



Hi, Neighbor!

Joel Noble, CPN President

It's winter again! As I write this, the predicted heavy snow has finally arrived, neighbors are shoveling their walks, and at our house the cupboards now have less hot chocolate ingredients than yesterday. I hope you're staying warm and happy.

Neighborhood Congratulations

Congratulations to Processus in the back of the Temple building (2400 Curtis), which had their **grand opening on February 21st!** Processus is "a shared space for artists to think, make and collaborate." It includes a multi-use wood and sculpture shop, a darkroom, a clean space with a printmaking area and a small exhibition space. Viviane Le Courtois and Christopher R. Perez presented to CPN back in August, and now are fully up and running. If you're an artist looking for access to equipment and community, check out their affordable membership options at www.ProcessusArtLife.com, or stop by for a tour Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Congratulations as well to neighbors who have dedicated their time, talent, and passion to the improvement and activation of Mestizo-Curtis Park. Not only is the new playground installed – look forward to a "grand opening" celebration in early May – but this past week we were informed that the park has been selected as a "2015 Frontline Park" by City Parks Alliance and will be featured on their web site, www.CityParksAlliance.org, to "show how parks and their stewards are on the forefront of creating healthier, more sustainable cities, and how these park projects are succeeding in tough economic times. CPA's goal

in this effort is to showcase the best practices of city park professionals and city park advocates as well as the most innovative and successful park partnerships." Mestizo-Curtis Park will be featured in June.

Do you follow the web site **DenverUrbanism** (www.DenverUrbanism.com)? Liz Munn, a Master of Urban and Regional Planning candidate, wrote two wonderful articles about the **Montessori Academy of Colorado** – the first on their phased renovation of the **Ideal Laundry building at 25th and Curtis**, and the second on their program's "place-based" educational philosophy. Congratulations, MAC, on this great coverage!

March Meeting

This month we have another broad collection of topics for our meeting that will test the limits of how much we can fit into 90 minutes! But first, please come to our "pre-meeting" with the Districts 2 and 6 police at 6:30 p.m., which is a great time to talk about any ongoing safety issues and to learn about what's happening in our area.

We'll continue with introductions to candidates for this spring's elections – 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. This month, **Ean Tafoya**, a candidate for **City Council** in our Council district (to be called District 9), will introduce himself and his ideas for the city.

PlatteForum, another new tenant and great neighbor in the Temple, will provide

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Curtis Park Neighbors Meeting Thursday, Mar 5th

Hope Communities, 2543 California St.

6:30 p.m. Police Updates and Snacks

7:00-8:30 p.m. Main Agenda

1. Introductions
2. PlatteForum - Jodi Pounds and Judy Anderson
3. 2801 Welton Restoration - Kellie Slater, Star Mesa Properties
4. RiNo Special District Formation - Jamie Licko
5. 2500 and 2600 Welton Developments & Rossonian - Paul Books, Palisade Partners
6. Candidate for Council District 9 - Ean Tafoya
7. Gilpin Montessori Ambassadors
8. Open Topics

Next CPN General Meeting Thursday, April 2nd

CPN Board Meeting
Monday, March 16th, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
2543 California St

This month's newsletter printing costs were covered by the office of Councilman Albus Brooks. Thank you, Councilman Brooks!

Hi, Neighbor! (continued)

an overview of their mission and programs. Executive Director Jodi Pounds and Founder & Artistic Director Judy Anderson will present. Founded in 2002, PlatteForum seeks to address diminishing access to the arts in public schools—especially for kids with the least access to opportunity—and provide a place for artists to have the time, space, and support to create new work. PlatteForum is a safe and inspiring environment in which artists create new bodies of work and where kids can explore events in their lives, take risks, create and present art, receive critical feedback, learn from professional artists, learn to work as part of a team, and develop academic and life skills that will stay with them forever. They are a great addition to the neighborhood and the art focus developing near RedLine – please help welcome them!

