



News

Spring 2008

Do You Want to Work Out in a Congress Park Rec Center?

By Kathleen Hynes

Inside

Annual Meetings	2
Lovely Confections	3
Alley Clean-ups	4
Teller-Palooza	5
Historic Preservation	6
City Council Notes	7
Zoning Change?	8
Terrific Tree	9
Crime Action, Maps	10
Assemblies	12
Neighbor Notes	13
Directory	14
Calendar	15

Whether you use the City's extensive network of recreation centers located throughout the City, or not, you may be aware a recreation center is being considered for District 10, which encompasses central Denver and our Congress Park neighborhood.

Last November, Denver residents passed a bond earmarking \$11.8 million dollars for land acquisition and facility planning for a recreational center in central Denver.

Ways of securing the additional \$25 to \$40 million to build the facility are being explored. While the City finds funds for bricks and mortar, Councilwoman Robb would like to hear your ideas for this new facility's location because in past discussions Congress Park, at 8th and Josephine, was considered.

The Parks and Recreation Department has begun presenting its ideas for the center and the amount land needed and will soon get public input and modify the proposal.

"Parks needs to present a proposed program and footprint for the Center, get public input and modify that, and then measure locations both literally and figuratively for a fit," Robb said.

In thinking about a rec center, Councilwoman

Robb notes some considerations. If land is available next to public transit, that would reduce the amount of land set aside for parking. If the City decides to partner with a private entity in building the facility, it reduces the overall cost to Denver residents. If the facility is built too close to existing residences, traffic may become a problem for immediate homeowners.

Councilwoman Robb's goals are to maximize the City's investment and to choose a location that lends itself to getting the rec center built in a timely manner. She sees a gap in services provided by the current group of recreation centers, specifically, in the northeast section of District 10 and in the southwest section of District 8.

What part of central Denver do you think a rec center should be located in order to maximize the City's investment? Would you like to see the rec center in Congress Park? If so, where? If not, why not? Councilwoman Robb wants to hear from you. You can email your preferences to her at Jeanne.Robb@denvergov.org or call her office at 303-377-1807.

A list of Denver's current recreational centers and the programs they sponsor can be found by going to www.denvergov.org and search recreational centers.

Congress Park's Vision (1995 Neighborhood Plan)

Congress Park is a traditional city neighborhood with a small-town atmosphere. Here, people of diverse cultures, ages, colors and economic backgrounds share a sense of community, value older homes and mature trees, and enjoy the convenience of city living amid the stability of a thriving neighborhood.

Congress Park News is a quarterly publication of Congress Park Neighbors, Inc.

A network of volunteers produces and distributes it to (mostly front porches of) more than 4500 residents and businesses within the area bounded by Colfax Avenue, Sixth Avenue, York Street and Colorado Boulevard.

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Your articles, letters and advertisements are always welcome.

We need **you** to help produce and distribute the newsletter. If you can volunteer a few hours every quarter to help your neighbors get the news, please call Julie or Wendy. If you're not getting this on your front porch, we probably need you to help deliver to your block.

This newsletter is printed by Barnum Printing on 100% recycled paper with soy-based ink.

Neighbor springs for pizza and pop at annual meeting

By Wendy Moraskie

Congress Park Neighbors, Inc., held two "annual" meetings in January; a members' meeting on January 9 and an all-neighbors' meeting on January 16.

Domino's Pizza showed great neighborhood solidarity by (once again!) providing pizza and pop for the January 16 meeting at a significant discount. Thanks to the Dominos managers and staff, neighbors had another good reason to come out of the house on that very cold evening and discuss neighborhood business. We also thank Teller Elementary and Principal Karti Lyons for graciously allowing us to use the auditorium.

At both meetings, President Brent Hladky introduced the volunteer Board members and listed a few of the neighborhood's accomplishments in 2007, namely:

- the new website at www.CongressParkNeighbors.org (thank you, Maggie!)
- notification of several zoning change requests (thanks to Tom and Brent!)

- an assortment of assemblies
- a seventh season of historic preservation talks (thanks to Carolyn!)
- resolution of the problem apartments at 13th and Colorado (thank you, Joe!)
- continued presence of the neighborhood newsletter (thank you, advertisers!)
- active member recordkeeping and recruitment (thanks go to Mel!)
- regular email blasts to over 400 neighbors about current issues (thank you, Kathleen!)
- successful R3 to R2 rezoning for two groups (thank you, John!)

Please let the Board know whether you think we should continue the two-meeting format. For the most reliable notification of neighborhood issues, please become a member of Congress Park Neighbors, Inc. You can fill out the membership sheet on the last page and send it in, or become a member on the website: www.CongressParkNeighbors.org.

