



Congress Park

www.CongressParkNeighbors.org

News

Spring 2015

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It’s Official—The University of Colorado Is Out and Continuum Is In

By Lisa L. Bingham

On Friday, January 30, Continuum Partners became the owner of the former University of Colorado Hospital campus.

Now that it’s official, neighbors can expect to see a lot of action on the 12-block property. Saunders Construction, the construction company chosen for the project, will secure the site on Monday, putting up extra fencing and hiring off-duty police officers to patrol the site. Saunders is bringing in Northstar/LVI to complete the abatement of the remaining asbestos and building materials in late February, after which Colorado Cleanup Corporation will begin demolition in the spring.

During a community outreach meeting on January 28, Continuum also confirmed that they have created a partnership with Koelbel, Mile High Development, and Longs Peak Advisors to build an affordable housing project at Hale Parkway & Ash Street. This is currently a parking lot, but will provide at least 100 units when completed in mid-2017.

Additional community meetings will be held throughout the process, with the next meeting tentatively planned for late February or early March. Continuum has put up a website (<http://9thandcolorado.com>) where they will share meeting announcements, construction updates, and design plans. Questions or concerns can also be sent to info@9thandcolorado.com.

Central Denver Recreation Center Planning Continues

By Aaron Goldhamer

A stakeholders meeting for the Central Denver Recreation Center was held on January 7 to present revisions to the proposed layout. Among the items discussed that evening was the layout of the site, groundwater abatement issues, and the project budget, which includes a \$2.9 million shortfall.

The layout for the rec center now has the entrance located more squarely at Colfax and Josephine and has shifted the pool back from Josephine. There will be 100 to 125 parking spots on site; this is significantly less than many rec centers, but suits the smaller size of the site, its accessibility via public transit, and the general density around the site. The design will also continue to emphasize a strong pedestrian connection to East High School. The use for the northwest corner of the site is still undetermined, but stormwater detention, a small dog park, or some other outdoor activities are being considered. Stormwater detention is a significant issue due to the site’s slope.

Groundwater contamination of MTBE—a gasoline additive used in the 1970s—is thought to be coming from a leaking fuel tank at the SunMart, but this not definitive. There will be continued monitoring of this issue to confirm that the contamination is not spreading further. This issue is in part responsible for the re-orientation of the site, as well as the extent to which the pool will be dug out below grade. The revised design will reduce costs of.

Continued on page 13



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.

More Frequent Large Item Pickups Figure Into Congress Park Spring Plans

By Ann Charles

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

It might be snowing now, but Congress Park Neighbors are thinking about de-cluttering and Alley Clean-up parties. They're planning those activities around Denver Waste Management's improved Large Item Pickup schedule. The City has increased LIP to every six weeks, and the first Congress Park pickups of 2015 are scheduled for the weeks of February 2, then March 16 and April 27. Pickups are on your normal day for trash service during that week. For more details, or to sign up for alerts, see denverGov.org/trash.

See "Great Denver Cleanup" on page 4 and share the fun with your neighbors!



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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!

And we thank these committed neighbors:

Carolyn VanSciver—Congress Park Historic Preservation and Education Committee
303-377-4913
cvansciver@earthlink.net

Lisa Bingham—Hospital District Redevelopment

Crime Action
crime@congressparkneighbors.org

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

Two slots are open for CPN members to represent the neighborhood on the Botanic Gardens Neighborhood Advisory Committee. Submit a letter of interest 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.

Sustainability in Congress Park

By Lisa L. Bingham

Sustainability is no longer just a catch phrase or a passing fad. For businesses, sustainability is no longer something to differentiate them from the competition, but an expectation of their customers. Homeowners can increase their comfort levels about their energy footprints and reduce energy bills.

Over the past ten years, Denver has made major strides in improving sustainability across the city. In 2005, the city formalized their goals with the Greenprint Denver action plan. Since then, Denver has been recognized for its efforts in energy efficiency, transportation, renewable energy, water, and green business practices.

Moving forward, Denver wants to build on past success, expand the scale of programs and collaboration with the community. One way City staff are doing this is with the Sustainable Neighborhood Program, which leverages the resources of an entire community to further sustainability goals. Neighborhoods that participate in the program also benefit by increasing social connectivity between neighbors, building economic value by supporting local businesses, and promoting environmental health.

