



News

Spring 2019

www.CongressParkNeighbors.org

Inside

Congress Park Neighbors Needs You!	2
Citywide Building Survey, CP Pool to Remain Open in 2019	3
Teller's Special Education: Amazing Teachers Serving Exceptional Students	4
Do We Value Education?	5
CPN Safe Streets Committee Achieves Collaborative Successes	6
Celebrate International Women's Day All March	7
Preserve Congress Park's Unique Physical Characteristics	8-9
Design Influences Interaction	9
CPN Crime and Map	10-11
Accomplishments & Goals for a Strong, Sustainable & Inclusive Denver	12
Green Team Action Tips for Spring 2019, Studio Colfax	13
Down the Street at DBG	14
Biz Directory	15

Earth Month and Green Team Neighbor-to-Neighbor Support

Let's "Walk the Talk" Together.

By Congress Park Neighbors Green Team

With Earth Day (April 22) quickly approaching, the Green Team is busy planning activities for our annual Earth Month celebration. Yes, here in Congress Park we celebrate the whole month with engaging, hands-on events to support our environment. And let's face it, planet Earth can use all the love and support we can muster (<https://www.earthday.org/2018/10/08/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-new-ipcc-climate-report/>).

Whether you want to save water, cut your home and transportation energy usage, or reduce your waste, there's an activity for you, along with a Green Team member willing to help you get started.

During April's first weekend, we'll be hosting part 2 of 3 "Do-it-ourselves" workshops on water-wise designs that can save water (and money!) while beautifying your front yard. Green team neighbors with landscaping expertise will help participants convert their tree lawns to lovely water-saving landscapes.

2nd weekend: Neighbors will gather to kick-off a 6-month Carbon Diet Challenge to re-

duce their collective carbon footprint through simple energy and water conservation efforts in their homes.

3rd weekend: Green Team neighbors will demonstrate bus and bike commuting options, mentoring those neighbors interested in changing their transportation habits to more environmentally friendly options.

We'll wrap up the month with ways to reduce the mountain of valuable materials we toss into landfills every year that could actually be used to make new products. Green team members will demonstrate what to do with those particularly hard-to-recycle items.

Details for each event will be posted on the CongressParkNeighbors.org website, as well as in eNewsletters, on Facebook, NextDoor, kiosks and storefronts around the neighborhood. All events are free to participants (donations are welcome). If you have questions about one (or any) of the events, reach out to us at sustainability@congressparkneighbors.org.

See you in April!

Congress Park's Vision (1995 Neighborhood Plan)

Congress Park is a traditional city neighborhood with a small-town atmosphere. Here, people of diverse cultures, ages, colors and economic backgrounds share a sense of community, value older homes and mature trees, and enjoy the convenience of city living amid the stability of a thriving neighborhood.

Congress Park News is a quarterly publication of Congress Park Neighbors, Inc. A network of volunteers produces and distributes it to a circulation of more than 4,500 residents and businesses within the area bounded by Colfax Avenue, Sixth Avenue, York Street and Colorado Boulevard.

www.CongressParkNeighbors.org

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Volunteers Needed

Your articles, letters and advertisements are always welcome.

Neighborhood meetings are held every other month (February, April, June, August, October, December), on the third Wednesday, at 7 p.m. at REACH Charter School 940 Fillmore. Watch for 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

Congress Park Neighbors Needs You!

Opportunities to get involved in our great neighborhood

Are you looking for ways to get involved in Congress Park? Maybe you're new to the neighborhood? Or perhaps you're newly retired or otherwise found some extra time you'd like to put to good use? What are you interested in? Your volunteer neighborhood organization needs your talents and has a committee or a task that needs your expertise!

Join CPN's Green Team or the Safe Streets or Historic Preservation committees. Help the neighbors who keep us all informed on city issues like the new neighborhood planning process, Parks and Rec and Zoning.

Are you extremely organized? You could help with our membership committee. Are you well-

informed about neighborhood businesses? You could liaise with our hyper-local businesses for the Board and the newsletter.

Passionate about education? You could coordinate the work between the neighborhood schools, the Board and the newsletter.

Artistically inclined? CPN needs an updated logo. Love to write fun stuff? We need your articles for the newsletter. Want to get more exercise? You can help deliver the newsletter and other meeting flyers as they come up.

Contact any of the people in the list below to find out how much we need your help!

