

## Whittier Holiday Walking Market

The December 3 Whittier Walking Market brought local vendors to our neighborhood sidewalks to showcase a range of products, from sausages and locally roasted coffee to hand-crafted jewelry and hair bows. The Walking Market will return again this summer. Please come out to see your neighbors and support our local businesses!



## Thank you Board Members!

The WNA Board thanks the following outgoing Board members for their contributions over the years:

- Krista Morgan, President
- Kat McBride, Vice President
- Shannon Amitin, Treasurer

We are also excited to announce the following new Board members:

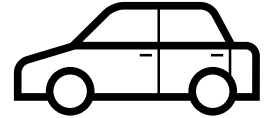
- Jeff Neuman-Lee, President
- Danny Havelick, Vice President
- Jeanne Paradeis, Treasurer

If you want to get involved in the Whittier Board, please send an email to [board@whittierneighborhood.org](mailto:board@whittierneighborhood.org).

## Safety Update: Car Theft

Did you know that Colorado is ranked #1 in car thefts per capita nationally? That activity is obviously felt in the city and here in Whittier. It's made statewide and national news. But what you probably didn't know are which cars are "popular" targets :

- Hondas, late 90s-early 00s model years
- Chevy/GM Trucks, 06-12 model years
- RAM Trucks, 06-12 model years
- Hyundais, 13-16 model years



Why these? They're comparatively easy to "hot wire" or in more modern terms, their key/ignition assemblies are easier to get around than other cars. Because of that, they become prime targets. Thus, if you ever wondered why somebody's 1999 beater Honda Civic with 200,000 miles on it was stolen, the ease of triggering the ignition is one possible cause.

To prevent car theft, always lock your car. Never leave anything of value visible to somebody walking by. For that matter, never leave anything of value in your car. If you want to be more pro-active, you can install a "vehicle immobilizer system". The actual cost of the hardware isn't much but unless you can work on the car's wiring, you'll need to have somebody install it. Keep yourself safe from car theft this holiday season!

Scott Holder

## CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS ON THE HOT CHOCOLATE EXPRESS!

Catch the Hot Chocolate Express! Local organization Make a Chess Move will rent a golf cart for Whittier residents to "check out" of the Golf Cart Library located at the Whittier Cafe. MACM is looking for residents to sign up to drive the golf cart through the neighborhood sharing Hot Chocolate Cheer on December 17-18.

MACM also needs volunteers to decorate the Hot Chocolate Express, and would suggest that Hot Chocolate Express Drivers add their holiday swag to the golf cart for the drive. You can register at <https://bit.ly/WNAHotChocolateExpressDrivers>.



## Climate Group Update: Keeping Heat in your House this Winter

*Every once in a while the Climate group will publish ideas about how to combat and cope with our changing climate..*

*If you are interested in joining the Climate Group, contact Jeff at [membership@whittierneighborhood.org](mailto:membership@whittierneighborhood.org)*

When my daughter lived in a condo east of Whittier, I was doing some outside maintenance and noticed that a neighbor had their window open; it was the dead of winter. I don't know the reason they had an open window, but as I passed by, I could feel the rush of warm air. I know that it was more than once, in fact every time I passed that window it was open. Maybe they just liked fresh air. But it seemed to me to be a terrible waste of money—they pay for that heat going out the window. And it is a terrible waste of energy, we burn fossil fuels to heat our homes, those fuels cause our changing climate.

Now, I want you to know that I was polite and when I encountered that neighbor, I never mentioned their open window. I know that plenty of us have leaky homes.

The best way to know if your house is leaky (or better yet, to simply get a handle on where your leaks are) is to get a "blower door test." Someone comes, makes sure that everything is closed as tight as possible, and then sets a big fan in your front door with a seal around the door, and pulls air through the leaks in the house. They then can go through your place and find places where the air leaks. Then you know exactly what to seal. I've seen these services advertised for \$49. You might consider checking with Xcel Energy, they have a list of contractors.

Or, you can close up the house yourself, say on a nice cold day when the air temperature outside is very different than your indoor temperature, and take a lit incense stick around to your windows and doors and see when the smoke moves.

Then there are a good number of fixes you can buy at the hardware stores. One of my favorites is an inexpensive roll of a clay-like stuff that molds into crevasses around windows, and stays in place all winter, but comes off and you throw it away come spring. But there are strips of foam and tapes and other things that can work for you.

In Whittier we usually live in old and leaky homes. Some are so leaky you might as well fling open a window. Tighten up your home and it will save you money, do good by the planet, and keep yourself toasty warm.

Jeff Neuman-Lee

## Attend Whittier Neighborhood Association Meetings!

The next WNA meeting is **Saturday, January 21st, 10:30am in the Ford Warren Library**. We will hear from three candidates for city council: Candi CdeBaca running for re-election for our District 9 and Sarah Paraday and Tim Hoffman running for the two at-large seats. It will be a good time for discussion and letting the candidates know about your concerns for our city. We will also have our normal time to discuss any neighborhood issues. Come for information! Come for community! Coffee and bagels will be served.

In our last meeting on November 12 we heard from Darrell Watson, who is running for the District 9 seat, and Travis Leiker and Jeff Walker, who are both running for the at-large seats. We also heard from Representative Diana DeGette's office.

All meetings are open to the public. Anyone who lives in the Whittier neighborhood is automatically a member of the Whittier Neighborhood Association. Whittier's boundaries are 23rd Ave. to Martin Luther King Blvd. (South to North) and York St. to Downing St. (East to West).

*Note: the WNA does not endorse any city council candidates*

### Stay in touch and support the WNA!

- Text WHITTIER to 844-283-5563 for news and events
- Follow us on Instagram @whittierneighborhood
- Join the Whittier Neighborhood Association group on Facebook
- Go to [WhittierNeighborhood.org](http://WhittierNeighborhood.org) and hit the **donate** button to make a tax-deductible donation funding the Spotlight and other WNA activities.