



# News

Spring 2011

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## 2011 Congress Park Member Meeting

Congress Park Neighbors held their annual members' meeting on January 19, 2011, at the Denver Film Center on Colfax.

Brent Hladky, President of CPN, reviewed the subjects focused on in 2010 including: zoning, liquor licenses, involvement with the Neighborhood Advisory Committee, the Historic Speaker Series, and our newsletter. Members heard about CPN's upcoming parking survey that will focus on our Colfax boundary and our 12th Ave. business district. Members expressed appreciation for the many volunteer hours that CPN, Inc., Board members devote to CPN and indicated an interest in focusing attention in 2011 on reducing crime via Neighborhood Watch.

Cheryl Ward, from Teller Elementary School, spoke about the upcoming Taste For Teller fundraiser on Saturday, March 19, 2011, at the Capital Heights Presbyterian Church located on the corner of 11th and Fillmore. The Teller community welcomes all adults in Congress Park to participate in this fun event and enjoy some wine (Marczyk's Fine Wines), and bidding on a variety of silent auction items.

After enjoying pizza and pop, the meeting adjourned. Congress Park's All Neighbors Annual meeting will be held on February 16, 2011.

**Mission of Congress Park Neighbors, Inc.**  
The Mission of Congress Park Neighbors, Inc. is to inform Congress Park neighborhood residents about specific matters in or proposed for Congress Park (e.g. zoning issues, liquor licenses), city-wide initiatives (recycling, parking, crime, zoning code changes, etc.), and, when required, to represent Congress Park's position on selected matter before City agencies

The CPN Board does not take positions on significant neighborhood matters without convening a neighborhood assembly and getting the vote of the residents and property owners in attendance. That vote is then accurately reported to the appropriate city agency. CPN, Inc. Board is truly a representative body, and reflects the neighborhood's will as closely as we can.

The best way to keep up-to-date about neighborhood issues i.e., crime alerts, parking, zoning is to sign-up for CPN's email broadcasts at [www.congressparkneighbors.org/eblast.html](http://www.congressparkneighbors.org/eblast.html).

### *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.*

## A Proud Moment

By Mary Ellen Sweeney

Congress Park News is a quarterly publication of Congress Park Neighbors, Inc. A network of volunteers produces and distributes it to a circulation of more than 4500 residents and businesses within the area bounded by Colfax Avenue, Sixth Avenue, York Street and Colorado Boulevard.

www.CongressParkNeighbors.org

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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 Wendy or Julie.

This newsletter is printed on 100% recycled paper with soy-based ink by Barnum Printing, 303-936-2345.

When I attended the Excise and Licensing Hearing on January 7, 2011, I couldn't help but be struck by the many citizens of Congress Park who were in attendance.

We are not a flashy or glitzy group of people. For the most part, we don't have the economic status of some other neighborhood groups. We are ordinary citizens who love our community and neighborhood. We show up to make our voices heard. We work to preserve the quality of our lives in Congress Park in many different ways.

It was a proud and memorable moment to be surrounded by so many outstanding CPN neighbors.

I especially want to thank the CPN board members who work tirelessly for our benefit. I don't think that we can thank them enough.

## Your Congress Park Neighbors 2010 Board of Directors

Brent Hladky—President  
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Tom Conis—Vice President  
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And we thank these committed neighbors:

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

Roger Sherman  
Crime Action Committee  
303.506-8895  
rsherman@crlassociates.com

Bill DeMaio and Michael Sutherland—Denver Botanic Gardens Liaison

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 on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in Heitler Hall.

## Researching the History of Your Old Home

By Tom Conis

If you have ever wondered if a notable architect designed your home, or why that second story door goes to nowhere, or if you were just curious about who lived in your house 100 years ago, you may be able to find some answers with some astute detective work.

The Denver Public Library now has a number of historic resources and digitized archival materials available on line at <http://creatingcommunities.denverlibrary.org>. Here you can begin your research of the history of your old homes in the comfort of your own old home. It is helpful if you know the approximate date of construction and the legal description of the property. Denver has property records available online by logging onto [denvergov.org/realproperty.asp](http://denvergov.org/realproperty.asp). Also, it helps to know the street name at the time of construction. A few names have changed; 10th avenue was once known as Moose street.