Your Congress Park Neighbors 2019 Volunteer Board of Directors

Tom Conis—President
tom.conis@congressparkneighbors.org

Myles Tangalin—Treasurer
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Wendy Moraskie—Newsletter
1461 Milwaukee St.; 303-355-3735
wendyrich@msn.com

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:

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

Steve Eppler—Crime Action
crime@congressparkneighbors.org

Rodney Allen and Eleni Sarris
—Congress Park Historic Preservation

Your Name here—Hospital District Redevelopment

Liz Chester—Safe Streets Committee

Bill DeMaio, Liz Goehring and Myles Tangalin
—Denver Botanic Gardens Liaisons

Vicki Eppler, Mayor's Appointee
—DBG Board of Trustees

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. Volunteer CPNews advertising accounts rep needed now! Call Wendy, 303-355-3735, for info.

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.

Citywide Building Survey hosts “Discovery Day”

Bring your photos, plans and stories about Congress Park and your house to “Discovery Day.” Discover Denver is hosting “Discovery Day” on Sat., March 16, from 1 to 4 p.m. at Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church. This open house event will give neighbors an opportunity to learn about the citywide building survey, the work that project staff and volunteers are doing in Congress Park, and discoveries made as the project has moved throughout the city. Attendees are invited to bring photographs, historical information, and stories that help tell the history of the Congress Park neighborhood. At past Discovery Day events, attendees have shared items ranging from original house plans and old photographs to property abstracts and maps. Staff and volunteers will be on site to scan photographs and documents and to capture stories.

Discover Denver is a citywide architectural survey focused on identifying the buildings that help tell Denver’s story. A partnership between Historic Denver, Inc. and the City and County of Denver, the project is working to identify buildings throughout the city having architectural, historical, or cultural significance. Project volunteers are currently working in the Congress Park neighborhood, and expect to be here through May.

Congress Park Pool to Remain Open in 2019

By Melissa Horn

Denver Parks and Recreation (DPR) recently announced that the Congress Park Pool would be closed and unavailable to the community for the 2019 and 2020 summer seasons. Water leaks and repairs were cited as the reason for the 2019 closure. In 2020, Congress Park will be closed to build a new pool and facility as part of the Elevate Denver Bond.

After hearing about the planned 2019 closure of this treasured asset, Councilman New contacted Denver Parks and Recreation and the Mayor’s Office to express his frustration and to emphasize the impact it would have on residents and their children. Although sympathetic, they didn’t think they would be able to fund the repairs. Then Councilman New offered to pay the maintenance and repair costs (about \$20,000) from his District 10 office funds to keep the pool open. Shortly thereafter, he heard from Denver Parks and Recreation that the Mayor had authorized city funds for the repairs. Councilman New’s office funds can now be utilized for other community needs.

Thank you Denver Parks and Recreation and the Mayor’s Office for supporting Councilman New’s and the community’s efforts to keep the Congress Park Pool open in 2019!

CPN Highlights

April 17: Bi-monthly CP Neighbors meeting. Candidates’ Forum for City Council election

Councilman Wayne New
District 10
720-337-7710
Wayne.New@denvergov.org
www.denvergov.org



Teller's Special Education: Amazing Teachers Serving Exceptional Students

By Sierra



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.

Teller Elementary School is one of the many schools in Denver that have a Special Education program. At Teller there are 40+ students that are enrolled in the Special Education Program. The Special Education program helps students with exceptional needs, learning and/or intellectual challenges.

These programs at Teller have helped many students improve their learning skills, however, worldwide Special Education is drastically underfunded. The special educators at Teller agree that Special Education, as a whole, requires more funding to support teachers and the materials needed in the classroom.

Teller Special Educator Chris-Anne Giordano said, "We lost money last year due to budget cuts, and now, we don't have the supports in place that we used to. In the past, we had administrative

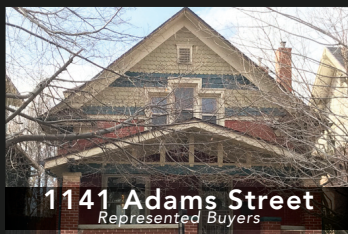
help with our testing and paperwork, and we no longer have that help."

Special educators do a lot for students and leave a positive impact on the lives of their students. -Giordano added that the impact she has on her students includes the relationships she builds with them, as well as the academic support. Furthermore, the relationships she has with her students has helped them to become more successful in the classroom.

Adults, children, and students all need to be aware of the critical job special educators at Teller Elementary are doing to give every child in the program the best education possible with the limited funding provided.

Sierra is an 8th grader working on a project to raise awareness about the Special Education program.

Sold by Lisa Santos | Congress Park 2018



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Do We Value Education?

By Wendy Moraskie

"Don't tell me what you value, show me your budget, and I'll tell you what you value."

