Hi, Neighbor!

Joel Noble, CPN President

We're going into May after a nice few days of rain the last weekend in April. Urban wildlife sightings are continuing, with bunnies, turkeys, and a raccoon seen recently. Keep your eyes open – you never know who's enjoying our neighborhood!

As this newsletter is being distributed, there are only a few days left to vote in this municipal election – ballots are due back by Tuesday, May 5th at 7 p.m. Find information on ballot drop-off locations at www.DenverVotes.com -- the closest 24-hour drop-off box is in front of the Blair-Caldwell library at 24th and Welton. Please vote!

May Meeting

This month we'll start with a serious topic. Gunfire continues to be a regular occurrence nearby in the Cole and Whittier neighborhoods, and leadership from Police District 2 will join us for an update on what's going on and what is being done to calm these apparently gang-related incidents.

Turning to parks, we'll hear an update on planned events and activities in our neighborhood parks from John Hayden. Thriving parks are parks that are used – join your neighbors in taking full advantage of our parks!

Another great outdoor space nearby is the 16th Street Mall. We're delighted to have a representative from the Downtown Denver Partnership give us a preview of five special Sunday event days on the 16th Street Mall this summer, when the mall will be opened up for more activities and the free shuttle buses move to 15th and Grant.

Donation to Curtis Park Neighbors

By Julie Rubsam

Hello to all my neighbors! If you are reading this on paper, you have, in your hands, one of the 1,800 newsletters that has been hand delivered this month. Curtis Park Neighbors is our neighborhood organization. We are highly regarded by our friends, neighbors, and representatives. We work hard and it shows – just look at our neighborhood and the rush of businesses and developers to be part of our precious area.

A neighbor recently asked me when we were putting donation envelopes in the newsletter so she could make her annual donation. Last year, we spent more money on envelopes than we received back. This year, we are asking that you consider a tax-free donation to Curtis Park Neighbors. Your donation helps defer the cost of the newsletter printing which is now $3,300 per year. A donation of any amount is greatly appreciated. If you are a business, and would like to advertise in the newsletter, we have very favorable rates.

So please consider making a donation to Curtis Park Neighbors. You can drop it off to me, Julie Rubsam, 2800 Curtis or mail it to our treasurer, Todd McGuire at 3162 Champa Street.

We appreciate your help and we know that the newsletter is a welcome visitor in our homes every month.

THANK YOU!!!!
Hi, Neighbor! (continued)

and 17th streets. Learn about it at our meeting, and make plans to check it out this summer as the city explores ideas for a more active downtown main street.

As biking grows, and our neighborhood’s nearby corridors become better and better destinations, where will all the bikes park? The few “U” bike racks on the sidewalks aren’t sufficient, and locking bikes to trees is a terrible idea. Adam Perkins will share with us the benefits of “bike corrals” – using what would be an on-street car parking space for parking up to 20 bikes – and the new permit program Denver Public Works is developing for these facilities. It’s one important part of a comprehensive approach to provide quality options other than driving as people are out and about for work and for play.

Speaking of destinations, we’re continuing our series of business introductions by welcoming Scott Kaplan and partners with Ratio Beerworks at 29th and Larimer. RiNo is becoming well-known as a vital part of Colorado’s reputation for being the “Napa Valley for beer”. Meet some of the latest operators in this thriving industry.

On our downtown edge, we’ll talk with Universal Herbs, which has been successfully operating a medical marijuana dispensary at Park Ave and Stout for the past couple of years in the space of the former and very troubled Khang’s Market. Universal Herbs looking to add a retail marijuana sales license to their existing medical marijuana sales license, operating in the same space. We’ll meet manager Daniel Pantaleo and learn about the challenges and opportunities in operating on the edge of Arapahoe Square and what measures they’re taking to ensure safe operations.

Last Month’s Meeting

In April we had several great presentations relevant to the neighborhood, including hearing from State Senator Beth McCann on current and upcoming legislation, and Joshua Solis from Denver Transit Partners on the East Corridor progress. We’re in the one-year countdown for being able to take a train to and from the airport, departing in each direction every 15 minutes.

Denver Forestry gave a sobering presentation on the upcoming arrival of the Emerald Ash Borer – an insect that is killing ash trees throughout the country, and is the most destructive forest pest ever seen in North America. It’s slowly moving from east to west, and has been found in Boulder. We have time to plan how to diversify our park, tree lawn, and private tree inventory so we don’t lose too much of our cooling, beautiful canopy. While pesticides professionally applied to each tree can prevent infestation, this expensive process has to be repeated each year for the rest of each Ash tree’s life, so it makes sense only for the most valuable trees. Visit www.EmeraldAshBorer.info to learn more.

