



Cory Merrill Neighborhood Association

Cory Merrill Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Summer 2014

Do you have time or know someone who might have the time and desire to get more involved with the neighborhood? We will be voting on the 2014 CMNA BOARD and can use some additional Board Member candidates:

PRESIDENT

Candidate(s): Marti Freeman

ZONING

Candidate(s): Bart Blanchard

VICE PRESIDENT

Candidate(s): Daniel Hillman

COMMUNICATIONS

Candidate(s): Open

TREASURER

Candidate(s): Lisa Reynolds

WEBSITE

Candidate(s): Scott Rodgers

SECRETARY

Candidate(s): Open

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Candidate(s): Lisa Straffon

NEWSLETTER

Candidate(s): Mikki Wilder

If you are interested in running for any of these positions, please drop us a comment at www.corymerrill.org, or reach out to us and other neighbors on www.nextdoor.com.

Neighborhood QUARTERLY MEETING

Mark your calendars and plan to join other neighbors for a **VERY IMPORTANT** gathering to decide on the Board Members for the coming year!
WEDNESDAY, JULY 16 6:00 pm at the Kirk of Bonnie Brae.

☆☆VOTE☆☆

BOARD ELECTIONS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

GUEST PRESENTER
Denver Waste Management
Discussion of Trash Dumpsters and New Barrels

Denver Mayor Hancock's Youth Award recognizes young people who have made positive changes and exhibited changes, strength and determination when faced with challenges. The thirty individuals who were nominated and selected were honored in a ceremony with the Mayor in the Spring. This year, one of those individuals was Wesley Youngdog-Shepard from Merrill.



SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE

Congratulations to the 224 graduates of South High School Class of 2014, who are heading off to exciting adventures here in Colorado and out of state.

You may have noticed construction going on at the school. New water pipes are being installed, painting improvements, new bathrooms, and updates to the science rooms, will make for a new and improved school when classes start on August 25 for incoming freshmen, all thanks to the voters of Denver passing past Bond issues. As a result, the school will be physically closed for the summer.

On August 2 there will be a Goodwill truck in the parking lot at South High, so if you have anything you would like to pass on to someone else, donate it to Goodwill and South will receive a financial donation from Goodwill. **A win-win situation!**

Your contributions are always appreciated. Keep our newsletter alive. Send your checks for any amount payable to Cory Merrill Neighborhood Association PO Box 101713, Denver, CO 80210-1713

LIGHT AND REFRESHING...*a summer recipe that's cool and healthy!*

GAZPACHO

Ingredients:

- 3 large tomatoes chopped
- 1/2 cup sweet onion chopped
- 1 cup celery chopped
- 1 green bell pepper chopped
- 1 cup peeled cucumber chopped
- 3 cans (4 cups) V-8 Juice
- 5 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper to taste



Refrigerate. Let sit for a few hours or overnight.

To "jazz it up", add salad shrimp or chunks of crab meat. Serve chilled.

Upcoming
Quarterly
Neighborhood
Meetings
To Be Held
at Kirk of
Bonnie Brae,
Corner of
Arizona &
Steele

**ALL
NEIGHBORS
INVITED**

**2014 Meetings
Wednesday
Evenings
6:00 p.m.**

**July 16
October 15**

Saturday, May 31st, around 150 neighborhood adults and children attended our first annual neighborhood picnic held on the Cory-Merrill school grounds. Lisa Straffon, our social position board member, coordinated a wonderful event! Everyone brought their picnics, blankets, and excitement about building our community.

Kids and adults were playing frisbee and throwing the ball around. The spring weather was perfect; it drizzled for just a bit, but those of us who stayed were rewarded with an amazing full rainbow.

The volunteer local band, the Moonlighters, was great and the kids loved the playground, the jumpy castle and popcorn & lemonade from PJ Magin and Karen Staggs with Keller Williams Denver Center and their friends at Guaranteed Rate. When we closed the school at 7:30 PM, most of the folks were still there chatting and enjoying each other's company. It was a very successful event, and it is one that we hope to continue annually! If you are interested in helping organize this and other events in the future, please come to our neighborhood meetings and join our board and/or a committee!

THANKS

to our PICNIC supporters,
PJ Magin & Karen Staggs from
Keller Williams Denver Central,
Guaranteed Rate,
the Moonlighter Band and
all those who attended!



