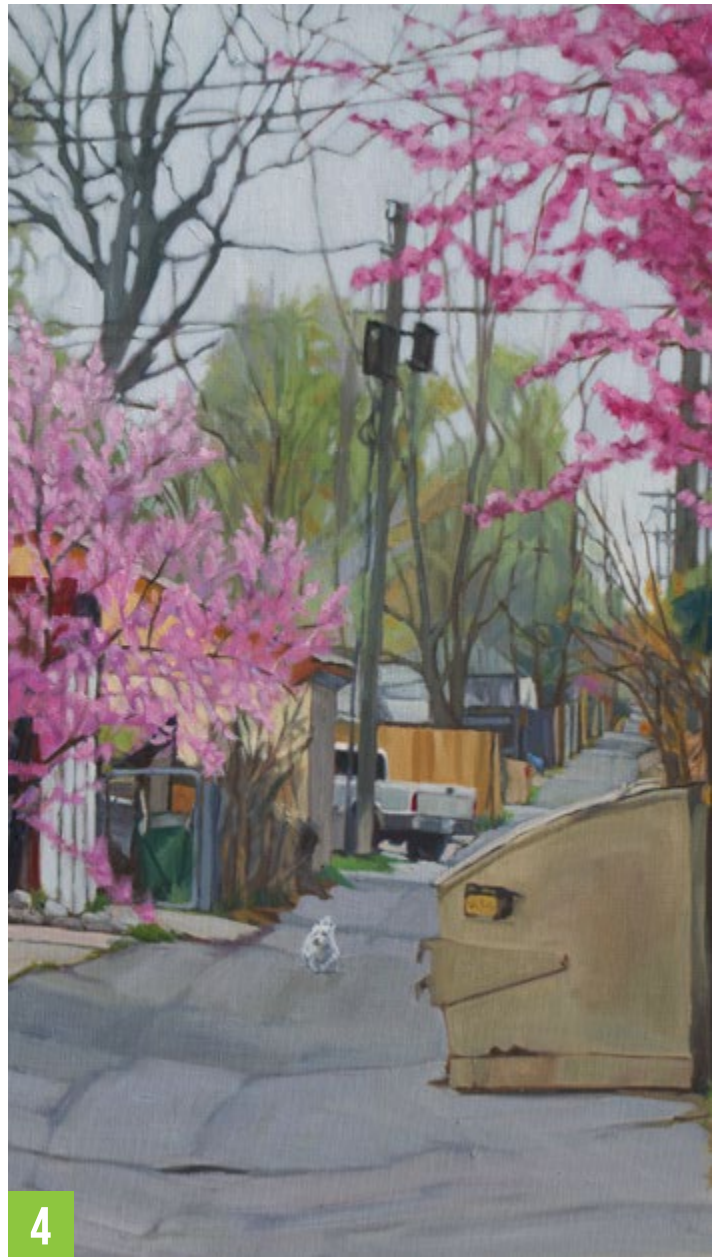


7





8



4



6



2



5

# YES! PLATT PARK CAN BE LANDMARKED

BY BETSY SHEPARDSON

We hear a lot about the need to build affordable housing in Denver and see the construction in the neighborhood by real estate developers. However, the city is equally interested in preserving the exteriors of older homes, churches, and businesses, even on busy main streets. And, affordable housing and historic preservation can be combined.

A representative from Denver's local preservation non-profit Historic Denver visited my house located on Platt Park at the southeast corner of South Grant Street and East Iowa Avenue and told me that my home could be landmarked. He also indicated that other homes on the 1600 South block of Grant Street could be landmarked as well.

## What Is Landmarking?

Landmarking is when the exterior of the building is designated as historic and the property can not be scraped. It is only the exterior; the interior can be remodeled as the owner sees fit. Additions can be made to the exterior if they are in line with Denver's Urban Design Guidelines and the characteristics of the historic district.

Short videos are available that explain to the handy how to repair exterior windows or redo the brick mortar work yourself. These videos showing guidelines for landmarked properties can be understood without difficulty by those in the neighborhood who regularly work on our historic properties. Historic Denver also has names of contractors.

Garages are not included as the city realizes that automobiles have changed a great deal over the years. If the building is destroyed it's exterior needs to be rebuilt in keeping with the neighborhood's historic character, but it does not need to be with the same materials.

## What Are The Benefits of Landmarking?

As Platt Park is primarily zoned single family, most homeowners would receive more money selling as a landmark than selling to a developer as a scrape. Most people continue to carry their regular insurance, although some specialized insurance is available. The property owner receives credits on some major capital improvements, like roofing, through tax credits.

Many of these older properties are more climate-change friendly than a number of the newer properties. Consider the benefits of retrofitting a landmark rather than scraping a property as we consider climate change. As we pass through the neighborhood and survey our surroundings, one gets to continue to enjoy the historic neighborhood one moved to and may have lived in for years. A landmarked Platt Park continues to keep the characteristics of an earlier Denver.

## The Process of Landmarking

In order to secure historic designations, it is necessary to work with city planners and your City Council representative. When Historic Denver came to look at my house the representative also told me that I could hire a consultant for around \$2,000 to advise, research, and write the application. There are grants available to support you. In fact, people in areas that have had their properties landmarked have split the fee. Visit the City of Denver website to learn more about landmarking and the resources available to residents. We look forward to sharing future stories about the landmarks that exist across Platt Park.



CAROLINE MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

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Grab your favorite blanket, some snacks, and come and join your neighbors to watch "Soul". It's time for the annual movie night in the park. Admission is free and presented to you by your Platt Park neighborhood association, 3PA.



## PLATT PARK MOVIE NIGHT

WHAT: DISNEY PIXAR'S "SOUL"

WHO: EVERYONE IS WELCOME

WHEN: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND 6:30PM - 9:00PM  
MOVIE STARTS AT 7:15PM

WHERE: PLATT PARK

## JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Do you enjoy the neighborhood you live in?

Want to help maintain our neighborhood character?

Want to meet your neighbors through fun events and neighborhood forums?

The Platt Park People's Association is a registered neighborhood organization with the City and County of Denver. The Platt Park People's Association is notified directly by the city of various activities in the neighborhood.

BE INVOLVED. BE INFORMED.  
LEARN HOW TO BE A MEMBER TODAY:



## WANT TO ADVERTISE IN THE PLATT PARK POST?

Contact Nora Baldwin at [board@3pa.org](mailto:board@3pa.org) for sizing specifications and rates.

## 3PA HAPPY HOUR WITH



Get ready for ski season by meeting your fellow neighbors for a happy hour at Meier Skis a craft skiers on **1775 S Broadway**. The event will start on **Thursday October 19th at 6pm**. Those interested will be given the opportunity to take a guided tour of the ski factory. Feel free to contact **Listy Lehman (listy.lehman@gmail.com)** with any questions regarding events.



(nest)  
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