

July 2025

**Curtis Park Events**

**Curtis Park Connects**

No meeting in July

**Indy Eve**

3rd July from 5-10pm

Civic Centre Park

**Jazz in the Park**

11th July from 5:30-7pm

Chantal Collier

**First Friday Jazz Hop**

11th July from 7-12am

Welton St venues

**Hidden Gems Bike Tour**

20th July @ 10am

31st & Curtis

**CPN Board Meeting**

21st July from 6-7:30

Duet's Tap & Grill



**Hi Neighbors,**

*Stephen Bennett, President*

As of this writing, Resource Central's "Garden in a Boxes" are still available. Brooke and I planted two gardens last fall in a dead part of the ROW, with low expectations since we have brown thumbs, and were blown away this spring at how much the flowers have bloomed. Not only are the gardens beautiful, but the native plants require significantly less water than grass. [resourcecentral.org/gardens](http://resourcecentral.org/gardens)

CPN sponsored the food at El Sistema's "End of Summer Camp" celebration for the 2nd year in a row. I suspect this will be an annual tradition for us. Thanks to the neighbors that came out and helped serve food to the families. Seeing the kids perform is such a treat. We are blessed to have such a wonderful non-profit in our neighborhood. (I walked by their building at 30th & Curtis for four years before I knew what it was).

Unfortunately the "Movies in the Park" series this summer was canceled due to a lack of volunteers. CPN owns the necessary equipment so if you are inter-

ested in hosting movies in Mestizo Curtis Park next summer, please reach out to any board member for information on how to get involved. We do not host a monthly meeting in July and Jazz in the Park was moved back a week since the 4th is the First Friday this month. We will gather in Cousins' Plaza on the 11th to socialize with neighbors, build community, and enjoy the soulful sounds of Chantal Collier.

Happy 4th of July.

**Sip and Throw**



"Sip and Throw is a new pottery studio offering a fun, hands-on space for adults and families alike. Our signature class invites guests to try their hand at the pottery wheel while enjoying a complimentary beverage for those 21 and over. We also offer walk-in pottery painting, perfect for a date, a solo afternoon, or family time. This summer, we'll have activities just for kids too. Whether you're sipping, spinning, or painting, you're welcome to get a little messy and make something meaningful."



*Sip and Throw Interior*

**Five Points Hidden Gems Bike Tour**

Come discover some cool hidden spots and cool new spaces in Five Points. This tour will last about 90 minutes. Designed for leisurely pace. Start at Mestizo Curtis Park at 31st and Curtis. RSVP to John Hayden at 303-297-3994 text or email [JohnHaydenDenver@gmail.com](mailto:JohnHaydenDenver@gmail.com).

**Chantal Collier**  
will be performing July 11 at  
Cousins Plaza 2401 Welton  
Street. July 11 from 530-7pm.

From Denver, Colorado, Chantal Collier is a compelling jazz/R&B/soul artist whose voice resonates with passion and authenticity. Drawing inspiration from the timeless legends of music, Chantal finds her artistic soul rooted in the rich sounds of Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, and Sarah Vaughan. Their heartfelt melodies weave through her music, enriching her own unique style.

Embarking on her musical journey just two years ago, she has quickly made a name for herself on the scene, gracing stages at notable events, including the celebration of Juneteenth.

As she continues to evolve as an artist, Chantal Collier remains dedicated to her mission: to celebrate the beauty of music and connect with those who are willing to listen. Join her on this incredible

journey where rhythm and soul converge, and where stories are shared through the magic of song.

