



News

Winter 2017

www.CongressParkNeighbors.org

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Hospital Campus Redevelopment

Continuum Partners is making progress on the redevelopment of the hospital campus at 9th and Colorado. You have surely seen some big buildings come down and the equipment move in over the past several months. Their latest newsletter reports on components of the project such as storm water filters, curbs and gutters, concrete slab pours, stairwell construction and traffic signal installation.

Two apartment complexes under construction have reached framing, plumbing and electrical stages. Continuum advises that various stages of construction may block a traffic lane or parking lane here and there.

“The entirety of the street parking lane between Hale Parkway and 11th Ave on the east side of Ash Street is closed and is expected to remain closed until Spring 2017,” the November newsletter notes. “The sidewalk along Hale Parkway and the sidewalk along 11th Ave are currently closed and are ex-

pected to remain closed until Spring of 2017.”

To get the latest, visit their website at <http://9thandcolorado.com> and sign up for the monthly newsletter (click on <http://9thandcolorado.com/contact/>).

3015 E. Colfax Update

The 3rd century Greek philosopher Sextus Empiricus is credited with saying “The mills of the gods grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly fine.” We hope that applies to architects and redevelopment of blighted properties, as well. Thank you Inspire Investment Group, for offering the chance to weigh in (see survey link below) on what needs that space can fill in the neighborhood.

We’re looking forward to a thoughtfully considered, delightfully interesting and community-appropriate new neighbor at the 3015 E. Colfax site, designed to complement the adjacent vintage architecture.

Responding to a request for a status update, Brian Toerber of Inspire Investment Group said, “We are reviewing and discussing a number of cool concepts based on a recent survey to the surrounding neighborhoods.”

Among the ideas under consideration are a marketplace, such as the Denver Central Market in RiNo, and micro-apartments, the concept executed at Turntable Studios near Mile High Stadium.

If you haven’t seen the survey, and would like to share your thoughts, here’s the link <https://bbid.typeform.com/to/hlRaOP>.

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 a circulation of more than 4,500 residents and businesses within the area bounded by Colfax Avenue, Sixth Avenue, York Street and Colorado Boulevard.

www.CongressParkNeighbors.org

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Volunteers Needed

Your articles, letters and advertisements are always welcome.

Neighborhood meetings are held every other month (August, October, December, February, April and June), on the third Wednesday, at 7 p.m. in National Jewish Hospital's Heitler Hall. Watch the newsletter and the email blasts for featured speakers. Don't get the email blasts? Sign up at www.congressparkneighbors.org.

This newsletter is printed on 100% recycled paper with soy-based ink by Signature Offset

Volunteer Opportunity: Newsletter Coordinator

We're looking for a neighbor who can be our Volunteer Newsletter Coordinator. You'll work with the CPN, Inc., Board and manage the production of the 30-plus year-old vibrant quarterly neighborhood newsletter in the best interest of the neighborhood, upholding the neighborhood vision.

Volunteer Opportunity: Newsletter Contributor

Write articles about businesses, CPN issues, and residents' concerns. You'll interview new business owners and long-time residents to relate the Congress Park vibe to our readers.

Volunteer Opportunity: CPN Activities

There's a bunch going on in Denver that affects Congress Park and we just don't have enough people participating and reporting on it to neighborhood meetings and in the Newsletter. We need your perception and perspective.

Email cpnboard@congressparkneighbors.org to express your interest in volunteering.



Your Congress Park Neighbors 2017 Volunteer Board of Directors

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And we thank these committed neighbors:

Joan Gregerson, Liz Goehring and Becky Coughlin—Congress Park Green Team coordinators

Your Name Here?—Congress Park Historic Preservation

Lisa Loranger—Hospital District Redevelopment

Steve Eppler—Crime Action
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Do you have a suggestion for your Board?

Send hints and help to
CPNBoard@congressparkneighbors.org

The CPNews has a need for a volunteer who can visit with CPN professionals and businesses about advertising in the neighborhood newsletter. Call Wendy at 303-355-3735 for more information.

Your elected, all-volunteer Congress Park Board invites you to attend the open meetings at National Jewish Hospital on the third Wednesday every other month (Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct., Dec.) at 7 p.m. in Heitler Hall.

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!

My Egg Cartons Go to RAFT

By Wendy Moraskie

Where do teachers get all the cool things they use to create ingenious lessons to instill a love of learning? Often, they pay for the raw materials out of their own pockets. Luckily, many teachers have discovered RAFT (Resource Area for Teaching) at 38th and Steele.

RAFT, a 501c3, takes donations of all kinds of stuff that instantly becomes potential teaching material. Visitors to RAFT will see an amazing collection of items in the large warehouse space, carefully sorted and displayed. Several bins of unusual items sport laminated cards illustrating how the materials can be teaching tools.