Your Congress Park Neighbors 2008 Board of Directors

Brent Hladky—President, Treasurer
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brent@congressparkneighbors.org

Tom Conis—Vice President
tom.conis@congressparkneighbors.org

Petra Schroeder—Secretary
petra.schroeder@congressparkneighbors.org

Joe Ely—Crime Action, INC
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303/333-4050
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Mel Patrick—Membership
mel.patrick@congressparkneighbors.org

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1465 Fillmore; 303-333-5478
maggie.price@congressparkneighbors.org

Wendy Moraskie—Newsletter
1475 Milwaukee St.; 303-355-3735
wendyrich@msn.com

And we thank these committed neighbors:

Nancy Nelson—Denver Botanic Gardens Liaison

Carolyn VanSciver—Congress Park Historic Preservation Committee,
303-377-4913

Michael Koch and Guss Guarino—8th & Colorado Health District redevelopment,
(m_koch@kocharchitect.com;
gussguarino@ccdb.org)

Lots of other neighbors help with communications, membership, and more, and generally make Congress Park a great place to live—you know who you are and how much we depend on you—Thanks!

Your Congress Park Board invites you to attend the open Board meetings at National Jewish Hospital (we're grateful to the NJH staff!) on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Lovely Confections a Tasty Addition to CP Businesses

by Jonah Bradley

To satisfy that occasional (frequent?) craving for an incredible cupcake, Lovely Confections opened around Valentine's Day in the Chamberlin Heights corner shop.

Owner Porsche Lovely is specializing in inventive cupcakes for now, but will be expanding her offerings to include layer cakes for special order and pick up.

On a recent weekend, the special cupcake was inspired by Thin Mints™ cookies, and covered with ganache. Yum. The company prides itself on high quality, and organic and local ingredients.

The shop has free wifi, so bring your laptop to go with that cupcake. You can also bring friends—Lovely Confections is available for large groups such as book clubs and will soon be offering a story hour.

Lovely Confections, 1489 Steele; Open 11-8 Tues. through Sat., and 11-5 Sun.

DNC to Impact Neighborhood and Businesses

by Ann Charles

The 2008 Democratic National Convention, slated for August 25-28, is expected to bring 35,000 visitors to Denver including 15,000 members of the national and international media. In addition to showcasing Denver and the Rocky Mountain West to a global audience, estimates indicate that Denver will realize \$160 million in economic benefits.

The Denver Mayor's Office and Denver 2008 Convention Host Committee have a plan for community and business involvement as well as exciting ideas on ways that greening this convention will leave a positive and lasting impact on our city.

If you're interested in volunteering for the Convention, or you have a business that can provide services to convention-goers, or you just want to know what you can expect, living in a neighborhood close to the convention,

DNC Info

To volunteer or provide goods or services:
www.DenverConvention2008.com

For information on the business directory or convention plans, or how the activities might affect you, visit www.denver.gov/dnc2008 or ask Natalie. Colatosti@denver.gov

To avoid the traffic jams: www.RTD-denver.com

Need Compost?

After March 1 each year, Denver Recycles invites neighbors to pick up mulched Christmas trees and last fall's leaves. Call Denver Recycles at 720-865-6810 or see www.denvergov.org/DenverRecycles for details on the 2008 Treecycle Mulch Giveaway and Leafdrop Compost Sale.

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Alley Beautification Teams Prepare for May 10

by CP Neighbor

Need Ideas?

If you would like more details or some planning ideas, please contact Jacqueline directly at 303.249.0733 or at connect2jac@comcast.net.

Note Jacqueline's thoughtful planning: her clean up date on May 10 is just before the neighborhood's Large Item Pick up Week May 12 -16. Perfect timing.

Is your alley crying out for attention? It's spring-cleaning on a larger scale and more fun than wiping woodwork. Our neighbor Jacqueline Kimble is planning an alley clean-up for her alley on May 10.

Here, she shares her secrets to a successful neighborhood bonding experience while cleaning-up your alley. With Jacqueline's tips, we could make this a neighborhood movement!

Here's the rough blueprint—add your own block-centric touches:

Eight weeks or more prior to Clean Up

- Register with Keep Denver Beautiful – for trash bags and gloves and an early trash pick up that week.
- Contact local businesses and ask for food donations for the volunteers.
- Identify “Alley Captains” to organize efforts on their blocks.

Six weeks prior to the clean up

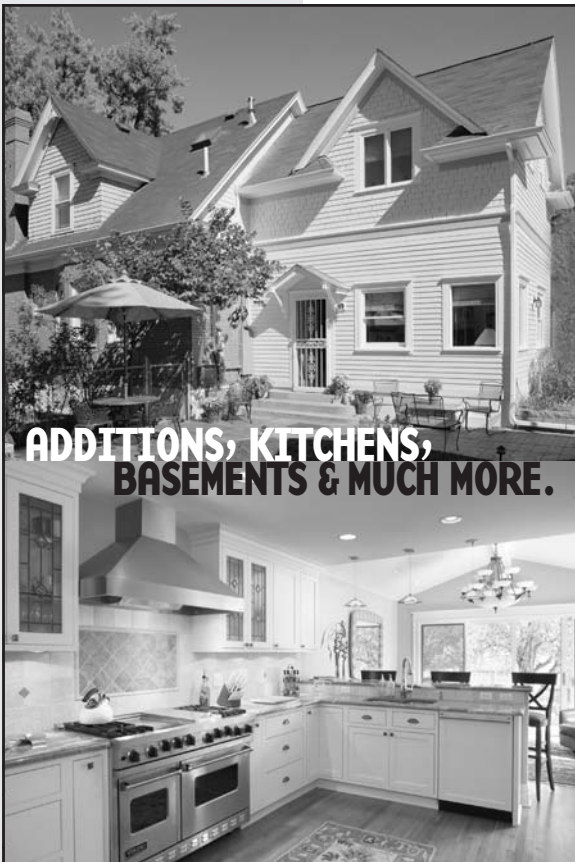
- Drop off first of 3 flyers to each house.

