March 2018

Hi, Neighbors!

John Hayden, CPN President

March is a time for hope and renewal in Five Points as the first signs of spring flowers appear among rotting leaves left from last fall. Often robust snow storms dash hopes of early gardening but bring the moisture so dearly needed to make May green and colorful. So greet the first flowers and the late winter snows with equal cheer as they both serve their purpose in the march of the seasons. There are few things as beautiful and hardy as a March daffodil.

Fittingly, our March CPN meeting will feature speakers on the renewal of two Five Points landmarks, The Rossonian Block and Golden Bell Press. The former is a designated National Landmark and the latter is a landmark only in spirit but important to our community none the less.

The Rossonian will hopefully return to its former use as a hotel and entertainment establishment while the Golden Bell Press will see new life as an Italian brewery and restaurant. Work is currently underway on the Golden Bell Press Building and only the ghostly shadow of its name remain where the steel letters once announced the purpose of the building. Soon a new name, Liberati’s, will grace the entrance. Alex Liberati will attend our March meeting to tell of the progress and ask for support for the liquor license needed for the establishment.

The Rossonian block will be a much more extensive project encompassing not

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only the restoration of the historic hotel building but also the addition of a new building at 26th and Welton and additional floors above the existing hotel building.

The history of this Denver landmark is extraordinary. The building was built in 1911 by a man named Baxter whose name still adorns the top facade of the building at the point of Washington, Welton and 26th Ave. Baxter ran the hotel and manufactured cigars until his death in 1927. His widow sold the building to a group of African American business men headed by Alfred Ross in 1929. Thus the name Rossonian is a tribute to this second owner of the building. Under the ownership of Ross, the Rossonian saw its heyday as a jazz night club during the 1930s and 1940s. World class artists such as Ella Fitzgerald and Duke Ellington played the small Rossonian lounge. In the rooms above the jazz club another world class artist was born and raised by loving parents. Cleo Parker Robinson, whose dance studio has received national acclaim still operates at the other end of Washington in the AME Church across from Safeway, spent her early years growing up in the Rossonian.

After the 1950s the Rossonian saw steady decline until it was closed and boarded up in 1972. The building has seen numerous plans come and go for its renovation and in 1990 it was designated a National Landmark. We hope that this latest plan will be the one that finally breathes new life back into this historic building at the heart of our historic neighborhood. Come to the March CPN meeting and find out.

Traffic Plans Update

Hugh Brown

A significant planning effort was introduced at last month’s CPN meeting by the Transportation and Mobility division of Public Works. This will take place over several months and will include a comprehensive look at the numerous traffic concerns in Curtis Park and throughout Five Points (namely also Welton Street and the RiNo neighborhood). An action plan of solutions will be completed with the extensive input of residents and we are optimistic we will see change and good results.

A broad based Stakeholder Committee will be formed to help guide the work. Information about expressing interest in being a part of this group plus a schedule of future meetings will be available by early April and we will publicize that information when it is available.

Other changes soon - the Champa Street speed reduction to 25 mph is now being scheduled by Streets Operations and should happen by early March. The same is true for sight-line changes at 26th/Stout. We are also working with Public Works to fix a rough patch in the same intersection left from a poor repair by a contractor and causing severe vibrations for nearby homes when heavy vehicles hit the patch.

Women’s History at The Point

In honor of National Women’s History Month, Coffee at The Point will be showcasing the Colorado Women’s Hall of Fame through the end of this month. Founded in 1985, the Colorado Women’s Hall of Fame recognizes and preserves the lives and achievements of over 150 Colorado women, past and present, women who blazed new trails in their fields and in the process, improved the lives of women and girls.

These women come from a wide diversity of their contributions, ethnic backgrounds, economic levels, career paths and beliefs. Their stories of grit and grace inspire the lives of others and elevate the status of women. Their accomplishments echo forward, elevating the lives of women today and for generations to come.

Teen Community Emergency Response Training

Learn to protect yourself, your family and friends in case of an emergency. This training teaches you about potential disasters that could affect the Denver Metro Area and how to safely and responsibly respond to and recover from them.