### Assessor Records

The Assessor Records are a 27 volume collection that contains information regarding the assessed value, legal description, property characteristics, and ownership of Denver real property. Originally part of the Denver Assessor's Office, they are an index of Assessor Lots from 1860-1917. If you cannot locate an original building permit, these indices will allow you to trace the chain of land ownership. These files are arranged as follows: first, the addition/sub-division name; second, the block and/or lot num-

bers; and third, the name or names of those who owned the lot. They also contain a map of the lots within each block; however, they do not give physical information about the structures.

### Household Directories

From 1924 to the present, the Denver Householder Directory has been continuously published under various titles. These books allow the researcher to discover residents, owners and business names by address.

### City Directories

Denver City Directories range from 1873 to 1986. The Denver City Directories contain a wealth of information, such as a listing of residents in Denver, occupations, company names, religious and social orders, advertisements, and so forth.

### City and County of Denver Building Permits

The Denver Public Library has building permits for 1889-1892 and 1900-1955. Knowing the ap-

*Continued on page 5*

### CPN Monthly Meetings Need You

The best part about the monthly CPN, Inc., Board meetings are the discussions that bloom between neighbors. Only you know what's happening on your block. Your seeds of information combined with your neighbor's may add up to something that, with cultivation, can nourish the whole neighborhood.

Send us your ideas and suggestions to [cpnboard@congressparkneighbors.org](mailto:cpnboard@congressparkneighbors.org)



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[johnsullivan2000@gmail.com](mailto:johnsullivan2000@gmail.com)

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## Mayoral Candidates and Your Neighborhood Organizations

By Kathleen Hynes

### Your City Council Representatives

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Councilwoman At-Large  
720-865-8100  
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Given the uniqueness of neighborhoods throughout Denver and realizing Denver's Registered Neighborhood Organizations (RNO) are the primary mechanism for neighbors to have a voice with City agencies, CPN was interested in hearing Mayoral candidates' views on the role of RNOs. CPN emailed six mayoral candidates, Carol Boigon, Michael Hancock, Doug Linkhart, James Mejia, Chris Nevitt and Chris Romer, and asked the following question:

*Many times throughout the year, voters express their needs and desires about matters impacting their neighborhoods through their Registered Neighborhood Organizations (RNOs). We are interested in knowing how you will balance the positions taken by voters, as expressed through their RNOs, when RNOs are opposing projects that could generate city tax revenues.*

Two of the six candidates, Michael Hancock and Chris Romer, responded to our request for information by press time and their answers are printed here.

#### Michael Hancock's response:

"I believe my record as a Councilman shows that I have always carefully weighed the opinions of all stakeholders and strive to make decisions that are both fair and transparent. For the last seven years, I have held either an annual city service summit or town hall meetings where local RNOs, constituents and city department leaders come together to listen to and to educate the public on different issues taking place in the city. I served as chair of the Better Denver Bond program that was approved by Denver voters in 2007 where

I balanced the needs and concerns of all community members. As a city and a community, our diverse interests are what make us great and I will continue to have an open door policy to listen to the concerns of all neighbors and RNOs, as well as voters and property owners."

#### Chris Romer's response:

"Our neighborhoods are the fabric of our city. They represent what makes our city truly unique – a blend of diverse architecture, thought, tradition and culture. City leaders must listen to and understand the unique needs of our neighborhoods and Registered Neighborhood Organizations play a valuable role in that discussion. When an RNO is opposed to a city project, that may also be a job creator, the conversation must be honest and direct, with outcomes based on protecting the city services, quality of life and neighborhood identity and interests.

As mayor, I will encourage and foster an open and honest discussion with our neighborhood organizations. I will have frank conversations about how we can respond to issues and identify areas for collaboration. I will encourage regular meetings with representatives of our RNO's and my Community Liaison. When there is opposition to a project that brings potential jobs to our city, I will make every attempt to ensure my administration has worked with the RNO to address their concerns. As a community we must, however, balance the collective interests of and benefits to our entire city, particularly when faced with difficult budgetary decisions.

Our RNO's provide a unique and critical perspective to city leaders. As mayor I want our RNOs to act as a partner as we work to move our city forward."