Three weeks prior to the clean up

- Drop off second flyer to each house on Weds. or Thurs. prior to the Clean Up
- Drop off third flyer to each house.
- Email participants

On Clean Up Day:

- Have a sign-in sheet to get names, addresses and emails of each person who participates.
- Hand out participant bags as described in the donations section above.
- Offer treats (home baked or donated) to participants. Plan many breaks.
- Have water and cups for participants.
- Bring masking tape and a marker, have your participants label their tools with their addresses. Labels help neighbors with similar-looking rakes and shovels avoid mix-ups. Give your neighbors name labels, too.
- Have a great time! Consider themes and prizes, snacks and lunch.



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Call or go online and register today!*

Neighbor Tends Kiosk

Thank you Laura Venrooy for volunteering to keep up the kiosk at Diedrich's.

We still need a volunteer to tend to the 12th and Madison kiosk.

To sign up, call Susan Bardwell at 303-399-1155.

Teller-Palooza V Ready For Prime Time

By The Teller Reporter

Teller Elementary in Congress Park is getting ready to put the “fun” back in Fundraiser for the fifth



straight year: Tellerpalooza V is set for Sat., May 10, at the Mercury Café, 2199 California St. in Denver. And this year Morey Middle School is teaming up with Teller to make this event bigger than ever.

“We are thrilled to be partnering with Morey, our neighborhood middle school,” said Michelle Kenrick, Teller PTA president and Tellerpalooza co-chair. “We feel that this is a win-win situation helping both schools through the effective growth of the event.” The Tellerpalooza has distinguished itself as a unique and FUN form of fundraising and now has pushed the boundaries by sharing fundraising with another community school.

The night will begin at 4 p.m. with a performance by both Teller’s and Morey’s student bands, followed by the Denver School of the Arts Jazz Combo, featuring several Teller alumni. The line-up for the rest of the evening already includes Denver’s favorite Angie Stevens and the Beautiful Wreck as headliner and The Panic - East High’s winner of the Battle of the Bands and returning Teller Palooza act!

Karaoke and other entertainment will also be featured downstairs all night long, as well as a special menu by The Mercury Café kitchen, popular drawings for the “wall of wine” and many other special prizes.

Newsletter Needs A Hand

By Julie Lang

If you got this newsletter, thank a volunteer delivery person—then step up and help out. We need delivery people right away for the following blocks:

- 1000, 1100 and 1200 Josephine
- 600 Detroit, Clayton and Elizabeth
- 1300 and 1400 Josephine
- 1300 and 1400 Steele
- 1100 and 1200 Garfield
- 1300 and 1400 Monroe
- 1300 and 1400 Detroit
- 1000, 1100 and 1200 Clayton

We also are in dire need of an area coordinator for the 1100-1400 blocks of Cook, Adams, Steele, St Paul area. This person distributes the appropriate newsletters to eight distributors. Basically this requires dropping newsletters at about eight houses or making eight phone calls to let the delivery folks know their papers are ready for pick-up.

All of these jobs (delivery or coordinator) take only about 30 minutes every three months. If you can help, please call me at 303-333-7489 or email yawger@comcast.net.



TellerPalooza Tix
Get your tickets early! Tickets are \$15 in advance; \$20 at the door. To order, please go to the Teller website at <http://teller.dpsk12.org> or call Teller at 303-333-4285 or Morey at 720-424-0700.

You can tutor
Teller School needs volunteer tutors in the after school study hall Tuesdays or Thursdays, 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. Call Christine Coleman, 303/333-4285.

Mike Finesilver donates to Teller after every closing that results from a Congress Park neighbor’s referral. Thanks, Mike!



“The best compliment I can receive are referrals you pass my way”

Thank you!



Mike Finesilver
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2008 Historic Preservation series includes Art, Economics, Civics and the Kitchen Sink

By Carolyn Van Sciver

Speakers Series details

The Historic Preservation lecture series will be held May through October, at 7:00 p.m. on the last Wednesday of each month.

The October lecture, on researching the history of your old house, is an exception to the schedule. Because the library is closed on Wednesdays, we will meet on the last Tuesday night in October at 6:30 p.m.

National Jewish Hospital is once again graciously hosting the presentations in Heitler Hall at 1400 Jackson St. and offering free parking in the Jackson Street lot. Congress Park extends our thanks to the helpful NJH staff.

The eighth season of Congress Park Neighbors Historic Speakers series begins in May. The series is presented by the CPN Historic Preservation and Education Committee to help owners of old houses appreciate their architectural styles and history and learn how to better care for their fine “antique” homes. See details at left, mark your calendars and note—the October talk has a different day, location and time.

If you have questions or would like to help, please contact Carolyn Van Sciver at 303-377-4913 or cvansciver@earthlink.net. We always need people to help flyer their block.

