Hi, Neighbors!

Jeff Baker, CPN President

As I sit and write this, the snow has fallen again and it seems like spring is a ways out...and then the sun returns. We all know that March can bring heavy precipitation in the form of snow and rain. I love this time of year, as it brings the renewal with new life emerging from the ground as the brown fades to green.

At this month’s CPN General Meeting you will have the opportunity to hear from candidates and how they will be addressing issues affecting our neighborhood. As a reminder, CPN does not and cannot endorse candidates, but welcomes any candidates for races relevant to our area to introduce themselves at our meetings.

Please attend the general meeting at 7:00 pm on March 7th to address the candidates directly.

There will be a City Council Candidate Forum on March 14th, 6:30-8:30 pm at Manual High School, 1700 E. 28th Ave. Please arrive between 6:00-6:15 pm.

This Month’s Meeting: Mayor Michael Hancock will be attending and addressing his platform for re-election. Albus Brooks will be the second speaker of the evening discussing his plans for re-election.

An update will be given about the 27th Street Storm Sewer project that is in Phase II and goes from Arapahoe to Welton Street. The city expects the contractor to break ground in September, and the project is going out to bid soon.

Transportation update

Thank you all Curtis Park residents for your participation and interest in the Five Points NTMP Action Plan. The NTMP is Denver Public Work’s Neighborhood Transportation Management Program. Through your involvement in public meetings and surveys in 2018, Public Works has identified about 50 transportation improvements, such as stop signs, crosswalks, and traffic calming to be installed in 2019 in your neighborhood. These improvements will be implemented on a rolling basis starting in Spring and ending in the Fall. An Action Plan document describing the improvements and the process to select them will be published in March. CPN will be notified when it is published. Any questions can be sent to neighborhoodmobility@denvergov.org. Thank you! -Denver Public Works
Neighbors (cont.)

The main impact on the neighborhood will be traffic flow, especially at Champa and Stout streets where there is significant infrastructure existing underneath these intersections. Thank you to Stephen Oertle for taking the lead on this.

We will be getting an update on the plans for the Rossonian Hotel. This is exciting news, since the Rossonian has had several attempts in the long history at returning to the grandeur it once held. The Rossonian was built as the Baxter Hotel in 1912, and renamed the Rossonian Hotel in 1929. It is the most distinguished building at the Five Points intersection and was the preeminent jazz club between the Midwest and the West Coast from 1929 until the late 1950s. Since the 1980s many attempts have been made to resurrect this National Historic Landmark, and it will be exciting to see the current project plans being presented.

Last Month’s Meeting: We received an update from DenverMoves Downtown, which will build off years of study to create a road map that will prioritize near-term improvements while identifying a long-term vision for the future of mobility downtown. We heard from two mayoral candidates, Penfield Tate and Jaime Giellis and from District 9 City Council Candidate Candi CdeBaca.

We have added a Community Roundtable Forum to the end of the CPN General Meetings for neighbors to give input, please attend and participate in a positive way!

Thank you to all of our board and committee members! We could not capture all the activities going on in the neighborhood without this dedicated group of individuals.

If you are interested in participating in the neighborhood, please contact me, or any of CPN’s board members.

Neighbor Spotlight: Ramon Viveros & His Grandson Tobias Romero

Sarah Adleman

In 1966, Ramon Viveros moved from his home in Mexico to a house at 23rd & Champa with his wife and four kids. One of the few possessions he brought with him was the barber chair he used in both Michoacan and Ciudad Juarez to make a living. However, without a Colorado license he was unable to find employment and instead found work in a paper factory and later as a janitor for Denver Health. Now, more than fifty years later, Ramon’s grandson, Tobias Romero, has created a space on the corner of Glenarm Place & 25th for the barber chair to live. Named after his grandfather, Ramon’s occupies the corner unit of a skinny, yellow one story plaster covered brick building. Ramon’s is a blend of the old & the new, of how it used to be, how it is, and how we want it to be. Services include the traditional hot lather, hot towels, straight razor shave, and cuts. But also include freelance hair designs, charcoal face masques, and aesthetic services one might find in a spa, like dermaplaning. Tobias chose the location in Five Points because as he says, “it’s the up and coming neighborhood in Denver.” They want to be a part of it. He’s creating a cohesive space for the customer that is both traditional, grounding, and innovative. Mona, the three year old Husky meets you at the door. Other dogs are welcome too. And kids. The walls are decorated with art for sale from local artists. He wants to create an environment where “anybody and everybody can walk through the door and feel comfortable.” It’s important for Tobias to give back to the community.

Watching his grandfather cut hair (in the chair from Mexico) for side money when he was a little boy, Tobias learned how and exchanged haircuts for lunch in high school. He put himself through the nine month program at Emily Griffith Technical College by cutting hair. He was simultaneously enrolled in community college working towards a nursing degree. Ultimately, he made the decision to solely be a barber and open Ramon’s.

