

Cathy Donohue gains a bit of history in Council win

Cathy Donohue, a reform-minded young liberal whose similarities with her opponent far outnumbered the differences, defeated Sally Brown Tuesday in the City Council District 10 runoff election.

Mrs. Donohue, 38, joins Cathy Reynolds, a newly-elected at-large Council member, as one of the first two councilwomen in the city's history.

With all of the district's 46 precincts reporting, Mrs. Donohue had 5,336 votes to Mrs. Brown's 4,164.

The two women, both Democrats, outpolled

four male contenders, three of whom were Democrats in the May 20 election to win spots in Tuesday's runoff.

Barley 90 minutes after the polls closed, Mrs. Brown, 39, appeared at her opponent's Capitol Hill home to concede defeat and pledge her support.

"We're all together," Mrs. Brown said after the election. "You're going to hear from District 10 Cathy's going to do a great job, and I'm going to help her."

Mrs. Donohue couldn't point to a specific reason for her victory.

"We spent eight to 10 hours a day out on the streets ringing doorbells and talking to people," she said. "I think it was the personal contact."

She said her campaign effort grew not "from the ranks of big political groups, but from the citizens."

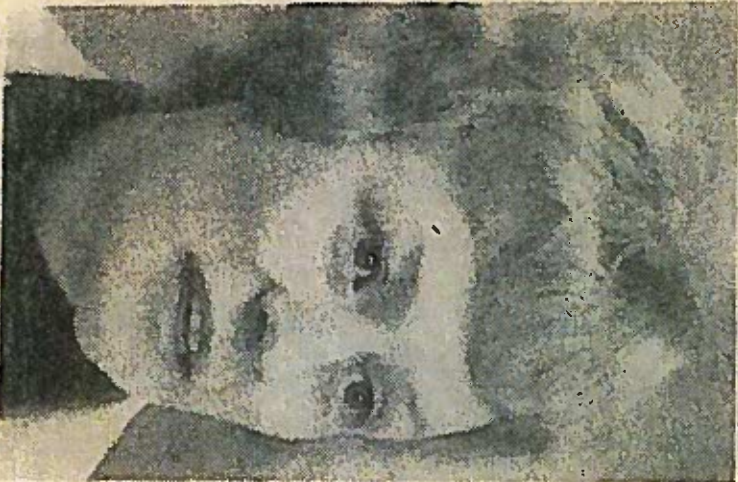
Mrs. Donohue said she thought, "the future of the city hinges on whether Capitol Hill makes it or not."

"I love this city, and I want to make it work." While the two candidates campaigned in the District 10 neighborhoods of Capitol Hill, Cheesman Park and Congress Park, they found themselves taking almost the same positions on all the major issues.

For example, they both opposed further development of one-way and collector streets. They pledged to seek tax relief for the elderly. And they promised to try to make sure Denver gets its fair share of state school money.

Mrs. Donohue cast herself as a "deer" and a person who has dealt extensively with community problems in the past. She views her Council seat as a way to increase her power to solve some of the city's major problems — crime, traffic, rundown housing, lack of services for the elderly and more.

Mrs. Donohue says she has felt intense frustration when dealing with city agencies — "like beating your head against a brick wall." She says she hopes to break through some of those walls in her new position.



Donohue: "It was the personal contact."

Carpio wins, gets chance to turn talk into action

By FRANK MOYA

News Staff

There finally is a victor in the political battle that has divided City Council District 9 for four years. The winner is Sal Carpio.

Carpio, a soft-spoken sociology professor defeated incumbent Eugene DiManna by 847 votes Tuesday, 4,971 to 4,124.

For Carpio, it means the chance to try to accomplish for his blighted northwest Denver district what he so far has only been able to talk about.

Bridging the gap between its Chicano and Anglo residents.

Re-establishing residential zoning patterns to forestall further deterioration of its aging neighborhoods.

Providing places for its restless youth to vent their energies.

For DiManna it means some time to rest and put behind him the political bickering that has marked his four-year term.

It is a rest he fought hard to avoid. For two years DiManna waged a legal battle to prevent a recall election that district Chicanos — claiming he was insensitive to their needs — finally were successful in securing in February.

DiManna beat Carpio in that one by more than 500 votes. But in the May general election Carpio turned the tables, drawing about 300 more votes than DiManna. His margin wasn't enough to avoid Tuesday's runoff, thanks to the candidacy of Ernesto Vigil, who ran under the La Raza Unida party banner.

DiManna knew he faced an uphill battle in the runoff election, but until the end he believed he could parlay the support of the district's conservative voters into victory.

Owners of taverns, liquor stores, laundromats and repair shops festooned the windows of their businesses with posters that featured DiManna's smiling face.

DiManna was one of them. A small businessman, a tavern owner who believed in hard work, the American Dream and Columbus Day.

He is a rough and tumble Italian boy made good, a dedicated Catholic with a healthy fear of hell and devotion for the Virgin Mary.

It was these qualities that helped DiManna earn the respect and gather the votes of the district's working class in 1971, when he bested a field of Chicano candidates and began his Council term.

But this time he came up short. About 51 percent of the district's residents are Chicano, and it was their votes that Carpio took to victory.

When Carpio lost the recall election to DiM-



Carpio: "This shows people do care."

Carpio hasn't revised his politics

City Councilman Sal Carpio says he has changed his political affiliation but not his politics.

In 1970, Carpio was a candidate for Congress under the banner of La Raza Unida, a now-dormant party affiliated with the Crusade for Justice.

"I only lost by about 90,000 votes," Carpio said last week, smiling at the recollection during a break in hearings before the Council Budget and Finance Committee, which he heads.

Since the 1970 congressional election - which was won by former Denver Dist. Atty. Mike McKeyvitt - Carpio has become a better vote getter. But in doing so, Carpio hasn't abandoned the issues he campaigned on during his ill-fated 1970 race.

Whenever he had the chance in 1970, Carpio sounded his alarm over the decay of the inner city, the flight of the affluent to the suburbs, what

'I don't think there's a place in the political process for fear and intimidation.'

he called the folly of busing to achieve racial balance in the schools and the need to spend more for education.

THAT HASN'T CHANGED in 1977, although Carpio is now a registered Democrat, shedding the La Raza Unida affiliation and with it the support of many of his former backers.

Carpio, 36, also has been critical of his former La Raza Unida comrades, decrying an Aug. 27 incident in which some members of the Crusade disrupted a meeting of a political group they opposed in the parish hall of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 5599 Kalamath St.

"Whether they like it or not, they represent fear to a lot of people," Carpio said of the Crusade members. "I don't think that there's a place in the political process for fear and intimidation."

In response to that criticism, Crusade leader

Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales - while denying official Crusade sanction of the incident - has charged that some Chicano political leaders, including Carpio, have seized on the incident in an effort to consolidate their support at the expense of the Crusade.

