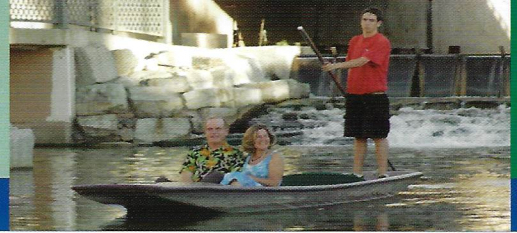




Volume 25, Summer 2006



CONFLUENCE PARK RECEIVES NOTABLE AWARD!

By Jeff Shoemaker - Executive Director



Photo Courtesy of Aero Arts

The expansion of Confluence Park onto the former Xcel Energy sub-station site has been completed and is a magnificent addition to the birthplace of Denver.

The transformation of this one acre site from utility plant to

parkspace began in 1999 when Bar Chadwick with the City and County of Denver and Pete West with Xcel Energy joined forces and led the charge to relocate/upgrade the sub-station from the banks of the River to its new location along 20th St. and the mainline

railroad tracks. This was not a small feat and the efforts of Ms. Chadwick, Mr. West and numerous other public and private stakeholders involved in this endeavor should be recognized and applauded.

Continued on Page 2



THE GREENWAY FOUNDATION
Preserving Metro Denver's Urban Waterways Since 1974

“A RIVER IS MORE THAN AN AMENITY, IT IS A TREASURE.”

JUSTICE WM. O DOUGLAS



Photo Courtesy of Jim Rae
(Left to right) Pete West-Xcel Energy; Bar Chadwick-City and County of Denver and Jeff Shoemaker-Greenway Foundation celebrate receiving one of the 2006 Downtown Denver Partnership Awards for the new parkspace at Confluence Park.

Upon the completion of the complicated and time-consuming relocation, the site was then transferred to Denver in 2001 and the Greenway Foundation initiated the efforts for the creation of the new Park. Under the creative oversight and talents of the Architerra Group, an inclusive public collaborative process began, resulting in the award winning design that exists today. In addition, the upper and mid-level plazas of the Park are home to a variety of seating, play and shade sculptures and other amenities that, through the artistic vision of Chevo Studios, provide a street presence to Confluence Park that inspires and delights all those who experience this special place.

The financial support for the project is equally gratifying, with numerous public and private sources of funding including: the C&C of Denver, Denver Water Land Trust, Great Outdoors Colorado, Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, Greenway Preservation Trust, Neusteter Colorado Co., Gates Family Foundation, Quick Foundation, Riverfront Park Community Foundation as well as many other individual and corporate donors.

In recognition of the value the new parkspace provides to Confluence Park and the surrounding Central Platte Valley community, the project recently received one of the Downtown Denver Partnership Awards for

2006 with the award appropriately being given collectively to Xcel Energy, the City and County of Denver, and the Greenway Foundation.

The expansion of Confluence Park allows for the completion of the transformation of the birthplace of Denver from a polluted eyesore into a unique and nationally recognized parkspace that is utilized and enjoyed by people of all ages. We are grateful to all those who made this vision become a reality.

VENICE ON THE CREEK

WELCOMING THE NEW AND THE OLD IN 2006

By JJ Clark-Venice on the Creek Manager

The past year for **Venice on the Creek** has been filled with the excitement from our busiest summer yet in 2005. With an ever-growing residential community in downtown Denver and the interest we have seen from people all around Colorado (and beyond), growth and change were inevitable.

For the past eight years I have watched the area on the banks of the Cherry Creek from Larimer St. to Confluence Park explode with construction and fill with a population in love with an urban lifestyle. **Venice on the Creek** has been in the middle of it all since 1995. Led by the vision of the Greenway Foundation, **Venice on the Creek** has grown from a wild gamble into a unique passageway through the explosive and historic downtown Denver.

As the interest in our historic boat rides grows, so do we. Our enthusiasm built a completely new website to ensure that **Venice on the Creek** accommodates the demands of the modern digital

