



May 2024

Curtis Park Events

Curtis Park Connects
Thursday, 2nd May.
Location: MAC's Garage @ 818 25th St

- 630-700 Historic Denver: El 'Pec
Landmark
Tom Picarsic EDENS
- 700-830 District Attorney Debate
John Walsh
Leora Joseph



Next Curtis Park Connects
6th June Curtis Park Connects
Location: 818 25th Street

CPN Board Meeting
20th May-6:00-7:00pm
RedLine Gallery

Movies in the Park
Saturday, June 22nd @ Sundown

Hi Neighbors,

Spring has sprung and Curtis Park is buzzing! We had a fantastic Easter Egg Hunt in Mestizo Curtis Park on March 30th, thanks to Summit Church and all the amazing volunteers who made it a fun day for over 250 residents.

Looking ahead, get ready to unwind under the stars! May brings back the beloved "Jazz in the Park" series at Sonny Lawson Park every First Friday. A huge thank you to Randy Vetter for curating amazing musicians who'll keep us entertained all summer. His passion truly makes "Jazz in the Park" a cherished summer tradition.

Get excited for "Movies in Mestizo Curtis Park" returning this summer! Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 22nd for a screening of The Princess Bride. A special shout-out to Rhianon Schuman for leading the charge on this fun series again.

Have you ever wondered how the Curtis Park Times lands at your door each month? It's all thanks to our incredible Curtis Park Times volunteers – a dedicated team who work tirelessly behind the scenes. Mick Barnhardt keeps the Times looking sharp with his formatting and editing skills, while Therese Rasmussen and Bruce Wolff lead the sorting charge. They meticulously organize nearly 2,000 copies before they reach our network of 30 delivery volunteers who bring the Times directly to you.

The Curtis Park Times remains a vital resource for staying informed, but delivering it comes at a cost with rising paper and printing expenses. We're always looking for delivery volunteers (reach out if you're interested!), but we also understand everyone's busy. Financial donations are another way to help. Visit our website's "Make Donation" button to help us keep the Times coming!

Mark your calendars for a stimulating May Curtis Park Connects event! John Deffenbaugh from Historic Denver will discuss landmarking El Chapultepec, Tom Picarsic will provide an update on the EDENS-VOA project, and the evening concludes with a lively debate featuring the Denver District Attorney candidates.

Here's to a vibrant spring in Curtis Park!

Cheers,

Stephen Bennett, CPN President

Easter Bunny in Mestizo Curtis Park entertained youth at Easter Egg Hunt last month





Rotary Club of Five Points RiNo is hosting a

Toiletry Drive for Manual High School's Pantry

Drop off on May 3rd from 5:30 -7:00 pm

at **First Friday**
Sonny Lawson Park
1555 Welton Street, Denver

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

Blooming pink and white crabapples! Redbuds, hawthorns, and serviceberries, oh my! Bonus: flowering plums, star magnolias, and various kinds of ornamental pears.



Spring has been a time to celebrate our trees by seeing the

beauty of these blossoms. We have been especially and unusually lucky this year because we haven't had any damaging frosts. (These often nip the buds and keep us from seeing those flowers.) Enjoy what you and your neighbors have planted and tended!



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First Friday Jazz

Join us May 3rd from 5:30 - 7:00 pm For First Friday in the Park 2401 Welton St. Cousins Plaza / Sonny Lawson Park for Jon Romero and the Taco Cats!

Little Bodega, Gallo Pinto Latin Roots, Morning Rx food trucks will be there. And for the kids, there will be a face painter!

Tree Quiz Question

Question: What is the term to describe "planning and planting and caring for trees in the city"? (Answer found on this page)



SCFD Free Days

Molly Brown House Museum
• Tues. May. 7th

Denver Center for the Performing Arts

• Sat. May 11th 2-4pm
Shakespeare in the Parking Lot: See Shakespeare in the Parking Lot's A Midsummer Night's Dream at RiNo Art District 1900 35th St,

Denver Art Museum
• Tues. May 14th

Go to: scfd.org for more info.

Street Sweeping is Back

The City of Denver is continuing its effort to keep the streets clean, but would like to remind residents of ways to remember to move their rides on sweeping days to avoid a fine.



Street sweeping largely occurs in our neighborhood on the fourth Tuesday and Wednesdays of each month, April through November.

While there are red and white signs posted on street blocks advising them of parking restrictions, Denver officials are urging residents to sign up for free sweeping reminders through Pocketgov, the city's mobile app which provides text and email alerts to users. To sign up <https://denver.gov.org/Online-Services-Hub>

You can also be a good neighbor and alert them on mornings where you see their cars parked out front. Exchange phone numbers so that you can text them.

RedLine Gallery Events in May

RedLine Contemporary Art Center
2350 Arapahoe Street

Weekly Figure Drawing at RedLine

Join us every Wednesday from 6:00-8:30 pm in the Community Studio. Figure Drawing is non-instructional, laid back, and welcoming to artists of all experience levels. Materials provided. Free for members, \$10 for non-members.