Carpio says he isn't fond of public feuds and would like this one to be forgotten. But he talked about his decisions to join and then leave the La Raza Unida party.

EXCEPT FOR A four-year stay in Denver's Montbello subdivision, Carpio is a lifelong resident of the north Denver Council district he represents. A graduate of Mount Carmel High School and the University of Northern Colorado, he is a sociology professor at Metropolitan State College.

Carpio was a political neophyte when he joined the La Raza Unida party in 1970. He traces his involvement in the party to his disappointment in the failure of leaders in either major political party to try to come to grips with the problems of urban poor, particularly Chicanos, during the riots of the 1960s.

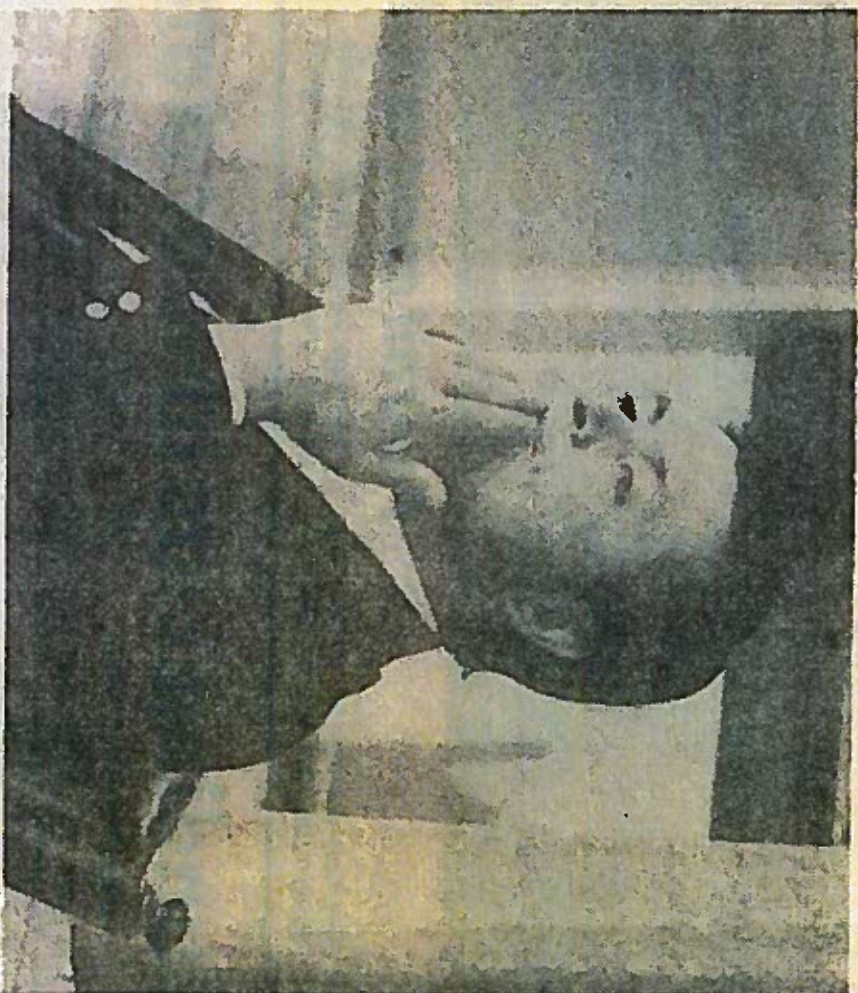
"It just didn't seem to me at the time that either party was paying attention or capable of paying attention to the poor," he said. "It was a very dark time for traditional two-party politics. What it boiled down to was I thought the parties needed a kick in the pants."

Carpio knew of the efforts afoot by Gonzales and supporters to establish a third political party. He often invited Gonzales and others to address Chicano-studies courses Carpio was teaching at the University of Denver.

He talked often with Crusade members about the fledgling party. When one suggested he make a stab at public office under its banner, "I weighed the pros and cons and decided, 'Why not?'"

"MY MAIN CONCERN was to get people who weren't active in politics active," Carpio said. "I've always felt that the solution to the problems of the poor was twofold - education, relevant education, and political muscle."

"To me there's no greater expression of dissatisfaction. You have to get involved in the political



Sal Carpio: "If people vote, this is the best political system there is."

NEWS PHOTO

structure. People have to use that basic tool. For poor people to solve their problems they have to hold politicians accountable."

Carpio was active in La Raza Unida for two years, during which he "learned how to be a candidate, learned how to respond to people politically."

He said he left the party because its candidates couldn't attract enough votes for the party to have any political muscle. "The words were fine, but there was no action," Carpio said. In late 1972 he left the party and became more

active as a parishoner at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. Although Carpio then was living in Montbello, he was elected president of the parish council and directed its dance and construction programs.

CARPIO LEFT MONTBELLO for north Denver in 1973. The move coincided with a series of efforts by some area residents - including members of the Crusade - to recall then-City Councilman Eugene DiManna.

(Continued on page 31)

Sal Carpio has changed parties, but not politics

(Continued from page 6)

Carpio wasn't involved in the recall effort, and he said his move wasn't prompted by a desire to oppose DiManna in a Council race. But oppose him he did, after several church parishoners and friends convinced him he was the best man for the job. On Feb. 18, 1975, DiManna gathered 570 more votes than Carpio in a special recall election. In the general election the following May, Carpio turned the tables, mounting a door-to-door campaign that accused DiManna of supporting business-backed zoning changes at the expense of the residential character of the District 9 neighborhoods.

Carpio polled about 300 more votes than DiManna in the general election but didn't win the majority needed for outright victory because a third candidate, La Raza Unida's Ernesto Vigil, gathered 661 votes.

"They (the members of La Raza Unida) felt I had shafted them," Carpio said. "They felt they were responsible for the recall and that I should have been more responsive to them as a group. My position was that I had to be responsive to my district. La Raza Unida worked against me. They worked like hell against me."

70 Playboy employes fired in effort to reduce costs

CHICAGO (UPI) — Seventy Playboy Enterprises employes ranging from executives to clerks have been fired in an effort to pare down administrative costs, a Playboy spokesman said Saturday.

Most of those fired Friday worked at the Chicago offices, but some Los Angeles and New York employes were also let go, said Michael Murphy, circulation promotion director.

Murphy said the firings were the result of a year-long study showing an excess of administrators.

Playboy will be investing more money into its profitable ventures, such as publications and casinos, and will get out of the film and entertainment business, Murphy said.

CARPIO WON HIS Council seat in a runoff election, polling 847 votes more than DiManna. Since then, he said, he has tried to translate campaign pledges into action.

With the help of some hard-working constituents, new business zoning in the district "has been stopped cold," bringing a new stability to District 9, according to Carpio.