The Sustainable Neighborhood Program focuses on five categories: energy, air, water, land, and people. Neighborhood residents set goals, organize workshops and events, develop resources, and perform inventories to earn points toward certification. These could include educational workshops on energy reduction or water conservation, research in to a community solar program, setting up a weekly walking group, developing a neighborhood tree inventory, promoting transportation alternatives with ride-sharing, RTD, B-cycle, and privately owned bike maintenance and safety promotion, alley clean-ups, getting households signed up for recycling and the Compost Collection program, or any of a wide array of initiatives.

Based on the number of credits earned, neighborhoods can receive certification as either a "Participating Neighborhood" or an "Outstanding Neighborhood."

Congress Park's proximity to downtown and major traffic corridors like Colorado and Colfax, several bus routes, a dedicated bike lane, business districts on Colfax and 12th Avenue within easy walking distance, as well as the up-and-coming 9th & Colorado redevelopment, all contribute to making our neighborhood a prime location in Denver. Through Denver's Sustainable Neighborhood Program, we can capitalize on these assets and make Congress Park one of the premier neighborhoods in Denver.

A proposal for Congress Park to participate in the program was raised at the December meeting of Congress Park Neighbors and was provisionally accepted. If you would like to get involved in developing the program, please contact the Congress Park Neighbors board at cpnboard@congressparkneighbors.org.

Historic Preservation Talks

Want to take over the Historic Preservation Talks for this season? Contact Carolyn VanSciver at cvsancier@earthlink.net to find out how to arrange for monthly speakers this spring and summer to help us learn to take care of our "antique" homes.

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Teller Blooms in Spring with Cultures, Dance and Theatre

By Lisa Aiken

CPN Events On Web

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

Spring is just around the corner and Teller Elementary will be brimming with many fun springtime events.

First off, with an Under-the-Sea theme, is the Scholastic Spring Book Fair, which will take place the week of March 16 through the 20. For more information, visit the following link two weeks prior: <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/tellerelementaryschool1>

At Teller Elementary, differences are embraced and celebrated. The school culture is one that fosters a World Citizen mentality. To showcase this, Teller's Drama and Arts department will be featuring a Multicultural Night on March 16 at 5:30 p.m. Songs, dances and skits representing the various cultures at Teller, will be performed by first and second graders.

The event also features six student-led "make-and-take" crafting activities sponsored by each classroom. A buffet table will be set up for families to bring and share various foods and delicacies from their culture. Families and visitors are encouraged to wear cultural attire as well. Our wonderful art teacher, Mrs. Taft, is looking for parent feedback on ideas for the crafting activities. Please email her at KATIE_TAFT@dpsk12.org.

The school-wide Spring Dance will be held in the cafeteria on Thursday, March 26 at 6 p.m. Teller's student council is meeting in the next month or two to decide on the theme. Stay tuned for more information.

Teller's 3rd through 5th grade students are busy rehearsing for their Shakespeare Festival's performance: Macbeth...with a Star Wars twist! A performance will be held in the Teller Auditorium on April 23 at 5 p.m. The students will then take it to the stage at the DPS-sponsored Shakespeare Festival downtown the following week. Our Colorado Thespian Teacher of the Year Award winner (2013) Mrs. Bartos, is asking for Star Wars-themed costumes and props. Please email her at: JENNIFER_BARTOS@DPSK12.org if you can help.

Great Denver Cleanup is Saturday, May 9

Keep Denver Beautiful, a program of the City of Denver, will provide stationary trash trucks at various sites to collect discarded Household items, Yard Waste & Goodwill donations. This event is FREE for Denver residents. See denvergov.org/KDB for more details.



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Congress Park properties sold by Lisa Santos in 2014:

- 815 Cook
- 1418 St. Paul
- 1342 Milwaukee #2
- 1200 Vine #5E
- 1233 Fillmore
- 1172 Gaylord
- 1585 Fillmore #7
- 1109 Madison
- 864 Garfield

Thinking of selling this year? Let's chat!

*Lisa Santos represented buyer or seller in these transactions.

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This is a great opportunity to plan your neighborhood cleanup. Share information with your neighbors and make plans to clean out our alleys, garages and yards.

Tellerpalooza Turns 12!

By Lisa Aiken

Coming up in May, the 12th annual Tellerpalooza concert fundraiser returns to the legendary Bluebird Theater on East Colfax Avenue, for an evening of music, culture, food and fun. The public, as always, is welcome to the event, which serves as a vital funding lifeline for Teller Elementary's school programs, including music, art, reading and math.

