



News

Spring 2018

www.CongressParkNeighbors.org

Inside

Congress Park	2
Volunteer Opportunities	3
CPN Taste-Test	4
Tellerpalooza Is Back in May	5
Summer@Sewall 2018	6
Sewall Champions for Children Luncheon	7
Getting Ready for "Earth Month" in April	8
District 10 Priorities for 2018, Milwaukee Street Gets New Water Main	9
Congress Park Crime, Free and Low-Cost Trees in Denver	10
DPD Crime Statistics, Denver Sidewalk Repair	11
Day of Film Shows Women Overcoming Barriers	12
A Check Up for Your House	13
Vanette Marie Hardy Puts Down Her Order Pad, Metal Detectors	14
Biz Directory	15

Green Tips for Spring

By Barbara Rivera, Congress Park Green Team

Your Congress Park Green Team heard your requests, so here are a few "Green Tips" to consider for your household.

Water Conservation

- Check your water bill. Denver's goal for "Daily Indoor Water Use" is 40 gallons/person, but we average a whopping 150 gallons! Low-flow shower & faucets save 10-15,000 gallons of water (family of 4) annually. Low Flow Toilets can save 4,000 gallons per person per year.
- Washing clothes uses 18.5% of our water. Do laundry only when you have a full load.

Home Energy Efficiency

- Place "Wall Plate Insulating Gaskets" behind light switches & receptacle plates on outside walls to keep out cold air. (Home Depot 10-pack \$2.54)
- Insulate water heater and set no higher than 120 degrees (saves \$18-25/year).
- Set ceiling fan blade rotation (rotate clockwise) to draw cool air up & push warm air out & down in winter. Change rotation in summer to direct cooling air downward.

Transportation Options Reduce Pollution & Congestion

- Going to the Airport? Take the train! Catch the #40 bus (Colorado Blvd) or #24 bus (Josephine) to the 40th & Colorado Station. Tell bus driver you're taking the train to the airport, pay \$9 & get transfer ticket. RTD Trip Planner helps you navigate the city: www.rtd-denver.com
- Lower car exhaust and fuel use by reducing idling. If you stop for more than 10 seconds, turn engine off. No need to "warm up engine" on cold days. Car warms faster when you drive off gently.

Waste Diversion & Reduction

- Shop locally to reduce influx of online purchase packing material.
- Re-useable kitchen towels & washcloths reduce use of paper products. Colorful cloth napkins jazz up your meals. Most can be used multiple times before washing.
- Denver's recycling rate (17.7%) is one of the lowest in the country. Help us reach the national 34% average (Denver's goal). Look for purple bins before you toss recyclable items!

Your participation helps a lot. Together we make a huge impact!

*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.CongressPark
Neighbors.org

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Volunteers Needed

Your articles, letters
and advertisements are
always welcome.

Neighborhood meetings
are held every other month
(February, April, June,
August, October, De-
cember), on the third
Wednesday, at 7 p.m. at
REACH Charter School
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newsletter and the email
blasts for featured speakers.

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Congress Park

By David Hamernick

*The #10 bus at dusk
takes me to a little hub of friends*

*I stop for some warm words
and taste a warm cup of soup*

*This is a place where dogs
have owners that smile at them*

*And streets are filled with lights
that brighten hearts through darkness*



Your Congress Park Neighbors 2018 Volunteer Board of Directors

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Your elected, all-volunteer Congress Park Board invites you to attend the open meetings at REACH Charter School at 940 Fillmore on the third Wednesday every other month (Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct., Dec.) at 7 p.m.

Lots of other neighbors help with communica-
tions, 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:

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

Steve Eppler—Crime Action
crime@congressparkneighbors.org

Your Name here—Congress Park
Historic Preservation

Your Name here—Hospital District Redevelopment

Denver Botanic Gardens Liaisons
Bill DeMaio; bdemaio@aol.com
Myles Tangalin
Victoria Eppler

Do you have a suggestion for your Board?