In addition, Carpio and like-minded constituents have been successful in securing the district its fair share of federal funds to expand low-income housing and redevelop blighted neighborhoods, he said.

Through 1980, some \$4 million will be given low-income homeowners in the district to improve their houses, Carpio noted. A \$3 million residential and activity center for the elderly is being built at W. 38th Avenue and Alcott Street.

A \$900,000 recreation center is to be built at W. Archer Place and Elati Street, Carpio said, and \$500,000 is being spent to build curbs and gutters for Globeville residents. Millions of dollars more are being used to expand recreation centers and pay for drainage projects in the district, Carpio notes with pride.

After a brief flirtation with La Raza Unida, Carpio's loyalties now lie with traditional American politics.

"There's no political system in the world that's perfect," he said. "But if people vote, this one's the best there is."

Environment official's son discovered dead in London

LONDON (UPI) — Piers Shore, the 20-year-old son of Environment Minister Peter Shore, was found dead Friday in a house where he lived with three other persons, police said.

Shore's father cut short an official visit to Philadelphia and left for home after being told the news by British Ambassador Peter Jay.

Police said a post mortem would be conducted Monday. They said they did not suspect foul play.

Piers, eldest of the Shores' four children, appeared in court in July and admitted to possession of a heroin-based drug. His sentencing was deferred for six months.

DCPA expects city aid for annual costs

By SUZANNE WEISS

News Staff

The Denver Center for the Performing Arts (DCPA) expects to have financial help from the city in paying for the annual operating costs of the new, multimillion-dollar arts complex, a Denver City Council committee was told Monday.

But councilmen won't be getting figures on how much year-to-year aid the DCPA will be requesting from the city for at least two months, Richard D. Collins, the DCPA's executive director, said.

Meanwhile, a long-term lease allowing further development of the four-block arts complex must be authorized by the city within the next 30 days or "the whole project could collapse," Collins warned Council's Budget and Finance Committee.

"How is it that we now find ourselves in such a bind?" demanded committee chairman Sal Carpio, District 9's councilman. "Why don't we have those figures now? It seems to me that the first step is having the figures."

But Carpio didn't get anywhere with Collins, who asked to meet with the committee to open negotiations on the 50-year DCPA lease which Mayor Bill McNichols and his staff is drafting. The lease, which calls for renting all the land and facilities in the complex to the DCPA for \$1 a year for 50 years, will require Council approval.

Carpio and Councilwoman Cathy Donohue, another member of the committee, wanted to

quiz Collins on an issue they consider crucial to successful negotiation of the long-term lease — will there be annual operating deficits on facilities in the new arts complex, and will the city be required to pick up the tab for them?

Collins came armed only with charts showing "DCPA goals" and the interrelationship of buildings in the new complex — but no figures.

When Carpio began to press him for details on how much money the DCPA will be expecting the city to pump into the complex, Collins became angry.

"We'll have figures for you. Did you have all that kind of information before you signed off on Mile High Stadium and McNichols Arena?" Collins demanded.

Collins told Carpio's committee that the long-term lease has to be hammered out within 30 days to take advantage of construction bids the DCPA has received on a \$10 million theaters building it is financing.

If Council holds up the lease negotiations, the theaters building will have to be re-bid, Collins said.

Collins couldn't explain why the DCPA had let Council with only 30 days to settle questions about the 50-year lease.

"All I can tell you is that the negotiations in the past have been more on legal issues than on budgetary issues," he said.

Carpio said his committee will schedule a round of meetings with city officials and the DCPA once a proposed lease is drafted by the city attorney's office.



DCPA director Collins: "The whole project could collapse."

NEWS PHOTO BY MEL SCHIELTZ

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'Voice' for Neighborhoods On Land Use Proposed

By CHRIS WHITBECK
Denver Post Staff Writer

Representatives of every major neighborhood in Denver would be given a formal voice in every land-use decision affecting their areas under a proposal to be discussed this week by the city council.

The proposal, made by Councilman Sal Carpio, is the first attempt of its kind to formally involve residents and businessmen from local neighborhoods in government decisions affecting their areas.

The plan was drafted in response to what Carpio feels is a valid concern that residents are being barred from government decisions affecting them, when the neighborhood's concerns and wishes should, in fact, be a major factor in those decisions.

UNDER CARPIO'S PROPOSAL, every major neighborhood — about 25 in all — would be represented by a planning board of up to nine residents and businessmen from the neighborhood.

The boards' members would be nominated by the council representative from the district and appointed by the mayor from those nominees.

The boards would be charged with reviewing and making formal recommendations on proposals to change zoning, purchase or sell city property, make public improvements, issue liquor and other licenses, dedicate or vacate streets or designate parks, urban-renewal or community-development projects in their areas.

THEY OFFICIALLY WOULD be provided access to technical help and information from the city planning, zoning, public works and parks and recreation departments, and even the city attorney, if necessary.

They wouldn't be permitted to initiate rezoning in their areas, but they would be allowed to recommend changes in zoning applications submitted to the city, or changes in the city's zoning law.

They would be permitted to make suggestions to the city planning office about the comprehensive plan for their areas.

The planning board, which currently reviews and recommends action on city zoning applications, would be confined to making recommendations only on zoning changes which affect more than two neighborhoods, leaving the rezoning of small parcels of land within a

single neighborhood to the local neighborhood planning board.

THE LOCAL BOARDS would be charged with investigating all matters affecting the neighborhood, meeting with the applicants and the affected residents, and making their recommendations to the city council at the formal council hearing on the matter.

Carpio said his proposal would allow citizens to voice their concerns and negotiate their differences with an applicant or developer at the outset, instead of being confined to voicing their complaints at "the tail end of the process."

He observed that in the past, the council members have acted as buffers between the applicants or developers seeking changes and the residents of the neighborhood, getting the two sides together to work out their differences.

BUT THE COUNCIL has been directed by the State Supreme Court to assume a quasijudicial role in rezoning matters, and it isn't permitted to get involved in a zoning application until it hears it at a formal council hearing.

Carpio said he envisions the citizen planning board system working much the same way the community-development process does.

Many people argue and get very upset in the course of making those decisions, he said. "But no one can say they aren't based on citizen input and citizen wishes."

Week's Lineup Given For Flu-Shot Clinics

Here is the schedule of free swine-flu vaccination clinics to be held in Front Range areas of Colorado the week of Nov. 21-27:

SUNDAY, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.—Niwot, Niwot High School; Longmont, St. Vrain Memorial Bldg.; Boulder, depot at Pow Wow Grounds, Crestview Elementary School; Fairview High School; Lafayette, Centaurus High School; Broomfield, Broomfield High School; Central City, elementary school (10 a.m.-1 p.m. only); Nederland, Nederland Elementary School, (3 p.m.-7 p.m. only).

