

A photograph of a weathered wooden sign for Congress Park, featuring a circular emblem at the top and the words "Congress Park" in a serif font.

# Congress Park

[www.CongressParkNeighbors.org](http://www.CongressParkNeighbors.org)

# News

Summer 2020

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## **What Did You Do for Spring Break?**

*A dispatch from a COVID Stay/Safer-At-Home survivor*

By Wendy Moraskie

As this is being written, it's been several weeks since "Stay-At Home" was initiated, and a couple since the amendment to "Safer At Home." At our house, we've been fortunate to be working from home so far, and resigned to venturing out, masked, once a week for groceries. The dog doesn't seem to mind the extra walks. So far, my husband and I are symptom-free (knock on wood) and so are my dad in assisted living and my brother-in-law in a medical needs group home.

I'm so thankful that the places my dad and brother-in-law live instituted stringent rules for visitors and hyper-cleanliness as early as they did, way before I wrapped my brain around what we were facing. Thank you to everyone who is being careful about spreading germs, since any of us may be carrying the virus and not know it. I wouldn't want to unwittingly pick up these germs and take them to my dad or brother-in-law.

Thank goodness for our heroes/experts whose job it is to be aware of all the things we aren't. No one can know everything all the time, right?

Many thanks go to creative neighbors who revved up their sewing machines for my low-cost, handmade masks. Many of these gracious people donated much of their output,

even as they were sewing the rest to earn money for rent or food.

I'm finding myself giving thanks for many things in addition to my very flexible workplace, including my neighbors, who offered me toilet paper, offered to pick up groceries and whose children chalked charming COVID hopscotch squares and poignant hopeful messages ("This is hard, but we can do hard things!") for all who crossed their paths.

Fellow dog walkers waved a little more cordially, and carefully crossed the street so we wouldn't get too close in a tangle of leashes.

We gathered (six feet apart, as measured by the chalk hearts on the sidewalk) to sing Happy Birthday to a little neighbor who turned 2 and couldn't have a party.

I am so grateful for the social distancing happy hours we've had, toasting each other from our front yards and porches.

What will we have learned when we are able to return to some semblance of normalcy? What will we remember? What will we tell our children and their children? What will we expect from our elected leaders?

### *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](http://www.CongressParkNeighbors.org)

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## Things to Do While We're Staying at Home More to Avoid COVID-19

**A**s we refine our responses to this Coronavirus, we're all just doing the best we can and most of us are thoroughly blessed with all our options. Share some blessings with others.

Plan a new flower or vegetable garden. Dig up the weeds in your flower or vegetable garden, and pull a few for your neighbors. Make sure they're weeds before you yank. Or, just pour a glass of wine and admire the eclectic, natural placement of flowers and weeds in your garden.

Text your mom; email your mom, call your mom. Write an actual letter to your mom, put it in an envelope, address it and stamp it and put it in a mailbox. Ditto: dad, siblings and friends. USPS mail is a great service, not just for credit card offers, donation requests and the sock of the month club.

Take your dog for a walk. Volunteer to walk your elderly neighbor's dog. Wear a mask. The dogs you meet will want to say hello and that will likely put you within 6 feet of the other dog walker.

Find that bicycle in the garage, dust off the seat, pump up the tires and take it for a spin.

Wander through the Congress Park Neighbors website ([www.congressparkneighbors.org](http://www.congressparkneighbors.org)) and find something that sparks your curiosity. Email/call a volunteer CPN Board member and offer to help with it. Your neighborhood didn't get to be awesome all by itself over the past 100 years, and you can help keep it that way.

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## Your Congress Park Neighbors 2020 Volunteer Board of Directors

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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!

And we thank these committed neighbors:

Tara Hull  
—Congress Park Green Team coordinator

Steve Eppler—Crime Action  
[crime@congressparkneighbors.org](mailto:crime@congressparkneighbors.org)

Rodney Allen and Vicki Eppler  
—Congress Park Historic Preservation

*Your name here*—Hospital District Redevelopment

Liz Chester—Safe Streets Committee

Liz Goehring and Myles Tangalin  
—Denver Botanic Gardens Liaisons

Vicki Eppler, Mayor's Appointee  
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**Do you have a suggestion for your Board?**  
Send hints and help to  
[CPNBoard@congressparkneighbors.org](mailto:CPNBoard@congressparkneighbors.org)

**Visit CPN businesses, make new friends and support your neighborhood newsletter. Volunteer CPNews advertising accounts rep needed now! Call Wendy, 303-355-3735, for info.**

**ALL CONGRESS PARK NEIGHBORS  
MEETINGS ARE POSTPONED  
UNTIL PUBLIC GATHERINGS  
ARE ENCOURAGED.**

## Colorado, and Denver are 'Safer at Home' in May

*Springtime in the Rockies—Different This Year*

From State and City resources

In December 2019, international health organizations reported a novel Coronavirus had surfaced in China. It has been verified that there were cases of the virus in the United States as early as January 2020, while the first COVID-19 case was confirmed in Colorado on March 5.