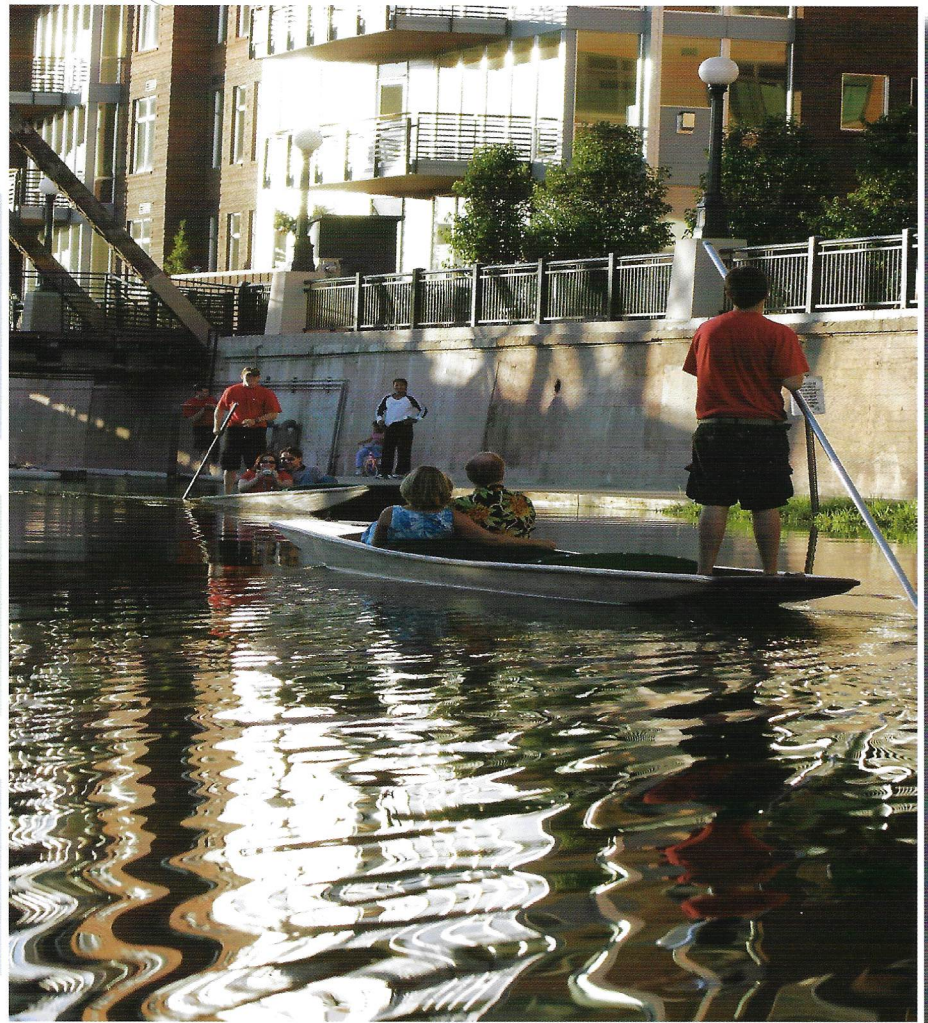


Photo Courtesy of digpicphoto.com

lifestyle. This may be accessed at www.veniceonthecreek.com. The new site features updated hours and pricing, contact information, pictures of our crew in action, employment information, and even a reservation request sheet that

can be filled out and sent to us at the leisure and convenience of our customers. This will make us more visible and available for those interested in the gondola style punt rides along Cherry Creek.

Continued on Page 4



Photo Courtesy of Jolon Clark

The evening **candle light ride** has continually proven to be the most popular choice for nearly everyone coming down to the Creek. By the end of the summer in 2005, our evening rides were sold out three and four weeks in advance. To accommodate this demand, our "doors" will now be open for longer and more frequent hours during our peak times. In the summer of 2006, **we will be open Thursday-Sunday from 5:00-10:00 p.m.** for regular business. This gives us more evenings each week to offer nighttime rides than in previous years. **The candle light rides start at 8:30 p.m.** Wednesday of every week is reserved exclusively for group charter rides between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The types of rides we offer will remain

the same. We have the 60-70 minute Full Ride and the 35 to 45 minute Half Ride during the day, and the popular 40-50 minute **candle light ride** in the evening, starting at 8:30 p.m.

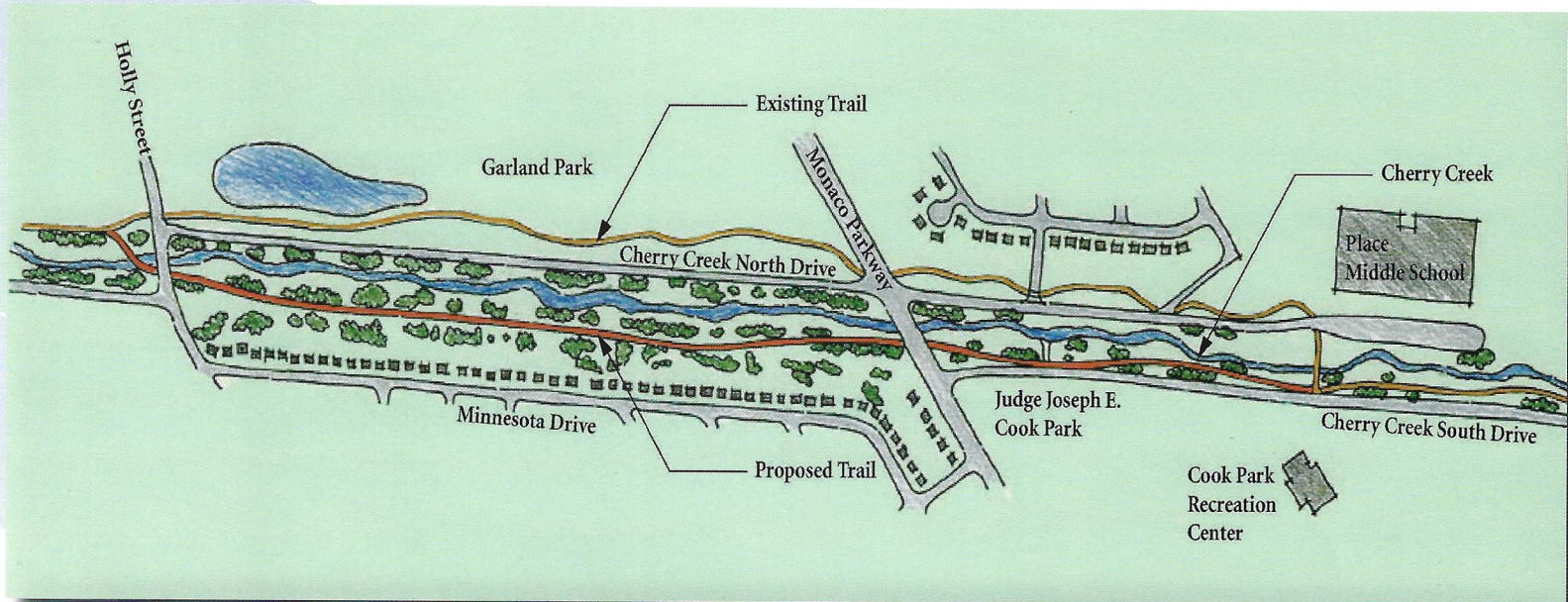
Our method of ticket sales is another change for the new season. Instead of a per-person ticket, we now sell rides "by the bench". A bench can seat 2 adults and may be purchased and filled in any way that is desired. Along with the bench seating we now offer three benches per boat that may be filled by as many as three different couples. Private boats are still available for those who would still like to have their own punt, and can be reserved as such.

