



## Hang in there, Neighbors!!

*Jeff Baker, CPN President*

I hope this finds you well and healthy! During these strange and difficult times, I like to envision that you are finding solace in something meaningful to you and your family. Maybe something new, something you have always wanted to do, and never had time for. Perhaps you have turned to volunteering to help your neighbors or developed a new closeness to someone in your life. It could be that you have had the ability to have clarity of the important things in life that went unnoticed, when life seemed busier only a few months ago. Did you plant a Victory garden, as many have, even if you did not refer to it as that?

This may not apply to you if you are a frontline worker or work in an essential business. Life may be more chaotic for you. If this is you, thank you for your work and perseverance!

It is my wish that we will come out of this better, and that we can find some silver lining in this unprecedented time in history. One very visible silver lining that can be noticed, is actually blue, and that is our cleaner Colorado air due to less pollution.

*Continued on Page 2*

**Curtis Park Neighbors Meet  
Thursday, June 4, 2020-Location and  
Format:TBD**

**NO PUBLIC MEETING ON May 6th -  
CPN is exploring digital options.**

**Stay tuned!**

### **Please Support CPN**

Please consider a donation to support the Curtis Park Neighbors and this newsletter. You can make your tax deductible contribution on-line by visiting [squareup.com/store/CurtisParkNeighbors](https://squareup.com/store/CurtisParkNeighbors).

### **Next CPN General Meetings**

June 4th, 2020 (pending)  
7:00-8:30, Police update at 6:30

### **CPN Board Meeting**

Mon. May 18th, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Location and Format T.B.D.

**NEED HELP GETTING ESSENTIALS?  
WE'RE HERE TO HELP.**



**Denver  
Delivery  
Network**

If you or a loved one is sick, symptomatic or high-risk for COVID-19, Denver Delivery Network volunteers will deliver groceries to your doorstep.

Visit [denverdeliverynetwork.org](https://denverdeliverynetwork.org) or call 970-316-4036

## Neighbors (cont.)

The skies look like the Colorado skies I remember growing up with decades ago. Can this change us for the better in the way we use our time and our resources? The most important resource we have is the health of the planet and I hope that this is the visible 'blue' lining that leads to humans to be more responsible caretakers of our home.

Curtis Park Neighbors have continued operations digitally and are actively working on projects that better the neighborhood. Many people are volunteering their time to work on existing projects as well as have started new projects. I would like to recognize some of those people. Robbie Hobein and David Millis for starting the Denver Delivery Network, Ben Reisler, Meredith and Joe Latson for starting the Curtis Park Meal Train, and the volunteers that are making the Meal Train deliveries happen! Ryan Cox, John Hayden, Keith Pryor, Gerald Horner, Randy Vetter, Bradley Joseph, Andrew Spinks, amongst others, for continuing to work on homelessness solutions for both the housed and unhoused. Paul Davidson for launching our new website. Lindsay Schneider for working on a grant for the addition of historic marker signs in the neighborhood. Lynne Brown and the Tree Committee for their efforts and input to combat climate change. Mick Barnhardt for newsletter design. The CAC committee for working on upcoming and ongoing projects in the neighborhood. Thanks to many of the volunteers working behind the scenes and go unnoticed and unmentioned here.

Spring is in the air and spring represents renewal. The flowers are blooming, sprouts sprouting, the sun feels so nice on your face. Enjoy the subtle things during this time of renewal and hang in there Curtis Park as we push forward!

One last note during these troubling time: Please take the survey at the following link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/76C5SBT> about a Safe Outdoor Space for the unhoused.

## Curtis Park Historic Home Tour

*Pat Romero*

Forty-two years ago, a young couple named Patrick and Val Kraemer were driving through Curtis Park when they spotted a "for sale" sign at 2663 Champa Street. The house, divided into eight separate rental units, was in terrible shape but could be theirs for \$37,000. Before the 1888 structure could be livable, however, they had to gut it, level floors, update plumbing, heating and electrical, then put it back together. They were able to salvage moldings, woodwork, stair rail, cornices, medallions, three pocket doors, parlor fireplace, and the anaglypta wall covering along the stairs. After six months, they moved into the second floor. Six months later, the rest of the house was finished. The downstairs floor plan is original with only one wall removed in the kitchen and French windows added. It boasts 12 foot ceilings



and massive pocket doors. The Kraemer's magnificent Queen Anne home will be in this fall's Curtis Park Historic Home Tour and Celebration.

