

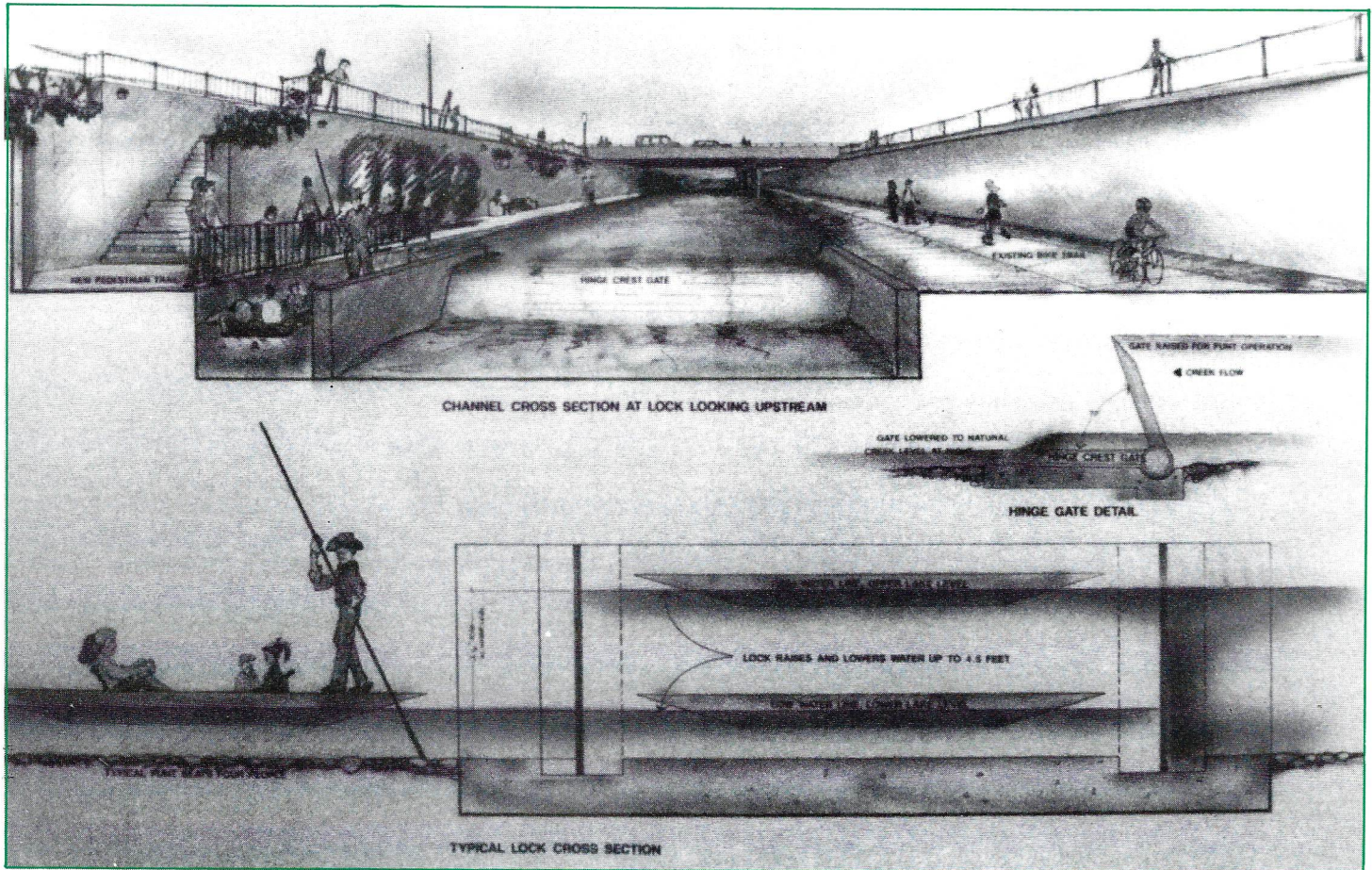
# Greenway

## NEWSLETTER

Vol. 15 No. 1

Spring 1993

### Mayor Webb Announces "Punt the Creek"



*Illustrative concept depicting a cross section of "Punt the Creek" along Cherry Creek in lower Downtown Denver.*

**O**n January 13, 1993, Mayor Wellington Webb and Jeff Shoemaker, Director of the Greenway Foundation announced the initiation of an effort to bring boating to the waters of Cherry Creek in Downtown Denver.