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SUMMER GARDENING... ways to win the WAR on weeds!

They're sneaky, those weeds. They start out small, and before you know it, they've taken over your garden beds and lawn.

Although you'll never eliminate all of your weeds, you can control them to some extent by taking the steps below:



1. Chop off their heads. A single dandelion can disperse up to 15,000 seeds. If you tear off the flowers, you'll prevent seeds from forming.

2. Mulch like mad. Mulch prevents weeds, conserves moisture and moderates the soil temperature. How deep? 2 to 3 inches.

3. Don't mow low. Keep your grass 2.5 to 3 inches tall. Taller grass helps shade the ground to prevent weed seeds from germinating.

4. Let sleeping weeds lie. Don't disturb your soil any more than necessary. Otherwise, you'll bring weed seeds to the surface.

5. Pull weeds when wet. It's easiest to pull weeds, after a rainstorm when the ground is soft.

By Deb Courtner is a Cory-Merrill garden designer and coach who blogs at blossomsandblueprints.wordpress.com.

Have You Joined Nextdoor.com?

How do you keep up with what's going on in the neighborhood? There's a great way to stay in the know: **Nextdoor.com**. This computer link lets you see messages from your neighbors about free stuff, upcoming garage sales, recommendations for plumbers and other service folks, and even safety and security information. If you haven't signed up, just visit **Nextdoor.com** to take advantage of this free service. If you're already a member, invite your neighbors to join.



1699 S. Colorado Blvd. 720.420.0535
Monday-Saturday 11am - 9pm
Sunday 10am - 3pm



PJ Magin
Karen Staggs
Keller Williams Denver Central
1777 S. Harrison Street #1100
Denver, CO 80210
(303) 921-7944 PJ
(303) 999-9642 Karen

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SOMETIMES...it just doesn't meet code!

If you see something that just "LOOKS WRONG" you don't need to ignore it, just ask **Denver 311**

Have you ever looked at something on the street or in an alley that just didn't look right? Sometimes your best instincts are correct and what you see does not meet Denver's City Codes. Help make sure these issues are handled from the start...when you first see it! It only takes a quick call to Denver's 311. They can check into your question and, in most cases, the City Inspectors will take it from there.

Real estate signs

No zoning permit is required for real estate signs. However, the display of real estate signs on your property must follow the zoning regulations. See Article 10 of the Denver Zoning Code.

Real estate signs must be placed on private property. No signs may be placed in the public right-of-way. This includes tree lawn, median strips, highway entrance and exit ramps, traffic signs and posts, as well as utility poles.

Must be at least 3 feet back from the sidewalk

Are limited to one per street frontage. For an interior lot, only one sign is allowed, and for corner lot, only one sign facing each street is allowed. Cannot be illuminated or animated. Are limited to wall, window, or ground signs.

Can be no larger than 5 square feet, and may be located no more than 6 feet above grade.

To see common violations visit Denver City's website at:

<https://www.denvergov.org/development/services/DevelopmentServices/Inspections/CommonCodeViolations/tabid/436490/Default.aspx>



Current Cory-Merrill Neighborhood Board Members 2013

VOTE FOR OUR NEW BOARD AT JULY 16 MEETING

President

Sam Kimpton

Vice President

Daniel Hillman

Treasurer

Lisa Reynolds

Secretary

Holly Dexter

Zoning

George Mayl

Communications

Marti Freeman

Website

Scott Rodgers

Social Committee

Lisa Straffon

Neighborhood

Branding

Mike DiFranco

Newsletter

Mikki Wilder

To reach any of these individuals, visit our website

www.corymerrill.org

Mailing address:

CMNA

PO Box 101713

Denver, CO 80210-1713

ZONING UPDATE

by George Mayl

A few years ago, Cory Merrill and Stokes Place/ Green Bower NA's took a real estate agent to court for **SHORT TERM RENTING** in our respective neighborhoods. He lost. In essence, **IT IS AGAINST DENVER ORDINANCES**. There can be no renting for less than 30 days. In our neighborhood, short term rentals are a destructive influence. It may very well have an undesired effect on our property values, our quiet solitude and the safety of our children just to name a few. Council person Mary Beth Susman has a new name for short term rental, Sharing Economy or Collaborative Consumption is her catch phrase, it still means the same. She is introducing this to the Denver City Council to study the new "sharing economy" and understand how it will affect our future. This meeting will have been completed on May 12, prior to this newsletter. I have spoken with Council Person Charlie Brown on this matter and the issues from a few years ago. Hopefully this "idea" will be dealt a quick demise. Please go on line to www.denverinc.org and click on committees, to Zoning and Planning for more information and let your voice be heard... **IT'S YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, GET INVOLVED.**

How much will you need to retire? Let's talk.