-Joe Biden

As I write this, the staff of our local public school can't submit an article for this issue (the first time in the 18 years I've been volunteer editor!) because they are wrapping up their work in preparation to go on strike. It's the first teachers' strike in 25 years. They don't want to strike, they want to be in the classroom. They are passionate about teaching our next generations of leaders. But they have been pushed to this point by budgets for buildings, equipment, supplies and salaries that don't value their contribution or skills and don't recognize the students' needs.

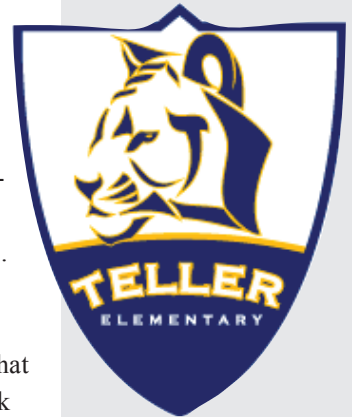
According to a federal Department of Education survey released last May, 94 percent of public school teachers in the United States reported paying for supplies without reimbursement. Each teacher spent \$479 on average. Seven percent said they spent over \$1000. Those are personal contributions from salaries that often can't pay for housing in their own school districts, and some barely exceed poverty level.

Nearly 50 percent of teachers leave the field within their first five years. Their breadth and depth of skills translate to many other jobs across the economy

that pay more. If this trend continues, who will be teaching our next generation of leaders? And what will they be teaching them? That they and their careers and the field of education and the concepts of knowledge, literature, math, science, critical thinking, facts and research are to be respected and valued... or not?

What can you do? Show our local teachers that we really care about their work. Send a thank you note with treats (or school supplies) to the teachers' lounge. Vote for better teacher pay and better equipment and supplies for schools. Go to your school's PTA page and find out what they're working on to raise money. Then donate what you can, and volunteer to help out.

As this issue went to print, the strike was resolved after two days. Let's hope the negotiators come up with a long-term solution that values our teachers and their students.



Participate with Teller
Teller PTA news
and activities
<http://teller.dpsk12.org/teller-pta/>

Don't Fall Victim to Investor Fraud



Don't allow YOURSELF or your NEIGHBORS to fall victim to investor fraud. Before responding to one of those "ALL Cash, NO Questions, NO Fees" offers you receive in the mail, consult with a local Real Estate Appraiser or Broker to know the current market value of your home.

CPN Safe Streets Committee Achieves Design, Data and Collaboration Successes

By Elizabeth DiLorenzo Chester

After less than a year in existence, the CPN Safe Streets committee has racked up several accomplishments in traffic and pedestrian safety studies and data collection; collaboration with the city; and physical design enhancements to bring attention to and improve traffic safety.

Studies / data collection to date:

- A CPN-wide survey on traffic, biking and pedestrian safety issues.
- A city-sponsored neighborhood traffic study is underway. May 2019 is its anticipated completion date.
- Traffic counts, volumes and speeds have been taken in key locations throughout the CPN since last fall, based on community input, to show baseline data prior to new development traffic impacts.

Collaboration:

- Expressing concerns and developing solutions with Public Works on speeding, cut-through traffic, lack of safe pedestrian crossings, and general traffic safety throughout the neighborhood.
- Working with Councilman New and Public Works to mitigate neighborhood impact and develop a safe pedestrian treatment at Colorado and 8th as part of the installation of a double left turn signal there.
- Working with DPD on additional enforcement options and collect vehicle speed data.
- Working with the city to promote safer streets for our neighborhood as part of the east central neighborhood planning initiative.

Physical/design changes:

- New red "slow down" signs available for residents to install on property (pick up at bi-monthly CPN meetings).
- Speed tracker signs up in various locations tracking speeds throughout CPN.
- South Congress Park: pop up temporary pedestrian crossing project scheduled for Spring 2019 across 8th Avenue.
- North Congress Park: residents secured funds from Walk Denver for a permanent pedestrian treatment near East High School and a pedestrian crossing near Madison and Colfax.

Next up: The CPN Safe Streets committee is hoping to create a permanent (vs pop up) pedestrian crossing in south Congress Park and to create a pedestrian spine through the middle of CPN connecting the neighborhood from north to south via continuous pedestrian crossings.

Thank you to Councilman New for supporting traffic safety in our neighborhood and funding studies and pop up treatments! And thank you to the committee members who have done such great work on this issue! To get involved, contact safestreets@congressparkneighbors.org.

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♀ Celebrate International Women's Day All March

"Balance for Better"

By Ann Charles

International Women's Day (March 8) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity.