On **Welton Street**, we have some wonderful news for historic preservation. The Landmark district from 24th to 30th Street is preparing for some changes, with an updated name (“Five Points Historic Cultural District”) and the designation of two more historic buildings as “contributing” buildings for preservation – the Cousins Building at 2559-2563 Welton where Wells Fargo is located, and 2801 Welton which was Rice’s Tap Room and Oven below and the Simpson Hotel above in the 1950s, and more recently BJ’s Port. It is now being given a loving restoration by **Star Mesa Properties**, and **Kellie Slater** will be joining us to talk about the work and what to expect at this site in the coming months.

Also on **Welton Street**, we’ll get a brief update on the plans for the 2500 and

2600 blocks on the light rail side from **Paul Books**, **President of Palisade Partners**. We last heard about their general plans six months ago, which include the renovation and use of the Rossonian, and now that discussions with the Landmark staff have progressed and the details are emerging, they want to be sure we’re kept informed.

On the other side of the neighborhood, the **River North** (or “**RiNo**”) area is **proposing the creation of one or more special districts** (Business Improvement Districts or General Improvement Districts). If approved by vote of the property owners there, special districts can provide a sustainable source of funding for marketing and promotion, capital improvements, public improvements and community services, going beyond the basic level of services provided by the city. **Jamie Licko with Centro**, engaged by the RiNo Arts District and the Office of Economic Development to explore the creation of these districts, will give us an overview and answer questions.

Last Month’s Meeting

Thanks once again to CPN Vice-President Hugh Brown for leading the first two meetings this year!

Hugh started off the well-attended meeting by asking everyone for one word to describe the Curtis Park neighborhood, and neighbors responded with: *invigorating, interconnected, passion, pleasant, walkable, festive, growing, gorgeous, re-energizing, diverse, exciting, changing, eclectic, construction, amazing, dynamic, multi-cultural, and colorful*. Wow – what a neighbor-

hood we have, and it’s the people in the neighborhood that make all these wonderful things true!

We received introductions from the two candidates running for city auditor, **Chris Nevitt and Timothy O’Brien**. **Stephanie Falcone** provided a passionate request for support for **Gilpin Montessori Public School and their Winter Benefit** the following evening, which was a successful event.

Louise Martorano, the executive director of **RedLine** briefed us on the mission of RedLine, upcoming art openings and expanded outreach in the community. **Stephanie Sanchez** of **Mile High United Way** described the valuable resource 2-1-1, which is a referral system to meet many individual and family needs. **Lyz Riley** from **Civic Canopy** informed us of grants available to promote healthy eating and active living. Finally, **John Hayden** discussed potential public art for the Stout Street Children’s Park. He has an exciting preliminary idea and is seeking community support before presenting the proposal to the City’s Public Art program.

Thank you everyone for your attendance and participation in an informative meeting reflecting the diverse interests and activities of Curtis Park!

See you on Thursday, March 5th for our monthly meeting!

-Joel Noble

News, Information and Announcements

The Park People, in partnership with Denver Parks & Recreation, hosts the **Community Forester** training program to teach volunteers to become stewards of the urban forest. With the impending arrival of Emerald Ash Borer, there’s never been a more critical time to help build a strong network of skilled and knowledgeable volunteer foresters!

The Community Forester schedule for March 2015

classes is:

- Trees 101 - Mar 21st 9:00 - 1:00 p.m.
- Tree Planting & Health - Apr 11th 9:00 - 1:00 p.m.
- Pruning - May 2nd 9:00 - 1:00 p.m.
- Identification & Inventory - Jun 6th 9:00 - 1:00 p.m.
- Volunteer Leadership & Community Engagement - Jun 20th 9:00 - Noon

The registration **deadline is Mar 19th**. Classes are limited to 40 participants. Classes are \$20 ea. or you may attend all five for \$80. To become a Community Forester, participants must complete all five sessions. However, individuals may take Trees 101 and at least one other class to become a Tree Steward. (Different rules apply to students enrolled prior to 2015). To register, call The Park People at (303)722-6262.

Other Interesting and Important News

Denver Preschool Program

The Annual Denver Preschool Showcase will be held on Sat. March 7th from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Westin Downtown, 16th and Lawrence. You will learn how to receive tuition support from the Denver Preschool Program and have the opportunity to visit with representatives from more than 150 quality-rated preschools all in one place. Now is the time to start thinking about next school year, if you haven't already.