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## Researching the History of Your Old Home

*Continued from page 3*

proximate date of construction and legal description will help in searching the building permit files. From 1889 to 1914, these records are in handwritten ledgers, which have been microfilmed and indexed. From 1889 to 1905, these documents have been transcribed into printed form and are indexed by street name, legal description, and name of owner, builder, and/or architect. The permits from 1905 to 1914 are indexed by the name of the street at the time the permit was issued. These are currently being transcribed and re-indexed like the earlier ones. After 1914 to about 1955, the building permits are on separate typed or handwritten forms which have been microfilmed. These are in order by address and will often list changes or additions to existing properties.

### Real Estate and Sanborn Fire Insurance Atlases

These show Denver structures as early as 1887 and will help you to date the construction of a building and give you a picture of the neighborhood development. Creating Communities website, listed above, has a large selection of Baist's Real Estate maps digitized and available online. Search Tip: Most maps of Congress Park are on plates 15 and 17. These atlases will also show the legal description of your property – Addition name, Block number, and Lot number(s). You will need this information in order to try to locate an original building permit and/or trace the chain of property ownership

### Census Data

Old census records can provide a more in depth look at the neighborhood. If you have a library card you can access census data at: Heritage Quest online through the Denver Public Library website. This can be time consuming but here is a head start: In the 1900 Census, Congress Park area will not be listed in Denver, but Arapahoe County District 10-WD. The 1910 Census Congress Park area will be listed in District 10 of the Denver Census. In the 1920 Census, much of Congress Park is in district 268. In the 1930 census, which has not yet been catalogued, Congress Park is in District L. Start around page 250.

After having acquainted yourself with the Creating Communities website, if you still want to fill in some blanks, take a trip downtown to the central library 5th floor Western History /Genealogy Department. Who knows, maybe you can solve the mystery of the door that goes to nowhere, or more practically, find a notable detail or a famous person who previously lived in your space. If you've ever considered a historical designation for your property, this is most likely the place to start.

Thanks to all who volunteered to distribute newsletters.

If you want to help, Contact Julie Lang  
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## Our Neighborhood Forest: Tour the Trees You've Got to See!

By Susan Bardwell

"Our Neighborhood Forest" column will appear as reader input and interest warrant. Do you know of a notable tree "we've got to see" in the neighborhood – a big one, a beautiful one, or just a favorite one – that we could feature in the newsletter?

Please contact Susan Bardwell at SusanBardwell@msn.com or 303-399-1155.

Past issues of the Congress Park Newsletter (Spring 2008 through Fall 2010) have featured notable trees in Denver's Congress Park Neighborhood. For a self-guided map and tour of all the notable trees visit: <http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&msid=204898266610885892076.00049760f0de26d85e9a8&t=h&z=15>. If you would like a printed copy of the map, please contact Susan Bardwell at 303-399-1155.

Below is a list of the trees, in one possible sequence for visiting all. The back issue of Congress Park News in which the tree was featured is noted after each tree location so you can read more about it for your tree tour. Find the back issues at. [www.congressparkneighbors.org](http://www.congressparkneighbors.org):

1. *Seventh Avenue Parkway* – Colorado Blvd. to York St.

The tree planting along the 100-year-old Seventh Avenue Parkway warranted the roadway's designation on the National Register of Historic Places. Fall 2010 issue, pp. 8-9.

2. *Bur Oak* – Congress Park (south of tennis courts) A neighborhood resident recommended featuring the handsome Bur Oak which graces the east side of Congress Park, directly south of the lower tennis courts. Fall 2008, p. 7.

3. *Paperbark Maple* – 1107 Clayton St. It may look small, but this ornamental Paperbark Maple at 1107 Clayton St. is the State Champion Fall 2009, p. 12.

4. *Ginkgo* – East High School The second-ranked Ginkgo in Colorado is on the campus of East High School, in the "south courtyard" that faces Colfax, between Detroit St. and City Park Esplanade. Spring 2008, p. 9.

5. *Japanese Tree Lilac* – 1025 Fillmore St. The second largest Japanese Tree Lilac in Colorado grows next to the front porch at 1025 Fillmore. Summer 2010 issue, p. 8.

6. *Black Locust* – 2917 E. 10th Ave.

This old tree in front of 2917 E. 10th Ave. was found in 2009 to be Colorado's largest known specimen of Black Locust. Summer 2009 issue, p. 12.



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### Our Neighborhood Forest, cont.

7. *Tree of Heaven* – 875 Cook St.