MONDAY, 4 p.m.-8 p.m.—Niwot, Niwot High School; Longmont, St. Vrain Memorial Bldg.; Boulder, Depot at Pow Wow Grounds, Crestview Elementary School, Fairview High School; Lafayette, Centaurus High School; Broomfield, Broomfield High School.

TUESDAY, 4 p.m.-8 p.m.—Niwot, Niwot High School; Longmont, St. Vrain Memorial Bldg.; Boulder, depot at Pow Wow Grounds, Crestview Elementary School, Fairview High School; Lafayette, Centaurus High School; Broomfield, Broomfield High School; Idaho Springs, elementary school; Parker, Joy Lutheran Church; Castle Rock, Douglas County High School, Castle Rock Junior High School.

Plan, Zone Revamp Studied by Council

By CHRIS WHITBECK
Denver Post Staff Writer

Planning and zoning procedures in Denver would undergo a major overhaul under separate proposals being developed by two Denver city councilmen.

Under one proposal, the city council, for the first time in 20 years, would assume an active role in planning the city's future physical development. Under the second plan, neighborhood residents, for the first time ever, would be given a formal voice in all decisions affecting the physical development of their areas.

THE TWO SEPARATE but related proposals were made informally last week by Councilmen Don Wyman and Sal Carpio.

Wyman suggested that the council reverse a 1958 ordinance giving the mayor and his appointed planning office full responsibility for developing and adopting a comprehensive plan for the city.

Instead, he suggested that the council pass an ordinance reassuming responsibility for that plan — which is supposed to serve as a general guide for all policy decisions relating to land use and the physical development of the city.

CARPIO WANTS to create a series of neighborhood planning commissions — one for each major neighborhood in the city — which would review and recommend action on all proposals affecting their neighborhoods.

Both proposals were the result of a recent Colorado Supreme Court decision that required the city to radically alter its zoning procedures, and of a growing desire among Denver citizens that neigh-

borhoods be given a more effective voice in determining their future.

In making his proposal to the city's zoning committee, Wyman noted, as have many council members and city planners, that for years the council has ignored the city's comprehensive plan and the bulk of the planning done by the city's planning department.

THE COUNCIL'S attitude toward the plan and the planning office has been a constant source of frustration to the planners, who felt their work was often futile, and to citizens and developers, who found they couldn't rely on any plans filed with the city.

Wyman said last week, "The council can no longer afford to be aloof to planning."

For one thing, a recent Colorado Supreme Court directive prohibited council members from carrying out their historic roles as advocates for their constituents in zoning matters, according to Wyman.

Instead, the council members are required to assume an impartial quasi-judicial posture on zoning decisions, avoiding any contact with either side, and deciding a case solely on the basis of testimony presented at a formal hearing.

CARPIO'S PROPOSAL, still in draft form at week's end, could also be accomplished by council ordinance.

His proposal would create neighborhood planning commissions which would be charged with reviewing and making formal recommendations on all proposals which would affect the neighborhoods in areas such as zoning, street and historical designations, parks and public improvements.

11/4/76

POWER ROLES IN DISPUTE

12-7-76

McNichols Opposes 2 Council Proposals

By CHRIS WHITBECK
Denver Post Staff Writer

Two new Denver City Council proposals have drawn opposition from Mayor Bill McNichols, who sees them as a council grab for power that would dilute governmental responsibility and his administrative authority.

The separate but related measures would give the council and neighborhood representatives more influence over the city's physical development.

ONE MEASURE, sponsored by Councilman Don Wyman, would give the council authority to approve Denver's comprehensive plan—a document which sets forth the city's broad policies for land use and physical development.

Among other things, the plan serves as a guide for rezoning decisions, public improvements and development of the street system.

The city council currently has no voice in the preparation or adoption of the plan, which falls under the authority of the mayor and his appointed planning office.

THE OTHER PROPOSAL, sponsored by Councilman Sal Carpio, would create a series of citizen planning boards—one for each major neighborhood—which would have the right to make a formal recommendation on all city proposals affecting their areas, from rezoning and liquor license applications to public improvements.

Carpio offered the proposal in response

to citizen groups which demanded that residents be given more voice in deciding the future of their neighborhoods.

McNichols said on "first blush" he believes both proposals, which are being studied by council committees, represent an "unnecessary" diffusion of responsibility which would only bog down the government.

HE SAID WYMAN'S proposal represents an example of the "constant desire of some council members to expand their powers." Council adoption of the comprehensive plan wouldn't "jell with the powers they have," McNichols said.

McNichols said he doesn't believe he would be bound by the policies in a council-adopted comprehensive plan, but he wants to have that question studied further.

He also said Carpio's proposal is "unnecessary, and a further dilution of responsibility."

He said neighborhood residents need no formal mechanism for obtaining information on city proposals: "They can have the information now . . . The implication that the public is suddenly surprised by city plans doesn't hold water."

NEIGHBORHOOD representatives shouldn't have to participate in every city decision, he said; their elected council members are supposed to represent them.

"From a political point of view," Carpio's proposal "is very attractive," McNichols said. The council can pass its decision-making responsibility on to the citizen boards "and get no heat from anybody."

"But from a practical point of view, it will get nothing done, and it isn't workable." The buck will constantly be passed, and "the taxpayer picks up the tab and gets no action," the mayor said.

WYMAN REPLIED, "It is clear that land use is a legislative function under the City Charter." He noted the council gave the mayor responsibility for the comprehensive plan in 1958, and can now take it back.

"The Charter is not in conflict with that," Wyman said. "It is saying that the city council should set broad policies and the mayor should have full authority to carry them out."

He said the council's plan would be an important document. For example, should

the mayor seek state money for a major highway which isn't shown on the council's plan, the state wouldn't grant funds, according to Wyman.

"AS IT STANDS NOW, with the mayor controlling the comprehensive plan, even if the council chooses not to act, he can run to the state, and the state will provide funds . . . which they do," Wyman said.

The council can also refuse to approve appropriations, or to condemn streets not shown on its plan, according to Wyman.

Carpio called the mayor's arguments against citizen boards "contradictory."

HE SAID THE MAYOR contends his own citizen advisory boards, such as the new police advisory panel, are effective. And the proposed citizen planning boards would operate on the same principle, Carpio said.

"We still will make the final decision," he added. "The neighborhood planning board concept doesn't absolve the council of responsibility."

Carpio's point is "just to get the citizens involved at the beginning of the process, instead of at the public hearing at the end."

VOICE IN CITY GOVERNMENT

Drive for Neighborhoods' Role to Begin

By JUDITH BRADBERRY
Denver Post Staff Writer

A proposal which would bring existing neighborhood organizations into the city planning process on a voluntary basis will be presented to a committee of the Denver City Council on June 2.