Tax Help Colorado

Tax Help Colorado offers free tax preparation assistance to individuals who earn less than about \$52,000 a year. The program utilizes community college and high school students who take an accredited course on income tax preparation then operate free tax sites on their campuses for college credit.

During the 2015 tax season, hundreds of IRS-certified students at 18 colleges and 4 high schools will operate 27 free tax sites across the state. Participating Denver locations include The Emily Griffith Technical College on 1261 Glenarm Place and Manual High School, 1700 East 28th Ave, 2nd Floor Library.

Emily Griffith Technical College -

- Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. until Mar 21st.
- Wednesdays from 1:30 - 8:30 p.m. until Mar 11th.
- Thursdays from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. until Apr 9th.

Manual High School - Until Mar 21st

- Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- Thursdays from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

8th Annual

Friends of Manual Breakfast

Supporters, community members and Alumni are invited to the 8th Annual Friends of Manual Breakfast held on Fri. May 15th, Thunderdome at Manual High School, 1700 East 28th Ave. Doors open at 7:00 a.m. with breakfast being served at 7:30 a.m.

This year, Ryan Haygood, '93 will be our Keynote Speaker! Mr. Haygood is the Deputy Director of Litigation at the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational

Deputy Director of Litigation at the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF). We will also welcome incoming MHS Principal Nick Dawkins and present seven student scholarships.

For more information and to learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please visit www.FriendsOfManual.org/events.

News from your Neighborhood School, Gilpin Montessori

On Fri, Feb 6th, Friends of Gilpin, a non-profit designed to build community and financially support Gilpin Montessori, held its Winter Benefit at the Savoy at Curtis Park. Gilpin families, staff and Curtis Park neighbors enjoyed music and hors d'oeuvres while bidding on items made by students of Gilpin Montessori or donated by local businesses and artists. Friends of Gilpin greatly appreciates the support of the Curtis Park businesses and neighbors.

The students of Gilpin Montessori are taking ownership of their learning! For the first time in several years, the school has resurrected its student council. Students are taking initiative and have created anti-bullying groups and are raising money for field trips. The students made a huge impression on community member, Chris Anthony, a renowned skier, motivational speaker and founder of the Youth Initiative Project and a Warren Miller participant. Anthony was inspired by the student's initiative and pledged \$1,000 toward their field trip goal.

On Sat, March 21st, Gilpin Montessori will hold its Second Annual Community Work Day. We will be revamping the play ground and preparing the Gilpin Gardens for planting. We invite all Curtis Park neighbors to participate. The workday is from 9:00 a.m. - Noon, with lunch to follow. If you are not able to participate, please consider donations of garden tools, gloves or organic seeds.

To sign up for the Work Day or to make donation to the Gilpin Student Council, please contact Carol Delong at Carol_Delong@dpsk12.org or (720)424-7141.

Cocktails for

Computers Fundraiser

The Montessori Academy of Colorado (MAC) and Open World Learning (OWL) are hosting a "Cocktails for Computers" fundraiser at the new Nocturne Jazz and Supper Club at 1330 27th St on Tues. April 14th from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. This event will feature light appetizers, a cash bar, a mock computer lab from which donors can select their contribution level, and an address from Senator Mike Johnston.

MAC and OWL are partnering to offer summer technology camps for Curtis Park elementary-age students at the MAC campus (2500 Curtis Street). These camps incorporate fun and innovative digital technology with peer teaching to develop leadership and ignite a love of learning. This fundraiser will make it possible to offer free weeks of technology camp to 48 local students who qualify for scholarships based on need.

Admission to the cocktail party is free with a donation towards the summer camp computer lab and scholarship fund. Please RSVP to MAC's Executive Director, Nancy James, at Nancy@tmaoc.com or (303)623-2609 to secure your spot.