A handsome specimen of the much-maligned Tree of Heaven is near the alley on 9th Ave. at 875 Cook St. It was once ranked 4th of its species on the State’s registry of largest trees. Spring 2009 issue, p. 12.

8. *English Oak* – 1042 Cook St.

You can’t miss this English Oak in front of 1042 Cook St. It is tied for second place in the registry of Colorado Champion Trees. Summer 2008 issue, p. 9.

9. *European Mountain Ash* – 1141 Garfield St.

European Mountain Ash is one of the few tree species in the neighborhood that is particularly ornamental year-round. This specimen is on the public right-of-way in front of 1141 Garfield St. Winter 2010 issue, p. 12.

10. *American Elm* – 1020 Garfield St.

The majestic American elm at 1020 Garfield St. is appropriately nicknamed “The Monarch” by its longtime devoted owners. Winter 2009 issue, p. 12.



The Tree of Heaven’s winter silhouette is striking.

*“The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit.”*

- Nelson Henderson

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## Save the Date ...

**T**eller Elementary School will be hosting their annual Taste For Teller fundraiser on Saturday, March 19, 2011, in the Community Room of Capital Heights Presbyterian Church located on the corner of 11th and Fillmore. This is a fun, adults-only event that involves a wine tasting (arranged by Marczyk's Fine Wines) and a silent auction. The Teller community welcomes the whole Congress Park community to come and enjoy some wine, and bid on valuable, fun and interesting silent auction items. We are a strong community at Teller, nestled and nurtured within the mighty Congress Park Neighborhood, and this is a great opportunity to support your local public school and meet new and old friends, and taste some fine wines.

Look for more detailed information in the coming months including flyers, posters and email blasts!



# CONGRESS PARK YEAR-END REVIEW

As of February 1, 2011, there are 20 homes on the market!

### 1 Story Homes ... 37 Listings Sold

Average Price:	\$381,658
Average Sq.Ft.:	1,263
Average Price/Sq.Ft.:	\$302.00
Average List to Sold Price:	93.2%
Average Days on Market:	66

### 2 Story Homes ... 22 Listings Sold

Average Price:	\$483,797
Average Sq.Ft.:	1,952
Average Price/Sq.Ft.:	\$248.00
Average List to Sold Price:	94.8%
Average Days on Market:	81



## COMMITTED to CONGRESS PARK

Margaret Marshall CRS, GRI  
 Mobile 303.918.3507  
[margaret@kentwoodcity.com](mailto:margaret@kentwoodcity.com)



[www.CongressParkSpecialist.com](http://www.CongressParkSpecialist.com)

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## Diary of a Fourth Grader (or Calum's Column)

By Calum Abeywickrema, 4th Grader, Teller Elementary School

**S**o this is how life goes: School, school, school. But my teachers are the best any one could have. I am so lucky to have them. Fourth grade is going pretty well. I am learning chemistry in my science class. We mixed iodine with corn starch and it turned black and hard immediately. We mixed baking soda and vinegar and it started bubbling. The bubbles happen because of a chemical reaction that makes gas.

In reading we are reading a book called *The Watsons Go to Birmingham*. This boy named Byron was outside with his brother Kenny cleaning the windows in Michigan. In Michigan it was like everybody was in a big ice box. So Byron was stupid enough to kiss the window and he got his lips stuck on the window. First they tried putting hot water and it just made it worse because the water froze on his lips. Their dad was cracking up, but crying at the same time. Finally their mom pulled him by the waist away from the window and he went screaming into the house because he was in so much pain. That's as far as we've gotten so far.

In P.E. we are doing jump rope for heart. It's where you jump rope to help people with heart issues. You get people to donate money. The more you jump the more money you raise. At the end of the program, Miss Chris gives everyone a certificate.

For Christmas I got to adopt a manatee whose name is Elia. He's in my bathtub right now. No, just kidding! He got his left fin taken off by a boat. He lives in Florida, but I don't know where in Florida. I might get to meet him one summer. But that doesn't really make sense, how can I meet him if I don't know where he lives. I need to find out.

My first day of Copper Choppers (my ski club) was yesterday. There is this one first grader in my group—he is really good. He might even be better than me. We got to do boxes and some jumps. I took a big fall on the last jump of the day it really hurt. My instructor is a cool guy, he has really long hair and he likes to shred it.

Well, that's it for now. I have to go to school. Hope you read me next time in Calum's Column.

