Happy Holidays Neighbors!

Jeff Baker, CPN President

As I write this, our weather is really warm again, therefore it is hard to believe that December is upon us and 2020 is right around the corner. I am sure it will start feeling more wintery soon. One way to kick up the holiday spirit will be to join us for our annual Holiday Potluck at the Posner Center. Whether you or your family are new to the neighborhood, or a long time resident, this is a great way to get to know your neighbors in a warm and friendly environment. See details below and we hope to see you there!

Save the Date

We want to invite all neighbors to our annual Holiday Potluck and annual meeting that will be on December 9th at the Posner Center located at 1031 33rd St. (Arapahoe and 33rd). The event starts at 6:00 pm and there will be many give-aways, food, and socializing with neighbors. This is a really fun event and I hope you will attend! In order to get a great mix of food we have divided the selections alphabetically by last name:

A-M: Entrée
N-S: Appetizer or vegetable dish
T-Z: Dessert

Snow Shoveling

Be a great neighbor! Everyone enjoys safe, clear sidewalks – and it's everyone's responsibility to keep the sidewalks adjacent to their home or business clear and accessible. Shovel all sidewalks, wheelchair ramps, and bus stops around your home as soon as it's practical and safe. Businesses have 4 hours after the snow stops to shovel, and residents have 24 hours. Show kindness and offer to help your neighbors if they aren't able to shovel!

Neighbors helping neighbors is one of the things that makes Denver great. You can volunteer to be an official "snow angel" at denvergov.org/snowangels or just do a #NeighborCheck

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Neighbors (cont.)

Neighborhood Watch

In an effort to increase safety, interaction, and communication with neighbors, we have formed a Neighborhood Watch group. We encourage you to get involved and become a block captain to get Neighborhood Watch on your block. Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention technique where neighbors agree to keep an eye on one another’s properties and report suspicious incidents to law enforcement. To get involved, please contact Ryan at: ryancurtispark@gmail.com.

Public Art Project at Mestizo-Curtis Park Pool

The Mestizo-Curtis Park public pool will be the site of a temporary, site-specific art installation in summer 2020 as part of the Swim Club, a project which aims to challenge notions of what public art is and where it is located, engage the public in new and exciting ways, and make art more accessible in everyday environments. The project is funded by a P.S. You Are Here grant from Denver Arts & Venues and curated by Hey Hue and Castle Productions. We invite you to share your opinions about the type of artwork you’d like to see at the pool in 2020. Thank you for your feedback and participating in this short survey below.

docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeJvnxZFwVmeFS4Y2ZsBL3td1blH4aL1TmKb4hJ9Grr3QSZA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Ticker of what Curtis Park Neighbors are working on:

- Wednesday morning park stewardship-Sonny Lawson Park-9:30 am every Wednesday
- Neighborhood Watch
- 2020 Home, Garden and ADU Tour
- Tree Committee
- Homelessness solutions
- Holiday Community Potluck and member meeting-Save the Date! December 9th
- New website-Projected release is 1st quarter 2020

Congratulations to Two Programs in Curtis Park

Women’s Bean Project and St. Francis Center have been named as the 2019 Bank of America Neighborhood Builders® awardees for Denver. The non-profits were selected for their work in the Denver area to address issues fundamental to economic mobility. For the first time, two organizations in Denver are receiving this award as Bank of America continues to expand and invest in the community.

The Women’s Bean Project strives to change women’s lives by helping to provide a path toward self-sufficiency through social enterprise. St. Francis Center offers a safe place for people in Metro Denver who are homeless where they have access to basic needs and assistance to transition out of homelessness.
Winter Tree Care

Lynne Brown

Did you plant a tree this past spring or have mature trees in your yard? Here are some guidelines for caring for this precious resource so the trees are healthy once spring rolls around next year.