In addition to the outstanding musical line-up, Tellerpalooza 2015 will feature food trucks, a bake sale, a merchandise market with Tellerpalooza tees and gear from performing bands and other fundraising opportunities.

The event kicks off at 4 p.m. with performances by Teller's own budding voices and musicians. More information will be posted on the website: www.Tellerpalooza.com. Please stay tuned and check for updates as the date draws nearer.

Tellerpalooza wouldn't be possible without the generous support of Denver's music community who donate their time and talents for the event. Among the list from last year were: Dragondeer (fronted by Eric Halborg, the dad of a Teller student), Safe Boating Is No Accident, The Other Black, Amanda Hawkins, Claymore Disco and Chimney.

Thanks also to the generous corporate sponsorship which included The Bluebird Theater/AEG Live; modern rock KTCL Channel 93.3; TAG Burger Bar; Lisa Santos RE/MAX Cherry Creek, Rosen Properties; Sprouts Farmers Market; and Colorado Commercial Services.



photo by Kristina Reilly, Teller parent

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
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What's Going On at the "Old Waldorf" School Building?

REACH:

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REACH will combine best practices from traditional and progressive school models to create an educational program that meets the need of each child. Focused small group instruction in language arts and math, based on each child's skill level will enable all students to learn basic skills. At the same time, project-based learning in science and social studies will facilitate critical thinking and communication skills which are so vital in today's world.

REACH Charter school will be opening its doors in August 2015 in Congress Park. Located in the former Waldorf School building at 940 Fillmore, REACH will be an inclusive public charter school serving children in Preschool through 5th Grade. During its first year, REACH will open with Preschool through 2nd Grade, and will add a grade each year until it is a full elementary school.

REACH will have 3 teachers for every 2 classes and will partner closely with families to develop individual learning plans for every child. REACH is partnered with the University of Denver School of Education and Human Development (Dean Rebecca Kantor is on the REACH board of directors), and Denver Public Schools. REACH is also a partner and affiliate to the 70-year-old Sewall Child Development Center. For more information, contact REACH at 720-446-8927 or visit the website at REACHpk5.org.

Century Link Could Provide Cable Competition

By Jeanne Robb, Denver City Council District 10

Century Link is proposing a franchise to provide cable TV to residents in Denver. As you know, Century Link, formerly Quest, already provides phone and internet service to Denver residents. Those services do not require a franchise but under City, State, and Federal law, cable TV services require a franchise with the City.

Currently Comcast has the sole franchise for cable TV service in Denver. Much of the proposed Century Link franchise would mirror the Comcast franchise. Having two cable providers in the city of Denver could increase competition, a key point of the 2006 federal telecommunications law. A clear and concise executive summary by the city attorney's office is available at SIRE Public Access. Look for public hearings.

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Colfax Storefront the Site for Retail Marijuana License Application

Applicant Don Novak has applied for a retail marijuana license for the storefront at 3121 E. Colfax. The applicant already has a medical marijuana license, and is proposing a co-located medical and retail establishment. There is a public hearing at 9 a.m., March 2 at the Webb Building. The city’s public hearing notice states:

“At the time of the public hearing on March 2, you will be required to prove why said application should be approved in accordance with the Denver Retail Marijuana Code. The Department of Excise and Licenses has designated an area around your location on a map. You must present up to three adult witnesses who are residents or business owners/managers from the designated area to testify in support of the application.

“... The protestant to the application, if there are any, will also be allowed to present up to three witnesses to testify individually and others to testify as a group. Representatives from any registered neighborhood organizations in the area will also be allowed to testify regarding the organization’s position.”

Please send your response to this application to CPNBoard@congresspark Neighbors.org.

Volunteer Opportunity – Tax Prep Clinics

By Geoff Brown

With tax season just around the corner, the Denver Asset Building Coalition (DABC) is recruiting volunteers to serve low-income families with free tax preparation services. Each year, the DABC receives a lending hand from many volunteers from the community. No accounting experience is needed, and volunteers build their resumes by adding new skills while helping working people reach financial self-sufficiency. For more information, call 303-388-7030, or visit www.denverabc.org.

CONGRESS PARK 2014 REVIEW

As of January 15, there are 7 homes on the market!

