Hi, Neighbors!

John Hayden, CPN President

I’d like to wish everyone a happy and safe Fourth of July Holiday. This month, in honor of the Holiday, we will not have a Curtis Park Neighbors meeting. So spend some time with family and neighbors and try to come up with creative ways to stay cool. Perhaps go for a swim in the pool at Mestizo-Curtis Park, one of the few 50 yard outdoor pools left in the City. The pool has a long and impactful history in Denver. The Curtis Park pool was built in 1936 as part of President Roosevelt’s New Deal - a public works projects intended to put people back to work during the Great Depression. The original pool was much smaller than the current pool and was built for diving. In the 1940s, Viola Salazar, one of the country’s best divers, practiced at the Curtis Park diving pool. Viola was a national A.A.U. low board Diving Champion. (The A.A.U. governs amateur sports and trains many athletes working toward the Olympics). The diving pool would eventually be filled in and turned into the current children’s play pool. The larger pool was built sometime after the diving well and is still intact. When it was built, the city of Denver segregated the pool, in spite of laws that disallowed the practice. White residents were allowed to use the pool four days a week and minority residents were allowed to use the pool the other three days. In 1941 then Mayor Stapleton ordered the pool integrated. The council person for the district, Harry Rosenthal, attempted to stop the integration of the pool by having it closed. On June 21st the pool closed and was closed for two days when Mayor Stapleton and Parks Manager George Craemner ordered the pool reopened as an integrated pool.

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Summer Block Party

Make plans in August for the 4th Annual Curtis Park Neighbors Party at the 2700 block of Curtis Street. It will be August 6, 4:30 until dark. There will be music, grills for cooking and activities for the kids. Bring a side and dessert to share. Please remove your cars from 2700 block of Curtis Street by 11 a.m. on August 6th. Questions? contact J.R. at LapierreJR@gmail.com

38th & Blake Status

The next 38th & Blake Height Amendments public meeting will be held on Wed., July 13th from 5:30 to 7:30 at EXDO (35th and Walnut).

Building on input from previous meetings, the meeting will focus on exploring design standards intended to achieve desired quality of life and community livability for the station area. Food will be provided.
Hi Neighbors (cont.)

The reopened pool has remained integrated ever since and is a place in our community where people of all different cultures come together. I hope that our parks, pools and public spaces can continue to be places where different people come together to learn, laugh and love. The historic information in this article comes from “Curtis Park, Five Points and Beyond” by Phil Goldstein and “Denver, The City Beautiful” by Tom Noel.

Happy Summer Curtis Park!

Keep Denver Beautiful

Sue Glasmacher

On May 12th, Curtis Park residents John Hayden and Keith Pryor were presented with the Keep Denver Beautiful “Outstanding Community Service Volunteer” award for their contributions toward keeping Denver clean and beautiful. At the annual Community Service Awards dinner, Keith and John and recipients of other Keep Denver Beautiful awards were honored for their work in the community.

You may know John and Keith from their Children’s Park parties, walking tours, avocation for bike and pedestrian mobility, service to the betterment of our parks, work for good building design in CP and surrounding areas, leadership and volunteer work for the Curtis Park Neighbors—and more. This award was based on keeping Sonny Lawson Park clean and attractive. They have long advocated to the homeless service providers and our Councilman for a stewardship program where homeless persons are hired to keep an area clean. They personally put it into practice in Sonny Lawson Park. John and Keith wanted the homeless to participate in caring for the park. They paid a homeless man to keep the park clean. The results were astonishing. Each steward took the job seriously and each showed great pride in his work. The park got cleaner. The steward had a job that he could manage. The steward earned a bit of money. And a funny thing happened. Every steward left the job because each got permanent housing. Maybe that small job had results beyond keeping the park clean.

Keith and John also beautify the parks as they build community. They publicly celebrate Day of the Dead by having an event at Sonny Lawson Park that includes bulb planting. Those tulips we saw in our parks and in front of Cleo Parker Robinson Dance building were the product of their efforts. We know that John and Keith are a model we should emulate and honor. Congratulations on a well deserved recognition of their work.