Water is essential for all trees during the wintertime, especially young trees. Trees should be watered once per month. Let a hose trickle at the base of young trees for about 30 minutes November-March during times when the temperature is over 50 degrees. Larger trees can be watered further out from the base, closer to the drip lines. Drip lines are at the tips of the branches.

If you have a young tree, wrap the trunk for the first three years. This protects the thin bark from sunscald in the winter. Wrap the trunk starting at the base and moving upward to the lowest branches. Remove the tree wrap in April. A good way to remember is to have the trunk wrapped by Thanksgiving and unwrap it at Easter or Passover. Tree wrap can be found at hardware stores and nurseries.

Your trees will be happy and ready for spring!

The Importance of Trees

Thomas Lucas

In the October newsletter we learned that planting trees in Curtis Park contributes to the global effort to plant a trillion trees world-wide, which is the most effective way to contain climate change. But that’s not all. Planting trees in our own front yard, so to speak, also contributes directly and mightily to our quality of life every day. In fact, the benefits are so varied and so subtle, they are easily overlooked.

For example, did you know: Trees reduce ambient temperature by providing shade and transpiring water. Studies have shown that one mature tree can produce the same cooling effect as 10 room-sized air conditioners (think about that when you pay your Xcel bill next summer!). Increasing the density of the tree canopy can produce up to 15 degrees of cooling in urban areas on hot summer days.

Trees work constantly to improve local air quality. Research shows that streets lined with trees produce a 60% reduction in particulates from car exhaust fumes. Ozone is particularly problematic in Denver. Scientists estimate that for every 10% increase in tree canopy, ozone is reduced by 3.7%.

Finally, a single mature, leafy tree can absorb up to 450 liters of water through its roots every day (whaaat!) as well as capturing rain water on the surface of its leaves. Tree roots reduce soil erosion, slow the filtration of water into city drainage networks, and prevent stormwater runoff from reaching rivers and streams with harmful chemicals that wash off our streets and sidewalks. There’s more. Trees improve our physical and mental health and well-being in many, sometimes surprising ways. More on that in future newsletters. In the meantime, I’ll leave you with this fascinating research finding: In a 1984 study in the journal Science, environmental psychologist Roger Ulrich and his team reviewed the medical records of people recovering from gallbladder surgery at a suburban Pennsylvania hospital. All other things being equal, patients with bedside windows looking out on leafy trees healed, on average, a day faster, needed significantly less pain medication and had fewer postsurgical complications than patients who instead saw a brick wall.

So, the next time you leave your house and pass a mature, leafy tree, give it a hug, or at least say “thank you.”
The Recipe to Create a Great Neighborhood is Love

Join us in The Savoy at Curtis Park for a performance that moves you through the rooms of the historic building. The people of Five Points and Curtis Park—historical and contemporary—come to life, narrating memories of food, place, and belonging.

The performance is a collaboration between Theatre Artibus (resident artists at The Savoy), Jeff Campbell’s Emancipation Theater Company and Grapefruit Lab. The stories were gathered through neighborhood story circles, interviews and historical research and will be portrayed by local actors.

Recipe runs January 9-19, 2020, Thurs. – Sat. at 7:30 pm and Sundays at 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm. Tickets are only $20. Special neighbor tickets are $40 and include a free drink and a free ticket for someone in the neighborhood. No neighbors will be turned away, so just let us know if the ticket price is out of reach. This project is funded in part by an Imagine 2020 Grant. For more information or tickets, go to www.theartibus.com/recipe or email theatreartibus@gmail.com or call 303-476-5092 ext 2.

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: KPryor13@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 cn-pn-newsletter@googlegroups.com or (720)273-6263. The next newsletter deadlines are Dec. 18th for ads, and Dec. 21st for articles.

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CPN Board of Directors
Jeff Baker (President), Patti Smith, Ben Mendenhall (Treasurer), Paul Davidson (Co Vice President), Robbie Hoben (Secretary), Andrew Spinks, Ryan Cox, Beth Bianchi, (Co Vice President) Lindsay Schneider, Lindsay 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.