1 Story Homes ... 64 Listings Sold

Average Price:	\$469,085
Average Sq.Ft.:	1,234
Average Price/Sq.Ft.:	\$380
Average List to Sold Price:	96.9%
Average Days on Market:	30

2 Story Homes ... 65 Listings Sold

Average Price:	\$557,462
Average Sq.Ft.:	1,969
Average Price/Sq.Ft.:	\$283
Average List to Sold Price:	96%
Average Days on Market:	42



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Summer Meals Sponsors Can Be:

- Public or private non-profit (PNP) schools
- Units of local, municipal, county, state or federal government
- PNP organizations
- Public or PNP residential camps
- Public or PNP universities or colleges participating in the National Youth Sports Program
- Community- and faith-based organizations

Food That's In When School is Out

By Anjali Budhiraja

Summer is coming and thousands of children in Colorado will experience hunger when they no longer have access to school lunch. You may be able to help.

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Colorado Department of Education, ensures that children continue to receive nutritious meals during the summer, when they do not have access to school lunch or breakfast. The Summer Food Service Program began in 1968 and provides nutritious food that's "in" when school is "out".

Last summer, about 19,000 children ate free summer meals each day at over 400 locations across Colorado, a small fraction of the number of children who would be eligible for these meals. This year, the state is reaching out to partners to ensure that even more children have access to meals.

Colorado organizations can serve as sponsors for the SFSP, and operate feeding sites. The location and type of site may depend on the number of students who are eligible for free and reduced-price meals in a neighborhood or area.

Sponsors run meal sites, which can be at schools, parks, libraries, recreation centers, and other places where kids congregate. Many creative partnerships have arisen to link food and activity resources at sites.

If you know of any organization that may be interested in becoming a Sponsor or a site, contact

the Colorado Department of Education, School Nutrition Office. Sponsors must complete a training that takes place in March. For more information, please visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/nutrition/nutrisummer> or contact Ashley Moen at moen_a@cde.state.co.us or 303-866-6653.

CRES Launches "Why So Cold?"

CRES' "Why So Cold?" energy efficiency campaign connects home owners and buyers with resources for targeted upgrades

By David Morrison

On February 16, the Colorado Renewable Energy Society (CRES) launched a home energy efficiency campaign, entitled "Why So Cold?", to alert Denver home owners and buyers to the benefits and affordability of energy efficiency and to direct them to resources to upgrade their homes. The campaign, which aims to boost levels of participation in local and federal efficiency programs, will culminate in an educational event at the end of March featuring home efficiency experts and services.

The benefits of an efficient home are the same year-round—greater thermal comfort and lower energy bills. Owning a quality home that stays warm in the winter and cool in the summer is an excellent reason itself for improvements such as attic insulation. However, once you take into account that many upgrades pay for themselves in saved energy costs and there are financing options that eliminate the up-front cost, you might ask yourself, "Why So Cold?"

FHA energy efficient mortgages (EEMs), for instance, are a tool for home buyers that actually reduce the cost of ownership for a house. By financing only cost-effective upgrades and including the cost of efficiency upgrades in the mortgage, the monthly energy savings exceed the amount added to mortgage payment. This eliminates the up-front cost, increases the home's comfort and has buyers saving from day one. If you are buying a home built before the 90s, look into an EEM.

For home owners in the City and County of Denver, the Denver Energy Challenge makes upgrading your home affordable and easy. The free service helps home owners with free energy advising, obtaining and reviewing bids from qualified contractors and applying for all applicable rebates and financing.

Be comfortable. Pay less . . . Why So Cold?

Check us out at whysocold.org for more information and for a "Why So Cold?" educational event in your area!



Make Your Home a Safer Place

By Shelley Wood

In the winter, we tend to cocoon indoors and it's a good time to make sure that your home is safer than those icy streets. Here are some places to check, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Falling - the Number One Problem

- Make sure you have a non-slip surface in the bath or shower - add a rubber mat or replace flooring if needed.
- Add a shower seat as a safe way to position yourself for leg shaving and other 'one foot' activities.
- Add grab bars or bannisters to bathroom and staircase areas where a stumble could occur.

Install nightlights in the bathroom and other places you visit in the dark night.