International Women's Day (IWD) has been observed since in the early 1900's - a time of great expansion and turbulence in the industrialized world that saw booming population growth and the rise of enlightened ideologies. International Women's Day is a collective day of global celebration and a call for gender parity.

The Zonta Club of Denver has been sponsoring an annual Day of Film in March to highlight women's issues and achievements for 10 years. This year's film is **"Be Relentless."** In 2014 Norma Bastidas, survivor of sexual violence and human trafficking, broke the Guinness World Record for longest triathlon by swimming, biking and running 3,762 miles from Cancún, Mexico, to Washington, D.C.

Be Relentless follows Norma on her journey to break the World Record as a way of shedding light on the horror of sexual violence, and tells the stories of other survivors, victims and their advocates.

Please join us for the screening of this film at Zonta Club of Denver's Eleventh Annual Day of Film at the Tivoli Student Union, 900 Auraria Pkwy, Saturday, March 30, 2019.



International
Women's Day

The screening is a Zonta Club of Denver Foundation fundraiser. Your ticket will include the movie, validated parking, a Q&A period with the film's director, and a catered champagne brunch. Proceeds finance projects of the Zonta Club of Denver (ZCD) and of Zonta International (ZI), empowering women and girls in the Denver area and around the world.

ZCD was chartered in 1927 and, as a chapter of ZI, is united with almost 30,000 members in business and the professions in over 1,200 clubs in 66 countries to improve the quality of life for marginalized women worldwide. Since its inception, ZCD has donated over \$2,500,000 and its members have given thousands of volunteer service hours to community projects aimed at empowering Denver women.

For more information and to purchase tickets online, go to www.zonta-denver.org.

Check local event calendars for more!

♀ March 2, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.: DMNS Girls & Science Day; 2001 Colorado Blvd.; <http://www.dmns.org/museum-news/girls-and-science/>
Be inspired by women in science! The Denver Museum of Nature & Science and CBS4 host the third annual Girls and Science event featuring Science Clubhouses.

♀ March 8, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.: World Denver IWD Big Pitch competition, Networking & Expo; Luncheon.
Melissa@WorldDenver.org or 720--330-9287

♀ March 30, 9:15 a.m. – 1 p.m.: Be Relentless Film, Q&A, and champagne brunch Metro State Univ., Tivoli Center, Day of Film sponsored by the Zonta Club of Denver www.zonta-denver.org
Doors open 9:15 am
Tickets \$50 if purchased by March 15
\$55 March 16 and after (validated parking at adjacent garage)



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Let's Work to Preserve Congress Park's Unique Physical Characteristics

Group seeks to create a Conservation Overlay District (COD)

By Vicki Eppler, CPN Board/Historic Preservation Committee

At-Large Councilwoman
Debbie Ortega
1437 Bannock St., Rm 451
Denver 80202
720-337-7713

Census is Critical

Councilwoman At-Large Debbie Ortega is helping to lead Denver's efforts to achieve a successful Census count in 2020. Ortega reminds us that Census results guide the direction of \$675 billion in federal dollars to state, local and tribal governments. That money is the lifeblood of schools, roads, libraries, housing, senior-care and countless other entities for the next 10 years and generations in measurable impacts.

For more information or to get involved, call Kaye Kavanagh at 720-913-8429 or email her at kavanagh@denvergov.org

Congress Park, like many other neighborhoods, is experiencing pressure from Denver's growth and the increased need for housing. Our neighborhood has wonderful amenities of classic architecture, a mature environment and walkability, within a convenient distance of downtown. As time passes, some of our neighbors are aging and making different living arrangements. We welcome the next generation of homeowners who are excited to join us and make our turn of the century homes work for today's lifestyle.

We live in CPN because we love the architecture and the neighborhood scale, spacing and overall established feel. We love our 'antique' homes, and want to protect them while we embrace the future. Some Denver neighborhoods are suffering from the removal or major modification of typical early 1900s houses into structures that, although not expressly prohibited by any city rules, are inconsistent with the character of the area. These divergent structures irrevocably change the look and feel of a block, street or neighborhood forever.

A zoning code by itself is not comprehensive enough to enable city staff to maintain the cohesion of a neighborhood. A Conservation Overlay District, developed by area residents, can be a proactive tool with which city planning staff can address issues not covered in the zoning code. Neighborhood residents can tailor their COD to

address specific issues and desires, encouraging positive aspects of future growth.

A COD can help preserve an area's present architecture, design, mass and layout and the development of vacant or underused lots. Creating a COD is a long process with many touchpoints for public input. A small CPN group has begun working on this process and we need your participation and support.