Send hints and help to
CPNBoard@congressparkneighbors.org

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

CPN Volunteer Opportunities

Your neighborhood needs you! Please consider these volunteer opportunities.

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.

Newsletter Advertising Outreach

Neighbors rely on the Congress Park News to stay informed, and the CPNews needs supportive hyper-local advertisers to help keep it in print. CPNews readers avidly support our local advertisers. Seems like a clear win-win, so we just need you to stop in and chat with our favorite corner businesses and local entrepreneurs to encourage them with the mutual benefits and low prices.

Newsletter Contributor

Your name in print! Write articles about CPN issues, businesses and residents' concerns. You'll interview newcomers and long-time residents to relate the Congress Park vibe to our readers.

CPN activities

There's a bunch going on in Denver that affects Congress Park and we need more people participating in meetings and reporting on them to neighborhood meetings and in the CPNews. Are you an old house advocate? A recycling and composting cheerleader? A zoning or architecture guru? Your neighbors need your perception and perspective.

Email cpnboard@congressparkneighbors.org to express your interest in taking on any of these, or perhaps to volunteer for something we haven't thought of yet!

A Volunteer Opportunity With the Alzheimer's Association

By Deb Wells

Hello neighbors! I'm reaching out to let you know about a long-term, flexible, volunteer opportunity at the Alzheimer's Association. At 455 Sherman Street, we are in need of shift help with visitor greeting duties and occasional mailing assembly at our front desk during business hours.

Please give my associate or me a call to find out more! Deb Wells - 303.813.1669 x256 dwells@alz.org; Julie Bir - 303.813.1669 x274



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To see what's coming up in the hospital district at 9th and Colorado, check in at <https://9thandcolorado.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8b3d964bf1352fb29f6251733&id=d15f77f1c5&e=082d335d0d>

CPN Taste-Test

By Aidan Aiken & Isaac Godoy

Hi, it's Aidan and Isaac for our last review of a local hotspot of Congress Park. For this visit we were joined by brothers Aiko & Kohji Martinez and we went to Milk Roll Rolled Ice Cream on Colfax.

The place has a fun vibe and they serve up ice cream a unique way: rolled. It was satisfying to watch them make it through the viewing counter. It starts off liquid and they add the toppings on this cooling plate. It then gets mixed up really well, and they flatten it out then roll it. They top it off with whipped cream and other toppings. We tried four of their House Creations: "Y.O.L.O." (which stands for You Obviously Love Oreos), "S'mores Please", "Pina Colada Why Nada"?



and "Sunday Funday." Akio, Aidan and Isaac chose Y.O.L.O. as their favorite and Kohji's was the "S'mores, Please."

Milk Roll has a punch card program where you get a free roll when you get 10 punches. They also have a buy one, get 50% off all their "House Creations" on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2-5pm. What a great place to come to after school for a delicious treat. Come support this local business soon!



Congress Park Whole House Remodel
Photo: Vantage Architectural Imagery



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Tellerpalooza Is Back in May

Mark your calendar! Teller Elementary's 15th annual Tellerpalooza Concert is coming to The Bluebird Theatre on Saturday, May 12. As always, the public is welcome to join in the celebration of music, culture, food and fun. This event is always a great time. You won't want to miss it. Find out more details from fundraising@tellerpta.org.

Early in the evening, Teller's own students - from band, voices and violins - will take to the stage to perform alongside local bands who have graciously donated their time and talents.

In addition to great music, there will be also be other fun activities like henna and temporary tattoos, face painting, a bake sale, door prizes and food trucks. We always have great support from the bands, the sponsors and the neighborhood.

Tellerpalooza serves as a vital funding source for Teller Elementary, and addresses some of the increasing annual deficits. Tellerpalooza 2016 raised roughly \$15,000, which helped fund academic programs and faculty positions. Tickets and T-shirts will be available through the Teller website: <http://teller.dpsk12.org>.



Teller Mission

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/>



Congrats to my buyers on their lovely new Congress Park home!