The 2008 schedule includes:

May 28: *Choosing Paint Colors for Your Historic House.* Megan Schlegel from the Color People, will explain the process of choosing a color scheme for your historic house. Her presentation, of “the good, the bad, and the ugly” demonstrates how to make the best color choices for your home. Bring a picture of your house and Megan will discuss possible solutions to your color dilemmas.

June 25: *Economics, the Environment, and Your Old House.* When experts start using phrases like sustainable building, embodied

energy, and “green” architecture, most of us are totally confused. Melanie Short, from SlaterPaul Architects, will use hard numbers to explain these terms to your wallet, and how they apply to your home. Learn how much energy was built into your house and how much it would take to replace it. The numbers are amazing!

July 30: *Historically Sensitive Renovations in Congress Park.* A panel of Congress Park residents will show and tell how they renovated their historic homes.

August 27: *Period Details for Your Kitchen.* Steve Ciancio of The Crafted Home, will cover major aspects of kitchen design, including choosing antique and reproduction fixtures, tile choices, cabinetry options, and accessories - the details that make the difference. If you are renovating this year, or still dreaming for the future, this is for you.

September 24: *Working With Historic Districts and Other Zoning Issues.* Congress Park neighborhood contains two registered historic districts. How does an owner work with their historic district’s board and what can happen when you propose changes to your house? Do we need more historic districts in Congress Park? A panel of experts will discuss these and other zoning issues. How can we best preserve the character of our neighborhood?

Tuesday, October 29; 6:30 p.m. (note dat and time difference): *Researching the History of Your Old House.* Join Bruce Hanson, from the Western History library in the Denver Public Library Downtown, for this fun, hands-on session. Learn how to use the library’s extensive collection to search out the history of your house. This talk will be held at the main downtown branch of the library at 13th and Broadway, on the fifth floor in the Western History wing.



Alexander Vertikoff

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City Council At Work

by District 10 Councilwoman Jeanne Robb

Third Annual Post-News Colorado Colfax Marathon Set To Go May 18

Come celebrate with Denver, Aurora and Lakewood on Sunday, May 18, 2008 for the third annual Post-News Colorado Colfax Marathon. This is an important event that celebrates the revitalization of America's longest continuous street — Colfax Avenue.

This year's route will start and finish in Denver's beautiful City Park, and will take walkers, joggers and runners along Colfax through Lakewood and downtown Denver. The half-marathon will be run east along Colfax to Fitzsimmons and back to City Park. The course highlights interesting historic sites along Colfax and, of course, views of the majestic Rocky Mountains.

For those whose participation will not include running, there are more than 2,000 volunteer opportunities. Volunteer on your own or gather a group and work together.

The Post-News Colorado Colfax Marathon is a wonderful way to celebrate one of our city's unique assets. Sign up or to learn more about the race at www.coloradocolfaxmarathon.org.

Central Denver Recreation Center

Please tell me what you'd like in a Rec Center at: An Initial Public Conversation on the Central Denver Recreation Center Bond Project; Tuesday, April 1 from 6:00-8:00 pm., National Jewish Medical & Research Center, Molly Blank Conference Center (Room J103-104) at 1400 Jackson Street. We need your suggestions for desired facilities and programs. For info, contact my office or Pam Schooley at 720-913-0625.



by At Large Councilman Doug Linkhart

Prosperity Task Force Takes Flight

A new 30-plus member Economic Prosperity Task Force will develop strategies, programs and policies to improve the economic prosperity of Denver residents over the next year.

The Task Force will look into changes in our economy, educational environment and cost of living that have left many people unable to get a job that pays enough to meet their needs.

The new task force will assess the current state of Denver residents and issues like self sufficiency, special needs populations, economic mobility, sustainability, entrepreneurialism, and community-rich outcomes. We will examine the various tools used by the city and other agencies that affect residents' economic well-being. We will look for best practices, creative partnerships and potential mechanisms for improving economic prosperity and empowerment. We hope to strengthen the long-term economic well-being of all residents by extending opportunities for each to more fully benefit from Denver's economy.

The Task Force's efforts will be posted on its web site: 'Economic Prosperity Task Force' Team Room at www.e-colorado.org or see www.doug-linkhart.org for more information.

Your City Council Representatives

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Carol Boigon, Councilwoman At-Large
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e-mail: carol.boigon@ci.denver.co.us



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Zoning Change Would Legalize Non-Conforming Uses

More On R0&R1 proposal

To see Councilwoman Robb's February notification letter: <http://www.congressparkneighbors.org/zoning/robb.r0.pdf>.

To see the language amendment: www.denvergov.org and type "L-1154" in the search box

To see the Feb. 29 City Council meeting that voted to postpone this issue: http://denver.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=21&clip_id=1431; scroll down to CB 29 in the "jump to topics of interest" box.

By Tom Conis and Brent Hladky

Legislation pending (CB 29) before city Council concerning multi-family structures in the R-0 and R-1 zones would affect over 100 Congress Park property owners. In CP, these structures, mostly single-story craftsman-style duplexes, are primarily between 6th Avenue and 11th Avenue and between York and Colorado Blvd.