Want to join CPN, Inc. but can't find your checkbook?

You're saved. The CPN, Inc. website now uses Paypal! Become a member the easy way. Visit [www.congressparkneighbors.org](http://www.congressparkneighbors.org) and join today!

### *Congress Park can make A HUGE Difference Today*

*(It won't cost us a penny!!!)*

**Reduce** *your plastic footprint: buy in bulk, choose products with the least packaging, look for products and packaging made from renewable resources, and avoid plastic packaging and containers. Choose products that have the least amount of disposable parts.*

**Reuse** *preferably nontoxic (glass, stainless steel) containers and goods to make less waste.*

**Recycle** *what you can't refuse, reduce or reuse. Recycling is a last option because it uses energy, and there may not be a market for the refabricated materials.*

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## Greetings Congress Park Neighbors

By Roger Sherman, Crime Action Committee

Roger Sherman is CPN's new volunteer who is heading-up the Crime Action Committee. Please contact him with questions/concerns about crime on your block. Roger can be reached at [rsherman@rlassociates.com](mailto:rsherman@rlassociates.com) or by phone at 303-506-8895.

Our new District 3 Community Resource Officer is Cari Jimenez. Her phone is 720 913-1175.

I'm looking forward to serving as the new Crime Action Committee chair. The mission of the Congress Park Crime Action Committee is simple: "to coordinate efforts to rid our neighborhood of crime, thus helping ensure personal safety for all." As chair, I will be attending the monthly District 3 crime meetings and reporting back to the CPN board of directors and residents on crime trends in neighborhood.

Preventing crime is more important than reporting on it. One area of focus will be to re-energize our Neighborhood Watch program, a cooperative effort between residents of Congress Park and the Denver Police Department to make our community more inviting to live in and less attractive for criminals.

Please contact me at 303-506-8895 if you want to learn more about the Neighborhood Watch Program, or if you are interested in volunteering as a Block Captain.

## Clean-Up Graffiti for FREE

Denver Partners Against Graffiti has a great program offered by the Denver Partners Against Graffiti that allows the City to remove graffiti from your property at no cost to you. All you have to do is sign a permission slip and return it to the City to remain on file and the City will take it from there. The form can be found on CPN's website at <http://www.congressparkneighbors.org/crime.html>

You can report any incidence of graffiti (and get more information) at <http://www.denvergov.org/Default.aspx?alias=www.denvergov.org/DenverPartnersAgainstGraffiti> or call 3-1-1 or 720-913-1311 for any graffiti-related issues.

## CP Neighbor Awarded INC Star Award

Jacqueline Kimball was awarded INC's Star Award in January for her Congress Park Alley Clean Up efforts. Over the past few years, Jacqueline created a groundswell of energy for clean alleys and created a good excuse to meet our neighbors. Her plan involved different groups of neighbors, some of which may not have been involved in an effort like this before.

City Councilwoman Jeanne Robb's office facilitated access to bags, gloves and other clean up materials. Jacqueline included local business owners who donated prizes, and she even got our smallest neighbors out there, when students wanted to join in the fun. Jacqueline, you have us thinking differently about alleys these days and for that we thank you. We agree that you deserve that INC Star Award! For ideas about your own Alley Clean up, see the info at [www.congressparkneighbors.org](http://www.congressparkneighbors.org)