This is free training and is open to teens ages 14-18. March 27, 28 from 8:30 am to 4:40 pm. Hiawatha Davis Jr Recreation Center at 3334 Holly Street, Denver. Registration: http://bit.ly/2Co3XpI. For more information to Denver CERT@Denver-Gov.org

Stop by Coffee at The Point through the end of March to view this display of exemplary women. You can also learn more about these women and their contributions by visiting www.cogreatwomen.org.
Denver Precinct Caucus Information

Political parties will be holding their Neighborhood Precinct Caucuses on Tuesday evening, March 6th. Precinct caucuses are a major step in selecting candidates who will be appearing on this November’s ballot. The Democratic Party of Denver has posted an easy to use precinct and caucus location finder on our website at www.denverdemocrats.org. The website also contains the statutory requirements one must meet to be eligible to participate in the caucus. Check-in is at 6:30 pm on Mar. 6th.

Parking Plan Phase 3 Draft Released

Paul Davidson

We are finalizing our neighborhood parking plan, a process in cooperation with Public Works that started in 2016. After several great planning meetings with a large number of stakeholders and members of the Five Points Business District, the Phase 3 Draft is ready for review. Residents in the Phase 3 area (Stout to 26th/Glenarm and Park Ave. to Downing), should expect to receive a letter in the mail by the end of March with a printed draft and instructions for providing feedback.

Phase 3 changes include the addition of 2-hour restrictions along certain blocks of California, Stout, and eligible blocks along the numbered streets radiating from Welton. Along Welton, loading areas will be added for Lyft and taxi drop-offs, and parking meters will be removed, allowing easier access to local businesses.

Phase 2 residents (Lawrence to Champa, 27th to Downing) should expect a final map and letter in the next few weeks and implementation, hopefully, by the end of April.

Copies of the draft and final maps will be posted to the Curtis Park Facebook page. Contact me for digital copies by e-mail at pd@pdmade.com.

Altered Nature - A Printmaking Exhibit

Processus presents *Altered Nature*, a printmaking exhibit with six artists currently creating hand-pulled prints in North America. The exhibition, curated by Viviane Le Courtois, reflects on contemporary natural spaces and the life within them, endangered by city expansion, population growth, natural disasters or environmental negligence. Each artist brings a unique vision to the exhibit, contemplating the landscape in various states, and representing new life emerging from destruction and change.

The exhibit will open with a reception and 3 years’ anniversary celebration on Saturday, March 3rd from 6:00 to 11:00 pm at Processus, 955 24th St. Denver CO 80205. The exhibit will be open until May 19th, Tuesday to Saturday from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm or by appointment. Visit the exhibit during Mo’ Print Open Studio tour Saturday March 24th from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Processus is a co-working studio space with a printmaking area, a darkroom and a wood and sculpture shop. It brings people together around ideas of art and life. For more information visit www.processusartlife.com or call Viviane Le Courtois at 303-526-8064.

SCFD Free Days

Clyfford Still Museum
• Fridays 5-8 p.m.

Denver Botanic Gardens
• Thurs. Mar. 22nd

Denver Art Museum
• Sat. Mar. 4th

Chatfield Farms
• Tues. Mar. 6th

Colorado Railroad Museum
• Thurs. Mar. 8th

Sam Knopp, a local metal detectorist, has offered a free service to help residents find lost keys, jewelry, or any other valuables you might think are buried in your yard. If you need his help, you can contact him at 303-638-0145.