SCFD Free Days

Denver Art Museum

- Sat. Mar 7th



Denver Botanic Gardens

- Tues. Mar 3rd - Chatfield
- Sun. Mar 22nd

Denver Center for the Performing Arts Family Fun Forum

- Sun. Mar 8th 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Denver Museum of Nature and Science

- Mon. Mar 2nd

Children's Museum

- Tues. Mar 3rd 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Clyfford Still Museum

- Fri. Mar 6th 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Fri. Mar 13th 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Fri. Mar 20th 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Fri. Mar 27th

Find out more at www.scfd.org

Neighborhood Internet Resources

Curtis Park Neighbors on Facebook

Connect with your neighbors, stay informed of timely issues and post information about your event. Visit and “Like” us at 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

Curtis Park Design Review Committee

Provide feedback and assistance to new development and building modifications in Curtis Park, to help with successful 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 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

Resources

Denver City Government

www.DenverGov.org, or call 3-1-1
Alternately: (720) 913-1311

Blair-Caldwell Library

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

Denver City Council District 8

Albus Brooks, (720) 337-8888
Albus.Brooks@denvergov.org
www.denvergov.org/albusbrooks
[facebook.com/CouncilmanAlbusBrooks](https://www.facebook.com/CouncilmanAlbusBrooks)

At-Large

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

Homeless Outreach

Police non-emergency: (720) 913-2000

Mayor’s Neighborhood Liaison

Michael Sapp, Jr., (720) 865-9024

Police

Emergencies: Dial 911
Non-Emergency: (720) 913-2000
Dist. 2 (above 25th Street) RSO:
Adriel Torres (720)913-1089,
adriel.torres@denvergov.org
Reyes Trujillo (720)913-1094,
reyes.trujillo@denvergov.org
Dist. 6 (below 25th Street) RSO:
John Duran (720)641-1280,
john.duran@denvergov.org
Kim Jurich (720)641-1282,
kimberly.jurich@denvergov.org

RTD

(303) 299-6000
www.RTD-Denver.com

Elected Representative

Barbara Deadwyler, (720) 273-9520
Barbara.Deadwyler@rtd-denver.com

Trash Pickup - Large Items

The next Large Item pickup is Mar 23-27. For free appliance collection, call (303) 430-7142.

Xcel Energy

Electric Emergency/Power Outage
(800) 895-1999
Gas Emergency / Gas Odor
(800) 895-2999

RTD Fare Study Hearings

RTD is holding hearings on revised fare structure -- eliminating rail "zones", raising local fares, and other changes. More info at www.rtd-denver.com/fare-recommendation.shtml. Public comments sought! Nearby sessions:

- Wed. March 25th at Noon, RTD Headquarters, 1600 Blake Street, Rooms T&D
- Wed, April 8th at 6:30 p.m., RTD Headquarters, 1600 Blake Street, Rooms T&D

City Council Forum

A forum hosted by INC and the League of Women Voters with candidates for our district will be held on **Thurs. March 26th, 6:30 p.m.** at the **CO Miners Inc. Community Center, 4809 Race St.** Meet the candidates and ask questions before you vote!

Parking Committee

Curtis Park Neighbors is starting an effort to manage the growing parking concerns that come with the increase in new services and residents in our community. We love having new neighbors and neighborhood businesses to serve neighbors and want to be proactive in figuring out how best to make sure everyone can get to their destinations efficiently. If you are interested in working on solutions please email **John Hayden** at haydenpryor@msn.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 Monica Lubbert at cpn-newsletter@googlegroups.com or (303) 408-1649. The next newsletter deadlines are Mar. 18th for ads, and Mar. 21st for articles.

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CPN Board of Directors

Hugh Brown (Vice President), Eileen Feltman, Sue Glassmacher, Ethan Hackley, John Hayden, Deb Jacobson, Marco Martinez, Todd McGuire (Treasurer) Joel Noble (President), Rob Price (Electronic Communications Director), Therese Rasmussen, Eric Ross, Julie Rubsam (Fundraising Chair), and Andrew Spinks. Contact the CPN President by writing to jnoble@frii.net or calling (303) 332-8640. Write the CPN Board at curtis-park-neighbors-board@googlegroups.com.