This summer's tour will highlight the improvements at Confluence Park, as well as numerous landscaping enhancements along the banks of the Cherry Creek. We are thrilled to start this summer with the return of many of last year's crew as well as an opportunity to introduce some new faces to our customers.

Venice on the Creek offers a one of a kind view of Denver as it stands today, highlighted by its incredible historic past. Reservations may be requested by phone at **303-893-0750**, or online at **www.veniceonthecreek.com**.

IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY ALONG CHERRY CREEK IN DENVER

By Dean Pearson-Architerra Group



Rendering Courtesy of Architerra Group

Cherry Creek Trail Closes Last Gap

The 13 mile Cherry Creek corridor between Cherry Creek State Park and its merging with the South Platte River at Confluence Park is home to one of the most actively used trails systems in the region. Unfortunately, users of the trail within Denver must cross both Monaco Parkway and Holly Street "at grade" which is very dangerous. In addition, commuting bicyclists must use an already actively used path within Garland Park which causes "user conflicts" with adjacent neighborhood residents.

Working with Denver Councilman Charlie Brown, the Department

of Parks and Recreation, and the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, design efforts have been initiated through the support of the Greenway Preservation Trust to ultimately construct a new trail that will travel under both roadways and create a much safer experience for all trail users. Construction scope, costs and schedule are being determined with a goal of completing and opening this needed improvement within the next 1-2 years.

Lodo's Cherry Creek Enjoys A Facelift

The ten block section of Cherry Creek encompassing **Venice on the Creek** will receive planting and irrigation improvements

this coming summer. The areas near the Market, Wynkoop and Delgany locks will be planted with ornamental grasses and an automatic irrigation system. The grasses are xeric and require very little maintenance. The irrigation system will be used to get the plants established and then will be reduced only to water the plants as necessary. In addition, the lock islands will be retrofitted with a planting system that will allow seasonal growth of flowering plants such as daylilies. The timber wall at Wynkoop will be replaced with boulders similar to the treatment along the Creek at the Confluence Park. These improvements will further enhance this historic area of our City.

ADVENTURES IN EDUCATION ALONG THE SOUTH PLATTE

SPREE MAKES LIFE LONG CONNECTIONS TO THE RIVER

By Jolon Clark-SPREE Program Director



SPREE students try to strike it rich panning for gold at Confluence Park.

2005 was the best year ever for the SPREE Program!

With more schools choosing to use the South Platte River as a backdrop for their curriculum, more students becoming friends of the River, and more young adults choosing to spend their time educating these students we are definitely on a "Learning SPREE"!

With only two and a half years as the head of the SPREE program, I am still amazed at how much the program grows each and every year. My phone is constantly flooded with calls from teachers who have heard from other teachers about how fun (and educational) it is to spend a day every year on the South Platte River learning about

the plants, animals, history, geology, and people of the South Platte River. With a constant demand from more and more teachers, SPREE has continued to grow.

This year we added a sixth SPREE school. SPREE schools are schools that adopt the SPREE program throughout their entire curriculum, ensuring that each student at a SPREE school gets to take an adventure along the South Platte River every year from kindergarten through fifth grade. These students not only benefit from experiencing all of the activities that we offer, but they also form a deep, meaningful, and lifelong relationship with the River. Students at SPREE schools feed off each other's experiences and come to the River ready to get started. These students know about which excursion comes in each grade level, and they know that it is a right of passage as they work their way through elementary school to visit all of the parks along the River.

For the 2005-2006 school year, Teller Elementary decided to immerse their entire school in the SPREE program. Led by Stephanie Chavira, a kindergarten teacher who had transferred from one of our original five SPREE schools, Teller has made a wonderful

addition to our growing SPREE school population. This marked the first year in the last five that SPREE was able to add an entire school to the program. This addition was made possible by our new internship program.

Started in the fall of 2005, the SPREE Internship Program provides the first opportunity for young adults who are interested in the outdoors, the South Platte River, and education to become seasonal SPREE educators. The first brave "SPRintern" was a very familiar face. JJ Clark, eight-year Greenway Foundation employee (see his article about Venice on the Creek), volunteered to be the first to try our new position. JJ had so much fun working with the students and spending his days along the South Platte River that he signed on again for the spring 2006 semester. The program was so successful that we have added another position for fall 2006 with yet another for spring 2007. The



The students become the teachers as these Steele Elementary School students dress up Jeff Shoemaker as a beaver.

contagious excitement that the SPREE students have for learning about the River is one of the main reasons that these positions are filling up so quickly.

By adding these new positions, we have been able to increase the total number of students that we can take to the River each year, while simultaneously cutting the teacher-to-student ratio lower than it has ever

been before. This allows more students to learn about the South Platte River and each of these students receive a more hands-on and personal experience during their adventure along the River.