Every one of us might think of features and characteristics we feel define our unique neighborhood and the process seeks consensus on the specific elements and measures that would encourage their continuity. City planners then write the code and the city council passes the COD into the now unique zoning code for our neighborhood.

A COD may consider a building's volume. Examples would be allowing dormers to penetrate the bulk plane to allow expansion to attic spaces or require studies on the impact of a proposed increase in height on the neighbor's sun exposure.

A COD can:

- * Promote the existing scale (height, bulk plane, size) of houses in the neighborhood
- * Promote the existing fabric --spacing between houses and between houses and the street, including sky exposure, solar access, trees, rear garages and narrow driveways
- * Close zoning loopholes that allow a scrape that retains minimal amounts of the original structure to be defined as a remodel thereby retaining the 'grandfathering' status
- * Continue the socio-economic diversity of the neighborhood with the variety of house sizes
- * Contribute to the neighborhood's environmental sustainability

A COD cannot:

- * change the permitted uses in the underlying zone district



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Continued on page 9

Let's Work to Preserve Congress Park's Unique Physical Characteristics

By Vicki Eppler, CPN Board/Historic Preservation Committee

Continued from page 8

- *add new review procedures (such as a neighborhood design review)
- * prevent or deny demolition. (Only the Landmark Preservation Ordinance has this authority.)

Denver currently has five CODs, encompassing about 2,400 properties. These existing districts are Hilltop Heritage Conservation Overlay, Curtis Park Conservation Overlay, Scottish Village Conservation Overlay, Potter Highlands Conservation Overlay and the Krisanna Park Conservation Overlay.

The face and feel of a neighborhood can be changed by any of many influences. The city has several plans in review that I hope everyone is educating themselves about, involving transportation, parks and zoning changes.

There are graceful options for growth and creative responses to development pressures. We can maintain the unique quality of life in our neighborhood, while we embrace the new families who share our passion for our classic homes.

Please consider involving your street or block in organizing and getting involved in this process. Do you have a block of Denver Squares, or bungalows or Victorians we should preserve? Get involved with the Preservation committee and see what you can do together to preserve what we love about Congress Park. Please contact us by email at preservation@congressparkneighbors.org.

Design Influences Interaction

British housing authorities are developing and using Cohesion Indices to measure, understand and promote community cohesion, and finding that harmonious design contributes greatly to that quality. Design features continued from established housing into new housing can help areas feel more visually, and therefore emotionally, connected. For example, similar roof lines and front porches suggest to residents that they are parallel stakeholders in the block, and foster chances to interact with their neighbors.



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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

Wise Strategy

Protect yourself. A thief is always looking for an easy opportunity. Lock your garage even if you are just out front doing yard work. Lock your house even if you are going to be nearby. Don't leave valuables visible in your car. If you have to leave them in the car at all, put them in the trunk. Don't leave your car running unattended. It takes only seconds to steal from the unwary.

Burglaries Increase in Congress Park

By Stephen Eppler, Crime Action Chair

Cumulative 2018 Denver Police crime statistics are unavailable. Denver Post data supplemented by information obtained from Councilman Wayne New and the Denver police was used in making this report.

Year to date 2019 crime data shows a dramatic increase in residential burglaries within Congress Park. Currently, among Denver's 78 neighborhoods, Congress Park (CP) ranks 6th in the number of residential burglaries. Our neighborhood now ranks 16/78 for unforced entry and 21/78 for forced entry.

This is worrisome change. In 2018 the burglary rate in CP ranked 40th per capita among 78 Denver neighborhoods. This was an improvement. In 2017 Congress Park ranked 28th. CP was 42nd in 2016, 53rd in 2015 and 67th in 2014.

There were 13 burglaries through 2/21/2019. Over half involved unforced entry and 6/13 occurred in the morning between 6 and 8:30 AM.

Residences north of 13th Avenue were disproportionately affected (8/13 burglaries). Two occurred near the intersections of 9th and 10th avenues and Colorado Boulevard.

This 2019 trend was confirmed by Denver Police District 2, Community Resource Officer, Hana Ruiz. Burglaries also increased in the nearby neighborhoods of Cherry Creek, Cheesman Park and City Park West.

According to the police, unforced and forced entry occurs most often through doors and windows that are obscured from view. This may be due to poor lighting, untended shrubbery or other sight barriers.

