



Hi Neighbors,

Stephen Bennett, President

Do you ever wonder why Curtis Park has beautiful gardens and parks? It is due to the tremendous work of the Curtis Park elves and fairies, aka, volunteers. In May, The Tree Committee removed weed trees near U Prep and Mestizo Curtis Park Stewards (and a host of volunteers) weeded, mulched, and planted the Serpentine Gardens. The Sonny Lawson Park Stewards have been busy beautifying the Pollinator Gardens around Cousins' Plaza.

Thanks to our neighbor, Matt Hastings, for organizing the seedling swap in Mestizo Curtis Park. Attendance exceeded expectations and we expect to see showcase vegetables at the Garden Fair in September.

If you missed May's Jazz in the Park do not fret, you have six more opportunities to experience live music in the park this summer. I would like to give a special shoutout to Randy Vetter, Bruce McIntyre, John Hayden, and Keith Pryor for making Jazz in the Park possible.

Curtis Park Neighbors is a co-host of INC's 12th June screening of "Join or Die". It is a film about why you should join a club...and why the fate of America depends on it.

Visit the following links to learn more.

<https://www.joinordiefilm.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Denver-INC>

At the end of the month join us for El Sistema's End of Summer Camp celebration. CPN is sponsoring food for the event. The kids perform from 4-4:45. If you are not familiar with El Sistema, check out this amazing non-profit in our neighborhood that provides free stringed instrument lessons to youth ages 3-18.

<https://www.elsistemacol-orado.org/>

We are looking for a volunteer to take the lead on the "Movies in the Park" series. CPN owns a projector, speakers and a screen. Park permits for 19th July, 23rd Aug, and 20th Sept are procured. If you are interested, please reach out to a board member (contact information is on the back page).



Curtis Park Events

Curtis Park Connects

5th June from 7-8:30
Duet's Tap & Grill
2403 Champa St

Jazz in the Park

6th June from 5:30-7pm
Danette Hollowell
Cousins' Plaza at Sonny Lawson Park

First Friday Jazz Hop

6th June from 7pm-12am
Welton St venues

Join or Die

12th June at 6pm
Denver Film Fest
Holiday Theatre
2644 W 32nd Avenue

CPN Board Meeting

16th June from 6pm-7:30pm
Redline Gallery

End of Summer Camp

27th June from 4pm-6pm
El Sistema - 30th & Curtis St.

Sometimes You Have To Build The Stage Yourself (Part I)

Tucked inside an old brick storefront on the quiet corner of 27th and Arapahoe Street, is a venue steeped in the nostalgic history of Curtis Park—alive with the kind of imagination that only truly materializes onstage. Since its earliest days, the building, now known as The Savoy, has been a gathering place that draws people together through music, performance, and shared experience.

Constructed in 1889, this turn-of-the-century building was built and first owned by John Bourne, a bricklayer. Construction costs totaled \$9,000 (\$300,000 today). “Scholtz” is the architect on record. The building was originally known as Bourne Hall and later became The Danish Hall Association in 1907. It served as a meeting place for fraternizing societies such as the Choral Society Orpheus, the Foresters of America, and women’s groups such as the Danish Sisterhood of America. It was also a dance hall, where neighbors learned the timeless steps of ballroom dancing. Above all, it was a place of community—a space where people came together for church banquets, special celebrations, and everyday fellowship.

During the early 20th century, the building transitioned into a dual-purpose space, serving as a residence and business. Owned by the Lub family, Hungarian-Jewish immigrants, it became a grocery, bakery, and possibly a pharmacy, as one of the units is labeled “drugs”. Neighbors were likely woken to the scent of fresh bread, baking in the outbuilding out back. As locals stepped inside the store, the bell above the door might ring, the gentle chime followed by a warm smile and heartfelt ‘Shalom,’ or perhaps a cheerful ‘Jó napot!’—‘Good day!’—offered by the proprietor or his wife.

This chapter eventually led to a more aromatic venture when the Rodelle Vanilla Factory took over the building

A historic picture hanging at The Savoy depicts the elaborate and time-intensive manufacturing process. In the basement below, vanilla was matured for three to five years, resting in massive oak vats and rows of smaller barrels, in a technique that duplicated the respected French tradition. Upstairs, glass bottles filled with the finished product caught the light like small beacons. The air was thick with the heady, intoxicating scent of vanilla. The aroma was so potent that years later, even after the factory had closed, portrait photographer **Pedro de Flores**, who took up residence, would recall that scent with vivid clarity. Some of the original Rodelle glass bottles remained intact, tucked away in corners, waiting to be rediscovered by future owners.

Continuing in its legacy of creativity and culture, the next act in this building’s story was more edgy. The space was transformed and reimagined through the lens of culinary artistry. The Blue Note Catering Company prepared meals for legendary musicians and their crews performing at Red Rocks. The walls of The Savoy likely retain some outrageous stories and deeply kept secrets of the world’s most well-known performers.

The Savoy website highlights other known occupants of the building, which include The Vanilla Factory Coffee Company, Urban Roadhouse, Toe Tapping Shiva, and Seasons Mind and Fitness. The building fell into disrepair and no longer met code standards. It stood waiting for revitalization and for music to reverberate again through-

out its brick-and-mortar and lath-and-plaster walls. And here is where the stage is set, ushering in a new story. Retired pediatrician, Dr. Michael Frank, and his wife, Dr. Molly Frank, a retired family practice doctor, were looking for their “what’s next.” Their daughter Meghan and her husband, Buba Baisishvili, an immigrant from the Republic of Georgia, were passionate about theater, especially vaudeville and non-verbal forms of theatrical expression. Dr. Michael Frank had a background in music composition and was part of a band called Freestyle. Dr. Molly Frank pursued sculpting and painting, especially in retirement. In 2017, they founded Theatre Artibus, a company committed to “strengthening community through the transformative power of live performance.” When they looked for a performance space, it was disappointing that most of the ideal spaces had been purchased by the cannabis industry. While the couple struggled to find a space to present original work, the building that would become The Savoy became available.

