



Vol. 5 Issue 12

ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORS  
www.wecandenvr.org

December 2014

Building a Stronger More Sustainable Community

**West Colfax Association of Neighbors (WeCAN)** is a Registered Neighborhood Organization (RNO). *WeCAN* holds general membership meetings the second Tuesday of each month at 1400 Quitman St in Confluence Ministries main hall. *WeCAN* is dedicated to the advancement and well-being of the West Colfax neighborhood.

**West Colfax Association of Neighbors General Membership Meeting**  
**6:00 pm, Tuesday December 09, 2014**  
**1400 Quitman, Confluence Ministries**

**Agenda:**

- **Please bring a holiday dessert to share**
- **Food Drive – bring non-perishable food items for Bienvenidos Food Bank & get your name entered into a drawing for one of five new WeCAN t-shirts**
- **6:00 Call to Order and Announcements**
- **6:30 Police officers report**
- **6:40 Election of 2015 WeCAN Board of Directors**
- **6:50 Speaker, Greg Pratt, Executive Director, Bienvenidos Food Bank**
- **7:00 Nathan Stern, Presentation & vote about a liquor license application at the commercial space at West End Flats, Yates and West Colfax**
- **Drawing for door prizes and share holiday desserts**
- **Free CFL light bulbs for porch lights and to share with your neighbors.**
- **7:30 Adjourn**

The December *WeCAN* general membership meeting will start with a **holiday dessert potluck** and a **food drive** collecting non-perishable foods for Bienvenidos Food Bank. Bring a donation for the food drive and be entered in the drawing for one of the **new WeCAN** t-shirts. The December *WeCAN* Board of Directors meeting will immediately follow the general membership meeting.

**WeCAN Honors Chad Reischl with Tree Donations** for West Colfax Residents. In last month's newsletter you read the farewell letter from Chad Reischl, WeCAN Co-President for three years, founding member and board member for five years. Moving on to a great new job in another city was wonderful for Chad, but difficult for those of us who have grown to know, respect and love him. In honor of Chad's extensive contributions to the West Colfax neighborhood, WeCAN contributed \$200 to The Park People, the nonprofit that sponsors **Denver Digs Trees** each spring. Low income, elderly and disabled residents in the West Colfax neighborhood will receive free trees in April 2015 through this gift. Watch for information and application forms in January 2015.

**The year 2014** was a busy period for *WeCAN*. The City of Denver accepted *WeCAN* as one of three neighborhoods to participate in the launch of a **Neighborhood Sustainability Program**. The first level of certification has been accomplished and the gold level is within reach. Projects included Clean Up Day, Tree Planting, Solar Workshop, Garage Sale, Neighborhood Festival, School Supply Drive, Community Gardens, Metal Recycling, Confluence Ministries GED/ESL/ Whiz Kids programs. **Library Endowment Fund** raising totaled \$5000 through fund raisers, matching funds and general account funds. A study area in the new **Rudolfo "Corky" Gonzales Library** will be named after *WeCAN*. **Paco Sanchez Park** will receive 3.5 million dollars in 2015 for major improvements. *WeCAN* played a major role in this being awarded these moneys by actively participating in the initial proposal and staying involved in the process. Denver Park and Recreation commended *WeCAN* for this and noted that it was a major factor in Paco Sanchez being chosen for the funding. The **WeCAN Communications Committee** launched a new and improved website, upgraded e-mail blasts

and Facebook posts and increased newsletter circulation during 2014.

**Northwest Denver COP Shops:** This month we are going to talk about everyone's favorite topic – puffers, aka, running unattended vehicles. At the last Citizens Advisory Meeting, Commander Pazen said five vehicles were stolen during the week of 10 November. Every theft was the result of being left running unattended. That same week, on a neighborhood walk around, in four blocks we observed six vehicles running with no one in the vehicles. Three of the cars had keys in the ignition observable from the sidewalk. At one location the owner was on the porch watching their vehicle running, but as we know from last year, someone being close to their vehicle really doesn't deter these car thieves.

In Denver it is illegal to run a vehicle parked on city streets unattended. This includes vehicles with remote starters. On private property, you are taking it on yourself to protect your vehicle, but remember, some insurers won't cover theft of an unattended running vehicle and there is a major hassle factor involved as well.

According to Commander Pazen, well over 400 warnings were issued last year during puffer season. The District 1 officers did not issue any tickets. Commander Pazen is considering changing that policy if the situation becomes as bad as last year.

These types of crimes are totally preventable and since most stolen vehicles are used in other crimes we can help keep our city safer by just being smart about running our vehicles.

Lighting the Night. The West Colfax COP Shop still has CFLs available for your exterior fixtures. If you need one please stop by the COP Shop, 5094 W. Colfax, Monday or Friday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. NW Denver COP Shops – 720.865.2240.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Newsletter Carriers** – contact Bill Baker, 303.946.8230, [bigbuddy2@comcast.net](mailto:bigbuddy2@comcast.net)

Support **WeCAN Fundraiser Recycling**: All scrap metal or items that can be resold on Craigslist are welcome. All donations are tax deductible, receipts on request.

Contact **Bill Baker**: 303.946.8230 or [bigbuddy2@comcast.net](mailto:bigbuddy2@comcast.net)



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Holiday Open House Sale  
4<sup>th</sup> Annual  
You're Invited!  
Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 10 am to 4 pm  
Join us to tour our new facility  
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Pick up unique, Earth-friendly gifts!  
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### **WeCAN December Calendar**

**Dec 3** – Rezoning meeting for Sloans Redevelopment, 3:00 pm, Room 4.F.6, Webb building, 201 W. Colfax

**Dec 7** – Broncos vs. Bills, 2:05 pm, parking restrictions in effect

**Dec 9** – WeCAN General Meeting, 6:00 pm, 1400 Quitman

**Dec 10** – Retail Marijuana License Application Hearing for 4801 W. Colfax, 1:30 pm, Webb Building, 201 W. Colfax

**Dec 15** – Liquor License Hearing for Common Ground Café, West End Flats retail space, see [wecanddenver.org](http://wecanddenver.org) for updates on time and place.

**Dec 18** – Councilwoman Susan Shepherd office hours, 2:00 – 3:00 pm, COP Shop, 5049 W. Colfax.

**Dec 25** – Christmas

**Dec 28** – Broncos vs Raiders, 2:25 pm, parking restrictions in effect



Bring your Box Tops for Education to WeCAN meetings. Leah Rounds will distribute to local schools.

Visite [www.wecanddenver.org](http://www.wecanddenver.org) para mirar el boletín WeCAN en español.