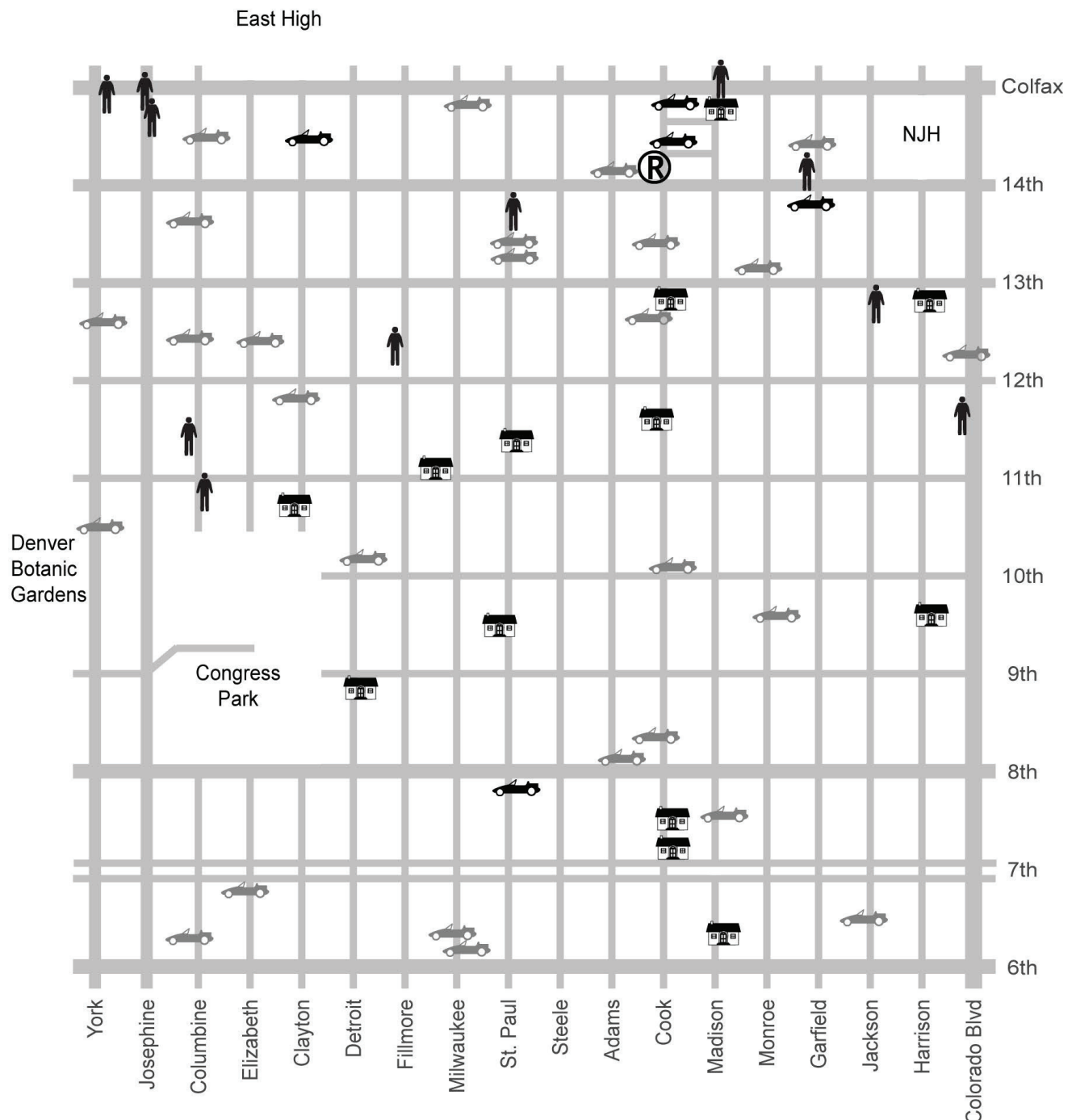
Remember, that your backyard privacy fence can also provide cover for a thief to remain hidden from view. It takes only seconds for a thief to jump a fence, smash glass or enter through an unsecured door or window.

Protect yourself and your family. Know your neighbors. Keep doors, windows and garages locked. Trim bushes and trees to improve visibility of potential points of entry. Install motion sensitive lighting. Post signs advising video surveillance.

Don't become a victim. Make yourself an unattractive target. Do your part and make Congress Park a safer place to live.



CONGRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CRIMES OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2018



- ® 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 2018. Crime mapping is provided by the Congress Park Crime Action Committee using City and Police Department statistics.

2018 Accomplishments & 2019 Goals for a Strong, Sustainable, & Inclusive Denver

By Councilwoman At Large Robin Kniech

ACLU Day at the Capitol 2019 Lobby Day

A day of advocacy
and action.