On March 25, Governor Jared Polis issued a "Stay at Home" Order for Colorado, to limit the spread of the virus and avoid overwhelming our healthcare systems.

On April 27, Polis issued a "Safer At Home" Order continuing "Stay At Home" for vulnerable populations (seniors and others with compromised health conditions) and allowing some institutions and businesses to reopen in limited scope, with safety precautions.

The revised Orders expire May 26, 2020, but both can be extended, amended or changed. It is important to follow COVID19.colorado.gov to keep up with the most current state orders.

A respiratory illness originally thought to be similar to the seasonal flu, COVID-19 has a much higher transmission and fatality rate. The seasonal flu kills fewer than 1 in 1000 people who contract it; COVID-19 is reported to kill 20-40 people of each 1000 who have been diagnosed.

Info at CDC.gov says COVID-19 spreads like other respiratory illnesses, person to person, through close contact and exchange of respiratory droplets, and by touching contaminated surfaces and touching your face.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Illness can be severe and require hospitalization, but most individuals recover by resting, drinking plenty of liquids, and taking pain and fever-reducing medications.

Higher-risk people include people over age 60 and especially those over 80, and people with chronic medical conditions like diabetes or diseases of the heart, lungs, or kidneys.

A significant factor in developing virus response efforts has been the number of asymptomatic carriers of the virus. Up to half of the people who may have contracted the virus do not feel sick or exhibit symptoms and may carry the germs unknowingly to others, who may then become ill or carry them to others, etc.



### Stay Healthy! Stay "Safer at Home"


For more information about the progress in limiting the effects of this virus, see: Covid19.colorado.gov

Safer at Home asks us to consider our neighbors and our vulnerable fellow Coloradans.

CDPHE says everyone's daily preventive actions are important in reducing spread to people who may experience more severe illness. "Safer at Home" includes:

- Stay home as much as possible, leaving only for a limited number of specific activities. Employers are strongly encouraged to have employees continue to work from home.
- Outside your home, follow physical distancing requirements (6 feet of space between yourself and others) and wear a mask or face covering (a vital precaution, if we are the ones unknowingly carrying the germ).
- Vulnerable people at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 Stay-at-Home, only leaving home for medical care and essential activities.
- People with COVID-19 symptoms must self-isolate unless they have a negative test result.
- Only essential travel in- or out-of-state is permitted.
- Sick people must not go to work.

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## Green Team Action Tips for Summer 2020

*Victory Gardens provide Family Food Freedom during Tough Times*

Collected by Barbara Rivera, Congress Park Green Team

A Victory Garden is a vegetable garden, especially a home garden, planted to increase food production during a war or period of shortages. Planting Victory Gardens during wartime helped make sure there was enough food for soldiers fighting around the world. With the current global pandemic, many families are looking for ways to grow vegetables and herbs at home.

I reached out to our local garden center, City Floral Greenhouse, and spoke with office manager Trela Phelps about how to maximize our home gardening efforts. City Floral is a great resource for soil preparation, plants and setting up your garden. They have been selling plants, gardening supplies and outdoor décor since 1911. This year, they are working with local food distributors to include a small “Grocery Stand” within City Floral where shoppers can get staples (milk, eggs) and fresh fruits and vegetables.

Here are the tips and advice Trela shared:

**City Floral**  
garden center • home decor • and more

ach, chives, cilantro, parsley, and thyme). Root vegetables like carrots, radishes, and beets also may work if your site gets at least 4 hours of direct sunlight a day.

**SOIL:** Add 3 inches of compost (organic material) and mix it into soil to depth of a shovel (10-12 inches). Remove weeds, rocks, etc. and level the soil with a rake. Water and wait a day to plant. With in-ground gardens, the compost feeds the plants all season, but container plants will dry out quicker, need more water and therefore must be fertilized regularly (time-released or weekly).

**TIMING:** After mid-May, however, gardeners will need to use established plants called “starts” that can be purchased from a greenhouse. Lettuce and root vegetables need to be planted by St. Patrick’s Day in a sunny garden, but later planting can be done in shady areas.

**SUPPORT:** Many plants need support to thrive. Buy or build cages for tomatoes, cucumbers, beans and other climbing plants. An A-Frame structure for cucumbers and beans keep vines off the ground and can provide enough shade for your lettuce to continue underneath.