While growing and expanding the program is important, we have also taken giant steps toward making each trip to



Teachers from all six SPREE schools pose with their students after the 1st annual SPREE Celebration. Schools with their teachers from left to right are: Teller with Lana Rock, Southmoor with Grace Hopley, Grant Ranch with Dori Born, McKinley Thatcher with Barbara Mayes, Steele with Shelly Lengieza, and Fairview with Don Diehl.

the River the best experience possible. We completely revamped the 5th grade excursion. The feedback has been fantastic. Since 5th grade is the last year of elementary school, we decided that it should be the capstone trip to the River and one that the students would never forget. 5th graders now have the opportunity to go out on the water in a raft, catch crawdads and leeches, learn about the effects of pollution on the quality of water in the South Platte, and work in teams to discover the wonders of nature through exploration.

In an attempt to create a community linked together by the River, we recently held the 1st annual End of Year SPREE celebration on May 1, 2006 which allowed all of the SPREE schools a chance to get together and celebrate the River. The SPREE teachers insisted that the celebration be outdoors and along the banks of the South Platte River at Confluence Park. This day of celebration included students teaching adults about the River's history, mythology, and inhabitants while also getting a chance to show off their River inspired art, writing, and photography.

When I first started as the SPREE Program Director two and a half years ago I ran into a friend of mine that I had not seen since high school. As we were recounting to each other the details of our life since the last time we saw each other, I got to talking about SPREE. She stopped me in mid sentence and said, "I'm a SPREE kid!" She was a graduate of McKinley Thatcher Elementary School, our first SPREE school, and she told me that her fondest memories from elementary school were exploring along the banks of the River. She told me that when her life got stressful or she had a bad day she would often head to the River to look for clam shells, listen to the rippling water, and break open the fallen twigs of the cottonwood tree looking for the secret stars. Everyday as I traipse along the muddy paths, and through the urban parks along the South Platte River, I remember how important these adventures are to the thousands of bright-eyed students who come through the SPREE program every year, and I am glad that I have the opportunity to be its caretaker.

SUMMER EVENTS 2005/2006

FAMILY FUN AT CONFLUENCE PARK

By Cindy Shoemaker-Special Events Coordinator



Photo Courtesy of Cindy Shoemaker

The sounds of smooth jazz filled the hill at Confluence Park in July while the glow of some of our favorite family movies lit up the night skies in August to celebrate the Greenway Foundation's Summer Events 2005!

Every Thursday in July, hundreds of members of the community gathered along the River at Denver's birthplace, Confluence Park, for the ever-popular

Confluence

Concerts Series. Our newest special event series, **River Flicks**, lit up Wednesday nights in August for free outdoor movies. September welcomed back the 13th Annual **South Platte Riversweep**, bringing volunteers down to the River to help keep Denver's Greatest Natural Resource clean and beautiful. With the generous support of numerous public and private sector sponsors, these free community events continue to thrive, grow, and

bring awareness to a very special place in Denver.

Confluence Concerts

This signature event of the Greenway Foundation continues to draw a growing audience to enjoy the warm summer nights along the South Platte River and is becoming a favorite tradition to those who want to "gear up" for the weekend or "wind down"

Continued on Page 10



Photo Courtesy of Cindy Shoemaker

from work. All who come enjoy the relaxing environment of Confluence Park, the South Platte River, and Cherry Creek.

Staying with tradition, we had the smoothest sounds of jazz along the waterways with the talents of Dotsero, Nelson Rangell, Lisa Bell, and Darren Rahn. Our radio sponsor, **Smooth Jazz 104.3** of Jefferson Pilot Communications, helped us bring the biggest crowds to Confluence Park to date.

This great, FREE cultural event series would not be possible without the generous support from a number of corporate sponsors. Along with our

media sponsor, **Smooth Jazz 104.3, Heritage Bank, Anheuser-Busch, SCFD, Riverfront Park Community Foundation, Denver's Parks and Recreation Department, and Pepsi Cola** returned as donating sponsors for the series, along with support from the **Greenway Preservation Trust**.

Confluence Concerts will, once again, be the place to be every Thursday evening in July in 2006 thanks to the return of the great corporate sponsors listed above along with the addition of **Westword** as our new print sponsor. Come and partake in this fun community event that

brings local residents, families, music lovers, joggers, bikers, kayakers and many others to hear the talents of local artists. Get to Confluence Park early and add to the enjoyment of the evening with a ride on Venice on the Creek before the concert or after the show for evening romance on our candlelight rides. Food and beverages will be available, so come thirsty and hungry. Our featured performers for this year will be:

July 6: Dotsero
July 13: Nelson Rangell
July 20: Darren Rahn
July 27: Hazel Miller

River Flicks

This newest event, premiered this past summer and has proven to be a popular addition to our summer events. The hill at Confluence Park filled each week with families enjoying some of their favorite films including *The Princess Bride*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, and *Shrek*.

River Flicks will once again showcase quality family films in an intimate outdoor setting at Confluence Park every Wednesday evening in August with the sunset, riverfront, and mountain skyline as the backdrop. This community outdoor film series is **FREE** and open to the public, featuring festival style seating and fun family films. Our retuning Title Sponsor, **CDM** and media sponsor, **Smooth Jazz 104.3** will help once again support and promote this series in 2006 along with **Anheuser-Busch**, **1st Bank-University Hills Branch**, **Riverfront Park Community Foundation**, **Denver's Park and Recreation Dept.**, **the Mayor's Office of Art, Culture and Film**, **SCFD**, and **Pepsi Cola**, along with our new print sponsor, **Westword**.