In 1956 City Council enacted zoning laws which only permitted single family dwellings in these areas. The existing multi-family structures, all built before 1955 and many before 1915 when Denver first enacted zoning laws, were deemed to be non-conforming *uses* with restricted property rights.

The proposed legislation will:

- make the existing non-conforming multi-unit dwellings conforming and thus, allow them to be expanded, modified, or demolished and rebuilt;
- prohibit increasing the number of units beyond that which exists today in any multi-unit dwelling existing in an R0 or R1 zone;
- prohibit expanding the size of the zone lot containing a multi-unit dwelling in an R0 or R1 zone;
- prohibit any variance to the requirement that there must be 3,000 sq. ft of lot area per dwelling unit on a zone lot.

Proponents of the proposed legislation note that without the legislation:

- non-conforming properties cannot increase their floor space, perform a major renovation, add a garage, add a mud room, expand into the attic, add a bay window, or erect a storage shed, just to list a few prohibitions. If these modifications are done without a permit, the owner potentially faces a "cease and desist order" from the City to stop using the property for residential purposes — *along with his neighbor who shares a common wall*;
- owners of non-conforming use properties may have difficulty obtaining insurance at rates comparable to that of conforming use properties, and in situations such as this, the City has received requests for letters of conformance from the insurance companies.

Critics of the proposed legislation note that:

- this legislation, as worded, grants expanded property rights to these non-conforming use owners, potentially at the expense of the neighboring property owners. Developers believe that if this legislation passes it will create a number of valuable "development lots" within R1 and R0 areas. Such redevelopment could create instability within existing areas of "stability" as designated by Blueprint Denver;
- there are other remedies. For example, by allowing the Zoning Appeals board to grant relief of the property's non-conforming use, a majority of the issues disappear;
- curative language could be included in the major city-wide rezoning initiative that is currently underway.

If this amendment impacts you, we recommend that you contact our Council Representative, Jeanne Robb (Jeanne.Robb@ci.denver.co.us), and Congress Park Neighbors (cpnnotify@congressparkneighbors.org) with your thoughts.



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A Treasure Of A Tree At East High—And In Your Yard?

By Susan Bardwell

This Tree You've Got to See! One of the trees Denver Digs Trees is offering residents this year is the ginkgo or Maiden-hair Tree (*Ginkgo biloba*). Some young ginkgos already live in the neighborhood, and it is a short walk to see Colorado's second largest ginkgo here on East High's campus, in the "south courtyard" that faces Colfax.

The ginkgo is an utterly unique and curious tree. As the world's oldest living tree species, its relatives are in fossil records from before the age of dinosaurs. While ginkgos aren't considered native to Colorado, they did live here before the drifting of the continents and the Ice Age. Although its distinctive fan-shaped leaves don't look like it, evolutionarily, the ancient ginkgo is more closely related to a spruce tree than a maple tree.

Not only did ginkgos live a long time ago, but they can live for a long time. Some trees in China are over 3000 years old. Despite their long history and longevity, changes in climate and their eco-relationships over the millennia—for example, the dispersal of their nuts relied on now extinct animal species—have dramatically shrunk the Ginkgo's range. Few, if any trees now grow naturally in the wild.

The ginkgo's curative powers were key to its survival, motivating its cultivation over thousands of years while its wild population dwindled. Some say tea from its leaves are healthful and may ward off symptoms of Alzheimer's disease.

The reasons why ginkgos have been so

resilient are the same reasons to plant a ginkgo today. They are very adaptable trees, hardy in a range of temperatures and soils, and resistant to air pollution and insects. Ginkgos even survived the bombing of Hiroshima. Unfortunately, but understandably, only male ginkgo trees typically are planted now as the ripe flesh around the female's seed smells like vomit. The seeds, nonetheless, are edible and enjoyed in many parts of the world. And for the fall season faint-of-heart, the ginkgo's leaves drop quickly over a few days, making raking an easier task...and an opportunity to brew some very special tea.

Do you know of a notable tree in the neighborhood that we've all "got to see" — a big one, a beautiful one, or just a favorite one to feature in the newsletter? Please contact Susan Bardwell at 303-399-1155 or sbardwell@att.net.

Conservation Specialties still caring for Congress Park homes

Conservation Specialties is still taking care of older houses and the people who love them, and still offering a donation to Congress Park Neighbors for every neighborhood job.

Conservation Specialties does most any installation, repair or remodeling around the house.

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Lighten Up, Congress Park

By Charlotte Bentley, former Congress Park Crime Action Committee Chairperson

*"The Congress Park Crime Action Committee is committed to coordinate efforts to rid our neighborhood of crime, thus helping to ensure personal safety for all."
CPN Crime Action Committee
Mission Statement*

Street light outages:

Go to www.xcelenergy.com/streetlighting or call **1-800-895-4999**.

Maintenance crews generally work during daytime; pole location information will be helpful. Note the:

- Nearest street address
- Nearest cross street
- Directional position of the pole
- Facility tag number (9 or 13 digits) listed on the streetlight pole

Additional lighting:

Go to www.denver.gov.org/Transportation or call **720-865-3150** for a mid-block street and alley lighting petition from Denver's Traffic Engineering Service department.