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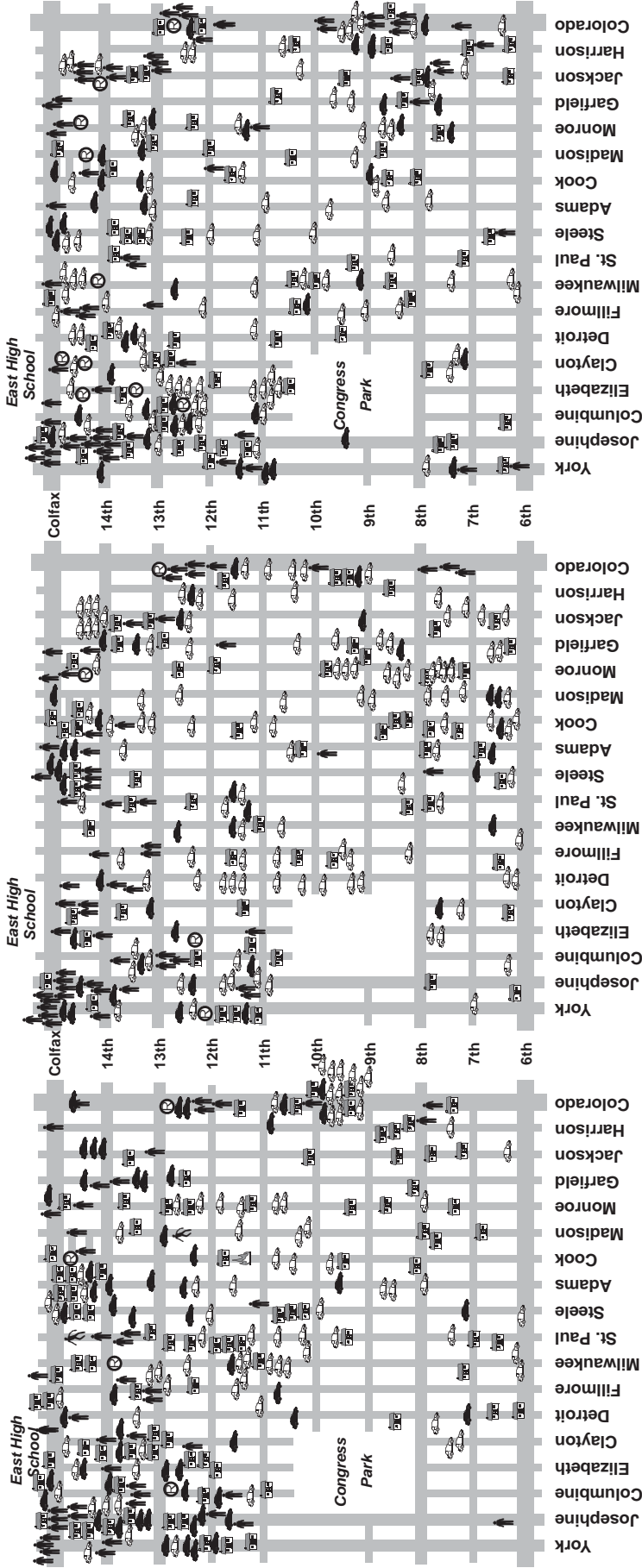
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# CONGRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CRIMES

2008

2009

2010



-  **Murder**
-  **Sexual Assault**
-  **Assault/robbery**
-  **Arson**
-  **Burglary**
-  **Auto Theft**
-  **Theft from auto**

The maps show a compilation of all serious crimes reported to police within Congress Park for the past three years. Crime mapping is provided by the Congress Park Crime Action Committee using City and Police Department statistics relayed through Council District 10.

## Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series At Denver Botanic Gardens

### CPN Events On Web

Once again, CPN's wondrous webmaster Maggie has outdone herself. The neighborhood website now has an events calendar. Go to [www.congressparkneighbors.org](http://www.congressparkneighbors.org) and look. If you have a CPN event that needs to be added in (block party? garage sale? alley clean up?), contact the webmaster or any CPN Board member at [cpnboard@congressparkneighbors.org](mailto:cpnboard@congressparkneighbors.org). And you can find a list of Congress Park merchants on our website. Thank you, Maggie!

The Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series features renowned speakers from around the world, offering you the chance to learn from the best – thanks to the generosity of the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation. All lectures are in Mitchell Hall at the Denver Botanic Gardens at York Street. There is a fee for the lecture series. Related workshops and tours are an additional cost, may be limited enrollment and separate registration is required. For prices and other information contact the Denver Botanical Gardens.

### 🌿 Gardening With A Purpose

Suzi McCoy

Thursday, Feb. 10, 7 p.m.

As “gardening with a purpose” takes root, gardeners are moving beyond ‘sustainable’ and transforming yards, rooftops and urban alleys into green and productive spaces, knowing they’re making a positive impact. Find out why and how planting for the greener good is exploding across America, and how the horticulture world should be leading the charge in the years ahead.

### 🌿 Pioneering Gardening Techniques: Why Heirloom Gardens Still Work Today

Mary Ann Newcomer

Thursday, March 17, 7 p.m.

