



Hi Neighbors,

Stephen Bennett, President

November 2024

Curtis Park Events

Día de Los Muertos

2nd from 5:30-7
Sonny Lawson Park

Curtis Park Connects

7th from 7-830

El Sistema
30th & Curtis St
* Joel Noble
* Norm Harris



CPN Board Meeting

18th from 6-730
Redline Gallery

Holiday Potluck/Annual Meeting

Wed 8th January
The Savoy

My favorite month of the year just concluded and it was a busy month in the neighborhood. The first “Halloween Movies at The Savoy” was held with movies for the whole family- from toddlers, to teens, and adults. Hopefully this is the beginning of a new Curtis Park tradition. The 15th anniversary of “The Great Pumpkin” was a smashing success. Around 700+ people from Curtis Park & neighborhoods beyond came out to the Stout Street Children’s Park to enjoy candy, costumes, a massive gourd, horse drawn carriage rides, and trick or treating on Stout Street.

Get Involved

CPN is still seeking board candidates. Interested neighbors can reach out to myself or Gerald Horner for more information. If you cannot commit to a board term, or simply want to help sporadically, CPN is always looking for volunteers. We need help with events, delivering the Times, and fundraising. If you have a green thumb the Park Stewards and Tree Committee are also looking for hands to help keep the Pollinator Gardens at Sonny Lawson Park and the Serpentine Garden in Mestizo Curtis Park looking beautiful.

Your support helps us host activities and events in the neighborhood. If you are short on free time cash donations are always appreciated so we can continue to print the Times and grow events in 2025. In lieu of a December Curtis Parks Connects we will hold a candidate meet and greet at Duets on 5th December. A secret ballot election will be held for board members in January at our annual meeting/holiday party.



El Sistema Colorado is thrilled to share their 2024 Annual Report with Curtis Park! We continue to grow and celebrate our youth through music education, SEL, and leadership. You can see the report on our website under the About tab. Website: elsistemacolorado.org

With our recent growth, we are looking towards Colorado Gives Day, Tuesday, December 10th bringing in much needed support for our programming. Our goal this year is \$50,000 that goes directly to the students and their musical journey. As you plan your year end giving we ask that you consider helping support our mission of equity and music education.

Colorado Give Day QR code:



Let's Celebrate Dia De Los Muertos

Randy Vetter

Day of the Dead (Dia De Los Muertos) is a holiday that reunites the living and dead. Families create ofrendas (Offerings) to honor their departed family members.

These altars are decorated with yellow marigold flowers, photos of the departed, and the favorite foods and drinks of the one being honored. The offerings are believed to encourage visits from the land of the dead as the departed souls hear their prayers, smell their foods and join in the celebrations!



Curtis Park Neighbors will celebrate Dia De Los Muertos, Saturday, November 2 from 530 - 7pm in Cousins Plaza - Sonny Lawson Park 2401 Welton St. We are pleased to welcome back Jon Romero and the Taco Cats to serenade us. An ofrenda will be set up to honor loved ones that have passed away. You are welcome to bring a photo to place on the altar to celebrate your loved ones. There will be a pinata and a face painter for the kids. Looking forward to celebrating with you. Little Bodega will be selling delicious sandwiches.

Thinking of Buying or Selling? Call John, Your Curtis Park Real Estate Expert. Broker Assoc. Kentwood City Properties



JOHN HAYDEN
303-297-3994 / curtisparikhomes.com

News Your Trees Can Use This Month

Maggie Miller

Do you have a tree? If so, remember to WATER it. Yes, even in the winter! Give it 10-15 gallons once per month. Is your tree a baby or a toddler? If it is less than three years old, be sure to WRAP it around Thanksgiving, and plan to unwrap it at Easter-time. This will prevent it from being scalded by the low winter sun, and getting a long vertical scar. Here's how: (1) buy a roll of tree-wrap. It costs about \$5-\$10; you'll need about a roll or a bit less for a typical young tree. (2) Start at the base of the trunk and wrap up to the first branch.