*Please note that the tour will likely be cancelled or postponed.*

## 5/2 Virtual Reading & Community Writing Event for Pool Art!

*Deanne Gertner*

Swim Club, a new initiative developed by *Hey Hue* and supported by a P.S. You Are Here grant through Denver Arts & Venues, kicks off at the Mestizo-Curtis Park swimming pool and will be installed summer 2020.

Working in collaboration with Denver Parks & Recreation and Curtis Park Neighbors, *Hey Hue* has commissioned local sculptor Joshua Ware and poets Carolina Ebeid, J. Michael Martinez, Suyen Juliette Lee and Serena Chopra to create a multidisciplinary artwork for the pool that combines sculpture and poetry. Entitled "Deth

Light VIII: 4 Wahdur Pombs, the sculpture pays homage to bodies of water while it reframes the functionality and interactivity of public art.

Additionally, the general public will have an opportunity to contribute short writings to the piece through a collaboration with Lighthouse Writers Workshop via a virtual reading of the professional poets and a community writing event on May 2nd, 2020, 5:00-6:30 pm. <https://www.lighthousewriters.org/workshop/mestizo-curtis-park-virtual-reading?session=2692>.

# Forest Service Recommends Hugging Trees While You Can't Hug Others

Larissa Kyzer

The Icelandic Forestry Service is encouraging people to hug trees while social distancing measures prevent them from hugging other people, RÚV reports. Forest rangers in the Hallormsstaður National Forest in East Iceland have been diligently clearing snow-covered paths to ensure that locals can enjoy the great outdoors without coming in too close a contact with other guests, but can also get up close and personal with their forest friends.



“When you hug [a tree], you feel it first in your toes and then up your legs and into your chest and then up into your head,” enthuses forest ranger Þór Þorfinnsson. “It’s such a wonderful feeling of relaxation and then you’re ready for a new day and new challenges.”

In a time when close contact and embracing is discouraged for risk of COVID-19 infection, trees can offer a sense of comfort, says Þór, although he urges visitors to the national forest to take precautions not to all hug the same tree. He recommends that people walk deeper into the forest, rather than stopping at the first tree they encounter. “There are plenty of trees...it doesn’t have to be big and stout, it can be any size.”

People should take their time, Þór says, to reap the full benefits of their tree-hugging. “Five minutes is really good, if you can give yourself five minutes of your day to hug [a tree], that’s definitely enough,” he says. “You can also do it many times a day – that wouldn’t hurt. But once a day will definitely do the trick, even for just a few days.”



Rangers have marked out intervals of two metres within the forest so that visitors are able to enjoy nature without fear of getting too close to one another. “It’s recommended that people get outdoors during this horrible time,” says Bergrún Anna Þórsteinsdóttir, an assistant forest ranger at Hallormsstaður. “Why not enjoy the forest and hug a tree and get some energy from this place?”

When you find the right tree, Þór has further recommendations for getting the most out of your embrace. “It’s also really nice to close your eyes while you’re hugging a tree,” he says. “I lean my cheek up against the trunk and feel the warmth and the currents flowing from the tree and into me. You can really feel it.”



## COFFEE, TEA & WINE LOUNGE

- ✓ Meeting Space
- ✓ Free WiFi
- ✓ Free Covered Parking
- ✓ Coffee, Loose Leaf Tea, Gelato,
- ✓ Craft Beer & Wine, Gourmet
- ✓ Sandwiches & More



M-F: 6am 10pm  
Sat: 7am 10pm  
Sun: 7am 6pm

(Welton & 27<sup>th</sup> Street)  
710 East 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Denver, CO 80205



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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  
Mon./Wed.: Noon – 8 p.m.  
Tue./Thu./Fri.: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Sat.: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Denver City Council**  
District 9  
**Candi CdeBaca**, (720) 337-7709  
candi.cdebaca@denvergov.org  
Elbra M. Wedgeworth Municipal Building  
2855 Tremont Place, Suite 201