Other Concerns - Cuts and Fires

- Make sure knives are kept sharp -- dull knives require more pressure and are more likely to slip!
- Don't leave knives in soapy water where you could accidentally grab the blade.
- Store knives in a knife holder, out of reach of little hands.
- Make sure your smoke detectors are working and keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen.
- Clean out your dryer vent with a long bristle brush to prevent dryer fires.
- Avoid using the heated dry setting on your dishwasher unless you are nearby.

Outside

- Make everything easier to see with porch lights. On a timer, they're helpful to you, your mailman, your dog-walking friend, and neighbors watching out for you.
- The steps to the porch and sidewalks should always have a bannister to grab.
- Check for icy spots on sidewalks and porch steps created by downspouts or drips - apply snow melt!
- If you see that a neighbor is out of town or ill, run a shovel along their walk as a courtesy.

Help for Senior Adults with Taxes and Rent

Do you wonder if you'll be able to pay rent or property taxes this year? The Senior Property Tax Deferral program is available those age 65 and over who live in their own home and whose property taxes from previous years are paid in full. If the property has a mortgage, the mortgage lender must agree to place the State of Colorado in first position on the lien.

To apply for a Property Tax Deferral, the individual must file an application between January 1 and April 1 each year with the county treasurer's office. The State of Colorado will pay the county for the property taxes each year the application is made with the county treasurer. Interest is charged by the State of Colorado. When the property is sold, the tax lien will be paid and a clear title can be presented to the new buyer.

In addition, the grant is available to Senior property owners as well as Senior renters who do not live in "non-profit" or "subsidized" housing. Individuals who live in non-profit or subsidized housing are eligible for the heat credit, but not the rent credit.

For copies of forms and assistance to complete the forms, call 303-333-3482 or 1-855-880-4777.

Senior Services:

Vision and Hearing
by Eileen Doherty, M.S.
Executive Director, Colorado Gerontological Society

The Colorado Gerontological Society has received additional funding for vision and hearing grants for low income older adults age 60 and over. Individuals in Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Gilpin or Jefferson county can apply. Priority will be given to those in social and economic need. Current waiting lists are short. Funds must be expended by June 30, 2015.

For more on senior services, contact Eileen at Senior Answers and Services
3006 East Colfax Avenue
Denver CO 80206
303-333-3482
303-333-9112 (fax)
Doherty001@att.net or
cogs@senioranswers.org
www.senioranswers.org

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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*

Congress Park Crime Report

By Steve Eppler

Crime rates are dropping in Congress Park. There was a 31.7% drop in 2014 compared to 2013. Crimes against persons decreased 23% with aggravated assault, simple assault and forcible sex offenses dropping 43%, 50%, and 40% respectively. Crimes against property were reduced 34.5%. This category includes burglary (-50%), larceny (-40.7%), and theft from motor vehicle (-46%). The frequency of motor vehicle theft was unchanged. Criminal mischief/damaged property increased by 10.1%. There were 8 robberies in 2014 compared to 7 the previous year.

Congress Park is located in District 2, on the southern part of Precinct 213. Precinct 213's border are York St/ Josephine St on the west to Colorado Blvd on the east, Martin Luther King Blvd on the north to 6th Ave on the south. The crime rate for the last 28 days in all of Precinct 213 is down 30.1% from the previous 28 days. Throughout the District, there are still many vehicles that are being stolen that are turned on to warm up and left unattended ('Puffers').

From 12/21/14 to 1/17/15 there were three street robberies. These occurred at 12th Ave at Madison St, 13th Ave at Garfield and Colfax Ave at York St. Many of these occurred when people were getting out of their cars in front of their homes. There was only 1 burglary and 1 stolen car. Both represent huge improvements. There were 4 domestic violence incidents with 2 arrests and 3 warrants issued. One aggravated assault occurred at Colfax Ave at York St. There was one theft from motor vehicle at 14th Ave and Josephine St. There were 6 thefts. Two people were arrested in two of the thefts. In addition, four suspects were arrested and charged in connection with the theft of Dale Chihuly art glass from the Denver Botanical Gardens.

The assistance of Adriel Torres, Community Resource Officer, District 2, Sector 1, Denver Police Department in the preparation of this report is appreciated. He advised to be sure that your houses and garages are locked at all times and remember

that leaving exterior lights on at night can deter criminal activity.



Have you heard?