Weekly Sewing Club at RedLine

Join us in the Community Studio at RedLine every Friday from 1:00-3:00 pm for our new Sewing Club! Enjoy unstructured community sewing time & socializing. Bring your own sewing needles and/or machine and your own fabric. Free for RedLine members, \$5 suggested

Answer: Urban Forestry

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JOHN HAYDEN

303-297-3994 / curtisparhomes.com

EVENTS

AT THE SAVOY



May 2- 19

Local Theater presents: 237 Virginia Avenue

Local Theater presents: 237 Virginia Avenue When Eric begins researching the history of his father Rex's property in Virginia, he thinks he's going to write a horror story. What emerges is something far more profitable. In 237 VIRGINIA AVENUE, two actors portray ten characters tumbling through 400 years of American history in this darkly comedic new play by David Myers that asks, what are you willing to sacrifice for the American Dream? Tickets at localtheaterco.org.

May 23 at 7:00 pm

MAS Presents: David Amram's Many Worlds - Concert & Book Release

An evening in celebration of nonagenarian David Amram, prolific classical composer, conductor, recording artist, multi-instrumentalist, film score-creator, and brilliant jazz and folk musician. Accompanying Amram will be Hugh Ragin, celebrated jazz trumpeter, along with several leading musicians from the Colorado Symphony including Yumi Hwang Williams (Concertmaster), Kolio Plachkov (Associate Principal horn), and Brooke Ellen Ferguson (Principal flute), as well as Harry Tuft, founder of the Denver Folklore Center.

Reflections on Bill West

Julie Rubsam

I've been a friend and neighbor of Bill West's for almost thirty years, so I was pleased to be asked to say something about him for the Curtis Park Times. None of our day to day life would be as it is without the influence of Bill.

When Bill bought his house at 2826 Curtis in 1975, a few neighbors thought he was either a "cop or crazy." The Curtis Park he found at that time was a neighborhood in decline. Some of its houses had been well maintained, but many were in disrepair. Some were boarded up, and there were many vacant lots where houses had once stood.

The first friends Bill made here were Tina Vigil and Josie Coseo. Both women welcomed him with open arms, eager to help with the work of improving and protecting the neighborhood they loved. Only very slowly did other outsiders, mostly Anglos, began to discover the potential of Curtis Park and purchase homes in the neighborhood. The slow pace of that development gave long-time residents the time to get acquainted with their new neighbors.

In 1996, Deep Rock water announced its intention to demolish a large portion of the 2400 block of California. That news prompted the first landmarking effort in Curtis Park. Bill worked closely with Randy Vetter and Gene Pilcher, residents of that block, to write the necessary landmark application to preserve the entire California/Stout block. Vetter and Pilcher did the legwork of contacting their neighbors to gather their support.

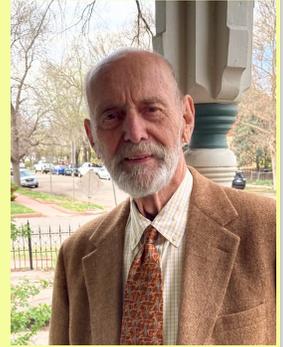
As a result of their efforts, all the residents of that block agreed to the landmarking. Working slowly

but surely, the landmarking continued - SEVEN applications and SEVEN successes! All of the landmark applications were researched and written by Bill. Additionally, Bill wrote the texts of two books about Curtis Park and, all the while, Bill taught English Literature at the University of Colorado, Denver. If you have ever had the opportunity to run into a former or current student of Bill's, you will be told that he is one of the best professors they ever had. He continues to teach English Literature and his students follow him from class to class.

Bill has also rehabbed 10 houses in Curtis Park, and he received several awards for his work in Curtis Park: the University of Colorado's Distinguished Service Award, an award from Historic Denver, and was the first recipient of the William West Award.

If you see him walking his beloved dog, Sadie, and it happens to be May 25th, remember to wish him a happy 94th birthday.

As I "sign off" I must say how honored I am to write something about Bill and I know I speak for the neighborhood in thanking him for his almost 50 years of unwavering support to this community.



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
First Wednesday @ 6pm
3921 N Holly Street

D6 Citizen's Advisory Board
Third Thursday @ 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
May 23rd

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 or call
(720) 865-2908

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

Curtis Park Seedling Swap / Giveaway

Join us May 4th, 10am to Noon at Mestizo Curtis Park for a seedling swap and giveaway to help neighbors get their gardens growing.

Have you grown more seedlings than you know what to do with? or are you looking to learn more about local gardening and different kinds of plants? Want to try to grow something new?

Bring your extra plants, curiosity, and generosity to the Curtis Park Seedling Swap! We will make sure all the plants have a home for the growing season so come by even if you don't have seedlings to swap. We will meet at the picnic tables at 31st and Curtis near the playground. Questions can be directed to Matt Hastings 708-439-9132



Lawn Mowing Service

My name is Holden and I am a
highschooler and a
Curtis Park neighbor
I am offering a lawn mowing
service this summer.

Please contact me at
303-350-7363 to discuss scheduling
and price.

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 May 25th 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.