**PLANTS:** Grow what you enjoy eating. Know the difference between “determinate” varieties that produce fruit all at once (good for canning, pickling or sauce) and “indeterminate” varieties that produce all season long. Most gardeners like “indeterminate” varieties that produce fruit until killed by frost.

**CONTAINERS:** If you have a container garden, select “compact” varieties. Containers are good for invasive herbs that spread and can take over a garden (sage, mint, oregano). Almost any plants can do well in containers, but all tomatoes need big pots.



**30 Rotating Craft Beers**

**Daily Happy Hour**

**Drink Specials**

**Mug Club 2020 Now on Sale**

**833 Colorado Blvd**

**LOCATION:** Most vegetables need a minimum of 6 to 8 hours of sun per day, so southern exposure or mid-yard gardens with east to west sun work well. Rotate vegetables every year to a different part of the garden to ensure the soil hasn’t been depleted of specific nutrients. If you want a tomato plant in the same place every year, you have to add ‘trace elements’ back into the soil. If your yard provides partial shade, plant vegetables and herbs that tolerate those conditions (lettuce, kale, chard, spin-

## Green Team Action Tips for Summer 2020, continued

*Victory Gardens provide Family Food Freedom during Tough Times*

Collected by Barbara Rivera, Congress Park Green Team

**HERBS:** Herbs can be grown anywhere. In pots, they can be relocated inside and used through the winter. Many herbs can be planted in with other plants, flowers and vegetables.

**WATER:** In pots or raised beds, plants need to be watered and fertilized more often. When first planted, check the soil for moisture every few days. Stick your finger into the soil up to the 2nd knuckle. If the soil below is dry, it needs water. **DON'T OVERWATER!** Roots with too much won't have to "search" for water, and the plant won't develop great roots. Watch for slight "wilt-ing" of the leaves and loss of "sheen" or bright color as a sign the plant needs water. Water only in the morning (never in the evening), and avoid splashing the leaves to avoid powdery mildew.

**PROTECTION:** Use shade cloth if temperatures are consistently over 90 degrees. Prevent weeds and insect damage by mulching between plants (this also keeps soil warm and reduces watering needs). Be prepared on stormy days to protect plants from HAIL! Invest in netting or light frost guard to drape over plants or attach to stakes. Large trash bags, sheets, trashcans and even patio furniture can be used over large plants during our notoriously damaging Colorado hailstorms.

**PRUNING & HARVESTING:** Harvest in the morning for freshest, firmest fruit. With tomatoes, remove volunteer sprouts that grow at the junction of the main plant stem and the leaf stem. At the end of the season, cut back the plant to allow energy, heat and light to focus on ripening the existing fruit. Check zucchinis EVERY DAY and harvest when they are no bigger than 8-10 inches long. Picking fruit often helps produce more!

Thanks, Trela Phelps and City Floral for being a great resource for home gardeners. Located at 1440 Kearney Street, you can stop by to shop or email orders for curbside pickup. Email [info@cityfloralgreenhouse.com](mailto:info@cityfloralgreenhouse.com) or call 303-399-1177. Visit their City Floral Garden Center Facebook page for latest info.

Good luck with your summer garden!

Remember- Every Little Bit Helps!  
Together We Can Make a Huge Impact

Stay safe out there, neighbors!

The 2020  
Congress Park Neighbors  
Ice Cream Social  
is **CANCELLED**  
due to the COVID-19 outbreak.  
We love seeing everyone  
at the annual Ice Cream Social,  
but would rather see you next year, than not at all.  
Stay **safe** and we'll see you in 2021!



# Bringing Color to Congress Park for the Past 25 Years!

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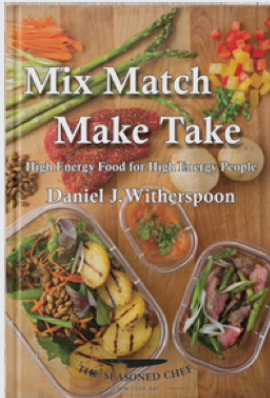
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303.377.3222

## The Seasoned Chef in Congress Park

A chat with Chef Dan Witherspoon, the Seasoned Chef

Our neighbor Daniel Witherspoon is Executive Chef and Managing Director of the Seasoned Chef Cooking School, a refuge for home and recreational cooks for more than 25 years. Chef Dan also offers gourmet meals to go, for delivery or curbside pickup, especially useful and welcome during our Stay at Home and Safer at Home weeks.

*CPNews:* Hi Chef Dan! You're a long time Chef and Congress Park Neighbor, aren't you?

