



Martin Acres VOICE

Martin Acres Neighborhood Association (MANA)

PO Box 3514, Boulder, CO 80307

<http://www.martinacres.org>

January 2015

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter

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An Informal History Of the Martin Acres Neighborhood Association, Part 1:

Carol and Dave Kampert moved to Martin Acres in 1976. "This was our 'starter home,'" Dave laughs, "and we never left. We never wanted to." Martin Acres was then between phases, having passed its youth, and not yet reached its renaissance.

The neighborhood had initially been all families from 1955 to 1965, but most original occupants of those homes had moved out. Many homes had become rentals and the neighborhood began struggling with issues. According to the Kamperts, these included "noise, over-occupancy, dogs barking, dilapidation, trash, and parking." The park was run down, with only a broken down shelter, no playground, and a dry creek.

Maybe due to the large, mostly student rental population, the City had shown little interest in improving the neighborhood. Neighbors were disconnected from each other. Individuals commiserated on their own. For many student rentals, there was no way to reach anyone who truly had a stake in the neighborhood. When concerned residents contacted the city to request help improving Martin Park they were told they were 19th on the list.

By the mid-70s, it was clear there was a need for increased neighborhood organization and involvement. A couple of key figures in the early neighborhood improvement movement were Mary Petri, and Laurie Hyland. Laurie credits the neighborhood's defined boundaries – bordered on all sides by US 36, Table Mesa, Broadway, and 27th Way – with making it easier to create a sense of place and identity. She says, "These strong boundaries were actually a gift."

Neighbors utilized a consultant affiliated with the Institute of Cultural Affairs, and held organizational meetings at the old Martin Park Elementary School (now Creekside Elementary). Thus MANA was born. Motivated to improve the neighborhood, MANA formed a steering committee and standing committees around work that needed to be done – things like Beautification, Events, and Communication. Work for positive change and long-term stewardship of the neighborhood began.

"Martin Acres even had an official song," Carol reports, "that was meant to be spirit-raising." (Editor's note: if anyone has a copy of the MANA song, please send it!)

"There was power in organizing" says Dave, one of the past MANA Presidents. "Soon the City started listening to us—not just because we were a more unified group, but because we sent the City proposals on how to fix things." The City appreciated clear communication, good ideas, and a large pool of willing volunteers to help make the improvements.

MANA held events like a "Spring Clean Up Parade." To create excitement around helping out, they rented a truck and Calliope, and paraded through the neighborhood. Kids decorated their bikes and rode behind the truck. MANA helped replace the old shelter house. Over the years, the City has also contributed planting and clean up. Today, the park is a vibrant center, and symbol, of our neighborhood.

Later, MANA created the VOICE as a neighborhood-serving newsletter. This further created a sense of neighborhood identity. Dave credits the VOICE as a powerful tool for unity and positive change.

Over the years, the world changed and inevitably, neighbors expected MANA to engage in increasingly complicated local issues. One of the most pivotal was the proposed closing of what is now Creekside Elementary. Neighborhood parents wanted to retain a walkable neighborhood school. MANA realized a neighborhood school would be crucial to the vitality of a largely single-family neighborhood and would key to keeping and attracting young

families to their starter homes here. Being organized was again an asset. While other neighborhoods' schools closed, MANA and our local families celebrated their bid to keep our school open—and with it, our neighborhood thriving.

More recently, MANA has addressed US 36 noise pollution, traffic problems on Moorhead, parking issues, the recently proposed Baseline Zero development, and trying to decrease our auto dependency through Eco-Passes and supporting more local neighborhood-serving retail.

Another major MANA focus has been the neighborhood's events, including the city-famous MANA Pancake Breakfast. MANA has also hosted garden tours, home tours, Easter egg hunts, neighborhood-wide garage sales, and the recent plant sale and progressive brunch. (End of Part 1)

Garden to Garden

All Hands in for Garden to Garden! (Sponsored by the Martin Acres Garden Club.)

Dig your plants to help us rebuild and restore the gardens of our flooded neighbors in Jamestown and Lyons. Bring plants, shrubs, seeds and trees to our staging site (TBA) on Sat., May 30. Up to 5 gallon pot size. Plastic containers only and well watered. Labeled with plant name. Prefer native plants with substantial roots, lilacs, wild roses, grasses and flowers. Deliveries to Jamestown and Lyons on Sun., May 31.