At RAFT, teachers can choose from displays of fabric, science-related items, children's books, picture books and magazines (this is where those National Geographics go for a new life), storage gear, office supplies and craft materials (which, really could be almost anything).

A plethora of paper choices included: wrapping, construction, printer, notebook, letter, cardstock, postcards and large and small notepads.

In a craft area, there were cardboard tubes, plastic bottles, egg cartons, paint sample cards, pillowcases, wallpaper, ribbon, carpet squares, paint samples, fabric squares, remnants and bolts, artificial flower stems, yarn, envelopes, plastic bags, pinecones, buttons, snaps, hooks and eyes, and so much more.

Large bins near the middle held cardboard boxes, packing peanuts and shreds.

One wall supported multiple shelves of 3-ring binders, pocket folders, hanging folders, floppy disk boxes, rolodexes, pens, pencils, crayons, hole-punches, adding machines and rolls of tape, CD cases and letter trays.

Do you have things like this at your house or office that you would like to donate for re-use? For more information or to get their donation hours, visit www.RAFTcolorado.org.

Teachers Celebrate RAFT

Teachers' comments decorate the Raft warehouse.

"RAFT reminds me of all the reasons I became a teacher."

"I love RAFT's commitment to recycling and the environment."

"RAFT helps me carry out experiments and create models at a fraction of a fraction of the cost!"

"RAFT has made putting together a classroom during my first 'broke' year of teaching possible."

"It has been amazing to see what repurposed material, that costs next to nothing, can do in the life of a child."

"I can't imagine life as a teacher without RAFT!"

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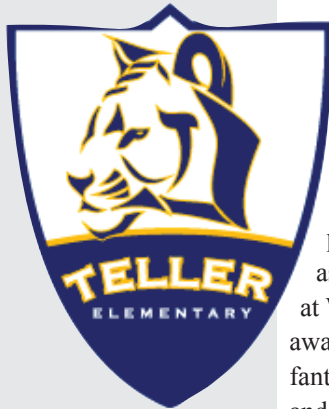
**That is my way to
"Simply Give"!**



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Currently Cool At Teller

By Lisa Aiken



Math Olympiads
Teller's Math Olympiad team is in its fifth year and is still going strong. This year, our club attracted 21 students in 3rd through 5th grades, who love to tackle challenging math problems. Club members will participate in five math contests throughout the year, as well as a year-end face-to-face competition at Westerly Creek. Students undoubtedly walk away with stronger skills, a deeper understanding, fantastic problem-solving skills as well as pride and joy in excelling in mathematics. Go Teller!

Teller Mission 2015

Teller Scholars are problem solvers. They ask questions, think critically and grow through personal, social and academic challenge. Our scholars are resilient, independent learners who persevere to college success and beyond.

Happening at Teller

Check out the calendar at <http://teller.dpsk12.org/calendar/>

Teller Garden

The Teller Garden is now under new management. Lan Spengler (mom to 5th grader Sascha Spengler), who's dedicated the last six years to tending the garden, is passing the trowel to Jen Baptiste. Jen is mom to preschooler Paige, and fourth grader Connor. Meghan Hughes (mom to preschooler Abby and first grader Elisa) will be joining her to continue the Teller Garden legacy. Thus far, the garden team has harvested roughly 175 pounds of delicious produce that both the Teller staff and students have enjoyed; all cooked and served up by Teller's own cafeteria manager Catrina Jones.

Teller Winter Concert

Save the dates! The Tiger Voices will be perform-



Highlights from the Nov. 5 Taste for Teller, photo credit to Leah Moses Boucher

ing and spreading cheer at Higgins Plaza for the retirement community on Dec. 16 at 4 PM. On Dec. 19 at 6 PM, the Tiger Band, Tiger Strings



and Tiger Voices will be performing for your pleasure in the Teller auditorium. Please feel free to come and enjoy the fruits of all their hard work.

Backpack Friends

For the last three years, Teller's Backpack Friends Program has been providing a backpack full of nutritional food every Friday to Teller students who may otherwise go hungry over the weekend and holidays. The donations of food come from the Food Bank of the Rockies, the Congress Park Community, and Teller Parent contributions. This year the Backpack Friends are currently helping 50 people per weekend.

You can contact Sandy Parker, Cynthia Godoy or Amy Morawa for more information. Check in with the Teller office for their contact information.