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Summer@Sewall 2018 Offers Toddlers Through Primary School Students Opportunities to Explore

By Patricia B. Smith

Welcoming and inclusive summer day camp sessions run from June 11 through August 3. Preschool and school-age children of all abilities enjoy learning and growth through open-ended and child-directed experiences including art and sensory motor activities. A new sensory garden for nature-based play and exploration includes plants selected for smells and textures.

Pricing from \$250 to \$500 for single or multiple week-long sessions. For details, visit Sewall.org or call 303.399.1800.



Summer@Sewall programs are located in the heart of Denver's Congress Park neighborhood with a creative play-based program. Outside, there is a 0.3-acre Sensory Garden for nature-based exploration on trails and fragrant/textured plants. (The Sensory Garden, built in October 2017, is maintained by neighborhood volunteers and the Sewall/REACH community) The newly renovated historic school is filled with light including new playgrounds. Photo Credit: Lorenzo Dawkins/ImJustAnArtist.com.



Photo Credit: Lorenzo Dawkins/ImJustAnArtist.com



Sewall Champions for Children May 4 Luncheon Features Educational Equity Speaker

By Patricia B. Smith

The Board and staff of Sewall Child Development Center are excited to announce that Dr. Rosemarie Allen, Assistant Professor in the School of Education at Metro State University, will be the keynote speaker at the 17th Annual Champions for Children Luncheon. Allen is an international advocate and expert on educational equity.

Sewall presents the Champions for Children series to highlight national and international experts in social justice and educational civil rights, inclusive education pioneers, and researchers in child development. Previous speakers have included authors and animal sciences Professor Temple Grandin of Colorado State University, and John Elder Robison, and Jonathan Mooney, among others.

Tickets, tables, and sponsorships are available. All proceeds benefit the high-quality inclusionary early education programs Sewall provides not only at the Koelbel Campus in Congress Park, but at eight other Denver metro sites, as well as Sewall's Diagnostic & Evaluation Clinic, home-based infant services, and family partnerships. Sewall programs directly serve more than 600 children each year.

For more than 30 years as an educational leader, Dr. Allen focused on ensuring ALL children have access to high quality early childhood programs that are developmentally and culturally appropriate. In addition to her role as Assistant Professor in the School of Education at Metropolitan State University of Denver, she serves as the President and CEO for the Institute for Racial Equity & Excellence (IREE). IREE is the lead agency ensuring equity in educational practices throughout the US, and in its contract with the State of Colorado to monitor and license early childhood facilities, uses a model she created, "Culturally Responsive Community Based Licensing".

Allen is a national expert on implicit bias and culturally responsive practices, speaking at conferences across the country. A respected keynote speaker, she presents on Implicit Bias, Racial Equity, Inclusive Practices, Culturally Responsive Practices, Cultural Competence, Micro-Aggressions, Disproportionality, Privilege, Power and Intersectionality.

Champions for Children

When: Friday May 4
Where: Denver's Park Hill Golf Club
4141 E 35th Ave.

Tickets/info:
Paige Heagle, 303-399-1800, ext. 139
Sewall.org



Dr. Rosemarie Allen, Educational Equity Advocate



Dan Braun
303-883-5881
danbraun725@gmail.com



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Green Team Info

** Details on the Climate Action Forum and action team projects are posted on the CongressParkNeighbors.org/green-team-2 webpages. Information and available resources are posted on an ongoing basis. We hope you will find things useful as you explore sustainability in your home.

Getting Ready for “Earth Month” in April

By Liz Goehring & Becky Coughlin
Congress Park Neighbors Green Team

Last Fall’s Green Team Climate Action Forum** offered Congress Park neighbors the opportunity to explore issues related to climate change, particularly those that impact our region. The Forum also provided a template for neighbor-led initiatives to develop. Four Action Teams formed, each focused on actions for a healthy environment and sustainable living:

- 1) reducing home carbon use
- 2) increasing use of alternative transportation,
- 3) waste diversion and reduction, and
- 4) water conservation.