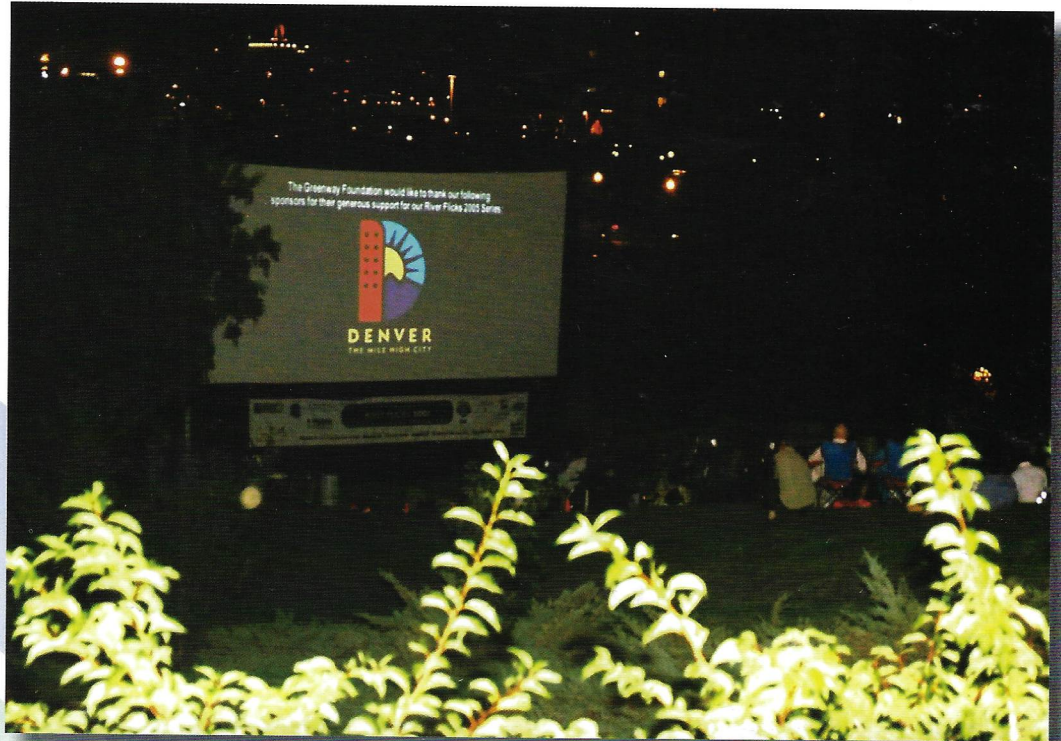


Photo Courtesy of digpicphoto.com

Movies will begin at dusk and conclude by 11:00pm. Come join us and be entertained with:

August 2nd: E.T. The Extraterrestrial

August 9th: Grease

August 16th: Ever After

**August 23rd: Harry Potter
and the Goblet of Fire**

River Flicks will be the place to be Wednesday evenings in August, where we will showcase fun, family films. popcorn, candy, and beverages will be available.

South Platte RiverSweep

The last Saturday in September, 2005 witnessed over 250 volunteers join the Greenway Foundation and Hands on Denver to help clean up Denver's urban waterways by participating in the 13th **South Platte Riversweep**. With additional support from our generous sponsors, we were able to collect over 2,500 lbs of trash and debris from the trails and banks of the South Platte River and Cherry Creek.



Photo Courtesy of digpicphoto.com

2005's event was made possible due to the help and support from numerous sponsors and partner organizations. Sponsors included: **Smooth Jazz 104.3, 1st Bank-University Hills Branch, Riverfront Park Community Foundation, the Mayor's Office of Art, Culture and Film, REI Flagship Store, SCFD, Denver's Parks and Recreation Dept., and Pepsi Cola.** Partner organizations allowing this event to continue include: **Hands on Denver, REI Flagship Store, Trout Unlimited, River Reach Youth Initiative, National Public Lands Day** and the **Platte Valley Trolley. United Site Services** and **Urban**

Drainage Flood Control District helped haul away all the trash and debris.

The day ended with a volunteer luncheon that included food and beverage from donors **Starbucks, Whole Foods, Odwalla Juice, Pudge Brothers Pizza, and the REI Flagship Store.**

Please join us for the **2006 South Platte RiverSweep** on Saturday, September 30th, beginning at 8:00 a.m. in partnership with National Public Lands Day. Bring your family, friends and co-workers to help us clean and improve OUR River.

For more information about the Greenway Foundation's upcoming Special Events for 2006, volunteer opportunities, or to download the South Platte RiverSweep volunteer waiver form, visit our website at **www.greenwayfoundation.org**.

DOWNTOWN CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND

GROUND BREAKING IS ON ITS WAY!

By Carol Ann Rothman



Rendering Courtesy of Architerra Group/Chevo Studios

This past year witnessed a great deal of progress for the Downtown Children's Playground. Substantial progress was made in achieving our goals of raising additional funds for the project, furthering the design work, and establishing a construction timetable.

With the City raising its support to \$150,000 and the Greenway Foundation contributing \$50,000, total funding for the Playground now stands at \$272,000, up substantially from a year ago. 145 individuals, businesses and organizations have contributed \$72,000 to this effort. Our thanks to all of

you for your support!

The Playground was the sole submission by the City for a GOCO (Great Outdoors Colorado) Grant this past March. We were delighted with the recent announcement by GOCO that the Playground was awarded a grant in the amount of \$200,000!