You can help sort and pack food or you can donate food or funds. Fresh fruit and vegetable donations are accepted on Friday mornings and can be dropped at the front desk. We are also accepting cash and check donations made out to the Teller PTA with Backpack Friends in the memo line. There is a bin outside of the gym where you can drop off donations of non-perishable food items (lightweight and easy to carry, as our elementary students are hauling these home).

continued on page 5

Currently Cool At Teller, continued

By Lisa Aiken

continued from page 4

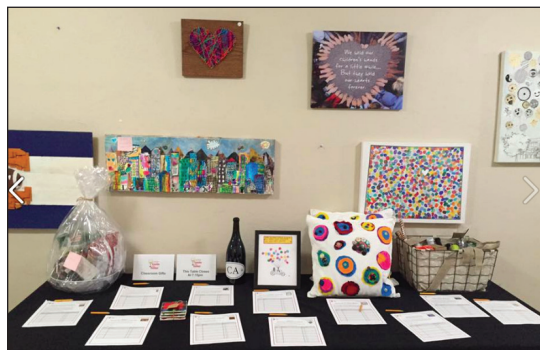
Taste for Teller

On November 5, Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church hosted the ninth annual Taste For Teller event. Taste for Teller is the school's largest fundraising event which features a silent auction and wine tasting. For the last four years, Teller parents Karen Ryan and Bess Scully have been graciously committed countless hours to organize this grand event. This year they were pleased to pass the auction gavel to a new team of parents: Kelly Bruen, Leah Boucher, Dianne Christopher, Adrian Graham, Sarah Haney, Cassidy Modanlou, and Batya Sepelman.

This new team devoted blood, sweat and tears to make this year's event another great success. One hundred seventeen people attended, with a preliminary total of \$18,950.00 raised thus far. More funds are flowing in via the online auction; which will run through November 19. Please contact Kelly Bruen at kellybruen1@gmail.com for more information.

Auction items included class projects made by students, Teacher-sponsored experiences, gift certificates from local businesses, vacation stays donated by Teller families, spa and salon services and so much more. Check out the website and see what's left!

The event was deliciously catered by Teller parent Phil Gutensohn, of Gute & Sons Catering. Other sponsors included Marzyck fine Wine & Spirits, Colorado Commercial Services, Nothing but Bundt Cakes, Humble Pie, Bonnie Brae Flowers, Lisa Santos/Cherry Creek Remax & RFE Investments. The Teller community extends a huge thank you to all who donated and contributed to help raise money for Teller through this event and all who support Teller all year.



Highlights from the Nov. 5 Taste for Teller, photo credit to Leah Moses Boucher

If you're curious about the value of your home in today's competitive real estate market, call me! I'm happy to consult with you.

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Share Your Priorities for City Building and Infrastructure Improvements

Contact City Council

District 10
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720-337-7710
wayne.new@denvergov.org

At Large
Robin Kniech
720-337-7712
kniechatlarge@denvergov.org

At Large
Debbie Ortega
720-337-7713
ortegaatlarge@denvergov.org

"Unity is strength. When there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved."

--Mattie Stepanek

By City Councilwoman At Large Robin Kniech

Denver has begun to plan and prepare for a General Obligation (GO) Bond request for November of 2017. If approved, the GO Bond would be used to fund restoration, replacement, and new infrastructure in the City. GO Bond projects must be city-owned assets like roads, libraries, parks, city offices, or other facilities that play a role in public health, safety, or culture. The process for evaluating needs and prioritizing projects includes Elevate 2020, the city's Six Year Capital Improvement Plan, and YOUR ideas.

Please attend a public meeting to help Denver identify infrastructure needs and priorities:

- Tuesday, November 15, 6-7:30 p.m.: Montbello Campus, 5000 Crown Blvd.
- **Thursday, November 17, 6-7:30 p.m.: Teller Elementary School, 1150 Garfield St.**

- Tuesday, November 29, 6-7:30 p.m.: Corky Gonzales Library, 1498 Irving St.
- Thursday, December 1, 6-7:30 p.m.: Lincoln High School, 2285 S. Federal Blvd.
- Tuesday, December 6, 6-7:30 p.m.: Bruce Randolph School, 3955 Steele St.
- Thursday, December 8, 6-7:30 p.m.: South High School, 1700 E. Louisiana Ave.

Until December 21, you can also go to any public library or recreation center to pick up, fill out and submit a comment card, or submit questions or comments at any time during the yearlong process to 2017GOBond@denvergov.org.



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Marijuana Location and License Update

By Wayne New, District 1- City Council member

At the newly formed City Council Marijuana Committee, the City Excise and License Department updated the data on the number of marijuana locations and licenses since the City Council passed the new marijuana regulations last May. City Council data presented updated information in September, noting the number of unique marijuana locations as of May 1 and Sept. 1. For an illustrative chart, call your city council person.

The September 1 report shows the number of unique active locations to be 440. The committee took care to account for, but avoid double-counting the combined store and grow locations. Adding the 285 grow locations and the 217 store locations would total 502, but there are only 440 unique locations, since some have both functions.