Since then, Action Teams have been brainstorming ways to share these issues with neighbors, and are preparing fun events for April – in the weeks leading up to and after Earth Day. For example, the Reducing Home Carbon Use team is planning a Solar Fair, with local vendors explaining costs and benefits of various options. The Alternative Transportation team is gearing up for another “Prime the Pump” Bicycle Commuting event and various Walk-to-Connect (<http://walk2connect.com/>) neighborhood activities. The Waste Diversion team is continuing its efforts to eliminate plastic with a “No Plastic Bag” event, and also promoting composting via workshops.



The Water team is exploring xeriscaping and sprinkler system efficiency workshops for outdoor water conservation.

As “Earth Month” approaches, look for more details in articles in Green Team and CPN eNewsletters, and posting notices on the CPN Facebook page, NextDoor, and the CongressParkNeighbors.org website. Stay tuned. We hope to see you at these events. Even better, join us in the planning. It’s fun! Contact us at sustainability@congressparkneighbors.org.



District 10 Priorities for 2018

By Councilman Wayne New

(Excerpted from Councilman New's recent email)

In 2018, I will be focusing my efforts on the following priorities to enhance and improve our district:

-Traffic Calming, Traffic Light Evaluation, and Speed Limit Reductions - Implementing traffic improvements and speed limit study findings in key residential areas.

-Pedestrian Safety - Improve intersection crosswalk markings to give greater visibility and protection for pedestrians at busy neighborhood intersections.

-Sidewalk Repair Evaluation - Participate in the first regional sidewalk repair evaluation to identify sidewalks with significant repair and replacement needs.

-Neighborhood Planning Initiative (NPI)
- Continue to define NPI improvements for Colfax Avenue while preserving the character of the six surrounding neighborhoods of Capitol Hill, Cheeseman Park, Congress Park, City Park, West City Park, and North Capitol Hill.

Milwaukee Street Gets New Water Main in March

Denver Water staff notified Congress Park Neighbors that the water main on Milwaukee Street from 6th – 13th Ave will be replaced starting in March.

Initially a crew will replace lead service lines from 6th – 8th Avenue beginning in February. Denver Water staff will hand-deliver notices at the end of January before starting work.

The main replacement crew will arrive onsite around mid- to late-March. By that time the lead replacement crew should be a few blocks ahead of them working their way north to 13th Avenue.

Councilman New Drops In

In February and March Wayne New will host conversations on Fridays from 10 to noon. The first hour is by appointment. To make an appointment or for more information call 720-337-7710 or email melissa.horn@denvergov.org. The schedule and locations are:

- Feb. 2 & March 9: Metropolis Coffee; 300 West 11th Avenue
- Feb. 9 & March 16: Dazbog Coffee; 1201 East 9th Ave
- Feb. 16 & March 23: Under the Umbrella Café and Bakery; 3504 East 12th Avenue
- Feb. 23 & March 30: Starbucks; 250 Columbine Street



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Congress Park Crime Watch Update - Winter 2017-2018

By Stephen Eppel, CPN Crime Action Liaison

*"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*

Link to Denver Post's crime statistics for Congress Park
<https://crime.denverpost.com/neighborhood/congress-park/>

As we begin 2018, it is worthwhile to compare crime data from 2016 to 2017. This article uses statistics from the Denver Post's website. The article on page 11 notes issues under review with the Denver Police Department's statistics for 2017.

For Denver, from 2016 to 2017, violent crime increased 3.5%, property crime increased 3%, burglary decreased 6.7%, car theft increased 13.5%, and bike theft decreased 17.1%.

For Congress Park, from 2016 to 2017 violent crime increased 21.4%; property crime increased 25.3%; burglaries increased 32.8%; car thefts increased 34.9%; and bike thefts increased 17.2%.

There is more detailed burglary data. In 2017 there were 64 residential burglaries in Congress Park. Unforced entry accounted for 45 (60%) of them.