Weds., March 13, 8 a.m.
First Baptist Church
1373 Grant St.
Denver, CO 80203

Agenda:
Breakfast/Coaching on
Educating Legislators
Walk to Capitol, Meet
with Legislators
Lunch, Re-cap

For Denver to maintain and improve our high quality of life, inclusive of residents of all backgrounds and sustainable for future generations, we must ensure a balance between housing people can afford and good paying jobs. We also need an accessible and robust transportation and mobility network to help people move around in a variety of ways, whether walking, cycling, transit or driving.

Housing. In 2018 I led the charge to prohibit housing discrimination based on how someone pays to rent/purchase a home and helped launch a free Eviction Legal Defense Program. Council voted to double affordable housing funding to a record \$50+ million in 2019, and extend the eligibility age for rental affordability. Last year's housing fund built a record 1200 affordable homes and the TRUA Program helped 1,125 households with rent and utilities.

My first goal for 2019 just passed: an expansion of the Low-Income Property Tax Rebate to reach

more senior and disabled homeowners, and homeowners with children. Low income owners and renters may apply for a rebate of 2018's property taxes after May 1, 2019.

Jobs. To promote good paying jobs Councilwoman Ortega, the administration and I created apprenticeship training goals for construction careers on large Denver projects. In February, the Mayor, my office, service workers, and their unions introduced a bill to raise the minimum wage for city employees and contractors to \$15 per hour by 2021.

Sustainability. In 2018 the city committed to new goals for reaching 100% renewable electricity community-wide by 2030, energy efficiency, and electric vehicles. I actively support efforts to increase Denver's waste diversion by incentivizing greater composting and recycling.

Transportation and mobility. Thanks to voters, \$431 million of the Elevate Bond package is earmarked for

375 miles of road repairs, 50 miles of bike lanes, and 33 miles of new sidewalks. The City's 2019 budget includes \$27 million more, for pedestrians and bicyclers, filling sidewalk gaps, and creating safer intersections.

Your ideas and questions are welcome. My office hopes to hear from you, please email Kniechatlarge@denvergov.org to continue the conversation.



Photo: Jess Blackwell Photography



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DENVER'S DESIGN/BUILD REMODELER SINCE 1985

Green Team Action Tips for Spring 2019

By Barbara Rivera, Congress Park Green Team

Home Energy Efficiency

1. Dry clothes on drying racks & clotheslines and wear an item more than once before washing.
2. Reduce the number of HOT or WARM washer loads every week. Use COLD water when possible.
3. Plant a tree on the east, west and northwest sides of your home to provide cool shade in summer and reduce home cooling costs/energy use by up to 35%.

Transportation Options Reduce Pollution and Congestion

1. Reduce your work travel. Negotiate to work at home certain days of the week. Avoid air travel by increasing your use of video-conferencing tools like GoToMeeting or Zoom.
2. Give people using alternative transportation the right of way and help us create a safe pedestrian and bicycle friendly community. Cars often drive in bike lanes, drive thru stop signs and block crosswalks completely. Pay attention to your driving habits. Be kind to pedestrians and bicycles.
3. Say yes to transit initiatives. Improving transit costs money, so the next time there is a transit-focused ballot measure in your city, vote yes.

Water Conservation

1. Use a Shower Bucket instead of letting the water pour down the drain. Stick a bucket under the faucet while waiting for shower water to heat up. You can use the water for flushing the toilet or watering plants.
2. "If it's Yellow, Let it Mellow" might not be for everyone, but the toilet is one of the most water-intensive fixtures in the house. Do you need to flush every time? Be sure to fix leaks and running toilets.
3. Install a Rain Barrel. Rainwater harvesting is a great way to keep your plants hydrated without turning on the hose or sprinkler.

Waste Diversion & Reduction

1. Hold a family "Plastic Free Day" and avoid using Styrofoam. It takes 500 years to decompose in landfills.
2. Buy large economy-sized products instead of individually wrapped items. Laundry soap,

shampoo, dishwashing detergent, dry pet food, cat litter, and other non-perishable items are great examples. For food, buy the largest size you can use before spoiling. If you can't use those large containers, share the cost and the product with a friend. Buy a large bag of your children's favorite snacks and fill fun little re-useable containers for snacking (instead of "fun-size" disposable packets).

3. Bring a reusable mug to the coffee shop and keep one at your office. Help your office to stop creating so much coffee trash by sharing a large bag of sugar, a carton of cream, refillable coffee pods, washable coffee filters and use washable spoons instead of all those wood/plastic stir sticks.

Remember- Small choices are powerful. Every Little Bit Helps! Together We Make a Huge Impact.