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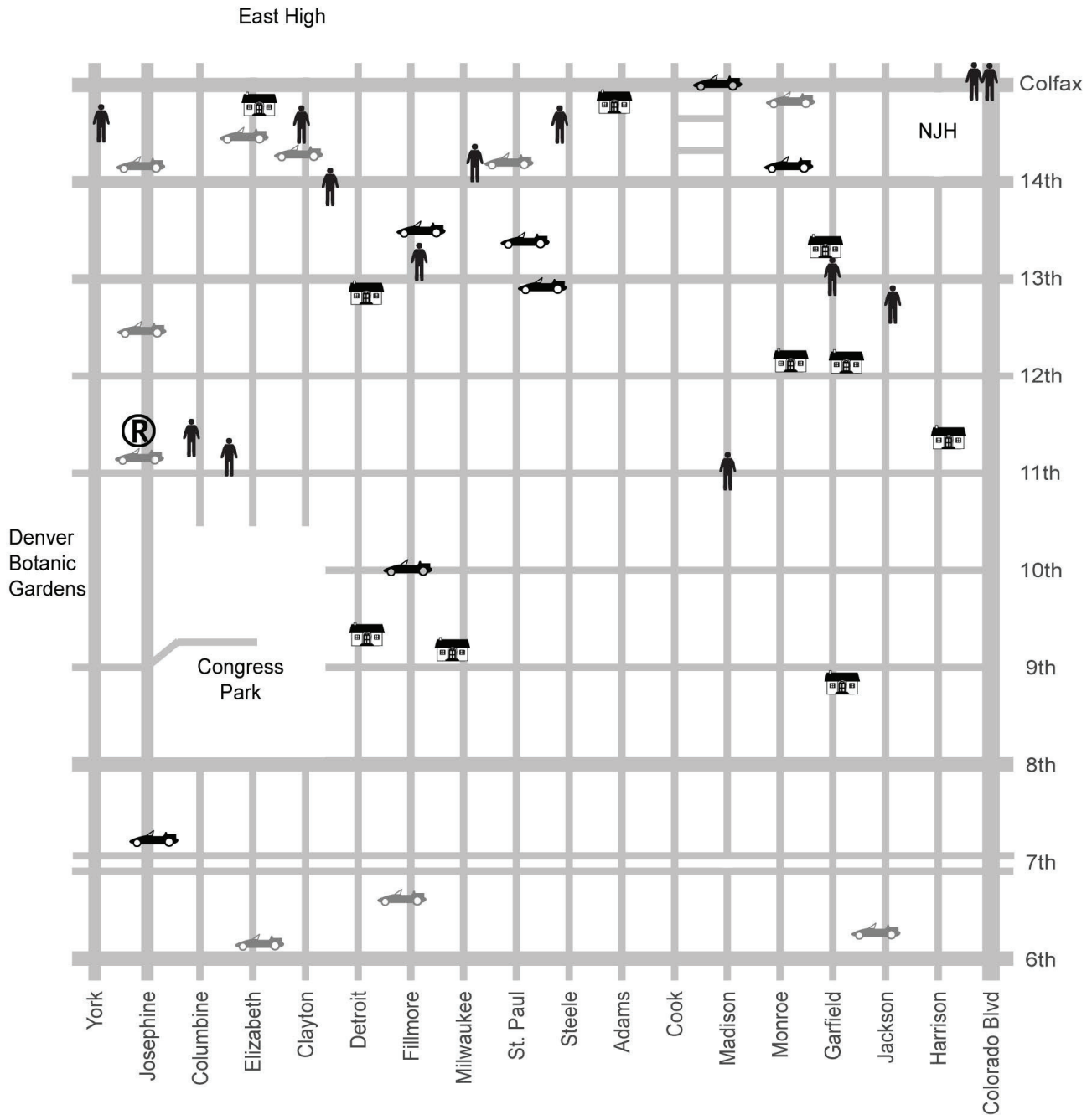
5% of all proceeds are donated to Animal Rescue!

Pet adoption fee paid at closing so you can share your new home with a furry friend!

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

CONGRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CRIMES OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2014



- 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 fourth quarter of 2014. Crime mapping is provided by the Congress Park Crime Action Committee using City and Police Department statistics relayed through Council District 10.

Since 1978, the Denver Film Society has promoted cinema as both an art form and a transformative civic forum, through year-round screenings, community outreach projects and renowned special events. DFS is the only nonprofit organization in Colorado dedicated to engaging members and the general public in an understanding of film and film culture. For more information about the 2015 VOICES festival and the Denver Film Society, visit: www.denverfilm.org.