Both the May and September reports note that the May regulations capped the maximum number of marijuana locations at 467 unique locations. With the allowed 36 new applications and the 18 pending transfer location applications, the number of locations in September is 494, which indicates 27 locations above the maximum allowed location cap. This issue was addressed by the May regulations by prohibiting any new locations until the 467 maximum cap is reached through location terminations or consolidations. Therefore, there will not be any new locations for some time period.

For more information or to see the chart of the locations data, contact my office at 720-337-7710.



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Fall Gardening is Satisfying Prep Work for a Beautiful Spring

By Peggy Goetz

Betty Cahill is a gardening gem. Her articles get us organized, gloved and trowel-ready for what needs to be done in the garden as long as the ground isn't frozen. With apologies and gratitude, here are a few highlights from her recent Denver Post article:

Love the leaves: Rake them for exercise, and the sheer joy of being physical outside in Denver's glorious fall days. Mow them into your grass for mulch, or dry and chopped small, they can be heaped around flower beds and vegetable gardens to protect plants that are girding their roots for the winter.

Feed the compost: Some of the leaves can feed your compost heap, but remember to balance the 'brown' and 'green' components (you might be surprised to learn what's in each category). Add disease-free vegetable plants and annuals that are done for the year.

Water trees and shrubs: This drought is taking its toll on our plants and the next dramatic temperature change could traumatize them if they don't have enough water in their systems. During these beautiful, sunny fall days (over 40 degrees), pull out the hose and give the trees, shrubs and roses a drink.

Fertilize your lawn: Clean and sharpen gardening tools. Plant spring bulbs before the freeze. Clear out the gardening shed or that corner of the garage of stuff you don't need, don't remember who gave it to you and don't know what it's for. When it gets too cold for all that, snuggle into a sofa, read gardening catalogues and dream of digging your hands into warm soil next spring.

Next Spring's Beautiful Roses Need Nurturing Now

The Denver Rose Society offers some easy basics for beautiful roses next spring.

- Toss all the fallen rosebush leaves, especially if you suffered through mildew and/or blackspot.
- Leave the last few spent blooms on the stems so they can become colorful rosehips for winter interest.
- Top off taller canes to prevent breakage in wind or snow, but leave serious pruning for the spring.
- When the temperatures stay down in the 20s for a few nights, heap some soil at the base of the rosebushes, with mulch on top, if available. Rose collars can be made out of materials around the garage, and will keep the protective soil and mulch where you put it.
- In the warm spells we get (temps over 45 degrees for more than six hours), give the bushes some water.

For more information, check out the Denver Rose Society.



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Things to Do This Fall for Fun

By Ann Charles

What to do with a house full of relatives? Show them art, history, architecture, theatre or mummies!

See Denver.org for a searchable list of everything going on.

Free Days

- Denver Zoo Free Day
(Colorado Residents only):
Nov. 17, 2016
- Denver Museum of Nature & Science
Free Days (Colorado Residents only):
Nov. 13 and Dec. 12, 2016
- Denver Art Museum Free Days:
Dec. 3, 2016
- Molly Brown House Free Day:
Nov. 11, 2016
- Four Mile Historic Park Free Days:
Nov. 11 and Dec. 9, 2016

Tours

- Free Denver Public Art Tours venture inside venues such as the Ellie Caulkins Opera House and Colorado Convention Center to view works and hear the details of their creation and installation.
- U.S. Mint Tour
- First Friday Art Walks
- State Capitol Tour

Events:

- Denver Arts Week: Nov. 4–12, 2016; Various museums, galleries and venues in the Denver Metro area offer free or discounted admission.
- Denver Christkindl Market: Nov. 18–Dec. 23, 2016; Skyline Park (15th – 18th and Arapahoe Streets)
- Downtown Denver Grand Illumination: Nov. 25, 2016, 6:30 p.m.; from Denver Union Station to the City and County Building at Civic Center Park

-Drums of the World: Nov. 27, 2016; Boettcher Concert Hall; Colorado Symphony percussionists playing rhythmic instruments new and old — it'll be everything but the kitchen sink! This popular annual family concert takes attendees on a musical trip around the globe.

-A Christmas Carol: Nov. 25–Dec. 24, 2016; Denver Center for the Performing Arts
Prime your holiday spirit as Scrooge gets his comeuppance in Dickens' delightful classic tale.

-The SantaLand Diaries; Nov. 25–Dec. 24, 2016; Denver Center for the Performing Arts. David Sedaris' hilarious account of his stint as a Macy's Christmas elf in New York City is not for kids, but it will leave adults roaring with holiday cheer.

-Extreme Mammals: Now through Jan. 8, 2017; Denver Museum of Nature & Science; A trip to the Denver Museum of Nature & Science's Extreme Mammals exhibit, will introduce you to some of the largest, smallest and most extreme mammals Mother Nature has ever dreamed up.