Entitled "Punt the Creek", this exciting and unique summertime concession is due to open in early May of 1995. "Punt the Creek" will allow residents and tourists to float along the waters of Cherry Creek between Larimer Street and Delgany Street, traveling through the only lock in Colorado in the

only known punts in the United States. Phase I of the project will be a 20 minute, five block excursion through the birthplace of Denver, and will allow the passengers to learn about the origins of our city which began over 125 years ago, courtesy of the punt poleman who will serve both as the means of transportation as well as a historic Denver tourguide. Phase II, following the completion and successful operation of Phase I, will continue the project for another five blocks downstream to the confluence with the Platte

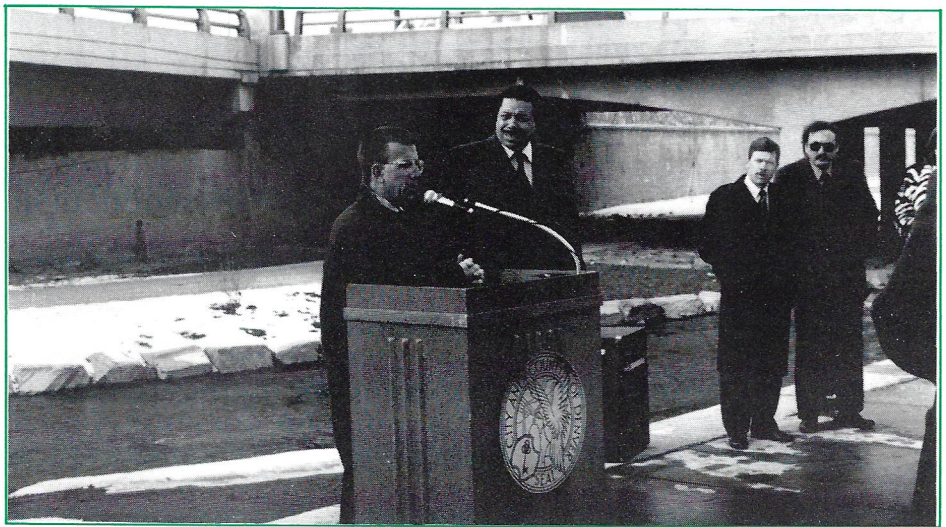
River Greenway.

During the next two years, funding and design, followed by construction will occur to add a variety of new amenities to this area of Cherry Creek. The Creek and banks will be altered to accommodate a series of Punts, a non-motorized vessel well known in Europe that has been called a "cross between a gondola and a canoe". Made out of wood, with dimensions of 22' long, 3' wide and only 16" deep, a Punt will accommodate up to four adults and a poleman, and requires less than



2' of water to navigate the Creek. In addition, a new pedestrian path will be added to the Creek bank opposite from the existing hike-bike path, along with new accessways, lighting and landscaping.

During his announcement and endorsement of the latest effort of the Greenway Foundation, Mayor Webb stated that the "Punt the Creek" project will bring "another unique attraction to Lower Downtown Denver". We are grateful for the support of the Mayor and his administration as we initiate the efforts to bring this fun-filled, family oriented amenity to lower Downtown Denver.



*Mayor Wellington Webb and Jeff Shoemaker, Director of the Greenway Foundation announce the kickoff of "Punt the Creek".*

## New Section of Cherry Creek South Greenway Opens on June 5th

**T**he newest addition to the Cherry Creek South Greenway will be dedicated on Saturday, June 5th at 10:00 a.m. As part of National Trails Day, this new section will include over 1.5 miles of hard surface and equestrian trail and three pedestrian bridges. When combined with the existing trail, the Cherry Creek South Greenway will encompass over 11 miles of trail and pedestrian bridges. The new section of trail will be added to the south end of the existing trail, approximately 1 mile south of Stroh Ranch Road in Douglas County. The dedication ceremony will begin at the intersection of Stroh Ranch Road and the Cherry Creek South Greenway. Everyone is invited to attend and try out the new trail!

Along with this new section in Douglas County, final design of the trail in Aurora will be completed over the next several weeks. This section of the Cherry Creek South Greenway will begin at the south entrance of Cherry Creek State Park and travel approximately 2.5 miles southward to the Aurora/Arapahoe County boundary. It is our hope to be able to begin construction of this section during this coming summer. Once completed, the Cherry Creek Greenway will extend for over 13 miles along the Creek between Cherry Creek and Castlewood

Canyon State Parks.

The Greenway Foundation is also finalizing the contracts with Colorado State Parks and Arapahoe County which will allow us to begin the design of an additional 4-5 miles of trail in Arapahoe and Douglas Counties, hopefully during

1993. If so, we hope to begin constructing these sections of trail in early 1994.

As always, feel free to contact the Greenway Foundation (698-1322) with any questions pertaining to this extensive and on going project.



*Workers install the 150 foot pedestrian bridge across Cherry Creek in Douglas County, one of three such bridges included in the newest addition to the Cherry Creek South Greenway.*



## Lincoln High School's Greenway Program



Alan Lautrup and George Leon prepare 2nd graders from the Jefferson County Open School for gold panning.

**T**he Greenway Experience Program has expanded from Carl Crookham's fantastic group at Metro Zuni to Lincoln High School's LAMP program! Jeanne Beckman, Karla Myles and Betty Tobias developed the program with the help of Carl a year and half ago. Since then the Lincoln tour guides have impressed many elementary schools with their knowledge and congeniality on the Greenway!

