



Hi Neighbors,

Stephen Bennett, President

A big thank you to everyone who joined our first-ever St. Patrick's Day Pet Parade on Welton Street! Mother Nature surprised us with sunshine after a snowy week, making it a perfect day for over 82 furry friends and their humans to celebrate. A special thanks goes to Grand Marshall John Hayden and the Mile High Brass Band for leading the pack!

The fun continued with the Green Street Bar Crawl, offering a chance to mingle and support local bars and restaurants. These events wouldn't be possible without sponsors, like Councilman Watson's office, and our dedicated volunteers who put in countless hours behind the scenes.

Curtis Park: A Community Powered by YOU

A vibrant community thrives on volunteers, and Curtis Park is no exception! From Keith & John, who steward Sonny Lawson Park, to Lynne Brown and the Tree Committee, your efforts make a real difference.

To make volunteering even easier we're launching a Signup Genius account soon. There's something for everyone, whether you can commit to weekly park stewarding or prefer monthly tasks, like newsletter delivery. Even one-time opportunities are available!

Mark your calendar

Join us for Curtis Park Connects at The Armory on April 4th. District 2 & 6 po-

lice officers will discuss public safety. Michelle & Dan Sawyer from Duke's Good Sandwiches and Scratch Bakery will provide tasty bites and treats.

We've got a great lineup planned for the meeting: Elections Clerk Paul Lopez will be there to answer all your voting and registration questions. Malik Robinson from the nearby Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Studio will join us to talk about its community programs. Rounding out the evening, Mike Johnson from the Denver Dream Center will share the impactful work he & his team do to keep Five Points safe and clean.

In May we'll host a debate with the Denver District Attorney candidates for the Democratic primary. This will be a moderated debate; questions can be submitted to [Brad Dalton-brad1015@gmail.com](mailto:BradDalton-brad1015@gmail.com)

Stay Connected

Don't miss this chance to connect with your neighbors, learn something new, and engage with community members. Follow us on Instagram [@curtispar-denver](https://www.instagram.com/curtispark-denver).

Curtis Park Work From Home Club

Each week, we'll post the location on the Curtis Park Neighbors Facebook group and send out a reminder to anyone who wants an e-mail. Drop a note to joel@joelnoble.net and you'll be added to our Monday reminder mail.

Curtis Park Connects

Curtis Park Neighbors General Meeting
Thursday, April 4th.
Location: The Armory, 2565 Curtis

6:30- 7 DPD Public Safety

7-8:30 Election's Clerk Paul Lopez
Malik Robinson- Cleo Parker
Mike Johnson - Dream Center



Next Curtis Park Connects
May 2nd Curtis Park Connects
Location: The Montessori Academy

CPN Board Meeting
April 15th-6:00-7:00pm
RedLine Gallery

Meet Mr. Michael Ritchie & Unassimilated at 26th and California Streets

Rachel Seccia

On the corner of California and 26th Streets is an architectural salvage company called *Unassimilated*, owned by Michael Ritchie, a Curtis Park resident of 50 years. Unassimilated is an unassuming business of 30 years that contains historical treasures from a past era. Local residents have likely seen the company's stained-glass sign, the concrete statue in the corner lot, or the signature prairie schooner. The wagon was an acquisition from Loveland, Colorado, once documented in a 1906 black-and-white picture with billowing canvas.

Mr. Ritchie proudly advocates for the preservation of history. When many of the historic homes of Curtis Park were being destroyed or burned down during an era of renewal, Michael Ritchie worked with Curtis Park community members and local government to solidify the neighborhood's historic status. He is pro-renovation of the homes in our community. He welcomes modernization but also loves to see families incorporate the new with the old, which he feels brings richness to a home.

Michael Ritchie's journey into architectural salvage is a profoundly personal one. His family's lineage can be traced back to William Penn on his maternal side and he grew up in the historic city of Washington, D.C. His first foray into salvaging history occurred at a prepubescent age when he rescued a ceiling light commonly found in federal buildings from a local junkyard. By 16, he was already studying business management at the University of Denver. After gaining experience in hospitality and running a design firm, he returned to his passion for architectural salvage. His favorite period of history is the Art Deco era, a style that he tells me is underrepresented in Denver's architecture. Michael is drawn to the cleaner lines and geometric shapes of the Art Deco era, a sharp diversion from the more ornate Victorian, Art Nouveau, and Neoclassical periods. Most of Michael Ritchie's acquisitions have local historical significance,

often purchased at Colorado auctions, estate sales, or architectural salvage sources. Many of the items he has salvaged come from local businesses and estates, including the prestigious Oxford Hotel, Union Station, Phipps Mansion, and the Metropolitan Club, a once-elite club for oil and gas companies. Several years ago, he acquired a vast selection of vintage door and drawer hardware from Grandpa Snazzy's, an antique dealer on South Broadway.