Find out more at www.scfd.org
**Resources**

**Denver City Government**
www.DenverGov.org, or call 3-1-1
Alternatively: (720) 913-1311

**Blair-Caldwell Library**
2401 Welton Street, (720) 865-2401
Mon./Wed.: Noon – 8 p.m.
Tue./Thr./Fri.: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Sat.: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Denver City Council**
District 9
Albus Brooks, (720) 337-7709
Albus.Brooks@denvergov.org
www.denvergov.org/albusbrooks
facebook.com/CouncilmanAlbusBrooks

**RTD**
(800) 895-1999
www.RTD-Denver.com
(303) 299-6000

**Police**
Emergencies: Dial 911
Non-Emergency: (720) 913-2000

**Homeless Outreach**
Police non-emergency: (720) 913-2000

**Mayor’s Neighborhood Liaison**
Michael Sapp, Jr., (720) 865-9024

**Councilwoman Robin Kniech**
Robin.Kniech@denvergov.org
(720) 337-7712

**Councilwoman Debbie Ortega**
Deborah.Ortega@denvergov.org
(720) 337-7713

**Denver Public Schools**
(720) 423-3200, www.DPSK12.org

**Paint-A-Thon**
Brothers Redevelopment 40th Annual Paint-A-Thon
Free House Painting for Seniors & Disabled

Paint-A-Thon crews offer free exterior painting to income-eligible homeowners! Apply now - call (720)339-5864. Nonprofit Brothers Redevelopment paints 100 homes each March through September:

- Nominate a family member, friend, neighbor or yourself.
- Friendly staff can answer your questions about applying
- Qualifying homeowners are 60 or older, or disabled

**Curtis Park Neighbors on Facebook**
www.facebook.com/groups/curtispark/

**Curtis Park Neighbors “Announce” Group**
Just the basics! We encourage everyone to join this e-mail group. Receive the Curtis Park Times & special announcements. Write to: Curtis-Park-Neighbors-Announce+subscribe@googlegroups.com

**Curtis Park Neighbors “Notices” Group**
Super-detailed! Receive all of the notices that the City and other organizations send to Curtis Park Neighbors. The CPN Board receives this e-mail, and invites you to participate as well! Write to: CurtisParkNeighbors+subscribe@googlegroups.com also: Groups.google.com/forum/m/#forum/cpn-parks-group

**Curtis Park Design Review Committee**
Provide assistance to new development and building modifications in Curtis Park, to help with Denver Landmark Commission review. Write to: cpn-designreview+subscribe@googlegroups.com

**DHA / Curtis Park Community Advisory Committee**
Provide feedback and guide the Denver Housing Authority’s plans for their property holdings in the Curtis Park area. Write to: CPN-DHA-CAC+subscribe@googlegroups.com

**Curtis Park Transportation Committee**
Improve mobility and safety for people getting around by all modes
Write to: cpn-transportation+subscribe@googlegroups.com

**Curtis Park Safety and Security Group**
Collaborate on finding solutions to current and long-term safety and security topics in the neighborhood.
Write to: cpn-security+subscribe@googlegroups.com

**Neighborhood Internet Resources**

Curtis Park Neighbors
facebook.com/groups/curtispark/

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**Curtis Park Neighbors**
Curtis Park Neighbors is an officially incorporated non-profit neighborhood organization bringing our neighborhood together to share in preserving the past and future of Curtis Park. We welcome all neighbors in Curtis Park and encourage participation in Curtis Park Neighbors and in the life of the community. Please pass along this newsletter and bring a neighbor to the meetings!

The spirit of the Curtis Park Times is to communicate information about topics and concerns of our neighborhood. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of Curtis Park Neighbors. To provide newsletter articles or place advertising, contact us at cpn-newsletter@googlegroups.com or (720) 273–0623. The next newsletter deadlines are Mar. 21st for ads, and Mar. 24th for articles.

***Special Thanks To***
Justin Schmidt and John Hayden for newsletter content. Thanks to Hope Communities and Mile High United Way for donating our meeting space, to Therese Rasmussen for coordinating newsletter distribution, and many thanks to neighbors assisting with newsletter deliveries.

**CPN Board of Directors**
Paul Davidson, John Hayden (President), Robbie Hobein (Secretary), Rob Price, Todd McGuire (Treasurer), Jeff Baker, (Vice President), Andrew Spinks, Conor Farley, Liz Oertle, Patti Smith, and Joshua Becker. Contact the CPN President by writing to haydenpryor@msn.com or calling (303) 297-3994. Write the CPN Board at curtis-park-neighbors-board@googlegroups.com.