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With the combination of the grant from GOCO along with the funds already 'in hand', we are delighted to announce that we will be breaking ground for the first phase of the Playground this coming fall.

For those of you who are not familiar with this project, the Playground will be built on 28,000 square feet of City owned land located between Speer Boulevard, Cherry Creek, Wewatta Street and the parking lot at the end of 14th Street. We have the enthusiastic support of Denver Parks and Recreation, Mayor John Hickenlooper, Councilwoman Judy Montero, and the Downtown Denver Partnership, as well as a commitment from the City to maintain the Playground once it is built.

Design work on the Playground by The Architerra Group and Chevo Studios is nearing completion. They have designed an exceptional space which will be available for a wide range of patrons. Visitors to the Pepsi Center, families living in LoDo, those on the bike paths as well as tourists visiting downtown and the Convention Center will all enjoy the new Downtown Children's Playground.



Rendering Courtesy of Architerra Group

The site of the Playground is very special with views to the Rocky Mountains, an overlook to Cherry Creek and connections to the historic railroads and distinctive architecture of LoDo. The design of the Playground capitalizes on these connections. The play structures echo the industrial look of lower downtown and provide opportunities for play and exercise. A "creek" and a "railroad" flow across the surface of the Playground to create an imaginative journey from one play area to another. The picnic shelter is an experience in itself with bridges and towers overlooking the Cherry Creek. All this adds up to a signature playground and loads of fun!

Your help at this time will bring us closer to completing the funds needed to complete this exciting amenity and will also further enhance the broad based community support for the Playground that has been demonstrated to date. Checks should be made payable to the Greenway Foundation/ Playground Fund and mailed to Downtown Children's Playground Coalition, P.O. 695, Denver, CO 80201-0695. Contributions are tax deductible and those of \$250 or more qualify for a 25% state income tax credit.

Questions? Call Carol Ann or Paul Rothman at 303-298-0180.

CHATFIELD RESERVOIR

ADDITIONAL STORAGE HOLDS PROMISE FOR ENHANCED RIVER CORRIDOR

By Tracy Bouvette-Great Western Institute

Current Situation

The South Platte River is the birthplace of Denver. From the very beginning, the River provided water supply and a place to dispose of unwanted belongings. As late as the early 1970's, the River was uninviting and nasty – its dark and smelly waters were rarely visited by the members of the community, belying its value as a source of drinking water, irrigation water and refuge for wildlife. Thankfully the nature of the relationship between the River and the community has changed over the past decades, with a “renaissance” occurring over the past three decades. A vital component of that renaissance has been the development and expansion of parks and other amenities along the River's corridor that have renewed the connection between water and people, and water and wildlife.

As in many areas in the West however, the South Platte River has become under increasing pressure to provide for the various and diverse needs of its human and wildlife



<http://schmoker.org/BirdPics>

community. The competition for water - for agricultural, municipal, recreational, and environmental uses - has led to decreased River flows, and in some reaches of the River, no flow, such that there are increasingly fewer options to meet the needs of the humans and wildlife that rely upon the River's waters.

The Opportunity

To address the increasing needs of the water community, there has been a recent development in the Denver metropolitan area that promises to provide for more flow to the River while providing for other much needed benefits as well. This development, namely the reallocation of storage in Chatfield Reservoir, began

Continued on Page 16

when the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) recently recognized that the reservoir's original purpose – that of flood control protection to the downstream population – can be expanded without detriment or compromise to its original mission. To this point, USACE has agreed to reallocate up to 20,600 acre-feet of storage in Chatfield Reservoir to multi-use objectives including municipal and agricultural water supply, as well as environmental and recreational uses.

The reallocation of the storage in Chatfield Reservoir creates a tremendous opportunity for all involved to address one of the “Key National Water Resources Challenges” that USACE Civil Works identified in its 2004 Strategic Plan, namely that USACE needs to assist the Country's citizens to “achieve greater balance between traditional water resources demands and environmental/ecosystem objectives.”

As a group, the water users and stakeholders in the River that may benefit from the expanded use of Chatfield Reservoir have come together under the leadership of the Colorado Water Conservation Board to divide the available “reallocated” storage, and support the USACE studies

that are required to determine the cost of the project so that the reallocation can move forward. Once the costs have been identified and agreed upon, USACE can then enter into water contracts with the various project cooperators and the project can begin to be implemented – which includes moving recreational facilities and mitigating environmental impacts,