-Washed Ashore, Art to Save the Sea; Now through Jan. 16, 2017; Denver Zoo; The Washed Ashore Project created these 15 giant sculptures of sea life made almost entirely from debris collected from beaches. The art is meant to create awareness about marine debris and plastic pollution.


-Mummies: New Secrets from the Tombs; Now through Feb. 5, 2017; Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Ancient Egyptian and Peruvian mummies, many of which have never been on public display are featured.

Blossoms of Light at Denver Botanic Gardens

When: Nov. 25-Jan. 1; 5:30 – 9 p.m.
Where: 1007 York St., Denver.
Cost: \$8-\$13; kids 2 and under are free.


A Little Help

If you know a senior who could use a little help, with house chores, shopping or a ride somewhere, contact Pastor Dr. Paul Leon Ramsay or, aLittleHelp.org, at 720-242-9032. This non-profit connects seniors to volunteer and low-cost services.



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"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

Looking forward to the holidays?

So are the criminals.

The holiday shopping season is coming. Opportunistic crimes are preventable, including theft from motor vehicles. If it can be seen; it can be stolen. Yes, it takes an extra minute to put tablets, laptops, gifts, phones and other tempting valuables in the trunk and make sure the car is locked. Filing a police report and purchasing replacements is a lot more annoying. It takes only seconds for a thief to break a window and steal your property.

"I love it when someone says 'I told you so,' " said no one ever.

Congress Park Crime Generally Stable for 2016: You Can Help it Decrease

By Stephen Eppler, Crime Action Chair

Crime statistics were recently released for the first nine months of 2016. The incidence of violent and property crime in Denver has remained generally stable.

Violent crime includes homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assault (causing serious injury or use of a weapon) has risen 2.5% in Denver. The most dangerous areas are Civic Center and the Central Business District which have incidences of 48 and 44/1000 residents respectively. Union Station, Auraria and Five Points are all greater than 20/1000. In contrast Congress Park has an incidence of violent crime of 2/1000 residents. There are 78 neighborhoods in Denver, Congress Park ranks 59th.

The number of violent crimes from January through September has risen from 16 in 2015 to 20 in 2016. Rapes dropped from 3 to 1. Robberies increased from 5 to 7 and aggravated assaults rose from 8 to 12. These types of crime continue to occur along major transportation corridors. The most common locations for robberies and aggravated assaults are along York and Josephine streets near the intersection with Colfax, along Colfax, and along Colorado Blvd. There were 5 which occurred along 12th Ave. (2 aggravated assaults and 3 robberies). Importantly, none of these violent

crimes occurred in predominantly residential areas of Congress Park.

Property crimes include burglary, larceny, theft from motor vehicle, auto theft, criminal mischief/damaged property and several other less frequent types of crime such as arson, fraud, etc. Compared to 2015, overall property crime in Congress Park declined 17 - 19% depending on the method of analysis. All of the following declined: burglary -16%, larceny (except theft from motor vehicle) -22%, auto theft -26%, criminal mischief/damaged property -14% and bike theft -12%. However, theft from motor vehicles increased 4%.

