Hi, Neighbors!

Jeff Baker, CPN President

Happy Fall everyone! It seems by this time of the year most folks are ready and excited for fall. The highly palpable changes of this season may be the reason why people love this time of year so much. The changing leaves, crisp air, shorter days, corn mazes, and of course the Curtis Park Great Pumpkin at Stout Street Children’s Park! This event will be October 27th and has become a staple for families in the neighborhood every October. A big thanks to John Hayden and Keith Pryor for creating and hosting this event! Please attend and see John’s note below.

Curtis Park Neighbors has received interest from some neighbors for upcoming board positions, and we are still looking for more. If this is something you would be interested in, or want to nominate a neighbor please contact us at curtis-park-neighbors-board@gmail.com or call Jeff at 970-759-4023.

At this month’s Curtis Park Neighbors meeting on October 3rd, we will have a presentation from the Denver Budget and Management Office to learn about where the city is allocating funds in the budget. Following that we will have a presentation about Denver Water’s Lead Reduction Program, to educate us on...
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what we can do if we have lead exposure in our homes. Our last presenter of the evening will be the Women’s Bean Project.

The Women’s Bean Project is a Colorado 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with the mission to change women’s lives by providing stepping stones to self-sufficiency through social enterprise. Women’s Bean Project believes all women have the power to transform their lives through employment. They hire women who are chronically unemployed and teach them to work by making nourishing products that they sell across the US through some of the country’s largest retailers. The Women’s Bean Project is located at 32nd and Curtis and has outgrown its space that has been its home since 1995. They are seeking to rezone the property. Curtis Park Neighbors Board has voted to support the rezone to U-MX-2x, after providing an informational flyer and doing outreach to the neighbors directly surrounding the building. The decision of this vote supported the requests of the direct neighbors. To learn more about building and this process please attend the Curtis Park Neighbors general meeting on October 3rd.

Think Globally - Act Locally

Thomas Lucas

This slogan was a ubiquitous call to action back in the day when I attended the first Earth Day celebration on April 22, 1970, along with about 20 million other concerned Americans. As celebrants that day, we truly believed that the collective action of ordinary citizens in cities and towns across the country could have an impact on environmental policy on the national level. And so it did: the environmental activism of that first Earth Day contributed to the formation six months later of both the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Sadly, environmental activism has not had the same impact on government policy regarding climate change. Despite repeated warnings by climate scientists dating back over 30 years and growing more insistent and more dire of late, our government has done too little, and now many fear it is too late. The problem is so big, it can leave you feeling helpless and hopeless. Don’t let it!

Recent research out of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich indicates that “by far — by thousands of times — the cheapest climate change solution and the most effective” is to plant a trillion trees. Better than cutting emissions, better than retrofitting buildings, better than switching from meat-eating to vegetarianism, planting trees on a grand scale is the best way to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Trees are wonderful beings. They are beautiful to look at and pleasant to sit under. They provide a welcome respite from the heat. They cleanse the air. They inspire. They nurture the soul. And, most importantly in this context, they sequester carbon. That is, they take carbon dioxide out of the air and bury the carbon as biomass in their leaves, branches, trunks and roots as well as in the soil- and they are remarkably efficient at this.

The hopeful news is the earth has room for a trillion more trees- 1.5 trillion, in fact- and many countries have already pledged enormous resources to the effort. New Zealand, for example, just committed to planting a billion trees in the next ten years.

And we- you and me, your next-door neighbor and your friend down the block- we all can contribute to this world-wide effort right here in Curtis Park! And it’s easier and cheaper than you may think.

Look for more information from the Tree Committee in coming issues of the newsletter. Or better yet join us in the effort by becoming a member of the committee. In the meantime, I’ll leave you with this proverb: “The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second-best time is today.”

Ticker of what Curtis Park Neighbors are working on:

- The Great Pumpkin Fest
- 2020 Home, Garden and ADU Tour. We are seeking volunteers to help with this special event next September. We need volunteers for the planning committee, the event itself, and we need Homes, Gardens and ADUs to show off! The last home tour was in 2014 and it was a huge success, thanks to all the great people who organized the event. Interested in participating in this community event? Please contact us at curtis-park-neighbors-board@googlegroups.com or call 970-759-4023.
- Tree Committee
- Homelessness solutions
- Women’s Bean Project rezone
- New Board member recruitment
- Holiday Community Potluck and member meeting-Save the Date! December 9th
- New website and increasing communication
- Wednesday morning park stewardship at Sonny Lawson Park - Every
4th Annual Trunk-a-Treat

D. Helen Rice-Allen

Peoples Presbyterian Church is inviting the community to come and hang out in a relaxed and fun atmosphere for your family to meet other families in the neighborhood! “Food, Fun and most of all CANDY”. Thursday, October 31st, 2019 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm 2780 York St. In the parking lot behind the church.
Neighborhood Walk with City Forrester

Join us in October for a walk through Curtis Park with the City Forrester. On this walk we will learn how to identify the different trees that line our streets. Tips for tree planting, trimming and care will be covered. How often do you need to water trees? What trees work the best for our climate and which ones are best for different locations in your yard? These are just a few of the questions that will be answered. Trees make our neighborhood a beautiful place to live, shade our homes, yards and sidewalks from the sun and protect people walking from fast moving cars. Trees clean our air and decrease crime. New research also shows that trees actually communicate with each other and even helping each other survive attacks by pests and disease. Come find out how and much more about our tall green friends. Our October walk is planned for Saturday October 19th at 2pm. The walk will last about two hours and starts from the Stout Street Children’s Park at 2501 Stout Street. Please RSVP to John Hayden at haydenpyror@msn.com or 303-297-3994 to reserve your spot and get updates in case of date or time change due to weather or other issues.

Neighborhood Internet Resources

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. To join, send an email 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. Zoning notices, liquor license applications, etc. all come through here. To join, send an email to: CurtisParkNeighbors+subscribe@googlegroups.com

Curtis Park Design Review Committee
Receive updates on new development and building modifications under review by the Denver Landmark Commission. To join, send an email to: cpn-drc-announcements+subscribe@googlegroups.com. Questions about projects, email Keith Pryor: KPyor13@gmail.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

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 Oct. 23rd for ads, and Oct. 26th for articles.

Special Thanks To
John Hayden, Thomas Lucas, and Jeff Baker 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
Jeff Baker (President), Patti Smith, Ben Mendenhall (Treasurer), Paul Davidson (Co Vice President), Robbie Hobein (Secretary), Andrew Spinks, Ryan Cox, Beth Bianchi, (Co Vice President) Lindsay Schneider, Lindsey Sullivan. Contact the CPN President by writing to: jeffbakercurtisparkdenver@gmail.com or call (970) 759-4023. Write the CPN Board at curtis-park-neighbors-board@googlegroups.com.