Are you at risk? In general, crime rates are strongly correlated with population density and along major urban traffic corridors. Crime rates are disproportionately increased along Colfax Avenue/14th Ave/13th Ave and Colorado Blvd, and to a lesser extent along

Josephine/York and 6th Ave. This is particularly true for violent crime and property crimes including auto theft, unforced burglary, theft from motor vehicle and larceny/bike theft. In general, crime frequency diminishes as one moves away from busier streets. Forced burglary is more widely distributed throughout Congress Park and less affected by these factors.

Protect yourself. Most violent crime occurs between Colfax and 13th Avenue, along Colorado Blvd. and Josephine/York St. north of the Denver Botanical Gardens. Areas adjacent to major intersections have higher risk. Be alert. Pay attention to your surroundings. Avoid unlighted areas at night particularly if you are alone.

Crimes of opportunity continue to be a problem. Burglary without forced entry, larceny/theft, theft from a motor vehicle and bike theft occur too often. It takes less than a minute for a thief to commit this type of crime. Lock up your house and property. Keep valuables out of sight. Change your behavior. Don't be a victim.

Free and Low-Cost Trees in Denver

Local nonprofit The Park People makes it easy to support Denver's urban forest while improving air and water quality and beautifying neighborhoods. The Denver Digs Trees program provides free and low-cost trees to Denver residents.

This is rewarding, fun, and makes an awesome community building exercise or family activity. Pass this on to someone you'd like to plant a tree with, apply together, and watch your tree grow!



DPD Crime Statistics Audited for 2017

By Ann Charles

Our quarterly map of crime statistics in Congress Park is not available for this issue. Our steadfast and reliable neighborhood volunteer Steve M. was all set to develop the map as usual, but City statisticians said the 2017 data is not being released yet, because it is being audited.

As reported by the Denver Post's Noelle Phillips and CBS4's Brian Maass in late January, the Denver Police Department discovered some anomalies in the statistics while the 2017 year-end data was being finalized, and is researching the issue.

The integrity of the crime reporting data is critical. In addition to letting Congress Park neighbors know the status of safety and security in our neighborhood, city-wide these statistics serve several purposes. The data can be used as a basis for legislation, to support officer assignments, focus resources and predict trends. Crime statistics can also affect home prices and neighborhood livability rankings.

A City statistician said the data could be verified and released as soon as February, so check back on your Congress Park website at www.Congress-ParkNeighbors.org, and in the summer issue of your Congress Park News, when the map should return to its usual spot.

Denver Sidewalk Repair & Gap Program

By Bryan Wilson

Denver is ramping up its Sidewalk Repair and Gap Programs.

Neighborhood Sidewalk Repair Program

Property owners are responsible for maintaining the sidewalks, and the process has always been complaint-based. Now, the city will begin organized inspections starting with central Denver neighborhoods, including Capitol Hill, Congress Park, and Cherry Creek. Citations will notify homeowners of required repairs. The city will allow for fixes that are cheaper than a partial or full replacement, which can cost \$200-\$400 per concrete panel.

Homeowners could be eligible for financial help with the cost of the repairs when completed by the City of its contractor, based on household income. Contact Denver Public Works for details on eligibility rules for sidewalk repair assistance.

Sidewalk Gap Program

The city will also begin putting in sidewalks where they are missing. Public Works is still determining where to begin, prioritizing access to bus and transit stops.

In Congress Park, this could be along the west and south sides of Congress Park on Josephine and 8th Ave connecting the bus stops and making them wheelchair accessible.


See also the Denver Sidewalk Program on the City of Denver Website. <https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/denver-pedestrians/sidewalks.html>

Source: Denver will inspect sidewalks, order repairs — and offer payment help to homeowners. <https://www.denverpost.com/2017/12/19/denver-inspect-sidewalks/> Jon Murray, Denver Post, Dec. 19, 2017




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Day of Film Shows Women Overcoming Barriers

By Wendy Moraskie

The Zonta Club of Denver is extremely pleased to be screening the award-winning film *Little Stones* for its Tenth Annual Day of Film.