Donate Extra Veggies from Your Garden

Wendy Hawthorne, Executive Director Groundwork Denver

If you are a backyard or community gardener, you probably know what I mean by the “zucchini problem”. At some point during the summer, you will end up with far more zucchini, tomatoes, carrots and other veggies than you can possibly eat. Fresh Food Connect solves this problem! If you sign up at www.FreshFoodConnect.org you can donate your extra produce with just a click of a button. Starting in late July, you will get a weekly email asking if you have anything to donate. If you do, just click “yes” and set the extra produce on your front porch in the morning. One of Groundwork Denver’s youth employees will come by and pick it up on a bike with trailer. The veggies will then be donated through Denver Food Rescue or sold very affordably at a local youth farm stand through Denver Urban Gardens. Fresh Food Connect is a project of your neighboring non-profits – Groundwork Denver, Denver Food Rescue and Denver Urban Gardens – and was developed to reduce food waste, provide affordable healthy produce, and employ low-income youth. We are launching in 80205 this summer and plan to expand to other neighborhoods after that.

EarthLinks Event

“Water Wise Gardening Water Rights”
July 14th, 2016 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Morey Middle School Class goes to D.C.

Breanna Romero

I am a 4th generation resident of the Curtis Park neighborhood and I attend Morey Middle School. On January 16th-22nd, 2017, students from Morey Middle School will travel to Washington, D.C. to take part in the Presidential Inauguration activities with the Close Up program. Students will take part in a pivotal moment in our democracy and gain the skills, knowledge, and confidence they need to become informed, engaged citizens. This program is run by Close Up Foundation, the nation’s leading nonprofit, nonpartisan civic education organization. While on the program, students will participate in a variety of hands-on, educational activities such as visits to historic memorials, monuments, and museums. Students will learn from and debate with their peers from across the country, exposing them to differing attitudes and perspectives. In addition, students will have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend exclusive Inauguration events such as the Presidential Oath & Address for your consideration and support, and for making a positive difference in my life and our community!

The program cost per student is $2700 and is all-inclusive. Please help me in this effort by contributing/providing a gift of your choice. You can donate directly to my account online. Simply go to www.CloseUp.org, click on “Donate” and select “Sponsor a student.” All you need to enter is my participant ID: 2204218. Close Up is a 501( C )(3) nonprofit and their tax ID # is 23-7122882. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Close Up’s Donation coordinator at support@closeup.org. Your contribution would be an investment in our community's future by helping students become active and informed citizens!

Morey Middle School students are also having a silent auction if you or your business would like to donate goods/services or bid on items please visit our site: www.auctria.com/auction/MoreyMiddleSchoolInauguration. The auction is live now. New items will be added throughout the summer. Please check back often.

Thank you in advance.

Affordable Housing Public Meeting Set for July 21

The City and County of Denver will hold an Affordable Housing public meeting from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, July 21 at North High School, 2960 Speer Blvd. Presented by Mayor Hancock and City Councilmembers Robin Kniech and Albus Brooks, the meeting will feature a presentation and discussion on Denver’s affordable housing policy proposals, resources and services.

Among the key topics of discussion will be a proposed new, local funding source to support housing affordability. Over the past several months, city officials – together with housing advocates, developers, homeless service providers, community representatives and industry groups – have been exploring the best approach for establishing a new, local housing fund.

For more information about the meeting and these services, contact Rodolfo L. Rodriguez at Rodolfo.rodriguez@denvergov.org, or call 720-337-7731.

Thinking of Buying or Selling?

Contact John Hayden!

21 years experience in Curtis Park
Because the health of our community is the life of my business

Five Points 2015 median home price increased 17% from $341,500 to $399,000. source: MLS data

Your Curtis Park / Five Points Real Estate Expert.

John Hayden
303.297.3994
jhayden@kentwoodcity.com

www.CurtisParkHomes.com
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 assistance to new development and building modifications in Curtis Park, to help with 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 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

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 9
Albus Brooks, (720) 337-7709
Albus.Brooks@denvergov.org
www.denvergov.org/albusbrooks
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,
adel.torres@denvergov.org
Reyes Trujillo (720) 913-1094,
reyes.trujillo@denvergov.org
Dist. 6 (below 25th Street) RSO:
Snow White (720) 641-1280,
snow.white@denvergov.org

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

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

Trash Pickup - Overflow Pickup
The next Large Item pickup is July 3rd-9th. For free appliance collection, call (303) 430-7142.

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

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

Special Thanks To
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CPN Board of Directors
Conor Farley, Eileen Feltman, Sue Glassmacher, Scott Gordon (Vice President), John Hayden (President), Deb Jacobson (Secretary), J.R. Lapierre, Marco Martinez, Todd McGuire (Treasurer), Joel Noble, Rob Price (Electronic Communications Director), Therese Rasmussen, Eric Ross, and Andrew Spinks. Contact the CPN President by writing to haydenpyro@msn.com or calling (303) 297-3994.
Write the CPN Board at curtis-park-neighbors-board@googlegroups.com.