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*** REAL ESTATE UPDATE ***

DENVER, DALLAS SET POST-CRISIS HIGHS

By: Karen Staggs, Keller Williams Denver Central

The cold weather and the late snow kept the Denver housing market moving at a slow pace at the start of the year, but as always, the onset of spring has brought flowers and real estate signs to the front yards of the Mile High City.

Case-Shiller just released it's March report and it shows that both the Denver and Dallas real estate markets have set new post-crisis highs, ranking it 15th of the 20 metro statistical areas tracked by the company. CoreLogic, another real estate data company that owns Case-Shiller but issues it's own report, states that Denver was one of eight states that "surpassed their previous home peaks" suggesting that Denver is bucking the national trend of possible growth slowing. CoreLogic says that Denver showed a 10.5 percent increase in April 2014, down 16 percent from April 2013. The strongest area of growth was seen in Redfins 2014 Luxury Report indicating that sales of the priciest 1 percent of homes is up 21.1 percent so far this year with 44.7 percent of the buyers in that market paying for their home purchase in cash.

Cory-Merrill is firmly positioned within this sector of highly desirable communities.

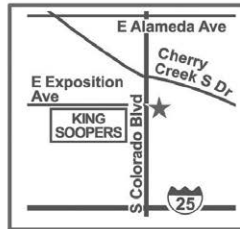
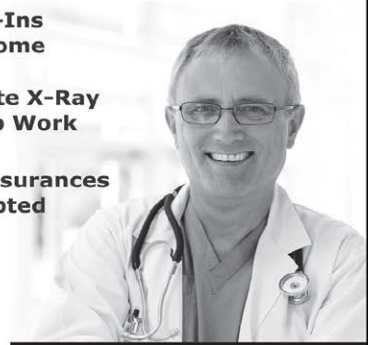
Cory Merrill continues to be a neighborhood with a particular high rate of sales and there seems to be no end to the flow of buyers who actively seek out home ownership in this sought after community. With the summer market just getting started this continues to be a Seller's market. Seller's who seek to take advantage are seeing more competition than existed two months ago, however, the Cory-Merrill neighborhood continues to see high appreciation and bidding wars.



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Owner Christe Chen, Eric and their dog, Jules have been in the neighborhood for 2 years now. But Christe has never been far from this area. She lived in the DU area, then Cherry Creek, followed by Wash Park and now Cory Merrill. She moved to Denver for grad school at DU and obtained an MBA in Finance. About 3/4 of the way through, she decided that Finance just wasn't for her so she finished the program at DU and the next fall began pastry school at Johnson and Wales. She has always loved to cook and you can tell she's talented at it. She knew she didn't want to be a restaurant chef or work in a restaurant/hotel so a bakery made sense for her future. With her business background, it worked out perfectly to open up her own shop. She started looking in different areas of Denver: downtown, the Highlands, Wash Park, Pearl St., etc. and just happened to drive by the current location one day and saw that it was available. It worked out perfectly since she, Eric and Jules live only 3 blocks away.



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Brickstone Properties, for more information or email Brickstone.Don@gmail.com.



The bakery is currently staffed by Christe. No other employees yet, but sometimes friends will come and help fold boxes and Eric steps in to sweep and mop the floors when he's not busy. Being from Memphis, it is a southern bakery. They do a lot of Southern staples such as Red Velvet Cake, Biscuits and Gravy, Mississippi Mud Pie, Buttermilk Pie, etc. The display case changes daily and everything can be made for special orders. They serve NOVO coffee and Teatulia Organic tea. Starting the beginning of June you'll find patio seating at Sweet As Pie, located on the corner of Louisiana and South Clayton! Stop by for something really TASTY!