Willa Cather’s novels, *My Antonia*, *Death Comes to the Archbishop* and *O’Pioneers*, make reference to the gardens of American settlers and homesteaders. It’s now 2011 and heirloom gardens are hotter than ever. This enlightening program will look at what kinds of gardening techniques and principles still work in today’s gardens, and why.

### 🌿 Designing with Heirlooms:

#### Everything Old is New Again

Mary Ann Newcomer

Friday, March 18, 7 p.m.

Join Idaho native and garden blogger Mary Ann Newcomer for a showcase of contemporary gardens featuring heirloom plant materials. Special attention will be given to plants suited to the Rocky Mountain region. Bring your design questions to this workshop. As time allows, Mary Ann will help you with plant colors and combos.

### 🌿 Creative Nonfiction Writing

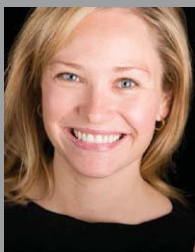
Amy Stewart

Wednesday, April 20, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Amy Stewart shares her techniques for bringing

nature to life on the page. The emphasis of this class will be on nuts-and-bolts storytelling methods, including plot, character, drama, setting and conflict. This workshop will equip you with writing exercises, practical tips and fresh approaches. *Continued on page 14*

Thank you for  
your continued  
referrals!



**Lisa Santos**

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Happy Holidays to you and your family.  
Looking forward to as great 2011!

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or SELL in Congress Park – I live  
and work in the neighborhood!

## Will a Residential Alarm System Keep Us Safe?

By Charlotte Bentley

**H**ave you been considering an alarm system for your house? Then you've probably heard about the many variables to decide on, such as renting vs. buying; motion sensors vs. cameras; stand-alone vs. third-party-monitored, associated permits and fees, and more.

When shopping for a residential burglar alarm system, it is important to know your basic needs. An alarm system should be called an "alert system." You can be alerted, depending upon the sophistication of the system, when there is an invasion inside or peripheral to your home. What type of system will work best for you depends upon a variety of factors, such as your security needs, type of valuables, type and location of premises, pets, children, and your lifestyle. Other considerations include: Wired vs. wireless systems; type/amount/location of control panels; alarm company monitoring; land line vs. cell phone notification; and inclusion of fire sensors. There is no end of possibilities in a sophisticated system; however, an elaborate system is not required to receive an adequate alert.

If you choose a system that alerts and dispatches police, you'll find there's a permit required and responses to false alarms may result in fees. Denver requires a city-issued security alarm permit in order to dispatch police for an alarm system breach. The city permit fee is \$25 annually and a valid licensed alarm monitoring/maintaining company has to be listed on the permit application. Check with your alarm monitoring company or the City of Denver for the particular requirements of the

permit. There can be a fee for dispatching police to residences for false alarms. Again check with the City of Denver (877-892-5873) for stipulations for false alarms. You might also choose a private alarm/alert system of your own, such as motion detectors that do not involve any city services, laws or ordinance, and will not expect police to be petitioned/dispatched in response to your alert system.

Will a security system deter a burglar? That depends upon the burglar. Sometimes, just the mere fact that an alarm system exists might be sufficient deterrent. However, in general the police will tell you that burglaries are "crimes of opportunity". Unless they have chosen your particular property for some reason, the more deterrents there are, the more likely the burglar will choose someone else that's an easier target. For instance, if a burglar has to scale a high fence, escape a loud, vicious-looking dog, breach security doors, and then an alarm system . . . he might decide to choose another more accessible target.

One of the most diligent things you can do for yourself is to responsibly use whatever system you choose. Any system, simple or sophisticated, is as good as the technology and operators of the system.

The most effective crime deterrent for the least cost is a well-lit house. Turn on that porch light!

### Volunteer Opportunity Community Board Caretaker

Tend the community board on 12th Ave. at Madison St. (next to WildFlowers)

Approximately once a month: Keep postings up-to-date

Sometime during the year: Clear the wood panels of postings and staples/tacks/nails, lightly sand and brush with stain/sealer (provided by CPN)

*Maybe interested?*  
Please contact Susan at SusanBardwell@msn.com or 303-399-1155

The best way to keep up-to-date about neighborhood issues i.e., crime alerts, parking, zoning is to sign-up for CPN's email broadcasts at [www.congressparkneighbors.org/eblast.html](http://www.congressparkneighbors.org/eblast.html).

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

## Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series At Denver Botanic Gardens, cont.