Here's what some of our tour guides have to say about the program:

"I think that the Greenway Experience is a great opportunity to learn more about Colorado history. The reason I think this is because it is more of a hands-on project. It teaches things about Colorado history a lot easier than when you are in the classroom." *Alan Lautrup – Senior tour guide, Lincoln High School*

"The Greenway Program is a fun class where you teach children about their past and you can learn a lot too just by showing up for the class." *Randy Avery – 1st year tour*

*guide, Lincoln High School*

"The Greenway Program is a great experience for both the tour

guides and the kids. I've been in this program for two and a half semesters and I've enjoyed it. I plan to work with the Greenway Experience until I graduate."

*Ritchie Archuletta – Senior tour guide, Lincoln High School*

"I think that the Greenway Experience is fun. The elementary kids like the tours so much they want to go another time. I think the kids are good listeners because they don't say anything without being called on. I like being a tour guide and the elementary students love it." *Raymond Avery – First year tour guide, Lincoln High School*

"The Greenway Program is a good experience for the Lincoln High School students because you learn a lot from the kids and they learn a lot from you." *Linda Avila – First year tour guide, Lincoln High School*

"It's about learning and teaching. The kids love it. Sometimes it helps you remember what it was like to be eight or nine. You even wonder how they would turn out without having taken the



Linda Avila finds gold for an excited 2nd grader from the Jefferson County Open School.





Ritchie Archuletta carefully explains the pioneer cabin to 2nd graders from Johnson Elementary.

tour." Vince Colaci – Senior tour guide, Lincoln High School

#### What's New This Year on the Lincoln Tours?

The Lincoln tour guides and their teacher Betty Tobias initially

gave tours of Grant Frontier Park, the mining equipment and time permitting, took children for a walk down to the Platte River. Since then they have added some new and exciting activities:

1. An archaeological dig was built

last year in Grant Frontier Park with the help of an Eagle Scout. Elementary students love digging for pioneer artifacts and try to guess what they are and how they were used. Students find old horseshoes, rusty gold pans, railroad spikes, a gold mining pick, a tin cup and even an old horse bit!

2. Gold-panning was recently added to the Lincoln Greenway Program. With the money Karla Myles and Betty Tobias were awarded for the Classroom Connection Creativity Grant from the Public Service Company of Colorado last year, the Lincoln program purchased gold pans and wading boots. This is our first season panning and we are having a blast! So are the elementary students!

3. Jefferson County Open School loves the Greenway Program so much that they too would like to start their own "teens as teachers" program. They are thinking of using the Lakewood Gulch area for their tours. Good luck Jefferson County and spread the word!

## Improvements at Fishback Landing

**D**ue to a cooperative venture between the Platte River Greenway Foundation and Denver's Department of Parks and Recreation, Fishback Landing, located just up-River from Confluence Park, is the home of a new, and much needed, restroom facility. The previous structure, which had been in place for over fifteen years, was beyond repair and had been closed for several months.

The new structure follows the design guidelines recently adopted by the Parks Department for all such facilities throughout the Denver Parks system, and will remain open on a year round basis.

The Greenway Foundation looks forward to a continued cooperative and productive relationship with Denver Parks and Recreation as we pursue our shared goal of adding further improvements to Denver's Platte River Greenway.



This new restroom facility is a welcome addition to Fishback Landing.



## Attention Golfers!

**W**e are proud to announce the return of the Greenway Foundation/Foundation for Colorado State Parks Invitational Golf Tournament.

The Greenway Foundation and the Foundation for Colorado State Parks will co-host this exciting and fun filled event at Meridian Golf Club, an internationally known course designed by the "Golden Bear" himself, Jack Nicklaus. All

proceeds will be evenly divided between the two organizations.

Thursday, August 12, 1993 has been set aside as the day when the fun will take place. Because we will be using a "shotgun" format, participation will be limited to 40 participants.

For a donation of \$100, (\$50 of which is tax deductible), participants will enjoy 18 holes of golf, including cart, and lunch after

the tournament. Tee-off will be promptly at 8:30 a.m.

If you would like to join us in this fun day of golf, lunch and friendship, please fill out the form below and return it to the Greenway Foundation office at: 1666 South University Boulevard, Denver, Colorado 80210.

We hope to see you on the 12th of August!



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

I've enclosed a check for \_\_\_\_\_ player(s) at \$100 per player.

My guests will be: 1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## Your Support Makes the Difference!

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

\$30.00 for you or a friend.

Included in the membership is a  
Membership Card entitling you to:

- All copies of the newsletter printed  
in the year you are a member.
- All new members will receive a copy  
of our book "Returning the Platte to  
the People".

### COMMEMORATING MEMBER

For \$100.00, have a contribution made  
towards the Greenway Tree Fund in  
the name of a friend or loved one.  
(Also includes all privileges of an  
Annual Member).

### CORPORATE MEMBER

\$250.00 includes a limited edition print  
by well known artist William Condit  
entitled "Seasons Along the Platte." All  
prints are signed and numbered by the  
artist. (Also includes all privileges of an  
Annual Member).



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