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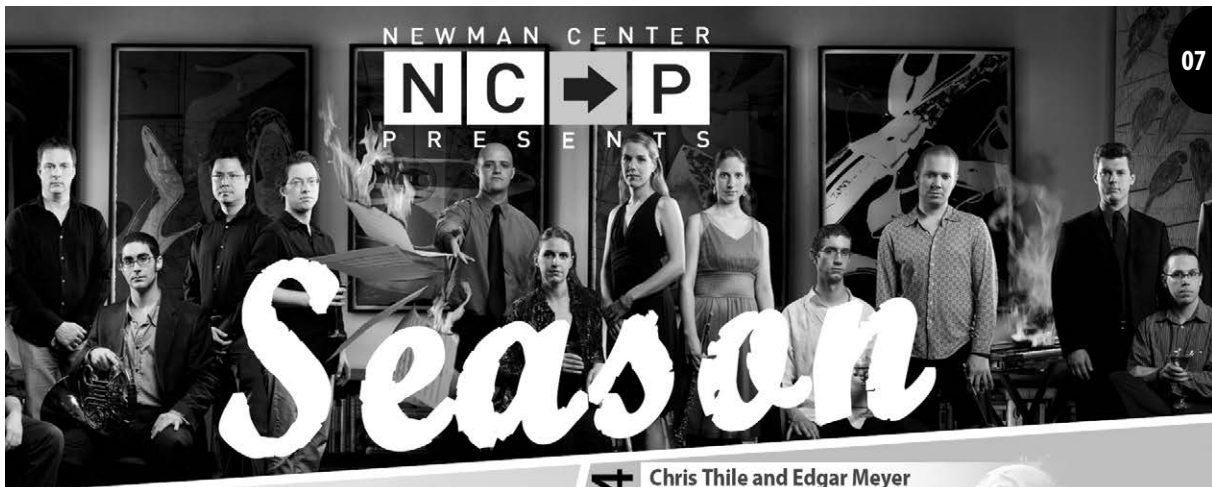
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2014
2015



2014

- Chris Thile and Edgar Meyer**
Tues / Sept 23
- Hot Sardines *Speakeasy Nights***
Fri / Oct 10
- Capitol Steps**
Fri / Oct 17
- MUMMENSCHANZ**
Sat / Nov 8, Sun / Nov 9 (2:00 pm)
- Pinchas Zukerman, soloist and conductor with CSO**
Sun / Nov 16 (2:00 pm)
- Beijing Dance/LDTX**
Tues / Nov 18

2015

- Renaud Garcia-Fons Quartet**
La Linea del Sur
Sat / Jan 10
- Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company**
"Play and Play" - An Evening of Movement and Music
(Featuring musicians from the Lamont School of Music)
Sat / Jan 24, Sun / Jan 25 (2:00 pm)
- Alarm Will Sound + Medeski Martin & Wood**
Thurs / Feb 5
- Aspen Santa Fe Ballet**
Sat / Feb 21, Sun / Feb 22 (2:00 pm)
- Roomful of Teeth with The Colorado Symphony**
Fri / Mar 6
- Donal Fox Inventions Trio: Scarlatti Jazz Suite Project**
Thurs / Apr 2
- it gets better**
Speak Theater Arts/Gay Men's Chorus of LA/It Gets Beter Project
Fri / Apr 24
- Diavolo**
Sat / May 9, Sun / May 10 (2:00 pm)



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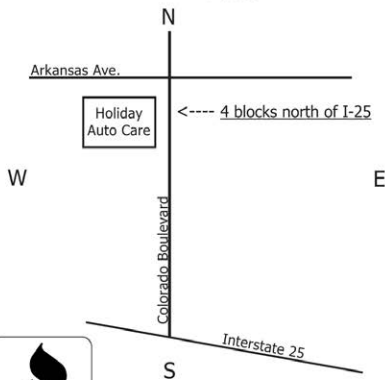
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Help support our neighborhood. A donation can be made payable to the Cory Merrill Neighborhood Association PO Box 101713, Denver, CO 80210-1713
Your dues will assist us in continuing to print this newsletter four times a year to distribute to every Cory Merrill home, maintain our website, and continue to help us to promote neighborhood events and keep all neighbors informed. Thank you in advance for your support!