Fiat Lux, Congress Park! Typically translated as "let there be light," Fiat Lux is also the motto of many colleges and universities, referring to the role they play in the dawning of enlightenment through education.

Numerous references to the powerful quality of light abound in literature, poems, plays and music. They portray the magic and drama of Fiat Lux, and its ability to metaphorically dispel ignorance and fear.

Urban designers integrate precise quantities of physical and emotional illumination into their community plans to confer vitality and character, ambiance and safety. Interior designers, whether working on buildings, restaurants or private homes, are especially conscious of the effect of illumination on atmosphere and security.

According to the police, lighting, particularly porch, street and alley lighting, contributes to community public safety. You control how well your street is lit with your use of porch and yard lighting, while Denver installs lighting along public streets and alleys.

Use your porch to illuminate the night as a beacon of safety for your house and your street. Attach a timer to a lamp by the front window or even the porch light itself. Leaving the porch light on all night only uses a few pennies of electricity, and provides a service to your house and your neighbors beyond a dollar value.

Denver standards call for a minimum of one street light to be installed at every public street intersection, and may authorize one mid-block street light, and one mid-alley light in neighborhoods where this lighting does not exist. If your block does not have mid-block/mid-alley lighting, seventy-five percent of the property owners can sign a petition requesting additional lighting. Property owners can petition for additional light pole installations in the alley, too, if they are willing to pay the monthly electricity charges.

If you've ever had the electricity go out on your block at night, you know the value lighting gives to the neighborhood. A lack of lights in streets, alleys, houses, yards and intersections fosters a sense of vulnerability. Without the light, the neighborhood can seem eerie, cold, and unstable.

So "Let There Be Light" in Congress Park. Be the guardian of light on your block. Keep the porch light on for us and call Xcel if you see a streetlight with a dark bulb. Street lighting benefits not just your house or block, but the whole neighborhood.



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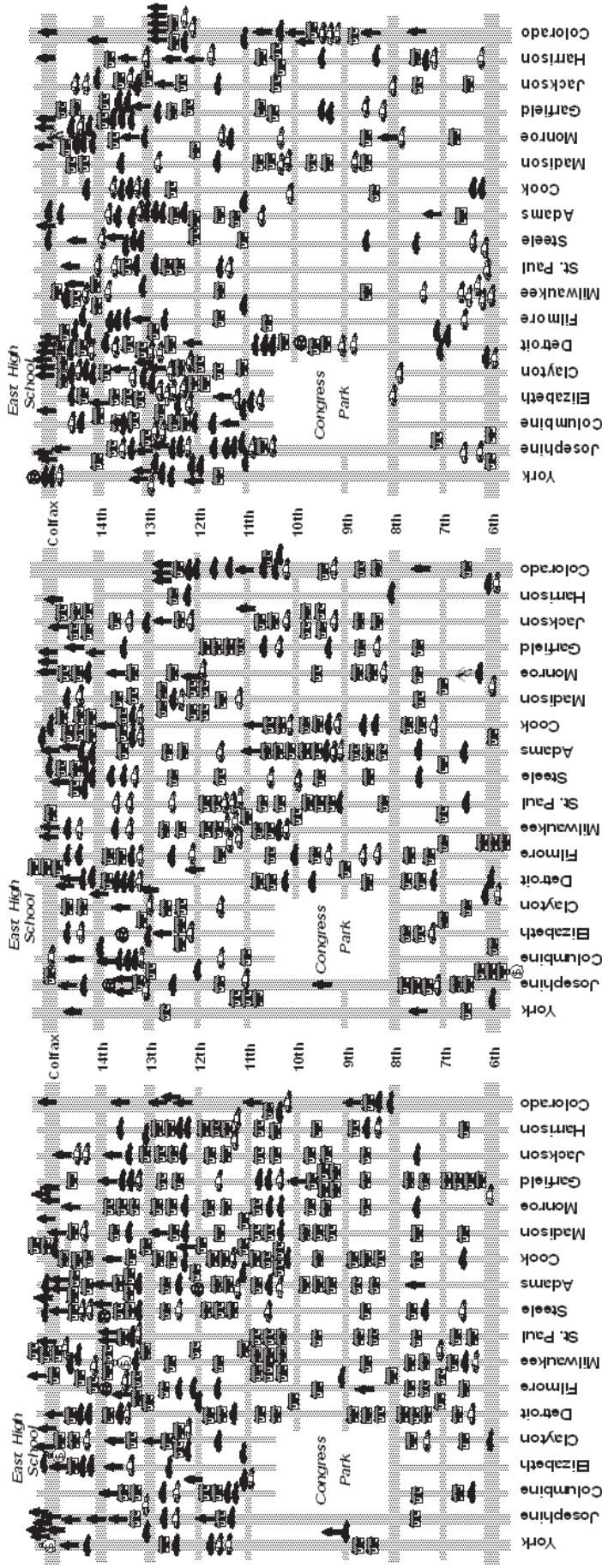
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CONGRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CRIMES

2005

2006

2007



- Murder
- Sexual Assault
- Assault/robbery
- Purse Snatching
- Burglary
- Auto Theft
- Theft from auto

The maps above show a compilation of all serious crimes reported to police within Congress Park over the past three years. Crime mapping is provided by the Congress Park Crime Action Committee using statistics supplied by the Denver Police department to the District 10 City Council office.