*Chef Dan:* Hello! I am Chef Dan Witherspoon and I have lived in the Congress Park neighborhood for 23 years and love it. I am the owner, director, and lead instructor for The Seasoned Chef Cooking School. After working under celebrated Belgian chef Henri Bergmans, and earning my way to executive chef positions in both Southern California and Denver, I finally found my calling in cooking instruction.

*CPNews:* You've been a chef for a long time. How long have you owned the Seasoned Chef Cooking School?

*Chef Dan:* With over 40 years of cooking professionally and 20 years of instructing home and recreational cooks, I finally decided to purchase The Seasoned Chef Cooking School in 2011 to grow it to what it is today. Every day, I still look forward to working with the other members of this team and teaching classes.

*CPNews:* Are your classes for business groups as well as individuals?

*Chef Dan:* I love working with corporate team building groups and teaching home and recre-





**Classes for the home and recreational cook, that teach you how to cook and what to cook.**

*Teaching Denver to cook since 1993!*

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

ational chefs the basics of home cooking. We want our students to go home having learned how they can simply, affordably, quickly make a delicious and healthy meal at home.

*CPNews:* That sounds fun! What's your favorite aspect of Seasoned Chef?

*Chef Dan:* Our students love coming to our classes. They are motivated, engaged, and excited to learn. Over the years, I've found that the best moment of my day is when I am able to see a student's eyes light up because they have learned something new and are able to create a delicious dish on their own. That's why I do what I do and still love coming into work every day!



## Denver DA: Scammers Love COVID-19

From the Denver District Attorney's office

**D**istrict Attorney Beth McCann's office is still working at maximum speed to detect and prosecute fraud, even during the pandemic—perhaps more so.

The DA's office is closely following updates from the Centers for Disease Control, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and the Denver Department of Public Health. Unfortunately scammers continue to profit off fear. Be aware so you can identify potential scams surrounding the virus. As always, please keep yourselves and others well.

### Spread Scam Warnings, not COVID-19

Each year our community outreach staff provides more than 150 seminars and presentations on scams, fraud and ID theft. We can provide fraud seminars over ZOOM, just call and ask. There are so many scams surrounding COVID-19, we need your help to pass this information along to your family and friends.

Beth says: "I am concerned about those who believe that 'people who get scammed just aren't paying attention' or 'only old people get scammed.' In fact, neither of those statements is true. Scammers are merciless professionals who know how to convince and con people out of money and personal information. Contrary to the 'old people' statement, in fact, mega social media users and millennials are more likely to be scammed than other cohorts. When you forward this information along, please be sure to share with younger folks. Scammers are ruthless."

Here are some current fraud alerts:

### Scammers are after your COVID-19 relief check

Scammers are posting fraudulent jobs. A Denver resident uncovered this one and reported it. As always, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably isn't.

### COVID-19 Cures

When public health concerns hit the headlines, some companies rush to the market with products advertised to prevent or treat the problem. Coronavirus is no exception. But do those businesses have proof for their advertising claims, as the FTC requires? And have their products been approved, cleared, or authorized by the FDA? The FTC and FDA just sent warning letters to seven companies raising concerns about their Coronavirus-related products. Consumers: the FDA is advising us "not to purchase or use COVID-19 related products offered for sale that have not been approved, cleared, or authorized by FDA."

### COVID-19 and your mortgage

If you are concerned about paying your mortgage, federal and some private lenders are offering borrowers temporary help, like stopping or delaying foreclosure or modifying the mortgage. But these measures don't apply to everyone. If you need help, research the options available. You might be eligible for a moratorium or a forbearance. Contact your loan servicer and ask about your options. You can also contact the Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) at 888-995-HOPE or contact an approved counselor. Scammers follow the headlines and pretend to be companies that can help—avoid mortgage relief scams.

### Government Checks

*3 ways to tell it's a scam*

1. The government will not ask you to pay anything up front to get this money. No fees. No charges. No nothing.
2. The government will not call you! Anyone asking for your Social Security number, bank account, or credit card number is a scammer.
3. Anyone who tells you they can get you the money now is a scam

### About Fraud

- Keep yourself protected from scammers. They are unscrupulous, and can sound professional and plausible.
- Don't respond to texts, emails or calls about "checks from the government."
- Hang up on robocalls.
- Do your homework when it comes to donations.
- If you receive a phone call asking for personal information – HANG UP – and do not call the number back.

**WE MUST NOT, IN TRYING TO  
THINK ABOUT HOW WE CAN MAKE  
A BIG DIFFERENCE, IGNORE THE  
SMALL DAILY DIFFERENCES WE  
CAN MAKE WHICH, OVER TIME, ADD  
UP TO BIG DIFFERENCES THAT WE  
OFTEN CANNOT FORESEE.**

**- MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN -**



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## Fill Out the 2020 Census

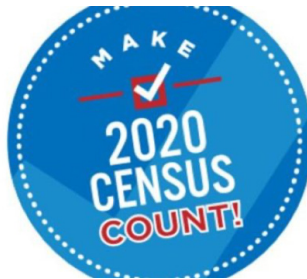
From City Council

The 2020 Census will determine congressional representation, inform hundreds of billions in federal funding every year, and provide data that will impact communities for the next decade.