Denver Film Society Welcomes Reel Social Club

By Congress Park News staff

Reel Social Club is the latest extension of the Denver Film Society. Our mission is to introduce fresh audiences to the DFS and help foster an appreciation of film culture through exclusive parties, screenings, and film festival experiences. For only \$80/year, Reel Social Club members receive:



- Discounted and/or FREE access to exclusive Reel Social Club events during the Starz Denver Film Festival and year-round.
- Free admission for one (1) to the FilmCenter at the time of your in-person box office Membership purchase
- Free small popcorn per member per screening
- One (1) voucher for free admission for regular screening at the FilmCenter
- One (1) voucher for free admission for regular screening at the Starz Denver Film Festival screenings. (This voucher can be converted to use at the FilmCenter if not used at festival.)
- ALL VOUCHERS GOOD FOR ONE YEAR from date of membership purchase/renewal.
- Discounts on admission to special DFS events, including Starz Denver Film Festival screenings
- Advance booking opportunities for Starz Denver Film Festival screenings
- Free admission for one to all members-only screenings
- Free weekly e-newsletters

To Join, go to the Denver Film Society website and choose “Reel Social Club” <https://www.denverfilm.org/join/join.aspx>

Zonta Sponsors Film Festival Screening to Highlight Advocacy For Women

The 7th annual Zonta Club of Denver Day of Film will feature a



screening of “Jhola” during the 2015 Denver Film Society’s 5th annual Women+Film Festival| VOICES. Showcasing a mix of documentaries, narrative and short films to celebrate the best in women-centric stories from around the world, VOICES runs March 17 - 22. Zonta Club of Denver is proud to be a continuing VOICES sponsor.

This 9:45 a.m. Saturday, March 21 screening at the SIE FilmCenter at 2510 East Colfax, is a ZCD Foundation fundraiser. The \$40 ticket will include the full-length movie, parking and a brunch reception. Proceeds will finance projects of the Zonta Club of Denver benefiting at-risk women in the Denver area. Purchase tickets at www.zonta-denver.org.

Nepal submitted “Jhola” as its 2015 Oscar entry for best foreign film. It depicts the Sati tradition in which Hindu women were forced to commit suicide on the funeral pyres of their spouses. While legally abolished in 1920 in Nepal, some communities still follow the custom. However horrific the practice of Sati, the movie also shows the redeeming strength of people banding together to improve their circumstances. Join us as we share this film for just its second public showing in the US.

Last year’s Day of Film proceeds helped at-risk Denver women improve their skills and become self-sufficient.

Zonta Club of Denver was chartered in 1927 and, as part of Zonta International, is united with more than 30,000 executives in business and the professions in over 1,200 clubs in 65 countries to improve the status of marginalized women and children worldwide. National Philanthropy Day Colorado recognized ZCD as its “Outstanding Service Organization” for 2011.



ZONTA
CLUB OF
DENVER
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

Central Denver Rec Center Planning Continues

Continued from page 1
By Aaron Goldhamer

...construction with respect to the contamination.

The base cost of the rec center is now estimated to be \$23.87 million, which does not include construction costs for some adjacent retail space (estimated at \$600,000), finishing off the rooftop for an event space (\$830,000), a walk/jog track (\$500,000) around the “mezzanine” level overlooking the basketball court and exercise area, and a climbing wall on the exterior of the building (\$150,000). Denver currently has a budget of \$23.1 million for the rec center, meaning that the project faces a \$2.9M shortfall. The additional elements could be added as funds become available, but additional funding will be needed to meet the base costs.

There are various proposals to address this shortfall. One option is a loan of some sort that would be repaid from rent income on the site, including event rentals in the rec center as well as the retail space. Naming-rights for the sponsorship of a major element of the construction (such as the pool) could be available for a significant donation worth 50% of the cost of that feature.

While the city isn’t sure that the community would a corporate name for the whole center, naming rights for the component pieces (such as the pool) appears more palatable. Additional fundraising proposals include grant money, selling the land underlying the proposed retail space, and trying to fit some additional development (possibly housing) onto the site and selling that space.

Brad Buchanan, executive director of the Denver Department of Community Planning and Development, presented on the “pros” of additional development. He mentioned the increased density and activity at the site, as well as additional underground parking for housing, but also noted that the timeline for this development in conjunction with the Rec Center itself could be problematic.