It will start what is expected to be a seven-month effort to structure and formalize the role of neighborhood boards in city planning.

Presently, city planners work with neighborhood residents on matters affecting the city's neighborhoods. But the same people seem to be involved in the advisory process, critics have said, and their selection doesn't appear to be "wide open" to the public.

Last fall, when Denver Councilman Sal Carpio sought to put into effect a concept which has been tried in such cities as New York City, Atlanta, Ga., Seattle, Wash., and Portland, Ore., Denver officials asked for a breathing spell. They

said they needed more time to investigate and peruse data about neighborhood planning.

THERE ALSO WAS opposition from neighborhood groups and city council members who feared political blocs would be created which would "shut some people out."

Thursday, assisted by two city planners and a council aide, Carpio went back to the drawing board and began working on what was described as "a minimal program which could be added to as people felt less threatened."

There are about 100 neighborhood groups in Denver. At the outset, probably one-third could help advise the city on zoning, Board of Adjustment cases, street and alley vacations and the sale of public property held by the city, according to Planning Office Director Alan Carlier.

If this works, the program could be expanded to include the capital budget,

neighborhood plans, traffic changes, liquor licenses and so forth.

Legislative analyst Bill Bradley recalled when the neighborhoods' movement started in Denver in the late 1950s. It was feared these groups would compete with the city council. But they turned out to be "a great help" to council members in that they furthered communication with Denver residents, Bradley noted.

AT THE JUNE 3 meeting of the council's Community Development and Urban Design Committee, Carpio will set forth his plan as well as guidelines for recognizing neighborhood organizations.

Planner Billie Bramhall, who is doing most of the staff work, suggested making participation voluntary. "Don't force anyone," she urged.

And Carpio agreed that the fatal flaw in his original proposal, which would have created 25 citizen planning boards—one for every major neighborhood in Denver—was its mandatory nature. The new proposal "puts the responsibility on the neighborhood groups," he said.

Bradley also urged that neighborhood representatives from every area of the city be enlisted to help draft the proposal. "Let's find the most democratic way to involve everyone," he declared.

The neighborhood groups wouldn't replace but would supplement the work of the Denver Planning Board.

At a recent retreat sponsored by the city council—and attended by representatives of civic and business groups, city officials and council members—ways of improving communication between neighborhood groups and the city government were a major topic of discussion.

Participants also asked that neighborhoods be allowed to share in the city, state and federal decision-making that affects them.

They said the adversary relationship between the neighborhoods and the city officials must end and there should be a gradual shift toward neighborhood involvement in city decision-making.

Carpio Favored to Win

By TIM MCGOVERN
Denver Post Staff Writer

Barring a last-minute effort by a conservative bloc, it appears that 36-year-old freshman Councilman Sal Carpio will be the next president of the Denver City Council.

But make your bets only at the \$2 window, because the council, renowned for being as unpredictable as a bouncing football, has come up with some surprises before in the annual battle for the gavel.

Two years ago—just after the present council was elected—the “sure thing” choice of Elvin Caldwell as president crumbled on the night of the vote when Cathy Donohue, in an impassioned speech, jumped ship and cast the deciding vote for Larry Perry.

SINCE THEN, there has been no love lost between Donohue and Caldwell. In fact, the wounds were reopened three weeks ago when Mayor Bill McNichols announced his intention of replacing Donohue with Caldwell on the board of trustees of the Denver Center for the Performing Arts (DCPA). And some observers feel that action may have played some part in this year's politicking for the presidency.

Last year, another last-minute coalition composed of the council's “administration Democrats” and conservative members ousted the front-runner, Bill Roberts, in favor of Ed Burke.

So even while some council members feel Carpio is a shoo-in this year, one observer said, “This thing isn't over by a long shot.”

THE COUNCIL IS expected to choose a new president on June 13.

Philosophically and politically, the council can be grouped into three sets: liberal Democrats—Donohue, Carpio,

Roberts, and Sam Sandos; administration Democrats—Burke, Caldwell and Cathy Reynolds, and Republicans—James Nolan, Steve Grogan, Don Wyman, Paul Hentzell and Kenneth Machintosh. Democrat Larry Perry generally associates more with this last group than either of the other two.

This “conservative” group of six is the largest bloc but seven votes are required for passage by the council.

And even though Carpio seems to be in the driver's seat for the presidency this year, attempts have been made, and could be made again, to sway some of his supporters to vote for a conservative member, probably Perry.

ACCORDING TO DONOHUE, Perry already approached her and offered to help keep her on the DCPA board if she would back either him or Wyman for the council presidency.

Donohue said she was “shocked” at being approached in such a way. She said she turned Perry down because she already was committed to Carpio.

A darkhorse in the race for the council presidency is Reynolds, but her chances are seen as dim even though she is endorsed by the current president, Burke.

The fact that a vote on endorsing the mayor's appointments to the DCPA board was postponed until July 5—after the vote on council president—is seen by some members as evidence that the conservative bloc's attempt to win the presidency for one of its members has fizzled.

BUT PERRY, at least, doesn't agree.

“I don't think anybody has it in the bag,” he said. “No one has more than four votes. There's still a strong possibility that somebody besides Carpio can get it.”

But Wyman said, “I think Sal will have

it unanimously on the first ballot.”

Nolan, who was the conservatives' first choice this year but who declined to run, agreed. “It's a forgone conclusion that Sal will be president,” he said.

Sandos, one of Carpio's strongest supporters, said he thinks it is “time for the younger councilmen to take a more active leadership role.”

BURKE SAID HE would like to see Reynolds as president but he thinks some council members haven't forgiven Reynolds for voting against the establishment of a police review board after she said she would vote for it.

“Are they going to crucify her forever?” Burke asked.

An additional element in this year's race — and one which could hold great significance — is the recent passage of a City Charter amendment reducing the mayor's veto power. It now takes only nine council votes to pass legislation over the mayor's signature, instead of 10.

Carpio is viewed as a moderate among the liberal Democrats and his election could cement the nine-vote coalition which has challenged the mayor and lost on many issues in the past six months. But given the new veto rule and assuming the coalition can be held together, the council could become a more formidable force in Denver government.

THOSE INCLUDED in this unlikely alliance are Carpio, Reynolds, Sandos, Hentzell, Donohue, Wyman, Nolan, Perry and Roberts.

Of course, this “coalition” is a fragile one — made up of both liberals and conservatives — and certainly doesn't hold together on all issues. But there are certain issues on which it has been consistent — primarily those involving balance of government, city contracts, council



Denver Post Photo

COUNCILMAN SAL CARPIO
Considered moderate among liberals.

Area Keeps Water Use Below Norm

By JOHN MORSEHEAD
Denver Post Staff Writer

Denver-area residents continued to use less water than normal over the weekend despite hot, mostly dry weather, according to Denver Water Board figures.