Secure it at the top with duct tape so it won't come off. You can ask the CPN Tree Committee to give you advice on this;

we can even wrap your young tree for you! Text 303-845-2496. Do you WISH you had a tree? Apply to Be A Smart



Ash for a free tree for your tree-lawn. (Not just ash trees, by the way!) <https://beasmartash.org/free-trees/> . Here's the QR code:

Finally, what should you do with all those FALL LEAVES you just raked? Or your PUMPKIN? Check out Denver's Leaf Drop and Pumpkin Recycling program. Here's the QR code:



Transit and Mobility Updates

Gerald Horner

What would it take to make Denver's transit options work better? A key factor that can help transit be great (or prevent it from being great), is the design of the roads themselves. Joel Noble, past CPN President and long-time Chair of the Inter-Neighborhood Co-operation's citywide Zoning committee, will give an overview of Denver projects in planning and under-construction that will make our streets work better for transit on routes people depend on most.

Jumping off from this, we'll hear from Norman Harris III, the Executive Director of the Five Points Business Improvement District, about an emerging vision for rethinking the design of Welton Street to support a more transit-rich corridor with frequent, efficient and safe transit that would become the best and most obvious way to catch transit to and from our neighborhood.

These presentations will be made at the November 7 Curtis Park Connects meet-up at El Sistema, 30th and Curtis St., starting at 7 pm. We look forward to seeing you there!



SCFD Free Days

Molly Brown House Museum
• Thurs. November 7th

Denver Zoo
• Sat. November 9th
• Sun. November 17th

Denver Art Museum
• Tues. November 12th

Denver Museum of Nature & Science
• Mon. November 18th

Denver Botanic Gardens
• Fri. November 29th

A BRIEF HISTORY OF CURTIS PARK

Part Five of Five: Recognition and Recovery

Bill West

During the time that the Denver Urban Renewal Authority (DURA) was busy tearing down 14 blocks in the center of Denver's downtown, a book by Sandra Dallas, *Cherry Creek Gothic* (1971), was published in which the author called attention to what we now think of as the neighborhood in which we live. She wrote: "Few people are aware that within walking distance of downtown Denver lies a Victorian neighborhood almost completely intact . . . this neighborhood at the edge of the Skyline Urban Renewal project lies in a semi slum trance waiting to be torn down or perhaps discovered by someone with the money and imagination to clean it up and turn it into one of the finest Victorian restorations in the country."

There were two important events that preceded Sandra Dallas's book: one was the passage of Denver's Landmark Ordinance in 1967; the other was the founding of Historic Denver in 1970, both created in reaction to the mindset of DURA. In addition, in the summer of 1974, Bob Carper, who was then working for the city's Planning Department called for volunteers to spend that summer doing research on what was left of the buildings of downtown Denver Barbara Norgren, like me an old-house lover, and I went to that meeting. When it was over, we went to Carper and asked if we could do our research on Curtis Park instead. He liked our idea very much, and so that's what we did.

By the end of the summer, we thought our research justified nominating Curtis Park for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. (with offices in Washington D, C.). Our nomination was successful, and on April 1, 1975, Curtis Park was awarded a district designation on the Register in recognition of its "significant contribution to the heritage of the State of Col-

Though being listed on the National Register brought some needed attention to the neighborhood, it did nothing to protect it from the threats of demolition and neglect. For that, local protections under Denver's Landmark Ordinance were needed. Beginning in 1995 and ending in 2011, eight separate landmark districts were created until almost all of Curtis Park's remarkable collection of over 500 late nineteenth century houses were protected, all the way from Park Avenue West to Downing Street.