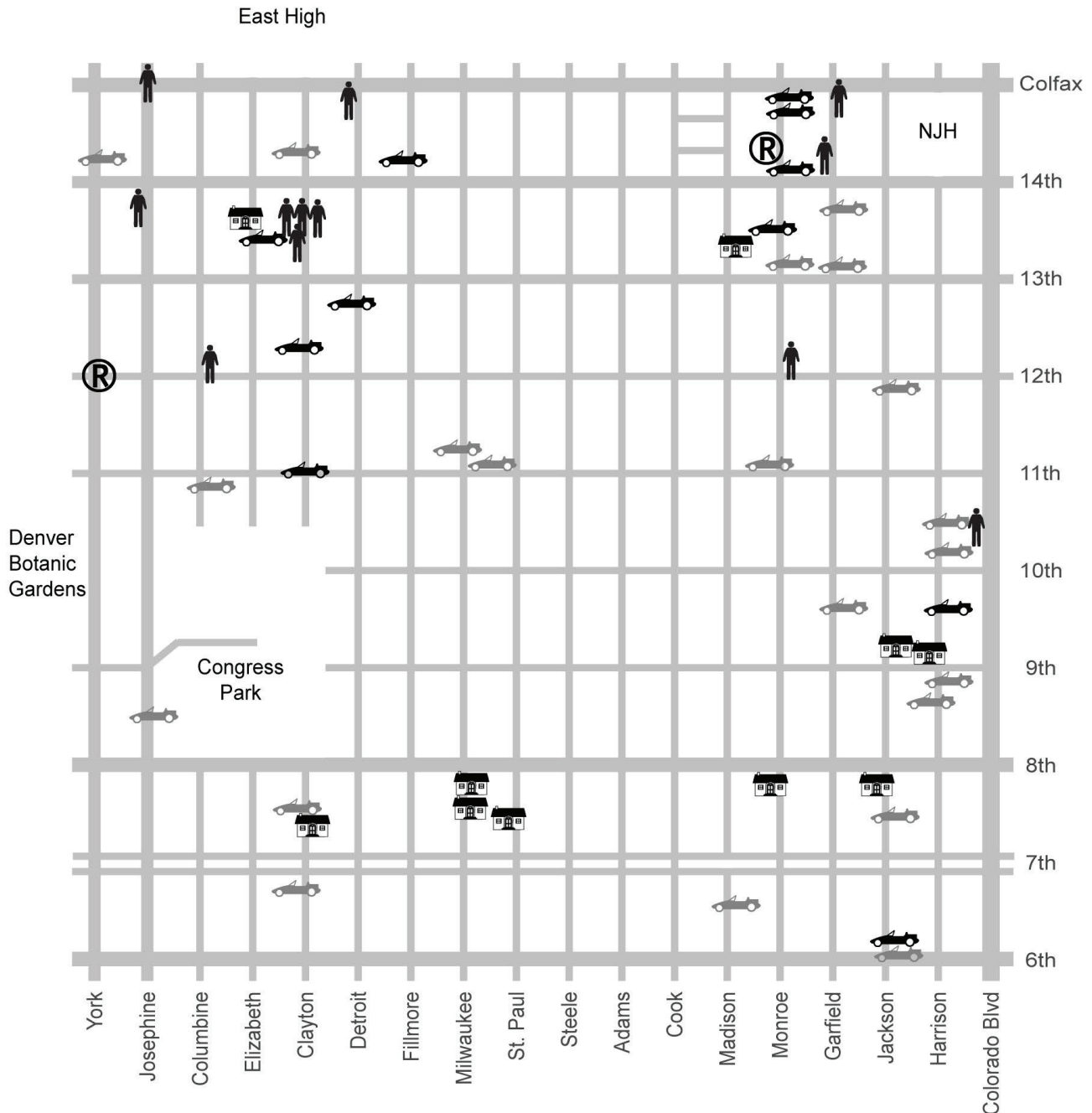
The number of property crimes from January through September has dropped from 289 in 2015 to 233 in 2016. The incidence of property crime in Congress Park is 18.3/1000 residents. Congress Park ranks 68th among the 78 Denver neighborhoods in reported property crime. Unlike violent crime, property crime occurs throughout the Congress Park neighborhood. There is a trend for more frequent property crime closer to Colfax Ave. The East - West distribution is relatively uniform.

Property crimes of opportunity continue to be a problem. Only about half of burglaries involve forced entry. Remember to lock your doors and windows. Security lighting is a significant deterrent. Video surveillance is relatively inexpensive. Two cameras with infrared (night) vision linked wirelessly to a base unit with capacity to record to SD storage can be purchased for less than \$200 through Amazon and other vendors. A sign advising of video surveillance may also help reduce your risk.

Avoid becoming a victim by keeping your valuables out of sight.



CONGRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CRIMES JULY - SEPTEMBER 2016



-  Sexual Assault
-  Assault/robbery
-  Burglary
-  Auto Theft
-  Theft from auto

This map shows a compilation of all serious crimes reported to police within Congress Park in the third quarter of 2016. Crime mapping is provided by the Congress Park Crime Action Committee using City and Police Department statistics.

What Is Human Trafficking?

Could include Sales Crews, Peddling and Begging Rings

Did she come to your door? The young woman told me she was from Toledo, where she and her two-year-old daughter lived at a shelter after she escaped a drug-abusing mother. She said a nice man approached her there and offered her a job, a place to stay and free child care. She said she sold magazines all day while the nice people took care of her daughter. She and her daughter have been moved a couple of times to different cities since she started with the company. She saw her daughter for a few minutes each morning, and for a couple of hours each evening. She said they were keeping track of her earnings and when she had sold enough magazines, she would be given a ticket to wherever she wanted to go, so she and her daughter could start a new life. She wasn't sure when that would be.

It sounded weird to me and I have volunteered with organizations that help trafficking victims, so I called the police. The girl and I chatted until the officer showed up. Then I had her explain her situation to him. He asked to meet with her boss and drove her away. We have human trafficking here in Denver. Yes, even here in Congress Park.

The US Department of Health and Human Services has collected data and advocated for trafficking victims. Human trafficking can take many forms. Victims of human trafficking have been found in sales and cleaning crews or peddling and begging

rings, where they work long hours soliciting money or selling products such as magazine subscriptions, trinkets, or cleaning products.

