Hi Neighbors,

Jeff Baker, CPN President

This summer has been hot and will be one of the warmest summers on record. The heat seems like a slap in the face to an incredibly difficult year. This year has been challenging for the human race and that struggle has been compounded by many other factors. The world feels uncertain and out of place right now, and that can be felt from the macro level to the micro level.

I know that you have felt the impact of the state of the world on our neighborhood. There has been an increase in crime and dangerous activity citywide, especially concentrated in the inner-city neighborhoods like Curtis Park and the greater Five Points area. Please be aware of your surroundings and stay safe as we continue to push the city agencies for solutions to the current state of the city.

I encourage you to get involved and to take action. Please contact me if you would like to help and get involved in the neighborhood. We have board positions open and are seeking nominations and interested parties for the 2021 board. We also have a variety of committees that may be of interest to you.

Our September 3rd General Neighborhood Meeting will be held via video conference.

This month we will have a presentation on a large Denargo Market project by Formativ, from Savannah Mantele and her team at Sewald Hanfling. El Sistema, located next to Mestizo-Curtis Park in the King M. Trimble Center, will give an update on their programming and musical opportunities this fall. They provide music training that is completely free to underprivileged youth. Kathy Benzels from Denver Language School will give an update on the Gilpin Campus fall plan. We will have time at the end of our presenters to have a community discussion.

11th Annual Curtis Park Great Pumpkin Party

This year Halloween is on a Saturday and although details are not solidified yet, there still is a plan to hold this annual neighborhood event in 2020 fashion. So, mark your calendars and stay tuned for details as we get closer to the date. Contact John Hayden to with questions or to volunteer to help at: haydenpryor@msn.com.

Next CPN General Meetings
October 1st, 2020

Curtis Park Neighbors Meet
Thursday, August 6th 2020

Our CPN General Meetings will be virtual for a while! Link for Zoom meeting click here

Or enter: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86735514700?pwd=MTZxTWtwRVluW5mRUpBcytQVks1dz09

Meeting ID: 867 3551 4700
Password: CPN-2020
Meeting protocol
- Use your real first name as an attendee!
- Stay on mute unless you are speaking
- Post questions in the chat
- Be kind and patient with others

6:30 Police Update and Briefing
CPN General Meeting August 6th, 7:00-8:30
1. Denargo Market Project-30 minutes
2. El Sistema-10 Minutes
3. DLS at Gilpin-Kathy Benzels-20 minutes
4. Community Roundtable-30 minutes
5. Community questions.

Please Support CPN
Please consider a donation to support the Curtis Park Neighbors and this newsletter. You can make your tax deductible contribution online by visiting squareup.com/store/CurtisParkNeighbors.
The Five Points Housing Options Team, is a boots-on-the-ground group of neighborhood stewards who meet weekly to help beautify the neighborhood, and help with homelessness solutions for the neighborhood. There are two groups, one that meets at Sonny Lawson Park on Wednesdays at 10:30, and another group who meets on Sunday mornings at S'park, at 8:00 am. If you are interested in joining one of these groups or starting a new group in a different section of the neighborhood, please contact Ryan at ryancurtispark@gmail.com.

Thank you to all the neighborhood volunteers! We couldn't do this without you!

Flagstone Sidewalk Assistance

Jeff Baker

When Curtis Park Neighbors began salvaging flagstone in the neighborhood, there were two designated purposes for collecting these 130+ year old stones. CPN’s board is committed to preserving the historic character of the neighborhood and the first intent for the old stones was to help replace broken flagstone throughout the neighborhood. The CPN board voted to sell the stones back to the neighbors to replace damaged sidewalk in front of their homes. We have been selling these stones at 25% of retail for the last few years for this purpose. This leads to the next designated purpose, which is to take the earnings and help low income neighbors replace their broken stones ahead of the city inspector. We have many of our fellow neighbors who are on fixed incomes and the cost of repairing their sidewalk may not be possible. If you fall into this category, please contact Jeff Baker at 970-759-4023 to discuss assistance options. These funds will be deployed to those low or fixed income neighbors in need at a first come, first serve basis, and there are limited funds for this purpose. We still have stones available for sale to repair your sidewalk and there are contractors working throughout the neighborhood to get your sidewalk up to code.