We sit across from one another in the front corner of the shop. Tobias reaches for the shoulder of his lead barber, Taylor Jacobs. “This guy is my lead, it wouldn’t be possible without him.” Taylor also earned his degree from Emily Griffith. Both are licensed, a surprising rarity, although gradually increasing, in Colorado. When his grandfather bought his chair in Mexico, he was short 10 pesos to buy a second. Now, at ninety-seven with Parkinson’s and currently in hospice, he still asks about that second chair. When will the shop have four chairs instead of just three? One day, Tobias says, he’ll buy another one. He just has a few more heads to cut and beards to shave.

*Have a good story to tell? Do you know someone who Sarah should interview? Please send interview suggestions to sarahadleman@gmail.com.
A Date With Harlem Culture

Carol Williams

The Metro Denver Area has a date with Harlem Culture where guest speaker Carol Williams does the "Harlem Culture Comes To Denver" Lecture, Saturday, March 23rd, 2019, 3:00 to 4:00 pm, at Links Denver Conference Room, Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library, 2401 Welton St., Denver. Free to the public.

Ms. Williams, budding artist and retired New York City teacher, will cover the Jazzmobile, the Countee Cullen Library, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, and the Studio Museum in Harlem with the added bonus of New York City First Lady Chirlane McCray’s Gracie Mansion art exhibition of “She Persists: A Century of Women Artists In New York City”, which features 44 women artists from 1919-2019 to celebratate women’s contributions, legacies and experiences in New York City.

Those attending "Harlem Culture Comes To Denver" will surely be more enriched. They may travel to New York City for vacation, business, scholarly research or just by accident and explore Harlem culture and nightlife.

"Perhaps, some of the Rockefeller family’s glow and art world prestige may have rubbed off on Ms. Williams during her employment years at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center when the great art collector Laurence Rockefeller made his monthly rounds visiting the entire place", says Emzy Veazy III, the artist's manager. "I just bet Laurence Rockefeller is smiling in the hereafter saying Ms. Williams is the art collector’s choice.”

Volunteer Needed

We are looking for volunteers to pass out newsletters on Lawrence between, 24th-30th, and 30th-35th. Please contact Jeff Baker if you would like to help with distribution.

jeffbakercurtisparkdenver@gmail.com or call (970) 759-4023.

Save Our Flagstone

Sidewalk-Repair-Project

Jeff Baker

We are looking for Sidewalk Block Captains who would like to help with saving our flagstone and making their block's sidewalk walk-able and in compliance before the city inspector shows up next year. This would entail: Audit sidewalks on your block, place flyers on homes that you audited, letting them know their options, and enter that data through the survey: www.surveymonkey.com/s3/4694926/Curtis-Park-Sidewalk-Repair-Project.

SCFD Free Days

Denver Art Museum
• Sat. Mar. 2nd

Denver Botanic Gardens
• Fri. Mar. 22nd

Colorado Railroad Museum
• Thurs. Mar. 7th

Longmont Museum
• Sat. Mar. 9th

Coffee at The Point

M-F: 6am 10pm
Sat: 7am 10pm
Sun: 7am 6pm

Find out more at www.scfd.org

Thinking of buying or selling in Central Denver?

Call John Hayden,
your neighbor and Curtis Park expert!

303 297 3984
jhayden@kentwoodcity.com
www.curtisparkhomes.com

Because the health of our community is the life of my business
Citizen’s Academy

Rachel Knight
Transportation and mobility are kind of like oxygen: You take them for granted until something goes wrong. As city-dwellers, we rely on our roads, buses, trains, bike lanes, and sidewalks to get us where we need to go. It’s easy to scamper through our day-to-day lives without thinking about the complexity of our transportation systems and the scale of our infrastructure. When you take a minute to step back, however, it quickly becomes apparent how intertwined transportation is in every aspect of life, from our health to our environment to our jobs to our education. Citizen’s Academy is a 7-week course by the Denver Regional Council of Governments. It is an incredible offering for everyone from those who seek out about public transportation systems to those who curse traffic twice a day on I-25. You’ll learn a ton and find out how to get involved, and you may even make a new friend to carpool with.

Go to https://drcog.org/programs/citizens-academy for more information. In addition, I’m happy to provide more insight to anyone interested. Let me know if you want to grab a coffee or beer and chat transportation. You can also reach me at rachel.l.knight@gmail.com or Maggie Miller at maggie@maggiemiller.org.

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.

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. 20th for ads, and Mar. 23rd for articles.

Special Thanks To
Jeff Baker, Sarah Adleman, and Carol Williams, Rachel Knight & Maggie Miller 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 (790)759-4023. Write the CPN Board at curtis-park-neighbors-board@googlegroups.com.