Most recently, Unassimilated's online presence has drawn private sellers and contractors to the business. Mr. Ritchie's oldest piece dates back to the 16th century, and several of his most distinctive items were purchased several decades ago on an acquisition quest to England.

A full tour of Unassimilated takes over three hours. It spans the original corner lot and several of Mr. Ritchie's homes across the street, which contain his more eclectic finds, including intact fireplace mantels, pocket doors, newel posts, an antique cash register, and ornate hallway mirrors. His store contains a large selection of fire-glazed and cement tile, stained glass items, outdoor fountains, ceiling medallions, interior lighting, and exterior doors.

A tour with Michael Ritchie is a tour through local history. He vividly recalls where each item was acquired, its use, and its place in history. Two of his more unique pieces include a British phone booth and a jail cell from Washington's Night Club. The cell, which has a locking mechanism, confined unruly patrons or customers who could not pay their bar tab.

Among my favorite pieces were an original light fixture from the Oxford Hotel, a complete metal French Art Nouveau staircase, and an ice cream fountain that once was the centerpiece of the Cooper Drug Store, a business that was located on the corner of 23rd and Arapahoe Street.

www.Unassimilated.biz

For appointment call: 303-296-2403



Unassimilated has an online presence, but it is best experienced with Michael Ritchie himself. Dress for the weather, bring a cup of coffee, and step back in time. Purchases can be made with cash or check, so plan accordingly. Unassimilated is open most days between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm and closed on Sundays.



We Fund Culture.
SCFD

SCFD Free Days

- Molly Brown House Museum
 - Tues. Apr. 2nd
- Denver Zoo
 - Sun. Apr. 7th
- Denver Art Museum
 - Tues. Apr. 9th
 - Sun. Apr. 28th
- Denver Botanic Gardens
 - Mon. Apr. 22nd
- Denver Museum of Nature and Science
 - Sun. Apr. 28th

Go to: scfd.org for more info.

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EVENTS

AT THE

SAVOY

2700 Arapahoe



Quinn DeVeaux

April 11th, the evening begins at 7:00 PM

Drawing from his roots in the church choir, Quinn DeVeaux is the originator of blue beat soul, a rapturous blend of early blues, old-school country, and soul.

DeVeaux's songwriting is uplifting and healing with a focus on modern storytelling, channeling artists such as Sam Cooke, Bill Withers, and Otis Redding.

Joining Quinn for the night are Denver-based musicians Mark Anderson (drums), Paul DeHaven (guitar), and Kate Hannington (keys), as well as Nashville bassist, Dave Guy.

For tickets and more upcoming shows visit:

www.maspresents.org

The Bluebird

March 23rd-April 7th

Take flight with The Bluebird, a wordless odyssey of dreams and dreamers. This evocative production employs mime and physical comedy to explore themes of immigration, exclusion, and resilience. Evening performances are Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 7:30 pm. Sunday matinees begin at 2:00 pm.

For tickets and more upcoming shows visit:

www.theartibus.com

April Tree-To-Do's

Tree Committee

PLEASE UNWRAP YOUR TREE: It's April, so it's time to unwrap your trees. (If the Tree Committee wrapped it last fall, please go ahead and unwrap it now. Your tree will thank you!) You can save the tree wrap for this fall or recycle it.

FREE WOOD CHIPS: for mulching your trees. You can find the chips in the empty lot at 29th and Stout Streets. Bring your buckets or a wheelbarrow and take what you need!

BUY AND PLANT A TREE, CHEAP: April is a great time to plant trees. Thanks to The Park People (a local nonprofit), you can purchase your tree starting on Saturday, April 20 at noon, at the City Park Greenhouse for just \$50-\$80.

Fruit trees (bare root), \$50 each: Northstar Cherry, Toka Plum, Sweet Sixteen Apple. Ornamental trees (balled and burlapped), \$80 each: Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry, Spring Snow Crabapple, Cleveland Select Pear.