For now, this is where our story ends. But as they say, all the world’s a stage. Each day, each week, each month, each year, the cast, the events, and the history that play out at The Savoy and elsewhere are limitless and beyond imagination. In our next installment, we will discuss some of the performances happening at The Savoy, a short walk from our front steps.

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

Jazz in the Park

We are thrilled to again welcome Danette Hollowell and the Good Guys to our Jazz in the Park Series



June 6, 5:30-7pm, Cousins Plaza - Sonny Lawson Park, 2401 Welton Street. Her passion for jazz shines through in every performance which touches audiences of all ages! There will be food trucks and entertainment for the kids in the children's play area. See you there!

Curtis Park Walking Tour

Saturday June 7th at 1pm

Join us for a tour of the Curtis Park Landmark district. The tour will focus on the architecture, urban landscape, people and places that make Curtis Park unique.

Meet at the Stout Street Children's Park (25th and Stout) at 1pm. The tour will last about 90 minutes and end at 34th and Curtis for gelato. RSVP via text to John Hayden 303-297-3994.

Large Trash Item pick-up



Next pick-up
July 24th



June 12th &
26th

Curtis Park Volunteers are the Best!

A big shout out to volunteers Anne, Maggie, Kris, Paige, Sam, Matt, Keith and Jeff who dug out weed trees at University Prep in May! At least 40 weed trees and shoots were removed in the overgrown garden along Lawrence St in just 3 short hours. What a difference you all made!



Sam digging out an Ailanthus root (Tree of Heaven)

If you'd like to volunteer with the Tree Committee, text Lynne Brown, 303-845-2496.

SCFD Free Days

Denver Botanic Gardens

- Tues. June 10th
- Thurs June 12th

Denver Art Museum

- Tues. June 10th
- Fri June 27th

Denver Museum of Nature & Science

- Tues. June 10th
- Thurs. June 19th

Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum

- Wed. June 18th

Clyfford Still Museum

- Sun. June 29th

EVENTS

AT THE SAVOY



Denver Fringe Festival (Adults Only)

June 5 - 8, 2025

Kids Fringe Festival (June 7-8)

The 6th annual Denver Fringe Festival offers a jam-packed lineup of bold, boundary-breaking art across theatre, dance, comedy and more!

- Tickets: www.denverfringe.org
- Times: www.savoydenver.com
- Parking Lot available on 26th & Curtis (please see times)

Kids Fringe is a free, mini fest filled with whimsical, screen-free fun—featuring puppets, pirates and playful performances designed to spark imagination.

- Free for kids and families
- Times: www.savoydenver.com

Playground Ensemble Pride Concert

June 13, 2025

The Playground Ensemble's annual Pride show closes out the season to celebrate our artists and community. Featured this year are Playground composers Silen Wellington and Nathan Hall, along with other Colorado creatives and beloved collaborators.

- Tickets: www.playgroundpride2025.ownpapertickets.com
- Doors: 6:30pm / Show: 7:30pm

Inflexion Points: A Friendraising Event

June 29, 2025

This "Friendraising Event" of stories, photography, and music is celebrating the launch of a new initiative, Inflexion Points: The Art of Environmental Storytelling, featuring Mike Nelson, former Channel 7 meteorologist and Boyd Norton, acclaimed nature photographer. earn

- Learn more: www.inflexionpoints.org
- Tickets: www.inflexionpoints.org/fundraising-event
- Start: 2:00pm

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)-337-7 712

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

July 24th

Xcel Energy

Electric Emergency/Power Outage

(800) 895-1999

Gas Emergency / Gas Odor

(800) 895-2999

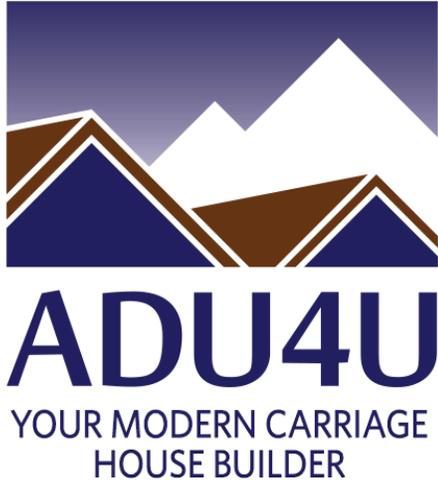
To report non-permitted exterior work

to Landmark email: abigail.Christman@denver.gov or call (720)

865-2908

Short Term Rental Enforcement

Brian Snow (720) 865-2750



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

youradu.com
970-759-4023

Neighborhood Resources

CurtisPark.org

A wealth of information: History, info in Curtis Park Neighbors (CPN), 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!

CPN on Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/curtispark/

CPN "Announce" Group

Just the basics! We encourage everyone to join this e-mail group. Receive the Curtis Park Times & special announcements. To join, email: Curtis-Park-Neighbors-Announce+subscribe@googlegroups.com

CPN "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, email: CurtisPark-Neighbors+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 to get in touch.

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 CPN and in the life of the community. Please pass along this newsletter & 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 June 21st for ads, and articles.

Special Thanks To

Randy Vetter, Gerald Horner and 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), Scott Filiczkowski (Secretary), Anne Barkis, Lynne Brown, Sarah Carpenter, Rose Cisneros, Eileen Feltman, John Hayden, Joel Noble, Josh Pauletic, Keith Pryor, Jessica Tamulski, Andrew Warshauer

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