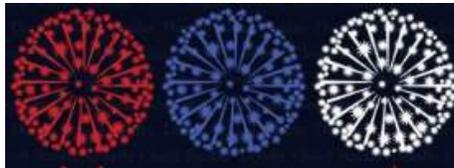



**Changing the alleyscape of Curtis Park one project at a time.**



**Want to change your view? Call us!**

**youradu.com**  
**970-759-4023**



**Large Trash Item pick-up**



**Next pick-up July 24th**



**July 10th and 24th**

## Order Now!

*Lynn Brown*

Thinking of replacing some of your grass? If you are interested in either starting a garden or adding to the one you already have Garden in a Box has opened reservations. Their gardens are climate-friendly, low water once established, colorful, affordable and easy to plant. Plants arrive in August and September for fall planting, a great time to start a garden. Don't delay as their gardens do sell out!

<https://resourcecentral.org/gardens/shop/>

### One more thing:

Wood chips just arrived for your tree and garden mulching. Bring a bucket(s) and pick some up off the alley at 29th & Stout. FREE!

## What Makes a Livable Neighborhood?

**How do we Shape the Quality of Life in Curtis Park? Join Us on August 7 for Curtis Park Connects**

*Gerald Horner*

Curtis Park is an oasis amid a rapidly growing city. We certainly have challenges to our quality of life, with concerns around increased traffic, parking, affordability, loss of character. At our Aug 7 Curtis Park Connects (7-8:30PM), we'll explore these topics with an eye to creating solutions that are

sustainable.

Location:  
Hope Communities 2543 California Street, 7-8:30 PM, August 7.



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](http://curtisparikhomes.com)

## Sometimes You Have to Build the Stage Yourself – Part 2 (History of the Savoy)

*Rachel Seccia*

The final notes of Camila Meza’s song, “Transmutación,” linger in the air. It is May 22, 2025, and the intimate venue at The Savoy is the perfect space for the quick succession of technical, guitar arpeggios. The sound is crisp and clean, not muted. Jazz artist Camila’s hypnotic, siren-like voice effortlessly captivates the audience. She seamlessly transitions between Spanish and English in conversation and song. “Transmutación,” an ethereal composition written by Camila Meza, recounts her transformation into motherhood. The gathered crowd is excited to learn that they are hearing her new album, “Portal,” hours before it releases to mainstream media. She’s one of the remarkable artists regularly featured at the Savoy during their monthly Music Appreciation Society nights—a series made possible through thoughtful collaboration with the legendary David Amram.

I slip into the back row with a Lavender Gin Sour, one of their signature drinks. The bar is only open when there is a venue, which feels a bit exclusive. I am tempted to try the Rossonian Rum Punch, but decide that it will have to wait for my next visit. It’s the bartender’s birthday tomorrow, and we quietly chat about his plans while the ice cubes rattle in the tumbler. He tries to stifle the sound so as not to interrupt the live performance in the other room. The sleek, two-toned Mid-Century-inspired bar—envisioned by Meghan Frank and brought to life by the all-women team at Swan Dive Design Studio (3080 Larimer Street)—exudes a refined, high-end feel.

I open the heavy doors and enter the venue space. I had been in this very room a few hours before, while talking to Dr. Michael Frank, Meghan Frank, and venue director Amber Blais, but it had undergone its own transformation in the few hours since I left. Now there is a plush, dark green velvet curtain that creates the backdrop, a small performance stage, two-person high-top tables, and a professional lighting set-up. The curated side lighting offers a soft glow. The Art Deco lights

were originally in the Oxford Hotel, purchased by the Franks from our own Curtis Park history-keeper, Michael Ritchie. It’s abundantly clear that the restoration of The Savoy was a very intentional labor of love.

The initial project plans were delayed due to bureaucratic red tape, required upgrades for ADA compliance, and restrictions imposed by Landmark Preservation regulations. Many other logistics directly impacted the renovation. The upstairs space, once used for large gatherings, was cooled by a gigantic, loud sump pump located in the center of the room, dividing the space into four quadrants. The original bar was tucked stage left in a cramped, narrow room beside a steep staircase—an unfortunate setup that proved to be more liability than lounge. One inebriated misstep, and guests of yesteryear likely found themselves descending the stairs faster than intended. The ceiling in the venue room was structurally sound, thanks to solid-beam construction, but it needed to meet the challenges of modern-day performance. An aerialist troupe, led by Amber Blais, routinely suspends from the ceiling along silken ropes, weaving a graceful ballet suspended in air.