Here's the link for more information about the Tree Sale: <https://theparkpeople.org/What-We-Do/Denver-Digs-Trees/Tree-Sale>

<https://theparkpeople.org/What-We-Do/Denver-Digs-Trees/Tree-Sale>

And here's a QR code.



Garden in a Box

Tree Committee

There is still time to order these perennials and grasses. They make terrific plants for the tree lawns/right of way. Your street trees will appreciate having the plants for a companion too. <https://resourcecentral.org/gardens-2/shop/>



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Resources

Denver City Government
www.DenverGov.org, or call 3-1-1

Blair-Caldwell Library
2401 Welton Street, (720) 865-2401

Denver City Council D9
Darrell Watson, (720) 337-7709
district9@denvergov.org

At-Large
Councilwoman Sarah Parady
ParadyAtLarge@denvergov.org
(720) 337-7712
Councilwoman Serena Gonzales-
Gutierrez
GonzalesGutierrezAtLarge@denvergov-

.org
(720) 337-7713

Denver Public Schools
(720) 423-3200, www.DPSK12.org

Community Advisory Board Mtgs.
District 2 Community Advisory Board
March 6th @ 6pm
3921 N Holly Street

D6 Community Advisory Board
March 21st @ Noon
1566 N Washington Street

DOTI ROW Enforcement
(720) 913-1720

Police
Non-Emergency: (720) 913-2000

Dist. 2 (north 25th Street) RSO:
Hana Ruiz (720) 913-1089
hana.ruiz@denvergov.org
Dist. 6 (south 25th Street) RSO:
Kayla Knabe (720) 913-2908
kayla.knabe@denvergov.org

Park Ranger 303-331-4050
Elected RTD Representative
Michael Guzman, (720) 252-4961
michael.guzman@rtd-denver.com

Trash Pickup - Overflow Pickup
The next Large Item Pickup is
April 18th

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

To report non-permitted exterior work
to Landmark email: abigail.Christman@denver.gov.org or call
(720) 865-2908

Short Term Rental Enforcement
Brian Snow (720) 865-2750

Jazz in the Park Series

Mark your calendars for our Fourth annual First Friday Jazz on the Plaza - Cousins Plaza -Sonny Lawson Park 2401 Welton Street sponsored by Curtis Park Neighbors 530 - 7pm. Our first concert is May 3, Cinco de Mayo, culminating with Dia De Los Muertos on Saturday November 2th. We are planning vendors, jugglers, face painters and food trucks. Please look for updates in our Curtis Park Neighbors Facebook and Instagram pages. See you soon!



Rotary Club of Five Points RiNo is
hosting a
Social Hour Fundraiser

Wednesday, April 24
from 4:30 -8:00 pm



Gold Point in RiNo
3126 Larimer St., Denver, CO,
80205

For more information email:
frankie.i.reed@gmail.com

Neighborhood Resources

CurtisPark.org

Provides a wealth of information: History of CP, info in Curtis Park Neighbors, info for ALL homeowners in the historic district, home alterations, ADUs, home styles, tax credits, and a very comprehensive resource list of special products, services, links, and so much more!

Curtis Park Neighbors on Facebook
[www.facebook.com/groups/curtisparke/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/curtisparke)

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 City and other organizations send to Curtis Park Neighbors. Zoning notices, liquor license applications and Landmark Preservation Commission meetings come through here. To join, send an email to: CurtisParkNeighbors+subscribe@googlegroups.com

Curtis Park Design Review Committee
Thinking about building an ADU? Does your home need new windows or are you considering exterior modifications? Most buildings within Curtis Park are subject to Design Review. Please email: cpn-design-review@googlegroups.com with questions about the design review process.

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 April 20th for ads, and articles.

Special Thanks To

Lynne Brown, Maggie Miller, John Hayden, Stephen Bennett, and Randy Vetter for newsletter content. Thanks to Therese Rasmussen for coordinating newsletter distribution, and many thanks to neighbors assisting with newsletter deliveries.

CPN Board of Directors

Stephen Bennett (President), Gerald Horner (Vice President), Guy Yandel (Treasurer), Rhianon Schuman (Secretary), Anne Barkis, Lynne Brown, Sarah Carpenter, Brad Dalton, John Hayden, Ryan Hutten, Joel Noble, Keith Pryor, Randy Vetter.

Contact the CPN President by writing to: stephen@curtisparke.org or Write the CPN Board at curtis-park-neighbors-board@googlegroups.com.