*Continued from page 12*

### ☛ **Wicked Plants—The Deliciously Dark Side of the Plant World**

Amy Stewart

*Thursday, April 21, 7 p.m.*

In her new bestseller, *Wicked Plants: The Weed That Killed Lincoln's Mother and Other Botanical Atrocities*, Amy Stewart takes on Mother Nature's most appalling creations. Drawing on history, medicine, science and legend, Stewart presents tales of bloodcurdling botany that will entertain, alarm and enlighten even the most intrepid gardeners and nature lovers.

Denver Botanic Gardens will conduct a pre-lecture tour on **April 21st at 6 p.m.** See some of the "wicked" plants in the DBG collections.

### ☛ **A Year In Flowers: Seasonal, Local And Sustainable Floral Ingredients**

Debra Prinzing And David Perry

*Thursday, May 19, 7 p.m.*

Popular photographer and garden blogger David Perry and author and outdoor living expert Debra Prinzing will share their passion for local and seasonal flowers in a two-part talk. A hands-on demonstration of seasonal floral design ideas will be followed by an illustrated introduction to the many inspiring flower farmers and floral designers who are contributing to the "green" flower movement, with stories from "A Fresh Bouquet: Seasonal, Local and Sustainable Flowers," their forthcoming book (learn more at [www.afreshbouquet.com](http://www.afreshbouquet.com)).

### ☛ **A POD in the Garden: Creating Your Own Personal Outdoor Dwelling**

Debra Prinzing

*Wednesday, May 18, 6:30-8 p.m.*

Debra Prinzing's book, *Stylish Sheds and Elegant Hideaways*, documents the changing role of the humble shed into a creative, highly personal expression. Debra's talk will introduce you to great design ideas around the country and find creative solutions to possible design challenges.

### ☛ **Garden Photo Magic: Mastering Your Point-And-Shoot Camera**

David Perry

*Friday, May 20, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.*

Targeted at all levels of gardeners and hobbyists who are a bit intimidated by their digital point-and-shoot cameras, this class combines anecdotes and more than a hundred groovy photos with generous dollops of irreverent fun. Class will include time outdoors with your camera to try out what you've learned.

Denver Botanic Gardens will conduct a tour of a sustainable flower farm on Saturday, May 21st from 10-11:30 a.m.

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**Dignity Denver**  
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## Neighborhood Directory

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*For advertising rates, call 720-231-0475*

Lawn Care	Worship	Advertise Here
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 303-320-6861  
 marc@marcsmowing.com

**Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church**  
 1100 Fillmore; 303-333-9366  
 A Diverse, More Light Faith Community in Congress Park.  
 Sundays: 9:30 am worship service, 11:00 am education hour.

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February is African American History, American History, and National Children's Dental Health Month.

Plumbing/Heating	Worship
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**Vail Plumbing & Heating**  
 303-329-6042  
 Older home specialist, service, repair, remodeling.  
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**10:30 Catholic Community**  
 1100 Fillmore; 303-333-9366  
 Lay-led Vatican II Catholics.  
 Sunday Mass 11:00 am

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[www.congressparkneighbors.org](http://www.congressparkneighbors.org) lists all merchants in Congress Park.  
 Please visit our site and see how our local businesses support our neighborhood.

March is American Red Cross, American Diabetes Alert, and Women's History Month.

April is Cancer Control, Alcohol Awareness, Autism Awareness, Child Abuse Prevention, and Prevention of Animal Cruelty Month.

Congress Park celebrates with two of our well-known businesses their respective important anniversaries. Annie's Café is celebrating their 30th and The Cutting Edge is celebrating its 20th. Congratulations!

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- Horace

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- Neighborhood/Colfax Plan
- Historic Preservation
- Newsletter reporting
- Newsletter advertising
- Newsletter production
- Newsletter distribution
- Neighborhood Watch
- Outreach
- Membership
- Social events
- Graffiti abatement
- Crime prevention
- Traffic/Parking
- Zoning
- Other

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

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

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Congress Park Neighbors, Inc. is a non-profit organization with an elected, volunteer Board of Directors. Your tax-deductible annual dues support the newsletter, website ([www.CongressParkNeighbors.org](http://www.CongressParkNeighbors.org)), mailings and fliers about hot issues, events like the ice cream social and ongoing activities to benefit the neighborhood.