Whittier Neighborhood Spotlight

WHITTIERNEIGHBORHOOD.ORG

Neighborhood Beautification

You may have noticed a new addition to our neighborhood along the 25th Avenue Neighborhood Bikeway at 25th and Gilpin. These roundabouts are important traffic calming measures that keep bicyclists and pedestrians safe, but they could use some decoration. The WNA will be working with the Denver Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to beautify these features, please reach out with any ideas!



WHITTIER BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

The WNA would like to welcome a few new businesses to the Whittier neighborhood!

Acronychous nail studio recently opened in the former Lincoln Market space at 25th and Gilpin. Service is appointment-only, so log on to https://www.acronychous.com to book!

Bodies on Point Acupuncture and Apothecary has opened at 28th and Race. They "address all of your health needs with Acupuncture, massage, and East Asian herbs." To book an appointment or learn more, visit https://bodiesonpoint.com.

Next door at Point Easy, they're now serving brunch Saturday and Sunday 10-2, stop on by!

Lastly, be sure to check out the new online neighborhood small business directory: https://www.whittierneighborhood.org/business-directory.

HarvestSHARE 2023 is September 16

The 11th Annual HarvestSHARE festival is coming up soon on September 16, 2023. HarvestSHARE is a community gathering where people bring excess harvest from their gardens to share



Sprouting Healthy Families

with neighbors and HEAL the community by engaging in Healthy Eating Active Living activities that generate Random Gestures of Compassion in Denver parks. The event will feature free produce, Afro-Cuban Drumming workshops, a food and clothing bank drive, bouncy castles, live music, and more!

HarvestSHARE will be connected through street closures to the six Whittier parks: George Morrison Sr. Park, Fuller Park, St. Charles Place Park, Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Park, Frederick Douglass Park, and Madame CJ Walker Park.

Stop by the Whittier Neighborhood Association booth at Frederick Douglass Park to say hi and get Whittier merch!

Saturday, September 16th, 10am-6pm www.HarvestSHAREDenver.org.

New Charity's House Apartments

The New Charity's House Apartments at 3022 Welton Street in the historic Five Points neighborhood began housing 36 new residents in permanent supportive housing in July 2023. Developed by Community Outreach Service Center, the New Charity's House Apartments (named after Pastor Bob Woolfolk's grandmother) offers one-bedroom apartments for individuals facing homelessness or returning from the justice system. This project will provide much-needed housing for vulnerable members of our community.

"Charity's House serves as a beacon of opportunity for our unhoused residents. This project not only provides a safe roof over the head of the 36 households that will reside here, but critical wraparound services will help lift residents up and provide economic mobility."

- HOST Executive Director Laura Brudzynski.

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Get to Know Ben Butler, Manual HS Football Coach and Performing Arts Director

Ben Butler grew up in Denver loving both theater and football. When he graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School and was recruited to play football at Adams State College (now Adams State University), he thought his theater days were over. His mentor, Dr. John Taylor, asked him about his career plans; Mr. Butler said he hoped to be a football coach and history teacher. Dr. Taylor told him about a dual degree at Adams State in theater and English secondary education. That degree prepared Mr. Butler for the roles he's played at Manual High School since 2010: head football coach, performing arts director, and English teacher.

Mr. Butler is motivated by the opportunity to support Manual students to carve their own paths the same way people like Dr. Taylor empowered him to pursue his love for both football and theater. Manual is special to him because it's like a small-town school in the middle of the city, where the community comes together like family.

He encourages everyone in Whittier to come out to games, theater, concerts and embrace the Manual community, regardless of whether you have kids at the school. Football, volleyball, soccer, and baseball seasons are happening now. The performing arts season kicks off with the Winter Showcase in December. Follow Manual HS on Facebook or Instagram or visit https://manual.dpsk12.org for details on upcoming events.

Mr. Butler finds time to act in shows at the Vintage Theater or Firehouse Theater, so be on the lookout for chances to see him on stage, and come out to cheer on his Manual students.

Support Whittier Schools this Fall!

Manual HS events:

- Football Next home game is Friday 9/15 at 6:00PM
- Volleyball Next home game is Thursday 9/7 at 6:00PM
- Boys Soccer Next home game is Tuesday 9/12 at 4:00PM
- Fundraising Breakfast Friday 10/20 7:30AM

Whittier ECE-8 events:

- Back to School Night Thursday 9/21 at 5:00PM
- Math & Literacy Night Wednesday 10/11, time TBA
- Parent/Teacher Conferences Monday 10/16, time TBA

Get Involved with the Whittier Neighborhood Association!

If you live in Whittier, which is defined as 23rd to MLK south to north and Downing to York west to east, then you're a member of the WNA! There are no dues and membership is open to all.

What does the WNA do?

- Fundraise and write grants to fund activities in the neighborhood such as Whittier Dayz and Walking Markets.
- Hold bi-monthly community meetings.
 The next meeting is September 23rd at 10:30am Ford Warren library.
- Review zoning and liquor licensing requests and inform residents of requests, seeking resident input to create Good Neighbor Agreements.
- Publish the Spotlight newsletter; delivered four times a year by Whittier volunteers to your door.

How can I stay involved?

- Attend neighborhood meetings! The next WNA meeting is Saturday, September 23rd, at 10:30am in the Ford Warren Library. We will hear from our new councilman Darrell Watson and the principal of Manual High School, Dr. Chris Dermerer.
- Check out our updated website at <u>www.whittierneighborhood.org.</u> The site includes an event calendar, business directory, information on parks and neighborhood history, and more!
- Join the Whittier Neighborhood Facebook group, which stays active with buy and sell requests, questions, and events coming up.
- Text WHITTIER to 844-283-5563 for news and events.
- Follow the WNA on our Instagram account @whittierneighborhood.
- Any questions? Send the board an email at board@whittierneighborhood.org.