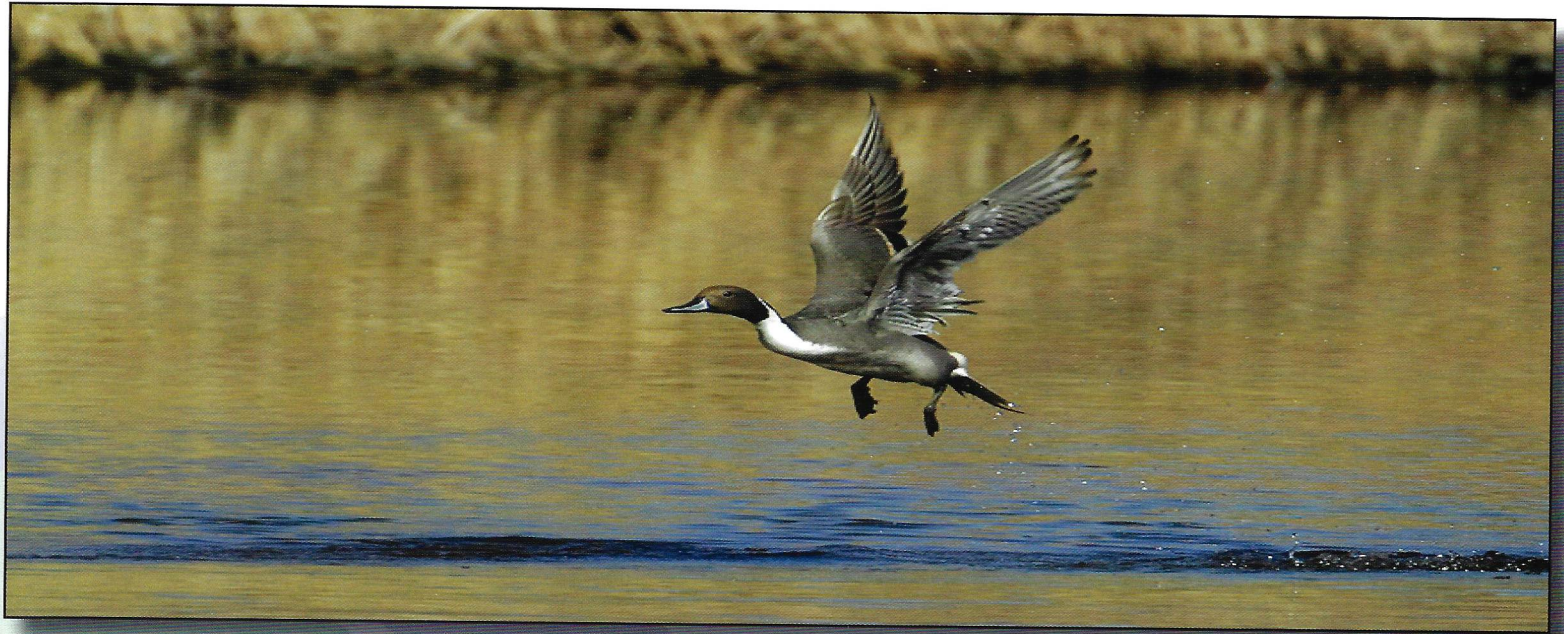
Within this group there are three sets of cooperating entities – upstream water users, downstream water users and instream water users. The instream users (City of Littleton, City and County of Denver, Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation District, Denver Water, and the Greenway Foundation) and downstream users (Central Colorado Water Conservancy District, City of Aurora, City of Brighton, and Western Mutual Ditch Company) are looking to maximize the beneficial use of the available Chatfield Reservoir capacity for purposes of meeting the instream needs of the South Platte River through the Denver metropolitan area, without compromising downstream municipal and agricultural water supply.

The Challenge

The costs associated with the reallocation of storage at Chatfield have been estimated to be in the tens of millions of dollars including mitigation costs and the capital cost of storage. Of critical importance to the downstream water users who have roughly one half of the reallocated storage rights, is that the USACE may provide the downstream water users with a sizable credit to offset the costs associated with the reallocation if they can demonstrate that future releases from the reservoir's reallocated storage pool would provide for demonstrable environmental benefits in the South Platte River downstream.

The challenge this creates for the instream and downstream users is two fold:

- The instream and downstream users must create a future release option that provides for demonstrable environmental benefits to the River supporting and enhancing the cool and warm water aquatic system that exists below the reservoir and passes through the downstream urban and suburban River corridor. This challenge is compounded by the fact that quantitative assessment techniques for cool



<http://schmoker.org/BirdPics>

and warm water aquatic and riparian systems are not well developed and therefore will require a weight-of-evidence approach.

- This same group must successfully collaborate with USACE to develop and apply “yet-to-be-developed” criteria that will value the environmental benefits associated with increased downstream flows in the South Platte River as a result of future releases from Chatfield.

If the instream and downstream users can address these two challenges, such that a purely environmental release option can be configured and approved by USACE, then the downstream users will be given an opportunity to determine whether or not they

can effectively implement this option without significantly compromising their water supply needs – which are of vital importance to thousands of Colorado’s citizens.

The process of addressing these challenges will therefore require a phased approach for the following reasons:

- A substantial amount of data has been collected by various, unaffiliated entities with an interest in the River, which needs to be compiled, organized and summarized; and

- The requirements for the downstream users to receive a credit from USACE for environmental flows are evolving as they apply

their continuing authorities, interpret and implement their 2004 strategic plan, and better understand the impacts of their past projects on the South Platte environment and ecosystem.

The Greenway Foundation has taken a lead role to facilitate the downstream and instream water users to fully engage USACE and develop an appropriate means to leverage future flow enhancements for both traditional water resource demands and the needs of the River environment through an urban and suburban setting. This has not been done in the U.S. by USACE prior to this effort.

To date, the instream and downstream water users have

Continued on Page 18

successfully engaged USACE in a policy dialogue opening the door for additional discussions and workshops focused on revising the current ecosystem restoration criteria that would be used by the federal government to evaluate and value environmental improvements to an urban river corridor related to new releases from an upstream federal project (aka Chatfield Reservoir). They have also made important strides in coalescing local stakeholders' opinions and viewpoints regarding where and when additional flows in the South Platte would provide environmental benefit. In addition, they have initiated communications with the Colorado congressional delegation regarding the importance of this project to all local and state water interests, and have successfully sought their support to request funding for the Omaha USACE for its share of the various studies needed to see the project to its conclusion. All of these successes move the instream and downstream users collectively toward developing affordable water storage in Chatfield for municipal and agricultural uses, resulting in more water flow in the South Platte River from Chatfield through Douglas, Arapahoe, Denver and Adams Counties, into Weld County.