In Colorado, it could mean that we gain one more seat in Congress, thereby increasing our influence nationally. In Denver, it makes sure we get every dollar of stimulus we can. Much of federal funding is issued in proportion to population, so the more accurate Colorado's count, the more money we have to complete important projects.

The average response rate from households in District 10 is around 50%. Help us get as close to 100% as possible!

You can fill out the census online here: <https://2020census.gov/>



## Facelift Planned for Congress Park Pool

Outdoor pools remain closed due to COVID-19 until further notice

By Jesús Orrantia, Denver Parks and Rec

The Congress Park Pool has been the subject of enthusiastic discussion over many months as the city and the neighbors contributed ideas to its renovation. While the last scheduled public meeting had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 precautions, Denver Park and Rec (DPR) produced a [short four-minute video](#) to show the community how their input was integral to the design and timeline.

The updated design prioritized the features that community members wanted, including 50-meter lanes and a larger children's area, while preserving the pool's neighborhood character.

The timeline is also explained in the video. DPR expects to break ground on the pool project in early 2021 and construction is expected to be complete by early 2022. Keep track of updates and see information on previous public meetings at [www.denvergov.org/parkprojects](http://www.denvergov.org/parkprojects). Questions

about the design can be sent to [parksandrecreation@denvergov.org](mailto:parksandrecreation@denvergov.org).

(Editor: Due to concerns about COVID-19, a decision has not been made about opening outdoor community pools for this summer. At publication time, we heard outdoor pools will remain closed until further notice.)

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

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## COVID-19, Revenue and Volunteers

From City Council

**C**ity finances and revenue shortages  
The Department of Finance is exploring ways to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 on annual revenue. Estimates could be a revenue loss of \$180 million in 2020, including up to \$140 million in lodging, sales, and use taxes. These numbers substantially exceed those of the first year of the 2008 recession. Denver has already spent \$15.4 million to respond to COVID, and of course that money is unbudgeted since no one planned on COVID during the budget process. It's too soon to know the full extent of budget shortages, and the City Council District 10 office will keep us updated as they get information.

### Calling all young volunteers!

Denver needs your help if you are young, healthy, and show no signs or symptoms illness. Mile High United Way needs people to assist homeless shelter providers with a variety of tasks such as meal preparation, supplies distribution, and shelter cleaning. The city depends on volunteers to keep up with the increased demand for assistance from our homeless residents. You can sign-up to help on the city's COVID-19 response site. However, if you or a household member have travelled to another country in the past 30 days, please do not register to help.

### We need you to help our seniors!

A Little Help is looking to connect neighbors with older adults who need assistance. They are looking for older adults who need help with grocery shopping and/or prescription pick-up and just want to talk with someone on the phone. You can volunteer for grocery and prescription pick-up and delivery, to help with yard work and snow removal, and to make care calls to lonely adults. Volunteer on the city's COVID-19 response site and let your neighbors know about the program.

## Why Wear a Mask?

From the Governor's COVID-19 resources

**H**umans don't have immunity to this disease, and many may have the disease but have no symptoms; be carrying germs and not know it. No one wants to share germs that cause someone else's illness. I wear a mask to protect you; you wear a mask to protect me.

From Twitter: City and County of Denver @CityofDenver ..We've received questions about whether a business can refuse customers who are not wearing masks. The answer is yes. "No one has the right to expose the community to communicable disease." See the Colorado Public Radio website for the [interview with Attorney General Phil Weiser](#).

A big Thank You to Eric Lubbers of the Colorado Sun who put it this way:


"Here's the thing about this coronavirus: It absolutely does not care how long it's been since you had a restaurant meal, or if you don't like wearing masks when you leave the house. The coronavirus does not have a manager you can speak to in order to get better customer service. It is a virus to which humans have no immunity that has already killed [more than] 1,000 Coloradans — almost certainly an undercount — and that's with the strict social distancing measures in place.

Incidents like the crowded coffee shop aren't just stunts: they can have real-world consequences and spark new rounds of infections that could send the state right back into lockdown — and render the state's sacrifice over the last two months moot.

Things might not be "normal" for a while yet, but the more vigilance we show now, the faster we'll be able to sit down inside a restaurant and eat."