Candidate for re-election to City Council Albus Brooks gave a five-minute campaign pitch. Unfortunately, candidate Michael Borcharding had to cancel shortly before the meeting. Matthew and Patricia Yarber, owners of East Denver Liquors, shared their plans to relocate to 2741 Welton St., while upgrading their stock and store appearance. After a lengthy Q&A, the membership voted overwhelmingly to negotiate a good neighbor agreement documenting several important points relating to hours, stock, and operations.

Other Neighborhood Happenings

Monday April 20th was unexpectedly disruptive, with a big “4/20” festival on Welton St. bringing many hundreds, music until 10:00 p.m., and the closure of light rail and businesses along the street. Cervantes, the organizers of the event, were very responsible to complaints of trash left on the surrounding blocks. They have assured us that they will work with CPN to get the word out via our newsletter, Facebook and e-mail channels prior to future events.

On the 2600 block between Arapahoe and Lawrence, The Big Wonderful will be back on Saturdays from noon to 7:30 p.m. starting May 2nd. This free event combines aspects of a festival, a beer garden, and a market focused on small businesses.

The Five Points Jazz Festival will be held on Sat., May 16th on Welton St. Don’t miss it! This free event on eight stages will require the interruption of the light rail service, but a special bus will be running frequently to take people between 30th and Downing and Downtown.

For questions or to RSVP please contact Cara Colson at (303) 867-2330 or e-mail cara.colson@tpl.org.

We hope to see all of our neighbors attend and celebrate this amazing park.

Mestizo-Curtis Park Ribbon Cutting - Save the Date

Please join us at Mestizo-Curtis Park for the ribbon cutting and celebration of its newly renovated playground on Sat. June 6th.

Come hear how we are working with our partners and the community to bring Denver’s oldest park back to life; one of many parks, gardens, and playgrounds we are creating throughout the Denver metro area.

Schedule of Events

7:30 - 8:00 a.m.-Yoga in the park
8:00 - 10:00 a.m.-Park clean-up
10:00 - 10:30 a.m.-Ribbon cutting and remarks
10:30 - 11:30 a.m. -Children’s activities
Noon - Curtis Park Pool opens for the summer
Bring your lawn games, hula hoops, basketballs, frisbees, ping-pong paddles and any other fun activities or games to share. There will be food and music so we can dance, eat and laugh while getting to know each other better.

Many local community organizers and leaders will be in attendance, including Councilman Albus Brooks, Bishop Jerry Demmer from the Absolute Word Church, and Adeeb Khan, Senior Director for the Mile-High United Way.

Let’s "meet and greet" and make our park a great place for all the folks in our great, diverse community.

Later that week, on Fri., May 29th, the Whittier School PTA will present their 6th annual Walk for Whittier and Community Fun Night from 5:00-7:30 p.m. at Whittier School, located at 25th and Downing. The event features a community walk followed by an affordable family celebration with a silent auction, non-profit fair, carnival games, food and entertainment.

Please contact Karen at (303) 986-5929 or e-mail gkmortimer@gmail.com for more information.

First Sunday in the Park at Sonny Lawson
Please join your neighbors for kid-friendly, family-friendly, and community-friendly fun on Sunday, May 3rd from 12:30 - 3:00 p.m. at Sonny Lawson Park, located at the Blair-Caldwell Library along 24th St. & Welton St.
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.

Special Thanks To
Geraldyn Harris, Julie Rubsam, Karen Mortimer, Robbie Hobein, Carol DeLong, Sue Glassmacher and Joel Noble for newsletter content.

Thanks to Hope Communities for donating our meeting space, to Monica Lubbert for newsletter editing and publishing, to Therese Rasmussen for coordinating newsletter distribution, and many thanks to neighbors assisting with newsletter deliveries.

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
Alternatively: (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/albushbrooks
facebook.com/CouncilmanAlbusBrooks

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

Councilwoman Debbi 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@rtdenver.com

Trash Pickup - Large Items
The next Large Item pickup is May 4-8.
For free appliance collection, call (303) 430-7142.

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

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CPN Board of Directors
Hugh Brown (Vice President), Eileen Feltman, Sue Glassmacher, Scott Gordon (Secretary), 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.