Facing limited options, the Franks saw no alternative but to expand the original building. With the guidance of an architect acquaintance experienced in historical construction, they set out to design and build the addition in harmony with the existing structure, seamlessly melding old and new.



In retrospect, the Franks are happy that their initial plans never came to fruition. They chuckle a bit as they discuss how their way of thinking would have had the guests stepping from the elevator and out near the main stage. While their collective goal is to incorporate the audience into the experience, having unsuspecting guests act as unintentional performers was not what they had in mind.

The new construction features a ground-level entrance, stairwell, elevator shaft, and an upstairs lobby. The high ceiling features modern pressed tin. Suspended from the ceiling are some of the original lighting fixtures, repurposed and relocated from the main space. Meghan proudly showed me the front lobby desk, which contains all the treasures unearthed during the construction phase. Her husband, Buba, preserved these artifacts in a resin top. The renovation project felt meant-to-be, according to Meghan. On the day that they began the renovation, they found an old newspaper from “The Denver Post” dated the very same day. They also discovered many other things, including the antique vanilla bottles from the Rodelle Vanilla Factory days. “Sail Along, Silv’ry Moon,” an album by Bing Crosby, is preserved in the case, alongside old ticket stubs, cartoony renderings of faces wearing Groucho Marx glasses, and vintage postcards. The desk is a visual treasure that transports the viewer back in time, reviving a different era of theater and comedy.

The photographs lining the lobby walls evoke curiosity, weaving in elements of humor, eccentricity, absurdity, and surrealism. Together, they infuse the space with character and a sense of authentic charm. Black-and-white photographs freeze moments of a whimsical spectacle



*Continued on Page 4*

## 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](mailto: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  
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@den-  
ver.gov.org or call (720) 865-2908

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

## Build a Stage (Savoy History) Continued from Page 3

a Houdinesque man posed beside stacked teacups and a delicate house of cards; a woman in pantaloons, balanced on tiptoe, cradling a parrot; Aida Overton and George Walker mid-dance, top hat gleaming as they perform the ragtime classic “The Cakewalk”; and a brawny Victorian woman proudly flexing her biceps beneath a flamboyant swan-plumed hat. Nearby, original images from the Rodelle Factory offer a striking contrast—elaborate tubes and glass bottles arranged in compositions that feel more scientific than artistic.

The Franks agree that the easiest part of this revival was choosing a name. The building once carried the name The Savoy, when it served as a Black dance hall. “Savoy,” meaning fir forest in Latin, also evokes images of the French-Italian-Swiss Alps region—home to the Mont Blanc massif. It also conjures up imagery of exclusive international hotels in exotic locations. The Savoy on Arapahoe Street in Denver was likely aptly named in homage to Harlem’s iconic 1930s music venue, where some of the greatest jazz musicians once performed. Reimagined, The Savoy is once again alive with comedy, music, culture, and charm. If you haven’t visited yet, I wholeheartedly insist—it’s an experience not to be missed. It’s a place where history and vibrant modern life intertwine in perfect harmony.

## 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/](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:cpn-newsletter@googlegroups.com) or (720) 273-0623. The next newsletter deadlines are July 26th for ads, and articles.

### Special Thanks To

Randy Vetter, Gerald Horner, Robin Hobein, 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), Andrew Warshauer (Vice President), Ryan Hutten (Treasurer), Scott Filiczowski (Secretary), Anne Barkis, Lynne Brown, Sarah Carpenter, Rose Cisneros, Eileen Feltman, John Hayden, Joel Noble, Josh Pauletic, Keith Pryor, Jessica Tamulski,

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