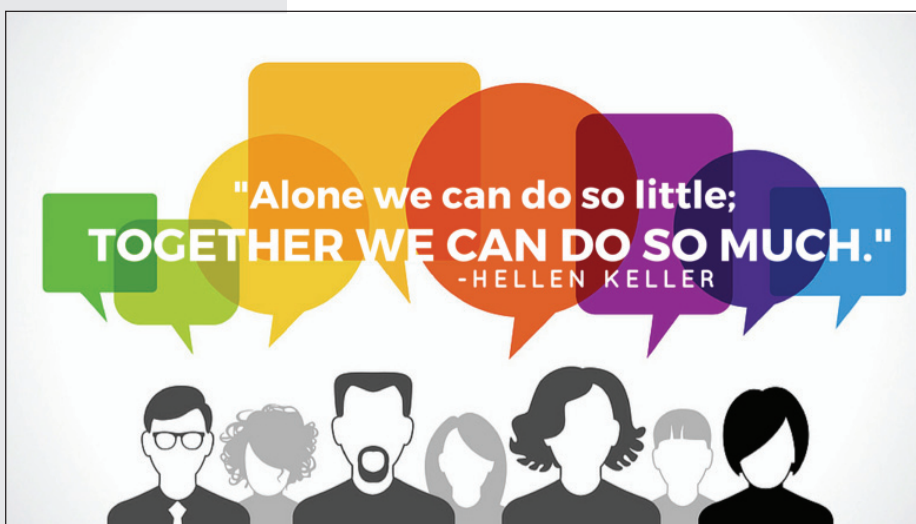
Traffickers confiscate most or all of the victim's earnings and make the victims dependent on the controller for transportation and housing. Violence, sexual assault and harassment, pressure tactics, and abandonment in unfamiliar cities are common.

Begging and peddling rings may include U.S. citizens, immigrants, adults, or children. Sales crews typically recruit U.S. citizen youth ages 18 to 25, with promises of travel, a care-free life, and the ability to make a lot of money.

Peddling and begging rings and sales and cleaning crews become trafficking when the employer uses force, fraud or coercion to maintain control over the worker and to cause the worker to believe that he or she has no other choice but to stay and continue to work. Tactics could include: Isolation and removal from familiar surroundings; physical and sexual abuse; abandonment for non-compliance; intentional dehydration and overexposure, false promises of an opportunity to travel the country and earn money quickly; misrepresentation the work, working conditions, wages, or immigration benefits; elaborate systems of rewards and punishments; threats of harm to the victim or victim's family.

If you see or hear about this kind of treatment of vulnerable people, call the police and let them know you suspect trafficking.

For more information, see the Trafficking Resources Center website, or call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline at 1-888-373-7888.



Cons and Scams: Nothing New Under the Sun

Although it may have new "bait."

From the Denver District Attorney's Office

Recently, our office has received numerous inquiries from people who have gotten calls from the "State Attorney's Office" or the "Attorney General's Office," or "A Sheriff's Office." The caller threatens to have the person arrested if they don't immediately pay for an old bad check or a warrant. The "official" (the scammer), insists on payment through wire transfer or pre-paid cards. These scammers are so convincing that even when the victim calls our office afterward, they have a hard time believing it isn't true. We assure them there is no warrant and the police aren't on the way to throw them in jail. These scammers are very persistent, calling victims multiple times and are verbally abusive. Often the telephone numbers show TX or FL area codes.

An example came to us from "Harry" in Denver. The scammer claimed there was a warrant and Harry should pay right away to avoid jail. Harry was brilliant. He said before he did anything, he was going to confirm this information with the Sheriff's Office directly. Bravo Harry! Of course, the scammer knew he was busted. The scammer then got verbally abusive, but the language and response only confirmed to Harry that this was a scam.

Harry hung up on the guy, and didn't become a victim. However, he closed his email to us by saying, "My wife witnessed this call and frankly it frightened both of us since he knew our name and address."

If you receive a phone call even remotely similar to the examples above, the

best tactic is to HANG-UP. Then report the issue. Many law enforcement agencies, including our office, cannot take action on an attempted scam. They are only able to take action if a person is a victim of the scam.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) encourages people to report attempted scams. These reports help law enforcement see patterns and trends and get warnings and alerts out to the community before people become actual victims. The complaint process with the FTC is very easy and accessible. Other agencies to call include the Denver Sheriff Office: 720-865-0470 or the US Marshal Denver office: 303-355-3400.

If you are still concerned, call our DA Hotline 720-913-9179. The folks answering this line are experts in assisting with these cases and know how frightening these calls can be.

If you suspect you've been scammed or exploited, call our Fraud Hot Line 720-913-9179, to report it.





Have you heard?

It's the perfect time to sell in Congress Park!



Trish Kelly

Your pet friendly Realtor and neighborhood expert for Congress Park & South City Park

5% of all proceeds are donated to Animal Rescue when you buy or sell with Trish Kelly!