Because each of our contributions to women's empowerment is like a mosaic, *Little Stones* illustrates the personal narratives of four women around the world using art to create positive change in their communities. The personal narratives of a graffiti artist speaking out against domestic violence in Brazil's poorest neighborhoods, a dancer rehabilitating sex-trafficking survivors in India, a Senegalese rap-singer working to combat genital mutilation, and an American fashion designer whose company employs impoverished Kenyan women, demonstrate how each of us can make a difference.

The event ticket includes the screening at the Tivoli Student Union Turnhalle, a discussion with the director, a champagne brunch and validated parking in the adjacent garage. Tickets are \$45 until February 28 through at www.zonta-denver.org.

The \$50 ticket includes the film, the champagne brunch, parking and the discussion. You may purchase tickets by going to www.zonta-denver.org.

Or, if you cannot attend but would like to donate, you may also do that at the website.

The proceeds will fund projects of Zonta Club of Denver and of Zonta International, empowering at-risk women and girls in the Denver area and around the world. Some of the Denver projects include helping women gain self-sufficiency after domestic violence, drug addiction and dropping out of high school. International projects strive to delay early childhood marriages, educate to prevent gender violence, and eradicate AIDS. Donations to Zonta also contribute to scholarships to young women in aerospace, business and Public Affairs.

ZCD Day of Film

Date: March 31
Site: MSU Tivoli,
Turnhalle (rm 250)
Time: 9 am: open
9:15 am: champagne
brunch
10 am: Film starts

Price: \$50 (portion is tax
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Questions? Email Mara Gras: mara_gras@dpsk12.org

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A Check Up for Your House

By Peggy Goetz

Your New Year's Resolution may concern your own health, but what about your antique house's condition? It's not too late to give our old houses their annual check-ups before more snow and cold sets in.

Thanks to "This Old House" and other experts, here's a good list to start with. Look inside and outside for these items, and make a repair and maintenance list.

General

- Check for cracks or bulges in driveways, sidewalks, foundations, retaining walls and paths.
- Look inside and out for sagging ceilings, loose rails or boards, treads and tiles, springy spots, loose posts, bannisters and balusters and damaged steps.
- Look for signs of insects, squirrels or birds in sills, soffits, eaves, or attic vents.
- Note peeling paint, missing mortar and cracked stucco.
- Is the chimney leaning? Is the flashing in good condition?
- Check gutters and downspouts for debris or improper pitch. Soffit stains could signal a leak.
- Make sure the grade of the ground around the foundation slopes away from the house.
- Are there cracks, missing shingles or crumbling pieces on the roof?
- Examine weather-stripping inside and out on doors and windows for wear and shrinkage.
- Look for cracks in window glass and glazing around panes.
- Make sure ceilings aren't stained, sagging or cracked in new places. Look above doors for cracks.
- Test smoke and CO detectors and replace batteries.

Plumbing

- Look for signs of leaks in all faucets, valves, exposed pipes, and in areas where pipes run through the walls or foundation.
- Check faucet water pressure and drain speed. A slow or bubbling drain could be a problem.
- Open toilet tanks and look for worn or missing parts. Then flush and wait for a few minutes to see if the toilet runs after a pause, a sign of a slow leak.
- Look inside the water heater burner chamber for an even blue flame. Yellow in the flame



indicates soot or a gas-air mixture problem, meaning the jets need cleaning.

- Drain the water heater to remove sediment. Hard water can wear out the washers.
- Watch for cracks in shower tiles or around toilets or sinks and check the tub and shower caulking

Kitchen

- Do cabinet doors and drawers open and close properly? Are there loose knobs or hinges?
- Do all the stove burners and the broiler turn on quickly and properly, without sparking or bursts of flame. Gas stoves should give off an even blue flame.
- Check the oven door gasket for signs of wear and tear.
- Look for signs of leaking under and around the sink and dishwasher.
- Change the water filters.

Electrical

- Trees and branches around the house should not threaten wires.
- Open the breaker panel and look for new scorch marks.
- Look for loose outlet covers, receptacles, and loose boxes.
- Test GFCI outlets.
- Test all outlets with an electrical tester (or lamp).