**Colorado is the only state without a rainy day fund. Now the coronavirus means it will pay the price.**  
*Colorado Sun reports TABOR handcuffed legislators, and backfilling previous losses took priority*  
The General Assembly began to set aside more money in the reserves as the economy rebounded in recent years, but the notion of a permanent savings account never became a priority — even as cautions about a cyclical downturn grew louder. Then COVID-19 came to town.

**The 2020 Congress Park Neighbors Ice Cream Social is CANCELLED**  
due to the COVID-19 outbreak.  
We love seeing everyone at the annual Ice Cream Social, but would rather see you next year, than not at all.  
Stay **safe** and we'll see you in 2021!



*"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*

#### **Wise Strategy**

Protect yourself. Lock your residence even if you are going to be nearby. Don't leave valuables in your car where they can be seen. If you have to leave them in the car at all, put them in the trunk. Don't leave your car running unattended. A thief is always looking for easy opportunity. It takes only seconds to steal from the unwary.

## **Crime Trends in Congress Park - Spring 2020**

By Stephen Eppler, Crime Action Chair

Congress Park (CP) continues to have relatively low crime rates. So far this year, CP ranks 62nd among Denver's 78 neighborhoods for violent crime events. Robbery and aggravated assault continue to be the most common offenses and tend to occur along the neighborhood perimeter especially along Colfax and Colorado Boulevard.

Assaults in the interior of CP are uncommon, but when they occur, are often associated with domestic violence. Over the past five years the rate of violent crime has increased slightly. The rate of violent crime has dropped during the COVID-19 Stay-At-Home period with only two aggravated assaults occurring since mid-March.

Property Crime in CP has been gradually increasing since 2015. CP's neighborhood rank has dropped from 66th to 43rd among the 78 neighborhoods. Although there have been 15 auto thefts in 2020, this crime remains relatively uncommon, and CP ranks 69th. However, theft from autos has been increasing especially during March and April with 40 events compared to 26 in 2019.

Other forms of larceny have also increased from 25 to 34 occurrences. Since mid-April almost 70% of thefts involved bicycles. CP ranks 21/78 among neighborhoods for bike thefts with a rate of 1.07/1000 residents.

Burglary is CP's biggest problem crime. In 2019 CP ranked 10th for residential burglary among Denver's 78 neighborhoods and 18th for burglary with unforced entry. In 2015 CP ranked 53rd and 58th respectively. In 2020 there have been slightly fewer burglaries; however, during the COVID-19 Stay-At-Home period, the incidence of forced entry has risen.

In 2020 there have been 22 burglaries. Thirteen of these involved forcible entry. However, since March 24 all but one (5 of 6) have involved forcible entry. It is too soon to determine if this worrisome trend will continue. Be alert. Think about improving your exterior lighting and cutting back overgrown foliage to eliminate hiding areas.