Studio Colfax: For Lovers of Craft and Art

By Ann Charles

You're searching for a great gift and now you know where to look! Marguerite and daughters Sara and Rebecca have lovingly curated Studio Colfax at 2418 E. Colfax, displaying unique hand-made jewelry, photography, ceramics, clothing and other fabric creations, and more for almost 5 years. They participate in the Second Saturday gallery tour and host local artists' shows each month.

Stop in to see the owners' multiple artistic creations and hand-selected productions from other local artists. You'll find the perfect gift for that hard-to-buy-for friend --or yourself.

Green Team Shout Out

Wow, way to go!! A special "Shout out!" goes to Emily (CPN Green Team member) & Shawn (Denver Compost Collective) for organizing another successful CPN Leaf Drop. Last fall, 116 households participated, diverting more than 1000 bags of leaves to local compost production that ultimately nourishes community farms. Thank you, Emily, Shawn and all the Congress Park Neighbors who participated.



Rodney Allen

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201 Columbine St, Suite 200
Denver, CO 80206

DBG April Overview

Every day offers new inspirations at our Botanic Gardens.

In April, tour human form sculptures, old and new; enjoy cocktails and magic in the conservatory; hear tips for mushroom growing, beekeeping, and cooking with herbs; enjoy lectures on woven sapling sculptures, forest bathing, singing bowls, and high plains gardening. And there's so much more to enjoy! Visit the website to see all the listings.

Down the Street at DBG

Check website for more events and details

By Erin Bird

Seedlings, Feb 27 – March 27

Seedlings classes offer a fun, hands-on way for young children to explore the plant world while developing an understanding and appreciation for plants. Check for dates and times for different age groups.

Off the Clock: Secret Garden, Fri, 3/1, 6-9 p.m.

Enjoy the warmth and color of the Boettcher Memorial Tropical Conservatory, Marnie's Pavilion and the Orangery after dark. Live music, activities, food and beverages for singles, couples, friends.

Best Long Blooming Perennials,

Sun., 3/2, 2-4 p.m.

Learn about the long-blooming stars that flower tirelessly for every year. Get to know peak performers for spring, summer and autumn, with different sunlight and moisture conditions.

Spark! Tue, 3/5, 10-11:30 a.m.

One registration includes participant and their care provider. SPARK! Alzheimer's Association partners with DBG on an opportunity for participants with mild memory loss to enjoy hands-on garden-related projects.

Growing with Gratitude, Thu, 3/7, 5-6:30 p.m.

This class is an exploration of Naikan, or "looking inside." Explore practical ways to become more aware of

blessings that often go unseen even when in plain view. Take home exercises to help open heart and mind to the peace available in our worlds.

Tree Diversity Conference,

Fri, 3/8, 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.

The 6th annual conference explores relationships between

landscape design, horticultural practices and the use of a greater variety of tree species to protect our urban forests.

Family Workshop: Leprechaun Gardens

Sat, 3/9 and Sun, 3/17, 10-11:30 a.m. and 1-2:30 p.m.

Discover the legend of the leprechaun as you design and create a miniature garden to attract these mischievous garden friends.

Tropical Trails Tour, Sat, 3/9 and 23, 2-3 p.m.

Explore the lush vegetation, vibrant flowers and warmth of the tropics as you stroll through the Boettcher Memorial Tropical Conservatory Gardens' with a docent.

Guided Sitting Meditation: First Noble Truth,

Tue, 3/12, 6-7 p.m.

The First Noble Truth reminds us of the inevitability of life. Mindfulness offers an opportunity to lean into pain without resistance or expectation.

Beginning Bonsai, Saturday, 3/16, 9:30 a.m. -3:30 p.m.

Join us bonsai masters debunk the myths, fictions and misconceptions surrounding this living art form. Each participant receives a tree and the experience of creating a finished bonsai, which you take home.

Understanding Essential Oils,

Sat, 3/23, 10 a.m. -noon

Essential oils have been around since the Ancient Egyptians. Learn why some plants produce essential oils and how the oils are sourced and produced.

Macramé Market Bag Workshop,

Sat, 3/ 24, noon -3 p.m.

Learn to make a natural macramé bag in this workshop. Leave with a finished macramé bag and the know-how to design and create more pieces on your own.



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

Professional Organizing

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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.

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 and visit congressparkneighbors.org.

Neighborhood Directory

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

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

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.



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](http://www.congressparkneighbors.org/eblast.html)

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



"The good neighbor looks beyond the external
accidents and discerns those inner qualities that
make all men human and, therefore, brothers."

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

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