A little story to end with. One day in the late 1970s, Josie Cosio, a life-long resident of Curtis Park, was standing outside her house on 29th Street talking to her brother who had long since moved out of the neighborhood.. As they stood there, they looked across the street at 2905 Curtis Street, a boarded up, long vacant and derelict house at the time, where they saw a young couple arrive and walk into the forlorn building. Surprised, Josie's brother wanted to know what in the world was going on over there. When Josie told him that the young couple had just bought the house and intended to live there, he responded, incredulously, by saying "This is a neighborhood you move out of, not into."

Happily, time has proved Josie's brother wrong, and today Curtis Park survives and flourishes as a remarkable inner-city neighborhood, recognized as an important urban asset for the city of Denver. It's historic value and beauty finally appreciated and protected, the future of this wonderful place we call home is looking pretty good

*2905 Champa
- A true gem
restored
(right)*



EVENTS AT THE SAVOY



MAS Presents: Arc Iris
November 7, cocktails at
7:00 PM, music at 8:00 PM

A wildly adventurous, genre-blurring trio inspired by sophisticated '70s pop, folk, country, cabaret, jazz, and more. Founded by frontwoman, Jocie Adams, formerly of the Low Anthem, and featuring Ray Belli (drummer, Willow Smith) and Zach Tenorio-Miller (collaborator, Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, Kimbra, New Pornographers), Arc Iris' music is a raging river of brilliance and imagination. For more information and tickets, visit www.maspresents.org.

MAS Presents: Chris Thomas King
December 12, cocktails at
7:00 PM, music at 8:00 PM

Son of renowned blues master, Rockin' 'Tabby' Thomas, Chris Thomas King is a two-time Grammy Award-winning artist who has sold more than 10 million records. The Louisiana bluesman took home Grammys for Album of the Year in 2002 for the soundtrack to *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* and for Best Historical Album in 2003. Initially known for his audacious fusion of blues and hip-hop, Chris has come to inspire a new generation of musicians through his evolved folk blues sound,

For more information and tickets, visit www.maspresents.org.

KGNU & 105.5 The Colorado Sound
Present An Evening with Jill Sobule
December 13

Sobule grew up in Denver's Hilltop neighborhood. Five Points Live! Next month, Jill will remount a run of her autobiographical musical, "F*ck7thGrade" in New York (based on her experiences at DPS Hill Middle School), and when the show closes she will head back to Denver for this solo concert at the Savoy. Tickets are now on sale so make your reservations today at [Five-PointsLive.com](http://FivePointsLive.com)

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
1st Wed. of the month 6pm
3921 N Holly Street

D6 Community Advisory Board
3rd Thursday of the month @ Noon
1566 N Washington Street

DOTI ROW
(720) 913-1720

Abandoned Vehicles
(720) 865-0471

Police Non-Emergency:
(720) 913-2000

Dist. 2 (north 25th Street) CRO:
Hana Ruiz (720) 913-1089
hana.ruiz@denvergov.org
Dist. 6 (south 25th Street) CRO:
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
November 15th

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

From Your Editor

Mick Barnhardt

This is a holler out to all neighbors. I am looking for help with producing the monthly neighborhood newsletter. My back-up editor has moved out of the neighborhood and I need someone who can cover for me when I'm not available. The newsletter is created using *Pages* which is a free desktop publishing program for *Windows* or *Mac*. The job involves taking in all the articles from the neighbors and our President, Stephen Bennett and making it all fit in a four-page monthly newsletter. I can assist in mentoring. If you are interested, please contact me at mickbarnhardt@gmail.com



ADU4U
YOUR MODERN CARRIAGE
HOUSE BUILDER

Thinking of building an ADU?
Contact us to discuss your
dream project.

youradu.com
970-759-4023

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/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. 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@google-groups.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 November 23rd for ads, and articles.

Special Thanks To

Bill West, Randy Vetter, John Hayden, Maggie Miller, Stephen Bennett, and 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), Ryan Hutten (Treasurer), Rhianon Schuman (Secretary), Anne Barkis, Lynne Brown, Sarah Carpenter, John Hayden, Ryan Hutten, Joel Noble, Keith Pryor, Randy Vetter.

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