Gordon Roberston, Director of Park Planning, presented some “con” aspects of the additional development, including the possibility of too much

activity on the site, the possible lack of architectural control over a developer, and the notion that additional development on the site would detract from Denver’s attempted “City in a Park” feel.

Further discussion of the added development led to a consensus that if it was going to happen, there would need to be a concerted communication effort between the City and the public. There may be some strong resistance to the idea in light of the onsite retail and the perception that Denver’s public spaces are being overly privatized and commoditized.

There does not appear to be any resolution at this point between the city and Denver Public Schools concerning any usage of the student parking lot across 16th Street. It was noted that during certain times of day, that lot is packed with student cars, especially in the spring when more students obtain driver’s licenses.

Central Denver Plans on CPN Website

For pictures of the plans, see www.congressparkneighbors.org

Rec Center Needs Your Input

To give constructive input about our new Rec Center, or any other city issue, contact your City Councilwoman’s office.

Jeanne Robb
Council District 10
Phone: 720-337-7710
Jeanne.Robb@denvergov.org

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**Yard Sale
Season Approaches
Proceeds Benefit
Communities**

This spring, clean out guest rooms, basements, storage rooms and garages and donate those valuables for the next community yard sale. Teller Elementary holds an annual yard sale to support its teaching programs; contact 720-424-3560 to learn more.

Zonta Club of Denver (501.c.3) holds an annual yard sale in May and the proceeds benefit local at-risk women. Contact Wendy Moraskie (303-355-3735) to donate items and get a tax deductible donation slip.

Compost Collection Program Includes Half of Congress Park

By Denver Public Works

With the expansion of Denver's Compost Collection Program in 2015, nearly the whole southern half of Congress Park can collect and contribute compostables to the effort. Organic material like food, soiled paper and yard debris is the single largest item we throw away in our landfill, and it is 100% compostable.

Participants in the Denver's Compost Collection Program receive a large, green composting cart and weekly collection. Organic material such as yard debris, food and soiled paper are all accepted in the program. Only material inside the green cart can be collected.

To find out if your home is within a Composting Collection program area visit <https://www.denver.gov/trashrecycling/TrashandRecycling/Composting/CompostCollectionProgram/tabid/438328/Default.aspx>. If you're not yet included, let your elected officials know it's time to include all of Congress Park.

The Compost Collection program is a fee-based program. Participants may make \$29.25 quarterly payments (every three months) or a single payment for one year. The majority of participants choose to prepay for the year and pay online. It saves money, paper and time!

How the program works: You toss yard debris, food and non-recyclable paper into your green cart for Denver Recycles to collect. Denver Recycles delivers the organic material collected to a composting facility run by A1 Organics. They put the organic material through a natural process that transforms it into compost that is sold to farmers and landscapers.



Congress Park News :: Spring 2015

Help! My Garage is Full of Old Computers and Other Electronic Junk!

Whole Foods Electronic Waste Collection: Saturdays, 10am – 2pm:

1st Saturday of every month – Capitol Hill Whole Foods, 900 E 11th Ave.

2nd Saturday of every month – Wash Park Whole Foods, 1111 S Washington St.

3rd Saturday of every month – Colo. Blvd. Whole Foods, 870 S Colo. Blvd.

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(720) 663-9859

Elizabeth@Cyperslaw.com



Elizabeth Cypers, Esq.
Cypers Law, PC
1750 Humboldt Street
Denver, CO 80210

www.cyperslaw.com

Service Club Meeting

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

Window and Gutter Cleaning

Twin Pines Window Cleaning
House cleaning, leaf clean-up and snow shoveling services available. Contact Bob at 303-329-8205
Offering Complimentary Estimates Since 1994

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Call 720-231-0475 for rates.

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For advertising rates, call 720-231-0475

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.

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., National Jewish Heitler Hall. Contact cpnboard@congressparkneighbors.org and visit congressparkneighbors.org

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

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.

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

CashBackFairy.com

- *Discounts and Cash Back on Shopping & Travel & Restaurants
- *Every purchase generates a donation to Zonta Club of Denver, a local organization helping at-risk women for 88 years. Info? Call Wendy at 303-355-3735 or email at wlmoraskie@yahoo.com



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

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



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful,
 committed citizens can change the world.
 Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

- Margaret Mead

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

___ 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.

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