JUST SOLD

# 1419 Elizabeth Street



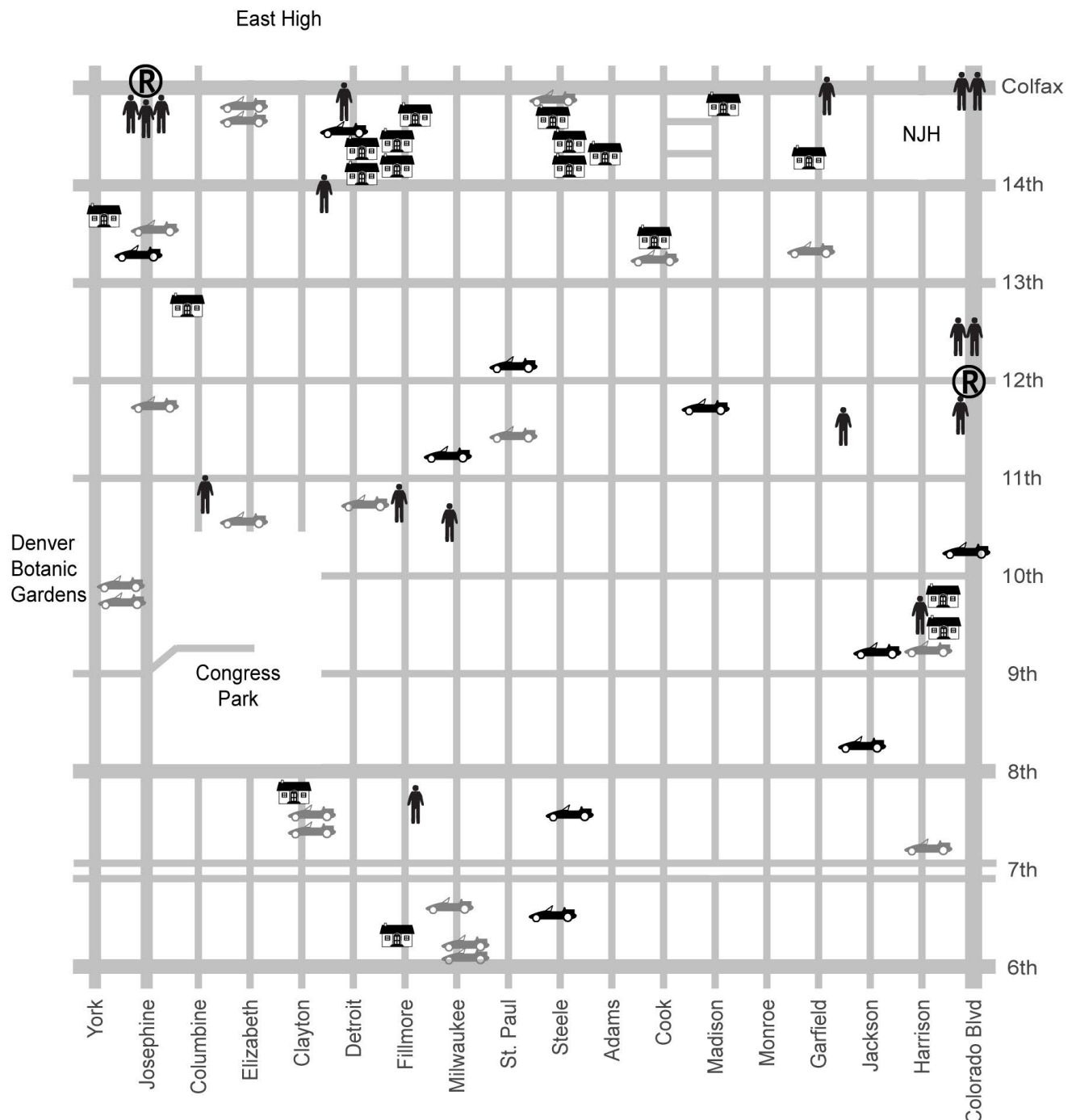
"Lisa is amazing. During the multiple stresses of buying/selling and a pandemic, she was knowledgeable, intuitive, and steady. Lisa knows the areas well, and understands old houses. She is always honest in her assessments, and tenacious in negotiation--and she never loses her sense of humor. If we ever do this again, she will be our agent for sure!"



**Lisa Santos**  
Broker Associate  
720.933.3377  
lisa.santos@compass.com

COMPASS

# CONGRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CRIMES JANUARY - MARCH 2020



- Ⓡ 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 first quarter of 2020. Crime mapping is provided by the Congress Park Crime Action Committee using City and Police Department statistics.**



## What's Happening Around Denver?

(excerpted with gratitude to the Denverite)

By Ana Campbell

See the timeline and Denverite's [Guide to When Things Will/Could Reopen](#)

Here are some highlights:

Parks, Rec Centers and restaurants (sit-down dining) are closed for now. Be alert to announcements, and call locations to get specifics as things change frequently.



### Updates for the Colorado Rockies

The Rockies should have played their first home game of the season April 3. The team has issued guidance for ticket holders of April and May games. MLB owners agreed on May 11 to start the season around July 4; games would be played without fans. Watch for updates as details have not been finalized.



### Denver Public Library is closed, but don't panic about your overdue books.

In March, the DPL closed to the public. Drop boxes are closed, but due dates have been extended. You can still keep a list of titles to reserve later, check eMedia and

databases and other resources. Watch their social media and sign up for newsletters to keep up with developments.

### Cancelled: 2020 City Park Jazz Festival

"We're just broken-hearted," says Toni Nadal Executive Director of the City Park Jazz Board of Directors. "At the same time, we know we're making the right decision to protect our volunteers, musicians, vendors, sponsors and the entire community of 100,000 or more people who enjoy this long-running Denver institution."

City Park Jazz produces 10 FREE jazz concerts each summer in City Park. In keeping with the goals and mission of City Park Jazz, the contracted musicians will still be paid. If permitted by city and state health and safety protocols at the time, CPJ is hoping to move the concerts online. Watch [CityParkJazz.org](http://CityParkJazz.org) for developments.