Attic

- Go to the attic in the daylight, with the lights turned off. Holes in the roofing, seams or flashing that let light in, could invite animals.
- Check around vents for gaps. Look at fan motors for frayed wiring or loose screws.
- Feel around insulation for damp spots where leaks might be occurring. Look for missing or torn insulation, which could be a sign of animal activity.
- Examine joists and rafters for structural damage.

Denver Recycles' Annual Mulch Giveaway & Compost Sale is May 8

Denver's annual Mulch/Compost event is a great way to save money on landscaping and to re-use local recycled materials. For Denver residents, mulch is free and compost is cheap. The mulch is from ground-up Christmas trees (Treecycle), and the compost is from LeafDrop leaves and organic materials collected from Denver Composts.

<https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/trash-and-recycling/composting/mulch-giveaway---compost-sale.html>

Vanette Marie Hardy Puts Down Her Order Pad

By Mary Ellen Sweeney

We've transitioned from dumpster use in most of the neighborhood. Denver Public Works says the new black trash carts make collection more efficient in service, equipment and fuel use; decrease litter and rodents; increase recycling; and make alleys cleaner and safer.

Remember to take back your trash, composting and recycling carts to your own property after collection.



It's not your imagination: things have changed at Chef Zorba's. After 51 years of waiting on people, including 28 years at Chef Zorba's, Vanette Marie Hardy has retired! She looks forward to traveling, including a trip to Iceland with her grandson, and other leisure activities.

Chef Zorba owners Shellie and Jimmy Tsiopelas honored Van with a retirement send-off at the restaurant in late summer. Beaming, Shellie gave Van credit for training all three of her daughters: Katherine, Jeneane and Veronica. Jeneane and Jill (an 11-year Zorba's wait staff veteran) admired Vanette's playful way of redirecting the attention of screaming and crying children. They said she told one child: "You can't cry in here, because I can't cry in here!"

Vanette appreciates her years at Zorba's. She worked for previous Chef Zorba owners Alex and Rena Pappas for 15 years. Many co-workers and Congress Park customers are appreciative of her friendship and efficient food service over the past 28 years and said so at her send-off.

Retiring in Congress Park, Van remembers Monsignor Higgins, who recognized everyone's voice in the confessional, including hers. She is number two out of the eight Hardy kids who grew up for many years on the corner of 8th Avenue and Adams Street.

At the age of 15 in 1966, after getting her mother's signature for permission to work, Vanette began her serving career at the long defunct "Buddy Burgers" on Adams and Colfax. Later that year Van rented a fully furnished apartment of her own at 13th and Vine.

You'll likely see Van around the Congress Park neighborhood. She may even pinch hit at Zorba's from time to time. Be on the lookout for her in retired mode after that trip to Iceland!

Metal Detectorist Helps Find Lost Items

Samuel L. Knopp is a local metal detectorist who will help you find lost items for free. He will use his detector to help Denver area residents find lost keys, jewelry, or other valuables. He can also assist in finding any other metallic items that a resident may believe might be buried on their property. To find out more about this free service, contact him at 303-638-0145, or samknopp111@gmail.com.



Service Club Meeting

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

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.

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February is African American History Month, Children's Health, Cherry and Potato Month.

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

April is Cancer Control, Autism Awareness, Child Abuse Prevention, and Jazz Appreciation Month

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.

Professional Organizing

Streamline With Sarah
Throwing a Valentines Party? Probably not. But what about the dinner party you promised, the book club meeting you need to host and the relatives forced to AirBnB because your guest bedroom is a black hole? Afraid of organizing? Streamline with me, Sarah. Call (303) 868-2248 or email sarah@streamlinewithsarah.com.

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 and visit congressparkneighbors.org.

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Congress Park Businesses
www.congressparkneighbors.org
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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!



"Coming together is a beginning.
 Keeping together is progress.
 Working together is success."

- Henry Ford

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:
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 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.