How's your block doing? Please observe and compare the annual crime maps and work with your neighbors to develop crime prevention strategies on your block.

Map by CPN neighbor Steve Methven. Thanks, Steve!

Your Attendance is Vital At Neighborhood Assemblies

Nominate Your Neighbor

Someone on your block would make a terrific CPN Board member! How about that great person who always has good ideas, is involved in block activities, keeps the neighborhood's interests at heart and would have a positive impact on Congress Park? Consider asking that person to help the neighborhood by joining the Board. Bring your nominee to any Board meeting (see inside front cover) or send his/her name via www.CongressParkNeighbors.org.

by Wendy Moraskie, CPN Board member

There's a flyer on your front porch. Congress Park Neighbors, Inc., is holding an assembly about some building or other on 12th Avenue—or Colfax, or whatever. You're not going because it's several blocks away from you, so who cares?

Your volunteer Board of Directors cares, that's who. We don't know how to represent you at City Council until you tell us. This is grassroots representative democracy, baby. You're in on the ground floor.

The Board of Directors of Congress Park Neighbors, Inc., has a standard process for deciding its stance on issues that affect our neighbors, and what position we will present to the City Council. We hold neighborhood assemblies to find out what the neighbors want us to say. On every issue from new development to old liquor licenses, from zoning variances for additions to private residences to relaxing restrictions on half-way houses, we don't take a position until

we hear from you. For each controversial issue, we set a time, date and place for an assembly. Then we print and deliver flyers to every house and apartment within a three-block radius to notify residents of that meeting. As our e-mail address list grows, we are using that avenue to advise people of neighborhood assemblies, also.

On the night of the assembly, we gather to hear and discuss the pros and cons of the issue, then we take two votes. First, a vote of the people in attendance who are within the three-block radius, then a vote of all the residents of Congress Park in attendance. At the next Board meeting, we review the issue and the vote and decide how best to represent the will of the neighbors. Because, in most zoning issues, the impact on neighbors is important, the immediate neighbors' votes carry more weight.

At the City Council meeting where the issue is heard, the Congress Park Board president

tells the City Council how the vote came out at the neighborhood assembly and that the Board is representing that vote with its position on the issue.

Look at that flyer again and see if you can fit that assembly into your schedule. We need your thoughtful consideration of what's best for the neighborhood at that meeting.

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Hats Off To A Congress Park Neighbor

by Kathleen Hynes

One benefit to living in a diverse neighborhood like Congress Park is that our neighbors do such interesting things.

Thirty-two-year resident Ingrid Hovland is one of four founders of the award-winning Canine Partners of the Rockies.

Canine Partners of the Rockies, Inc (CaPR) is a small, non-profit organization that raises, trains and places service dogs with Colorado residents who have severe mobility limitations. Ingrid and her co-founders founded CaPR in 2002 with the philosophy of *“One Person, One Dog, Partners In Life,”* and the expressed intent of enhancing the quality of life for Colorado residents with severe mobility impairments. Although all four founders had worked with national service dog organizations, Ingrid and her co-founders wanted to focus exclusively on Colorado residents to provide more specialized training with lower costs and better post-placement support.

In five years CaPR has raised more than 60 puppies and trained and placed 23 highly skilled dogs with mobility-impaired partners who use wheelchairs, walkers or crutches. Over half of their placements are with clients who have spinal cord injuries.

Canine Partners’ service dogs learn up to 65 commands that enable their owners to live more independent lives. CaPR service dogs assist their partners by picking up dropped articles and phones, turning light switches on or off, and opening and closing doors and drawers. Dogs also

learn a range of additional skills unique to the applicant’s needs.



CaPR was the recipient of the 2007 Service Animal Award presented by Denver Commission for People with Disabilities. To learn about an orientation for volunteers and puppies or observe a CaPR puppy training class call 303-364-9040 or visit www.caninepartnersoftherockies.org.

Way to go Ingrid! We’re glad to have neighbors like you.

Gentle Reader: we need to hear about the interesting things your neighbors are doing that make you proud to live in Congress Park. Send your article on your accomplished neighbor to the editor at wendyrich@msn.com.

CPNews Needs You

Would you like to see your name in lights? Okay, how about in print in the Congress Park News? If you know about a great neighbor or an important issue the rest of us need to consider, please send it in.

Deadlines are:
 Spring issue: Jan 15
 Summer issue: April 15
 Fall issue: July 15
 Winter issue: Oct. 15

Call Wendy at 303-355-3735 and let her know it’s coming. You can email your ad or article (put “CPNews” in the subject line) to wendyrich@msn.com.



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Neighborhood Directory

Take advantage of the businesses conveniently located here in Congress Park. Visit these advertisers, and tell them you found them here.

For advertising rates, call 303-355-3735

CPNews Continues Search for Editor

If you have a love for Congress Park neighborhood and a willingness to learn newsletter production, please call Wendy at 303-355-3735.