Photo: Jess Blackwell Photography



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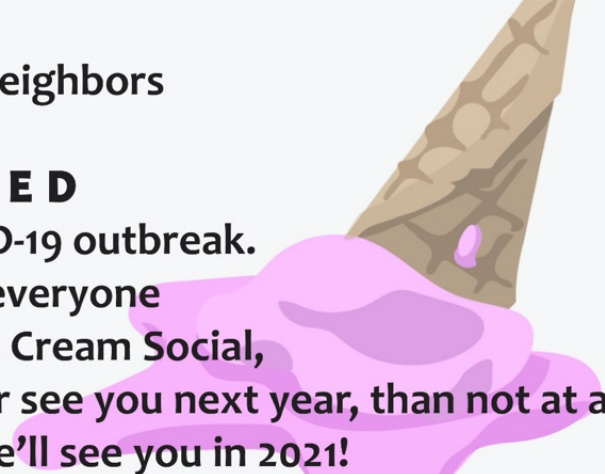
DENVER'S DESIGN/BUILD REMODELER SINCE 1985

## The Center on Colfax Announces Virtual PrideFest Celebration June 20-21, 2020

By Joe Jackson, The Center Blog

Now in its 45th year, Denver PrideFest festival typically draws more than 450,000 to Civic Center Park over two days, making it the largest Pride event in the Rocky Mountain Region. The celebration features exhibitors from across the country, culinary vendors, a political rally, parade, family activities, a 5K race, and three stages of entertainment.

The Center on Colfax, announced that this year's PrideFest is going virtual to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, while still providing a safe way to celebrate the culture and heritage of the LGBTQ community. CEO Rex Fuller said, "Protecting the safety and health of the attendees, staff and volunteers who make PrideFest so special is paramount."



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LIVE WELL.  
LAUGH OFTEN.  
♥ CONGRESS PARK.



**Amy Newman | Realtor® | 678.908.1034**  
**Amy@LiveLaughDenver.com**

Proud Homeowner & Supporter of the Congress Park Neighborhood since 2004

A poster for your window to thank everyone who made the Stay At Home order a little easier. Who do you want to thank? Doctors & Nurses? Mail men & women? Grocery store employees? Someone else? Write it in and tape it up.

# Thank You!

And thank you, too. For staying at home when you'd rather be doing other things. For limiting your outings to the essentials. For wearing a mask, in case you were carrying germs that could spread. For maintaining a 6-foot distance from others. Thanks.



Service Club Meeting

**Zonta Club of Denver**

303-355-3735

100 years working to improve opportunities for at-risk women and children. Monthly dinner, program & meeting on 2nd Thursday, \$35.

[www.zonta-denver.org](http://www.zonta-denver.org)

Window and Gutter Cleaning

**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.

Volunteer Opportunities

**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., Sewall/REACH, 940 Fillmore. Contact [cpnboard@congressparkneighbors.org](mailto:cpnboard@congressparkneighbors.org) and visit [congressparkneighbors.org](http://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](mailto:murphy.michellej@gmail.com)*

Worship

**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.

Advertise Here

**Here's your platform.**

Have a shout-out to a neighbor, friend, kid or neighborhood business?

Email [murphy.michellej@gmail.com](mailto:murphy.michellej@gmail.com) for rates.

## Think Outside the Big Box

### Shop at Your

### Congress Park Businesses

[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.

I LONG TO ACCOMPLISH A GREAT AND NOBLE TASK;  
BUT IT IS MY CHIEF DUTY AND JOY TO ACCOMPLISH  
HUMBLE TASKS AS THOUGH THEY WERE GREAT AND  
NOBLE.... THE WORLD IS MOVED ALONG, NOT ONLY  
BY THE MIGHTY SHOES OF ITS HEROES, BUT ALSO  
BY THE AGGREGATE OF THE TINY PUSHES OF EACH  
HONEST WORKER.

- HELEN KELLER -


**May** is Better Hearing & Speech Month, Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection, National Bike, National Photo, and Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

**June** is Recycling Month, Fireworks Safety, National Dairy, and Zoo & Aquarium Month.

**July** is National Blueberry Month, National Ice Cream, National Recreation & Parks Month.



Congress Park Neighbors, Inc.  
P.O. Box 18571  
Denver, CO 80218  
[www.CongressParkNeighbors.org](http://www.CongressParkNeighbors.org)



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8300 E. Maplewood Avenue, Suite 100  
Greenwood Village, Colorado 80111  
Each brokerage independently owned and operated.



"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 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 Green Team
- \_\_\_ Business Support
- \_\_\_ Neighborhood Planning
- \_\_\_ Historic Preservation
- \_\_\_ Newsletter writing/production
- \_\_\_ Newsletter advertising
- \_\_\_ Newsletter production
- \_\_\_ Newsletter distribution
- \_\_\_ Neighborhood Watch
- \_\_\_ Outreach
- \_\_\_ Membership
- \_\_\_ Social events
- \_\_\_ Graffiti abatement
- \_\_\_ Crime prevention
- \_\_\_ Safe Streets/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](http://www.CongressParkNeighbors.org)), mailings and fliers about hot issues, events like the ice cream social and ongoing activities to benefit the neighborhood.