City and suburban consumption Saturday totaled 243 million gallons, compared

Presidency of Council

Carpio Favored To Take Helm Of City Council

Continued from page 3.

of succession to the mayor's office.

DOES THE OFFICE really have any significance? Can Carpio, if elected, weld together the extremes of the political spectrum which exist in the nine-member coalition?

Carpio, whose district takes in a large chunk of Denver's low-income and minority communities, said he thinks as president he could "make a contribution to the future of the city and especially the core city."

He said he has let it be known he would like the presidency but hasn't "presured" anyone to vote for him.

He said the nine-vote coalition will be based strictly on issues:

"We're still of a variety of ideologies and basic philosophies. It would only come into play on certain issues. There won't be any steamrolling. This council isn't that way."

subpoena power and some budget items. Opinion is divided on both a council president's power to give together a power bloc and on whether the nine-vote coalition will persist.

In fact, close observers say betting is already taking place among members on who will be the first to "bolt."

"I SEE A BREAKDOWN in that coalition," said Burke. "There's been a lot of bad blood created over this DCIPA thing. Nobody could foresee it would be this big a mess."

Wyman said he thinks the coalition will hold together but that its impact will be limited:

"All of the administrative authority is clearly vested with the mayor. The only thing we could do is pass some things he wouldn't want passed."

Wyman added, "With Carpio as pres-

ident we can pick up the liberal element. I think there will be some overrides but that doesn't mean the council will go hog-wild."

HENTZEL, AGREED that the coalition is "pretty solid" on some issues but doesn't think Carpio's election to the presidency would help cement it.

"I doesn't make any difference who is president. It's a figurehead position. He's no different from anybody else except he has a gavel in his hand. I'm not influenced by what the president tells me."

As far as statutory power is concerned, the presidency has only slightly more than that of any other council member. He can direct meetings, name committees and appoint their members and vote last on roll calls. He also is third in line

Continued on page 16.

Denver Post March 9, 1977

Critics Assail Electric-Bill Hikes

The "real fact of life" is that persons on fixed and low income aren't able to handle increasing electric bills and still eat, City Councilman Sal Carpio told the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Wednesday morning.

Carpio was one of the first public witnesses in hearings held by the PUC into the basis for fuel cost adjustment (FCA) charges added to monthly bills sent by the Public Service Co. of Colorado (PSC) to consumers. FCA is designed to pass through wholesale cost changes in fuel required to run electric generators. The cost change isn't supposed to realize any extra profit for PSC.

Diane McGeorge of 1608 Steele St., president of the National Federation of the Blind in Colorado, said because society doesn't recognize the abilities of blind persons, they are relegated to low-income

jobs, which makes high utility bills hurt all the more.

Bill Forington of 2812 S. Quitman St. testified that with use of a natural-gas conserver on his furnace, his bill for mid-January to mid-February was only \$15.42 for gas and \$11.41 for electricity.

Questioned as to what those figures meant for electricity, Forington said it means the furnace didn't turn on as often.

A second public hearing will be at 7 p.m. Thursday in the PUC hearing room on the fifth floor of the State Services Building, 1525 Sherman St.

Forington lives in a three-bedroom house with a finished basement. His device, which he calls the "chimney robber" extracts heat from the chimney flue.

He said he is engaged in an "illegal business, against the law, in defiance of the law," because the Denver Building Department hasn't approved his device.

Former Councilman Carpio to take reins at DHA

Carpio to head DHA

Marchman successor first Hispanic chief

By Alan Gottlieb
Denver Post Staff Writer

After 4½ years working for the Denver Housing Authority, former City Councilman Sal Carpio yesterday was appointed executive director of the controversial agency. Carpio, 53, was the unanimous choice of the DHA board, which decided to forgo a national search for a new director in favor of confining the job with Carpio.

He has been chief of staff for several months under Executive Director Kevin Marchman, who was appointed this month to a high-ranking federal housing job in Washington, D.C.

"The programs and operations this housing authority under Kevin have been tremendous," said a Rev. James Peters, newly appointed

Please see CARPIO on B8

CARPIO from Page 1B

pointed board president. "We have important projects just under way. We need to carry on our work without missing a beat."

The DHA now is redeveloping its two blighted housing projects, North Lincoln Park Homes is about to be demolished and replaced by a smaller collection of townhomes. And Quigg Newton Homes soon will receive a \$21 million overhaul financed by the federal government.

Peters also said the board feared that a national search could prove "time-consuming and divisive."

Four years ago, when long-time DHA boss Bill Ratzlaff resigned in disgrace, the board launched a national search that lasted six months. In the end, however, the job went to Marchman, an aide to then-Mayor Federico Peña. His appointment angered other candidates and some DHA critics, who contended that Marchman had been pre-selected and that the search was an expensive smokescreen.

The manner in which Carpio was chosen also raised questions yesterday.

DHA board member Marge Johnson voted to hire Carpio but said she did so with some hesitations.

"I'm satisfied with the choice, but I'm not happy that the process was not more open," she said.

City Councilman Ted Hackworth, long the DHA's toughest critic, said Carpio's hiring was "a typical DHA operation."



Sal Carpio

Elsewhere, however, reaction was positive.

Mayor Wellington Webb said Carpio is a good choice because he will "continue in the direction the DHA has taken under Kevin Marchman and (will) continue a close working relationship with the city."

Although the mayor appoints the DHA board, the agency is largely autonomous. It houses and funnels federal rent subsidies to about 27,000 low-income Denver residents.

Veronica Barela, a Hispanic activist who had expressed interest in the job, also said Carpio is a good choice.

"I'm real happy for Sal. He'll do an excellent job. He's sensitive to poor people and was a hell of a councilperson."

For years, Barela and others have said the DHA director should be Hispanic, like most of the residents served by the agency. Carpio will be DHA's first Hispanic chief. His salary, Peters said, will be "in the \$70,000-to-\$80,000 range." Carpio said he has learned at

"I'm a little shocked that we have suddenly assumed, without looking at resumes, that this is the best-qualified guy," Hackworth said.

"I'd have liked the board to go forward with the search."

DHA "that we don't operate in isolation from any other segment of the city. We need to emphasize more effective, efficient operations, and we need to encourage the residents toward self-sufficiency."

Since his start on the city council in 1975, Carpio won a reputation as a tireless advocate for his northwest Denver district. But early in his third four-year term, Carpio's energy and enthusiasm flagged markedly. Some attributed that to his pur-

chase of a 50 percent share in new restaurant.

He decided in 1987 not to seek fourth term and stayed out of the spotlight for two years. But in the summer of 1989, when the DHA was embroiled in controversy over its dispersed-housing program Ratzlaff hired Carpio as a liaison between the DHA and council.