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Congress Park's only full-service salon. Offering complete hair, nail and skin care, waxing and massage. All major credit cards accepted. Open 7 days.

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Lawn Care

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Your neighborhood handyman who will also take care of your yard!
CALL US—WE CAN HELP!
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marc@marcsmowing.com

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Service Club Meeting

Zonta Club of Denver

303-355-3735
85 years working to improve the status of women and children. Monthly dinner meeting 2nd Thursday, \$30.

Worship

10:30 Catholic Community

1100 Fillmore;
303-333-9366
Lay-led Vatican II Catholics. Sunday Mass 11:00 a.m., Children's Rel Ed 10:30 a.m..

Worship

Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church

1100 Fillmore
303-333-9366
A diverse, More Light faith community in Congress Park. Sundays: 9:30am worship service, 11:00am education hour.

Worship

Dignity Denver

1100 Fillmore
303-322-8485
Catholic Mass Sundays at 5 p.m.; Lesbian, gay, bisexual & trans-gender Catholics, families and friends. All are welcome.

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March

- 03-07 National School Breakfast Week
- 09 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 13 Zonta Club of Denver meeting; 303/355-3735
- 16-22 Girl Scout Week, Procrastination Week
- 17 Botanic Gardens Free Day; 720/865-3500
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 19 CPN Board meeting; Nat'l Jewish, 7 p.m.**
- 22 World Water Conservation Day
- 23 Easter Sunday
- 24-29 Egg Salad Week
- 30-Apr 5 American Chocolate Week

April

- 01 April Fool's Day
- 06-12 National Garden Week, Library Week
- 07-11 Large Item Pick-up week
- 10 Zonta Club of Denver meeting; 303/355-3735
- 15 Accountants' (and Income Tax) Day
- 16 CPN Board meeting; Nat'l Jewish, 7 p.m.**
- 16 School Librarian Day
- 19 Passover Begins
- 20 Museum of Nature & Science Free Day; 303/322-7009
- 22 Botanic Gardens Free Day; 720/865-3500
- 22 Earth Day, Take Children to Work Day
- 27-May 3 Turn Off the TV Week
- 27-May 3 National Volunteer Week—Call a Board member to sign up!
- 30 Arbor Day

May

- 01 Law Day, Loyalty Day, May Day
- 02-04 Cinco De Mayo Festival; 303/534-8342
- 03 Dumb Friends League Furry Scurry; 303/696-4941, x364
- 03 Museum of Nature & Science Free Day; 303/322-7009
- 04-10 Pet Week, Teacher Appreciation Week, Small Business Week
- 05 Teacher Day
- 05-09 National Classroom Teacher Week
- 09 Mothers' Day
- 12-16 Large Item Pick-up week
- 11-17 Historic Preservation Week
- 15 Zonta Club of Denver meeting; 303/355-3735
- 15 Police Officers' Memorial Day
- 16 National Bike to Work Day
- 17 Armed Forces Day
- 19 National Play Day for Health
- 21 CPN Board mtg; Nat'l Jewish, 7pm**
- 25 Missing Children's Day
- 26 Memorial Day
- 28 CPN Historic Preservation Talk; 303-377-4913**



An imaginative rendering of the crowd at the January CPN Annual Neighbors' meeting. We hope to see you at all the Historic Preservation talks this spring and summer and the CPN Ice Cream Social on Aug. 5.

Around the Neighborhood

Call the editor with your important dates. 303-355-3735

March is National Craft Month, Women's History Month; & Frozen Food, Noodle, Peanut and Nutrition Month .

April is Multicultural Communications Month, Child Abuse Prevention Month, Mathematics Education Month, National Poetry Month, and National Garden Month

May is Hearing, Speech, Breathing, Sleep and Mental Health Month, and Barbecue, Bike, Egg, Physical Fitness, and Salad Month

What else?
www.denver365.com

www.DenverGov.org, click on events calendar. Check out "residents" page.

www.DowntownDenver.com, click on events

www.ChunDenver.org, click on calendar

Congress Park Neighbors, Inc.
 P.O. Box 18571
 Denver, CO 80218
www.CongressParkNeighbors.org

*"Cooperation is the thorough conviction that nobody can get there unless everybody gets there." - Virginia Burden Tower
 (We're sure Ms Tower was hinting you should volunteer with your neighborhood organization.)*

Congress Park Neighbors Membership Form

Your neighborhood needs you! Join your neighbors today.

Name:

e-mail:

address:

phone:

The above information will only be used for contacting you about Congress Park Neighborhood issues.

Member (individual or household) \$20
 Patron (get a T-shirt!): \$30
 (circle shirt size: S M L XL XXL)
 Business or organization: \$40

(Circle amount enclosed)

Make check payable to:
 Congress Park Neighbors, Inc.
 P.O. Box 18571
 Denver, CO 80218

Date:

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 Historic Preservation
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 Membership
 Social events
 Graffiti abatement
 Crime prevention
 Traffic
 Other

Congress Park Neighbors, Inc. is a non-profit organization with an elected, volunteer Board of Directors. Your tax-deductible annual dues support the newsletter, mailings and fliers about hot issues, events like the ice cream social and ongoing activities to benefit the neighborhood.