SOLD

The Average Selling Price of a Home in Congress Park

Jan - Sept 2016:
\$689,617

Jan - Sept 2015:
\$630,555



JUST SOLD!

4 beds | 3 Baths | 3,246 sq ft

\$907,500

Contact Trish Kelly, your Congress Park neighborhood expert for real estate advice!

trishkelly@kw.com | 720.331.6377 | www.trishkelly.com | Congress Park Neighborhood Expert

City Budget for 2017 4.5 percent over 2016

By Wayne New, Denver City Council, District 10

The City's 2017 budget will total \$1.9 billion. This reflects a 4.5 percent increase over the 2016 revised budget. Some key 2017 City budget highlights were:

- Public Safety—48 new police officer positions and 100 new recruits.
- Public Works—funds to pave 50 additional street miles compared to 2016.
- Homelessness—replacement of the Peoria emergency shelter (300-plus homeless capacity); funds to double the outreach staff; transportation to shelters.
- Permit and Inspections—13 additional staff to cover large workload increase.
- Affordable Housing—\$15 million from taxes and fees to fund 100 more affordable housing units.
- Parks— additional funding to expand summer pool hours, staff parks and to open the new Carla Madison Recreation Center at Colfax and Josephine.

-Recycling and Composting—completion of trash cart standardization; expansion of recycling and composting programs.

-Mobility—funding for Colfax Bus Rapid Transit planning; implementing Vision Zero to reduce traffic fatalities and bike lane and pedestrian improvements.

-Traffic Safety and Calming— \$500,000 for data-driven traffic safety and calming improvements.

-Colfax Streetscapes—reinstate \$500,000 for Colfax streetscape and pedestrian safety improvements.

-Denver Urban Gardens—additional funding to continue with the free seed program for low income residents (approved).

For more information contact my office at 720-337-7710.



Service Club Meeting	Window and Gutter Cleaning	Volunteer Opportunities
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Zonta Club of Denver
 303-355-3735
 88 years working to improve opportunities for at-risk women and children. Monthly dinner, program & meeting on 2nd Thursday, \$35.
www.zonta-denver.org

Twin Pines Window Cleaning
 Window and gutter cleaning. Also offering house cleaning, leaf clean up and seasonal snow shoveling.
 Contact Bob at 303-329-8205. Offering complimentary estimates since 1994.

Congress Park Neighbors
 Meet new friends, share your expertise at neighborhood meetings and discuss issues that are shaping your neighborhood. Third Wednesdays of even months, 7 p.m., National Jewish Heitler Hall. Contact cpnboard@congressparkneighbors.org and visit congressparkneighbors.org

Neighborhood Directory

Visit these advertisers, and tell them you're glad you found them here.

For advertising rates, email murphy.michellej@gmail.com

Worship	Professional Organizing	Advertise Here
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Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church
 1100 Fillmore; 303-333-9366
 A welcoming, diverse and inclusive faith community in Congress Park. Sundays: 9:30 am worship service, 11:00 am education hour.

Make Your Workspace Work for You
 Does the office in your home or small business need streamlining? Contact Congress Park resident and professional organizer, Sarah Meyer, at 303-868-2248 (www.streamlinewithsarah.com). Let an expert help you get organized!

Are you reading this?
 So are your customers... Great exposure, low cost. Email murphy.michellej@gmail.com for rates.

November is American Indian Heritage Month, World Communication Month, Great American Smokeout Month, Peanut Butter Month

December is Safe Toys and Gifts Month, National Stress-Free Holidays Month, and Universal Human Rights Month

January is Eye Care Month, Volunteer Blood Donor Month, Hot Tea Month, Oatmeal Month, Hobby Month

Think Outside the Big Box
Shop at Your Congress Park Businesses
www.congressparkneighbors.org lists all merchants in Congress Park. Please visit our site and see how our local businesses support our neighborhood.

“It is the long history of humankind (and animal kind, too) those who learned to collaborate and improvise most effectively have prevailed.”
 —Charles Darwin



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

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 broadcast at www.congressparkneighbors.org/eblast.html

Check www.CongressParkNeighbors.org for our advertisers' most recent news!



"No one can whistle a symphony. It takes a whole orchestra to play it."

—H.E. Luccock

Congress Park Neighbors Membership Form

Your neighborhood needs you! Join your neighbors today.

Name:
 Email:
 Address:
 Phone:

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

___ Member Name: \$20
 If household membership, other persons name:
 ___ Patron (receive 2 passes to the SIE Film Center!): \$30
 ___ Business or organization: \$40

(Circle amount enclosed)

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

Date:

I am interested in learning more about:

- ___ Neighborhood beautification
- ___ 12th Avenue Business Support
- ___ 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

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), mailings and fliers about hot issues, events like the ice cream social and ongoing activities to benefit the neighborhood.