In 1991, Marchman gave Carpio a full-time post as special assistant to the executive director. Carpio was promoted to chief of staff last summer.

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Housing authority chief honored by White House

Carpio surprised by support after his battle with drinking

By Christopher Broderick

Rocky Mountain News Staff Writer

The yellow and blue balloons and the roar of the crowd were almost beyond belief for Sal Carpio.

The director of the Denver Housing Authority won accolades from the Clinton administration at a ceremony Friday for managing the best large public-housing agency in the United States.

Last September, Carpio nearly lost his job. A television crew from KUSA-Channel 9 captured him on videotape stopping at liquor stores before and after work, drinking in his car and stumbling into his



Carpio

said. "I hit bottom and had to climb out."

Carpio, 57, who said his drinking problem started after his son died in an accident in 1995, took a leave from DHA last fall to spend two months in a substance-abuse treatment program at Arapahoe House.

"At the time, I couldn't believe the (DHA) board members stuck by me. If they were going to take a chance on me, I felt I owed them

DHA office.

Carpio said his journey from humiliation to approbation was inconceivable 10 months ago.

"To be honest, I'm glad it happened," Carpio

See **CARPIO** on 12A

Rocky Mountain News Sat., July 19, 1997

"People will have the opportunity to get up and out of public housing." — Sal Carpio

Denver Housing Authority 'national model'

CARPIO from 4A

my best effort," he said.

After his return, he reorganized the agency, eliminated some administrators and plunged into rebuilding the North Lincoln Park housing project. Carpio oversees a \$75 million budget, 360 employees and nearly 20,000 residents who live in public housing.

Kevin Marchman, the assistant Department of Housing and Urban Development secretary who oversees 3,400 housing authorities across the nation, handed Carpio a plaque as DHA employees applauded, some rising to their

feet. Marchman said DHA scored a perfect 100 percent for management of its budget, resident services, maintenance and efficiency.

"Under Sal's leadership, we are using the Denver Housing Authority as a national model," said Marchman, who headed DHA in the early 1990s before being tapped by the Clinton administration.

Carpio told the crowd that the rebirth of North Lincoln Park from a crime-ridden eyesore into modern townhomes is based on the policy that residents who move there must sign a lease requiring

them to work toward regular home-ownership within five years.

"People will be able to have the opportunity to get up and out of public housing. That's what public housing should be all about," he said.

Carpio said the award belonged to the DHA board and his staff, and he credited his wife and daughters for his sobriety. He admitted his struggle is not over.

"With each passing day, you learn a lot about yourself. You have to focus on one day at a time."

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Vol. 1, Issue 12 August 4, 2006

inside

Classifieds
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Sal Carpio: A hero in our midst

The values, victories and visions of DHA's Executive Director



Photo by: Bob Davis

Sal Carpio, Executive Director, who has guided the Denver Housing Authority over the years, sits for an interview and talks about his role models.

Sal Carpio, Executive Director, who has guided the Denver Housing Authority over the years, sits for an interview and talks about his role models.
By Dr. Armando Ramirez

A "hero" according to Webster's Dictionary is "a man admired for his valor, achievements and noble qualities."

According to many who have known Salvatore Carpio, Jr. for years, the definition above describes quite well who he is and what his life has meant for countless families and the well-being of the Denver Community at large.

1. Accomplishments.

A recent award received by Mr. Carpio reflects the respect he has earned through a lifetime of servant-leadership. This past July NOAAH (National Organization of African Americans in Housing) chose him as the 2006 recipient of the NOAAH Chairman's Award for Outstanding Public Service "for his tireless advocacy for affordable housing in Denver, and for more than 12 years of dedicated service to the DHA (Denver Housing Authority) and the citizens of Denver."

Mr. Gil Lopez remarked with great Denverite pride that the Denver Housing Authority has

ranked first in the nation for the past ten years under Mr. Carpio's leadership. Carpio's accomplishments at the helm of DHA caused Bob Barera to say in no uncertain terms that Carpio is a "Citadel of Leadership." Carpio is quick to recognize the contributions of his 300 hard-working staff and a dynamic Board of Directors.

All these tangible signs of success follow a distinguished career as an educator and legislator, 4 years as teacher in the Denver Public Schools, 2 years as teacher at the University of Denver, 14 years as teacher at the Metropolitan State College, and 12 years (3 terms) in the City Council, which included serving as the Council's President. As member of the City Council and Chairman of the Budget Committee he tirelessly and successfully advocated for the establishment of many of the present Recreational Centers, Senior Centers, Programs to help new immigrants learn the English language.

2. Present Service to the Denver Community.

Through Carpio's able leadership the DHA has become the biggest affordable housing developer in the city of Denver. Carpio makes a crucial clarification: that "affordable housing" is not necessarily public housing. While public housing is a charitable program, affordable housing creates jobs and tax revenues for the benefit of the entire community. With an annual budget of \$100,000,000 (One Hundred Million), DHA is responsible for 4,400 units of Public Housing, 5,500 units that receive Section 8 vouchers (subsidies so that families will be able to pay their rent). Without DHA's help thousands of people would be on the streets. In summary, DHA helps approximately 20,000 people, all of them financially poor. The Section H subsidies not only help financially poor families, but also the landlords who consistently receive the money even in the hardest of times, in this way the private sector reaps great benefits from DHA.

Presently DHA is engaged in one of the most innovative and exciting programs in the

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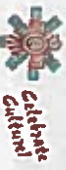
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VISION page ML-3

VISION: Success is based on values

Continued from page ML-1

entire nation related to Public Housing, it is called HOPE 6 (House Opportunity for People Everywhere). Some cities, such as Atlanta, Ga., have turned all their Public Housing into HOPE 6 programs. Through HOPE 6 housing units are built and then offered to low-income, middle-income, and upper-income families, with the idea that no one segment of the population will live in isolation. The income level of each family will be kept strictly confidential. Those that are financially able to pay the full amount will do so, the ones that are truly low-income will receive subsidies from DHA, so regardless of the financial capabilities of each family, they will all be able to live in the same type and size of unit.

One of the other great programs that DHA provides to families it helps is called Resident Community Services which is responsible to bring together residents and community organizations such as schools, youth centers, human services centers, police departments, parks and recreational centers etc. In one very poor section of the city a new recreational center was built, but the residents could not afford to pay the membership fees; so Mr. Carpio had conversations with Dolores Gonzales-Moreno the administrator of the city's Parks and Recreation Centers. The outcome was that DHA was able to pay a special price so that all youth in that area could enjoy the new facilities in their neighborhood.

If you wish to know more about DHA's programs we invite you to call (720) 932-3106 or visit their website: www.dhanet.com.

3. Secrets of Success.

We could not celebrate Mr. Carpio's accomplishments without asking him what have been key concepts that have come into play and have facilitated his success. This can give us some clues and/or reinforcement about ideas we can apply to our own lives as we pursue the fulfillment of our own dreams and hopes.