**At-Large**  
**Councilwoman Robin Kniech**  
Robin.Kniech@denvergov.org  
(720) 337-7712  
**Councilwoman Debbie Ortega**  
Deborah.Ortega@denvergov.org  
(720) 337-7713

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

**Homeless Outreach**  
Police non-emergency: (720) 913-2000

**Mayor's Neighborhood Liaison**  
Shawn Johanson, (720) 913-1311

**Police**  
**Emergencies:** Dial 911  
**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:**  
**Teresa Gillian** (720) 913-2908  
teresa.gillian@denvergov.org  
**Austen Munson** (720) 913-2906  
austen.munson@denvergov.org  
**Elected RTD Representative**  
**Shontel Lewis**, (720) 935-8284  
shontel.lewis@rtd-denver.com

**Trash Pickup - Overflow Pickup**  
The next Large Item pickup is  
Wednesday, May 20th  
For free appliance collection, call  
800-479-4159.

**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

## Obituary: Josepha “Jossy” Eyre, MSW

3/26/1931 - 4/20/2020

As a child during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands, Josepha “Jossy” Eyre (MSW '86) faced starvation, terror and the unspeakable trauma of losing siblings during the bombardment – all veiled in secrecy by adults too afraid to speak openly. The experiences left Eyre with a profound sense of hopelessness, something she recognized among the homeless women she encountered years later as a volunteer at Denver's The Gathering Place. How, Eyre wondered, could she help these women achieve independence and empowerment? The answer came in the unexpected form of beans. The Women's Bean Project, a soup-kit assembly nonprofit that Eyre founded in 1989, then expanded to include other services, helps women develop job skills, good work habits and even inner peace through daily meditative readings.



## Neighborhood Internet Resources

**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](mailto:Curtis-Park-Neighbors-Announce+subscribe@googlegroups.com)

**Curtis Park Neighbors “Notices” Group**  
Super-detailed! Receive all of the notices that the City and other organizations send to Curtis Park Neighbors. Zoning notices, liquor license applications, etc. all come through here. To join, send an email to: [CurtisParkNeighbors+subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:CurtisParkNeighbors+subscribe@googlegroups.com)

**Curtis Park Design Review Committee**  
Receive updates on new development and building modifications under review by the Denver Landmark Commission. To join, send an email to: [cpn-drc-announcements+subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:cpn-drc-announcements+subscribe@googlegroups.com). Questions about projects, email Keith Pryor: [KPryor13@gmail.com](mailto:KPryor13@gmail.com).

**DHA / Curtis Park Community Advisory Committee**  
Provide feedback and guide the Denver Housing Authority's plans for their property holdings in the Curtis Park area. Write to: [CPN-DHA-CAC+subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:CPN-DHA-CAC+subscribe@googlegroups.com)

**Curtis Park Safety and Security Group**  
Collaborate on finding solutions to current and long-term safety and security topics in the neighborhood. Write to: [cpn-security+subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:cpn-security+subscribe@googlegroups.com)



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 May 20th for ads, and May 23rd for articles.

### Special Thanks To

Pat Romero, Thomas Lucas and Jeff Baker for newsletter content. Thanks to Hope Communities and Mile High United Way for donating our meeting space, to Therese Rasmussen for coordinating newsletter distribution, and many thanks to neighbors assisting with newsletter deliveries.

### CPN Board of Directors

Jeff Baker (President), Patti Smith, Ben Mendenhall (Treasurer), Paul Davidson, Robbie Hobein (Secretary), Andrew Spinks, Ryan Cox, Beth Bianchi, Lindsay Schneider, Lindsey Sullivan and Randy Vetter. Contact the CPN President by writing to: [jeffbakercurtisparkeDenver@gmail.com](mailto:jeffbakercurtisparkeDenver@gmail.com) or call (970) 759-4023. Write the CPN Board at [curtis-park-neighbors-board@googlegroups.com](mailto:curtis-park-neighbors-board@googlegroups.com).