Where Do We Go From Here?

Substantial work remains to establish environmental release options for the newly available Chatfield storage, which will be used in turn to support development of water supply alternatives for the four downstream water users based on their water supply needs, the timing of storage within Chatfield and the potential benefits of environmental releases.

To address these challenges and leverage this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, the instream and downstream users have and will continue the all important policy dialogue with USACE and will continue to develop a strong political coalition linking the many different water users and jurisdictions across the Denver Metropolitan Area – linked by a common need for and desire to manage that most precious resource – the South Platte River. The power of this project is that it utilizes local, east slope water sources to meet the many diverse, and oft times competing needs of the Front Range community. This is exactly the kind of water supply success story that we need in our growing and water short state.

Our Goals

- Engage USACE in a policy discussion to develop and adopt metrics and criteria for evaluating environmental benefits for future reservoir releases into an urban and suburban area.
- Develop environmental benefit alternatives for downstream water users that help to offset future costs associated with the reallocated Chatfield Storage.
- Expand and maintain strong local political consortium to support USACE programs in and along the South Platte to benefit the local water community.
- Overall, maximize the beneficial use of available Chatfield Reservoir capacity for purposes of meeting instream needs, without compromising municipal and agricultural water supply needs.

GREENWAY PRESERVATION TRUST

HOW CAN I HELP?

The Greenway Preservation Trust is a permanent endowment to protect and enhance the South Platte River, implement recreational and riparian improvements, provide youth education and youth employment programs, and sponsor free family oriented special events.

Your help is crucial in establishing this ongoing means of support for the South Platte River and its tributaries. Help us preserve and enhance Denver's Greatest Natural Resource and ensure that the programs and events that help accomplish this goal receive funding well beyond our lifetime.

Yes! I want to help support the Greenway Preservation Trust:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> \$50 Friend of the River | <input type="radio"/> \$75 Advocate |
| <input type="radio"/> \$100 Family | <input type="radio"/> \$250 Associate |
| <input type="radio"/> \$500 Sustainer | <input type="radio"/> \$1,000 Patron |
| <input type="radio"/> \$5,000 Benefactor | <input type="radio"/> \$10,000 Partner |
- ☐ I would like to make a pledge over the next _____ years totaling \$ _____.
 • My pledge will be paid in full by the end of the year 20____.
- ☐ Please contact me about how I can include the Greenway Preservation Trust in my estate planning.
- ☐ Check here if your employer will match your contribution.

Please make your check payable to:
 The Greenway Foundation
 1040 S. Gaylord St., Suite 201
 Denver, CO 80209

Your contribution is fully Tax-Deductible. For \$250 or more, receive a 25% additional tax incentive through Colorado's Enterprise Zone Program.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

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Bar Chadwick
Larry Elrod
Deb Gerard
John Moran
Elizabeth Richardson
Gary Roffe
Paula Sandoval
Kip Stastny
Peter Van Arsdale

Executive Director

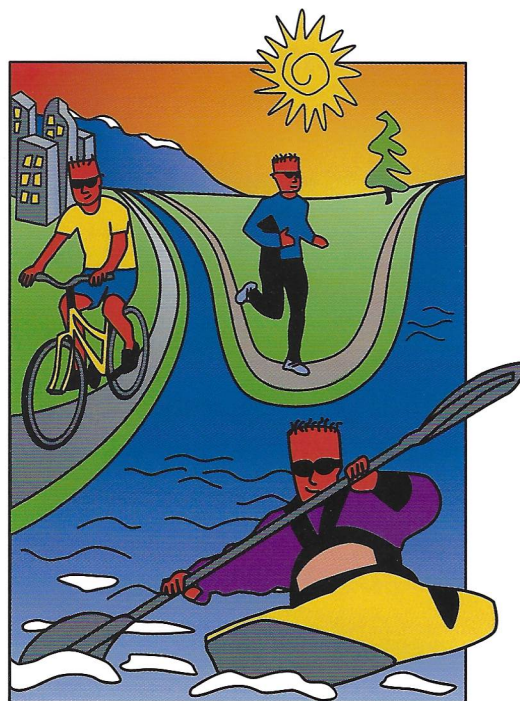
Jeff Shoemaker

Special Events Coordinator

Cindy Shoemaker

SPREE Program Director

Jolon Clark



SUMMER EVENTS 2006

Venice on the Creek

Concession Opens Thursday, June 1st

- Hours of Operation:
Thursday-Sunday 5:00 p.m.- 10 p.m.
Candlelight Rides start at 8:30 p.m.
- Group Rides available Wednesday only.
- Please call 303-893-0750 or visit us online at www.veniceonthecreek.com for more information or to make a reservation.

Confluence Concerts

- At Confluence Park
- All concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. and conclude at 8:00 p.m.
- July 6.....Dotsero
- July 13.....Nelson Rangell
- July 20.....Darren Rahn
- July 28.....Hazel Miller

River Flicks

- At Confluence Park
- All movies begin at sunset
- August 2.....E.T. The Extraterrestrial
- August 9.....Grease
- August 16...Ever After
- August 23...Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire

Venice on the Creek

Concession Closes Sunday, August 27th

South Platte Riversweep

Saturday, September 30th

- 8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.
- Fishback Landing Park-Adjacent to the Downtown Aquarium.



The Greenway Foundation

1040 S. Gaylord Street, Suite 201
Denver, CO 80209

303-455-7109 Fax 303-455-7234
www.greenwayfoundation.org