(a) **Education.** Mr. Carpio's parents were of humble origins and did not have the opportunity to pursue an academic education; however, they knew how important it was in this society to go to school and graduate. He was told that people could take just about anything from you except your education. Carpio never forgot that and he honored his parents advice by earning a Master's Degree. He knew that without a good education he would be hard pressed to succeed even after finishing his terms of service in the City Council. He's convinced that without those Diplomas he would not be the DHA's Executive Director. This is why the education of minority students has been one of his greatest passions in addition of helping poor and needy families.

(b) **Learn from your mistakes and move on.** Obviously, Carpio believes in business enterprises, they are one of the main life-lines of any society. However, he is convinced that starting a restaurant was not something he was called to do in life. However, the grief, from

human beings, with gifts and flaws just like you, and like them decide to exercise character qualities that will make you a better person, which in turn will propel you to achieve good and much-needed things for the community and the human race.

Here are some of Carpio's role models: Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales, whom he admired for his courage to speak his mind. Although he was a bit too radical for his taste, he recognizes Corky's many contributions to "La Causa." You could always count on Corky being daring and unafraid, and that was a very good thing. Mayor Wellington Webb was a true visionary and the first Mayor who was not afraid of saying that Public Housing is important to the city of Denver. He gave respect to the DHA and many resources. Mayor John Hickenlooper has followed in those footsteps in that he also includes DHA in the meeting he holds every six weeks with the heads of the major Departments of his administration. While Corky Gonzales was perceived as a radical, Dr. Daniel Valdez was a "conservative;" however, they both had the same goals. Carpio admires Dr. Valdez' determination, vision, strong leadership and his strong belief that with some encouragement others will discover themselves and achieve great things. While serving as President of the Parish Council at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church he met

Father Joe Lara; he admired his courage in speaking his mind even to his ecclesiastical superiors. Through Father Lara he met Cesar Chavez whom he greatly respects for his charisma, determination and great perseverance.

(e) **Learn to laugh in spite of all the pressures of life.**

4. **Concerns and Strategies.** Mr. Carpio's biggest concern is what he considers the biggest crisis in our nation: the education of our youth, especially minority youth. With

great consternation he shares how he has seen the obvious differences between schools in "well-to-do" neighborhoods and inner city schools. You see them as soon as you walk into their buildings, but it becomes more tragic in the teaching staff. In general terms, what he has observed is that in inner city schools many teachers (not all for sure) are more interested in being popular/liked, while in well-to-do schools teachers (not all for sure) seek to be respected. In inner city schools teachers seems to have the philosophy that says: "I'm here to teach, if you want to learn, welcome, if not a truancy officer will deal with you;" also there seems to be little communication with parents and no great concern about what parents think of your teaching abilities. While at the "well-to-do" schools there seems to be a high level of communication with parents, and you worry as a teacher about what parents think about the quality of your teaching. When asked how a teacher can be respected, Carpio said:

- (a) Understand the student's background.
- (b) Be genuinely interested in the student, especially if she's/he's learning or not.
- (c) Respect the students and expect respect from them
- (d) High level communication with the parents
- (e) Have great expectations of all students
- (f) Find ways to help those who are struggling.

.....
"You could always count on Corky being daring and unafraid, and that was a very good thing."
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We could not celebrate Mr. Carpio's accomplishments without asking him what have been key concepts that have come into play and have facilitated his success. This can give us some clues and/or reinforcement

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(b) **Learn from your mistakes and move on.** Obviously, Carpio believes in business enterprises, they are one of the main life-lines of any society. However, he is convinced that starting a restaurant was not something he was called to do in life. However, the grief, from the untimely death of his beloved son Theodore Ted, the failure, and strained business relationships were not able to smother his faith and courage, but rather he was able to focus on the vision he had to help poor and hurting people. He is convinced that the love and support of his family, united to a strong faith in God were the key elements that brought him consolation and strength. Hundreds of families and the city of Denver are better for that.

(c) **Find a Mentor to help you believe in yourself.** That special mentor in his life was Dr. Daniel Valdez of the Metropolitan State College who as Chair of the Behavioral Sciences Department encouraged him to pursue his Master's Degree, which he did. He was then invited to teach at Metro which he did for 14 years. There are people out there who will be happy to assist you in achieving your potential. If no one approaches you, be assertive in finding someone (maybe more than one person) who will give you of her/his time to guide you and inspire you to achieve your potential. After that happens, it will be your turn to have the same joy and satisfaction to see others succeed because you cared.

(d) **imitate Role Models.** A role model may or may not be a personal mentor, they may be people you work with or for, maybe people you don't get to talk to very often because they live somewhere else, but you know about their work through the media. However, its good for the mind and spirit to observe these exceptional

all the pressures of life.

4. Concerns and Strategies.

Mr. Carpio's biggest concern is what he considers the biggest crisis in our nation: the education of our youth, especially minority youth. With

great consternation he shares how he has seen the obvious differences between schools in "well-to-do" neighborhoods and inner city schools. You see them as soon as you walk into their buildings, but it becomes more tragic in the teaching staff. In general terms, what he has observed is that in inner city schools many teachers (not all for sure) are more interested in being popular/liked, while in well-to-do schools teachers (not all for sure) seek to be respected. In inner city schools teachers seems to have the philosophy that says: "I'm here to teach, if you want to learn, welcome, if not a truancy officer will deal with you;" also there seems to be little communication with parents and no great concern about what parents think of your teaching abilities. While at the "well-to-do" schools there seems to be a high level of communication with parents, and you worry as a teacher about what parents think about the quality of your teaching. When asked how a teacher can be respected, Carpio said:

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- (f) Find ways to help those who are struggling.

According to Mr. Carpio the initiative to better our schools must come from the administrators, and when that doesn't happen then the parents must unite and assertively (not aggressively or negatively) be agents of change until the administrators fulfill their fair share of responsibilities. Parents and students should not be passive but rather cooperate in positive ways and be an active part of the solutions.

5. Legacy and Vision for the future.

As Executive Director of the Denver Housing Authority for 12 years he has made a big difference in the lives of thousands of families and when you add his extensive teaching career and 12 years in the City Council it is hard to measure accurately the great legacy of Mr. Sal Carpio. The legacy is not yet completed. There's still much more to come. When the time comes to "retire" from DHA his vision is to go back to teaching at the College/University level where he hopes to fill young minds with big dreams and powerful/practical ways to make them a reality so that many more families, communities, and generations to come will live in a better world.

We respectfully salute Mr. Sal Carpio, Jr. "Con el corazón en la mano" (Hispanic expression "with the heart on our hand") we thank him for all his contributions to the well-being of our community and we wish him continuous health and success.

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