To Volunteer: call Lois LaCroix, 303.494.8411, or Kim Dunning, 303.588.6073, kim@kimdunning.com

SoBo Retail Spotlight: Nick's Auto on Moorhead (this column features retail businesses in the 'hood)

For 38 years Nick's Auto Repair has been a local, family-owned Boulder business, right here in our neighborhood. Its future is uncertain due to the proposed Baseline Zero development, but we recently spoke with owner Dennis Nickerson.

In 1977, Dennis' father, Elden "Nick" Nickerson opened the location as a gas station/repair shop. Dennis went into partnership with Nick in 1988 to form the facility it is today. In 1999 Nick retired, and Dennis now owns the business. He keeps standards high. "'We treat your car like it's our own,'" says Dennis.

Martin Acres neighbors appreciate that they can walk home after dropping off their cars, and walk back when the work is done. "No need for a double car system...Nick's is the definition of a convenient, time- and trip-saving neighborhood service," says Sarah Massey-Warren, a regular customer for 23 years.

Nick's is a certified, full service auto shop. They do everything from routine maintenance, tire rotations, spark plugs and rotors, and brakes to timing belts, clutches, and engine repair.

Dennis started at the ground level, working for his dad. He went on to graduate first in his automotive school class in 1975, winning the Vocational/Industrial Clubs of America area award 1974-75. He updates his knowledge with classes as auto technology evolves, and hires the best technicians in the area. Nick's has a reputation as one of the top repair shops in the region.

In 2000, Dennis brought on his oldest daughter Jennifer to "learn the ropes." And so, yet another family member stayed in the business. Jennifer emphasizes the personal nature of the business and their relationship with their customers. She says, "I often recognize a customer's voice when they call, and know their car model and service history before they tell me."

Nick's is truly a family-owned, local establishment, delivering the same personal service customers had in 1977.

Minor Bylaws Corrections

At the Feb. 2 MANA meeting, the MANA membership is invited to vote on three minor updates to the MANA By-Laws.

The proposed updates are: 1) a one-word grammatical correction 2) the removal of a historically extraneous, non-operative clause that has been archaic for years and 3) updating the By-Laws to reflect the Steering Committee's decision earlier this year to make the VOICE Newsletter a standing committee.

1) One word grammatical correction (missing the word "and"): Article VI Section 1. paragraph b. change.

BEFORE:

b. The Steering Committee shall consist of the officers of the Association, the coordinators of the standing committees.

AFTER:

b. The Steering Committee shall consist of the officers of the Association **and** the coordinators of the standing committees.

2) Removal of a historically extraneous, non-operative clause. (MANA hasn't used the Area designations in years and they have no bearing on any functionality of the organization):

Article VI Section 1. paragraph b. subsection 3 to be removed.

BEFORE:

3. The Martin Acres areas shall be designated as Areas 1, 2, 3, and 4 or such other designation as shall be approved by the membership.

AFTER: (nothing...the clause will be removed)

3)Updating the By-Laws to reflect the Steering Committee's decision earlier this year to make the VOICE newsletter a standing committee:

Article VI Section 1. paragraph b. subsection 2 change.

BEFORE:

2. The standing committees shall be Beautification, Neighborhood Communication, Block Organization, Special Events, Zoning and Code Enforcement, and/or such others as created by the membership of the Association.

AFTER:

2. The standing committees shall be Beautification, Neighborhood Communication, Block Organization, Special Events, Zoning and Code Enforcement, **Voice Newsletter** and/or such others as created by the membership of the Association.

MANA STEERING COMMITTEE 2015

President:

Kathleen Adair 303-499-5367 president@martinacres.org

Vice President:

Bill Flinchbaugh 303-931-3443 vp@martinacres.org

Secretary:

Dalice Tylee 303-746-6765 secretary@martinacres.org

Treasurer:

Bennett Scharf 303-499-5119 treasurer@martinacres.org

Zoning/Code:

Kara Godbehere MacLean 720-254-5165 and

Mike Marsh 303-499-3395 zoning@martinacres.org

Communications:

Ron DePugh 303-494-5650

communications@martinacres.org

Steering Committee (to email the entire steering committee)

steeringcommittee@martinacres.org

Voice Newsletter:

Lisa Harris 303-443-4068 voice@martinacres.com

2015 MANA CALENDAR

February 2nd, 2015 MANA Steering Committee Meeting

March 2nd, 2015 MANA Annual Meeting

MARTIN ACRES VOICE CLASSIFIED ADS

Ads are \$10.00 for the first 3 lines, \$2.50 per line thereafter. Contact Voice@martinacres.org to place an ad. Payments: Treasurer, MANA, PO Box 3514, Boulder, CO 80307

A.J. LAWN SERVICES: Spring Clean Up Special Lawn Mowing (Discounted rate if next door neighbors sign up together), Gutter cleaning – Landscaping - Aeration MA Resident, FREE ESTIMATES 17 YRS EXP. Honest & Reliable. Call Andy 720-273-6759, or ajlawnservices@gmail.com, www.ajlawnservices.biz

ARBOR VITAL TREE CARE, Certified Arborist 20 years experience, insured. Trees & shrubs pruned, removed. Mulch & firewood delivered. Consultation. Free estimates. MA resident. David Schaldach 303-919-8183

Babysitting evenings and weekends. Caring and compassionate, loves playing with kids, going outside with them, and reading books. Many positive references from the neighborhood. Has cared for kids ages 6 months to 14 years. Recent CSU grad; going to Panama with the Peace Corps in summer 2015. Soni Hueftle, soni.hueftle@gmail.com.

David Lorraine, 8z Real Estate - Unparalleled market knowledge and customer service. Martin Acres specials available. www.MartinAcresPulse.com - David@8z.com – 303-502-7823

Friends of Martin Acres - Visit our site at www.friendsofmartinacres.org for more information or contact David Lorraine at 303-502-7823 to get involved. Friends of Martin Acres (FMA) was founded to bring about neighborly cohesion through collaborative efforts that improve the quality of life in Martin Acres.

DOWN TO EARTH LANDSCAPING | INSTALLATION & DESIGN “Not Only Our Personality, But Our Prices” We offer Custom Flagstone Patios & Retaining Walls, Paver Patios & Walk-ways, Sprinkler Installation & Repair, Site Grading, Sod Installation, Fences, Decks, Arbors, Landscape Lighting, Seasonal Clean-Ups, & More. *FREE ESTIMATES
CONTACT: Hayden Griess (Owner), MA Resident
EMAIL: downtoearth452@yahoo.com,
PHONE: 720-338-3002

Experienced Babysitter & Dogwalker, Lifelong MA resident, 15yrs old Familiar with paths & trails, Avail weekends. Gwen, gmartinacres99@gmail.com.

JOHN'S APPLIANCE REPAIR service and repair on all major makes and models of household appliances johnsboulderappliance.com 720-560-8385

Kim Dunning, Neighborhood Real Estate Broker and resident of 20 years. Whether buying, selling, or investing, I can help! Ask me about my 2.5% commission for MA residents. 303-588-6037.

LAWNS & ODD JOBS – I'm a 14-year-old who mows lawns, walks dogs, rakes leaves, shovels snow, etc. References available. Contact Djibril at MANAmower@gmail.com.

MASSAGE & CRANIOSACRAL Registered therapist with 30 years Experience. Lovely, tranquil MA studio. Kathleen Adair 303-499-5367 www.boulder.massagetherapy.com

PET-SITTING & DOG-WALKING service. We love animals! Neighborhood refs. Affordable. (Mom/daughter team) Paula & Alisa at paula@planetearth.com

Sasha Krivokapic, with 18 years of experience as a handyman, doing carpentry, painting, drywall, tiles, light plumbing and electrical and almost any kind of exterior or interior remodel. Free estimates, 720-436-1121 sasha@goldenhandshandyman.com <http://GoldenHandsHandymanServices.com>

Silver Fern Homes Real Estate & Property Management Dallice Tylee 303-746-6765 dalice@SilverFernHomes.com MA Resident and Realtor for 10 years... Ask for references!

Vibrant Veggies Sauerkraut - MA-owned food company. For sale at Whole Foods and Natural Grocers. Try our Moroccan Fusion flavor with soup or salad!

WHOLE PETS SOUTH-In BaseMar shopping center btw. Star Nails and the Liquor Store- Holistic Pet Foods, Treats, Toys, Supplements, etc.! 303-494-1330 www.wholepetsholistic.com