Kids’ Corner

This is the leaf of the Redbud Tree. It looks like a heart.

The Redbud Tree loves Denver. It loves the sun, and our hot summers. The Redbud Tree has beautiful pink flowers in the Spring. It grows to about 35 feet, and is a fast grower. The Redbud Tree can live to be 70 years old.

On your next walk in our Curtis Park neighborhood, see how many Redbud Trees you can find. Look for the heart.

It’s the dog days of summer. Remember to water your trees! It has been terribly hot and dry and if you haven’t been watering them this summer, they need a drink.
El Sistema Colorado is thrilled to be a Curtis Park neighbor!

In October 2019, El Sistema Colorado (ESC) began programming in the King Trimble Center and is thrilled to be partnering with the Curtis Park community at the first hub location. ESC is an intensive after-school music program focused on using the music ensemble to teach students valuable life skills through the joy of music.

At El Sistema Colorado, we believe that music helps communities thrive, so we want to play our part by providing equitable access to the many benefits of music for Denver’s youth through totally free music education programming.

ESC teaches pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students life skills using the music ensemble offering both choir and string instruments (violin, viola, cello, and bass). Programming is available five days a week, Monday through Friday, and is completely free for families.

This semester we are following the lead of Denver Public Schools, and will be providing all of our programming virtually. Each student receives a free instrument and personal computer for the entirety of the program. We couldn’t be more excited to start the fall semester with our Curtis Park Neighbors!

Are you interested in getting involved, wanting to make a donation, or curious to learning more about enrolling your child?

Call Music Education Coordinator, Jamie Wolf at 720-722-1372 or email questions to info@elsistemacolorado.org. Visit our website for more information: www.elsistemacolorado.org

2020 Census Make Sure You and Your Family are Counted!

It’s Census year and I’d like to encourage everyone to complete their Census questionnaire. It is so important for our community. It takes minutes to complete and you can do so easily online at the following: www.2020census.gov

About the Census & Why it Matters

The Census happens once every ten years, and the data gathered by the U.S. Census Bureau stays with a community for ten years. It is a count of everyone living within the country on April 1, 2020, and the current national response rate is around 63%.

The Census is used for so much such as in the consideration of allocating funds for schools, public transportation projects, and senior centers. Businesses use the aggregate Census information (not your private information as your confidentiality is protected by law) when making decisions to open businesses, and creating and updating business plans. Census data also plays a role in housing and equal employment opportunity assessments. Census data determines representation in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The U.S. Census Bureau tries to place its employees in their own neighborhoods so you may very well be talking to a dedicated member of our community if a Census worker attempts to reach you. There is a big push to increase the response rate, and by completing your Census, you are playing a direct role in making sure our community gets an accurate count.

Curtis Park Neighborhood,

Hello,

My name is Matt Treenery and I would like to introduce myself to the Curtis Park Neighborhood. I am the Outreach Case Coordinator / Social Worker for the Denver Police Department District Six located at 1566 N Washington Street. I do a few things. In general, engage with Denver Community Members that need help with social services like housing, substance use and mental health. Working with Registered Neighborhood Organizations like Curtis Park is another big part of community outreach. I plan to attend as many of your meetings as possible and help your neighborhood and community members meet your goals. The best way to contact me is by email.

Looking forward to hearing from you! Thank you,

Matt Treenery, Outreach Case Coordinator
Denver Police Department, City and County of Denver

cell: (303) 704-1008

20 is Plenty

Lynne Brown

What are these signs we see sprouting up in the neighborhood? The Denver Streets Partnership has started a campaign to encourage Denver to adopt vehicle speeds of 20 miles per hour on residential streets. This is part of Vision Zero, the city’s commitment to have 0 traffic deaths by 2030. At 20 mph speeds pedestrians and bicyclists are much less likely to suffer serious injury when hit by a car.
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 Sept. 16th for ads, and Sept. 19 for articles.

Special Thanks To
Lynne Brown, John Hayden and Jeff Baker for newsletter content. Thanks to Hope Communities and Mile High United Way for donating our meeting space, to Theres 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, Robbie Hobein (Secretary), Andrew Spinks, Ryan Cox, Beth Bianchi, Lindsay Schneider, Lindsey Sullivan and Randy Vetter. 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.