



Cory Merrill Neighborhood Association Newsletter

SPRING 2016

FOOD TRUCK NIGHTS ARE COMING TO CORY MERRILL!

Each night, there will be savory food trucks, a sweet food truck, and a fashion truck.

2016 Summer Food Truck Schedule:

TUESDAY NIGHTS!

May 10

May 24

June 14

June 28

July 12

July 26

August 9

August 23

5:30PM-8:00PM



WHERE: KIRK OF BONNIE BRAE CHURCH 1201 S. Steele Street

Bring your wallet, hunger, some chairs, and a great sense of community!

Here are some of the trucks that are already signed up to visit us this summer!

Colorado Pig Rig, Meatball, Hey PB&J, Bubba Duke's BBQ, The Dessert Stand, Pile High Burgers, Farm to Truck, Allegra's Pizza, Ginger Pig, Wheel and Whisk, Kona Ice, Suburban Wiener, Coaches Ice Cream, Street Boutique, Denver Fashion Truck

Next Neighborhood Meeting

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2016 6:00PM Kirk of Bonnie Brae Church 1201 S. Steele Street

Tim O'Brien, City Auditor, will be the main speaker. Other speakers will include representatives from Cory Elementary and the Kirk of Bonnie Brae Church. Babysitting available. Please RSVP to CMNA@CoryMerrill.org



YAY! THANK YOU CMNA!

PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS

from the Denver Police Department

Everyone should make personal safety a priority. Here are some handy tips from the Denver Police Department on how to do just that.

1. Be observant and aware of your surroundings.

Check around entrances of residences and workplaces as you approach. When entering parking structures and home garages check behind you to determine if someone steps under the doors as it's closing. Be especially alert in an unstaffed parking lots and enclosed parking garages.

2. Avoid poorly lit areas where an attacker might hide.

Most robberies and aggravated assaults happened under the cover of night. Stick to well-lit areas.

3. Use security staff when available.

Don't be embarrassed to ask security personnel to walk you to your car. There's no shame in being cautious. I know that DU security does this for their students walking from the light rail.

4. Don't overindulge.

Be careful of your use of alcohol and drugs; you are more vulnerable to attack if you are intoxicated.

5. Don't leave food or drinks unattended.

It's never a good idea to leave your food or drink unattended at a party or public place.

6. Walk in pairs or groups.

Whenever possible, walk to and from your car and other locations in pairs or groups. (continued on page 11)







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Angela Steiner and Linda Kukulski Miller www.red Thomes.com

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CORY MERRILL PROPOSED ZONING CHANGES BY: NEIGHBOR, GEORGE MAYL

On 3/16/16 the Denver Planning Board sided with the INC Zoning And Planning sub-committee on Short Term Rental and Councilperson MaryBeth Susman on limiting short term rentals in residential neighborhoods to PRIMARY RESIDENT ONLY. This means the resident must live at the location. This Text Amendment 8 will go before the City Council to decide soon. We have several AIRBnB's in Cory Merrill and if you are unfamiliar with the city ordinance pertaining to STR's, it is still illegal for renting less than month to month. If you have any problems with a neighbor that at present is renting illegally, call 311 and report the incident to Neighborhood Inspections Services and also to Councilperson Paul Kashmann. To see the locations of these illegal ventures, go to AIRBnB and the map, zoom into Cory Merrill and it will get you close.

On another scene, the city is looking at removing the clubhouse at City Park Golf Course and 40+ acres in the NW corner for storm mitigation for a 500 year flood. There is also a possibility of removing 40-90 homes in the Cole neighborhood for this project. Westword magazine did a splendid article on this. All of it ties into the redo of I-70 and National Western Project.

There are numerous city undertakings at this time and many seem to be rushed through without proper citizen input. It's your city, it's your tax dollars, your voice needs to be heard... get involved.





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Community Theater has returned to our neighborhood! RTR Productions has set up shop in the parish hall of Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church at 1400 S. University Blvd. The venue is called "The Little Stage at Saint Michaels'-the stage that grows with the show". The stage repertoire will have something for everyone, from comedy to drama and musicals from time to time and all shows are cast with some of the finest community theater talent in the Denver area.

Our current show opens June 3rd and runs Friday, Saturday, Sunday through June 19th and is a farce by Michael Hollinger titled "Incorruptible" and directed by Mark Ivan Branche. Mr. Branche has acted onstage in New York and Philadelphia and directed over 90 shows to date.

Tickets are available online at saintmichaelsdenver.org/theater and are \$25 each with an early bird discount of \$10 through the end of April. After April 30th, you can still get \$5 off by entering the discount code of Senior, Student or Military if applicable. For groups of 10 or more, call Mike at 303-513-0181 for special pricing. Opening night includes a post show cocktail reception with commemorative mugs.

Additional shows this season include "A Bench in The Sun" and "KOLD Radio," next year includes Neil Simons' "Barefoot in The Park". Drop a note to rtr@idcomm.com to be placed on our mailing list for future show discounts and specials.



MERRILL NEWS

At the end of the 2015-2016, our wonderful principal Amy Bringedahl will be leaving Merrill. Ms. Bringedahl started here at Merrill five years ago. She set a clear vision for a high-achieving neighborhood school that would meet the needs of every student within our community. She has done a great deal of work in five years to truly create a school focused on the success of all students. We would like to thank Ms. Bringedahl for all her hard work.

Incoming 5th Graders

Merrill has been attracting many elementary schools this year. Fifth graders from Steele, Lincoln, Asbury, University Park, Southmoor, C3, Steck, Bromwell, Teller, Carson, Denver Green, Palmer, Morey, and Bradley have visited our school since October. With about 300 student shadows and 90 parents that toured our school, we are very happy to welcome our fifth graders from all over the district. We currently have a waiting list for our fifth graders.

Inernational Celebration



Merrill International Celebration- ALL IN!
When: Friday, May 6th, 6 pm - 9 pm
Where: Cableland, the 19,500-square-foot
mansion and official residence of the
Mayor of Denver

We are so excited for the community to come together in celebration of Merrill's dynamic community and culture, while raising funds to support our much needed social services. Featuring diverse international cuisine, music, and dancing

along with some amazing raffle items, this is the beginning of a Merrill tradition, and we hope you are all a part of it!

If you would like to assist with donations (food, drink, raffle items, services), please contact Emily Brouillette at emily.s.brouillete@gmail.com.

Mark your calendar and book the sitter! Together we can keep making amazing things happen for all of our kids. Are you "**ALL IN**"?

Stay Connected







Don't miss out on what happens on a daily basis at Merrill. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram (MERRILL_JAGUARS) and twitter (@merril_jaguars)



With the extreme shortage of inventory across many price points, the time to consider your home's value is now.

Spring of 2015 was a glorious time for sellers in real estate throughout metro Denver and surrounding areas. Those who entered the market during that time period capitalized significantly on improving values, achieving some of the best prices of the selling season. The greatest appreciation of the year typically occurs in the Spring. If you wait until early summer and beyond to sell, the market will be good, but you will likely be competing against more available homes for sale.

Today, the 2016 Spring real estate market closely reflects that of 2015, meaning if you are considering selling your home, now is the time to do it. With interest rates remaining at unprecedented lows and with Colorado's increasing desirable lifestyle opportunities, home buyers' interests are piqued – and it is time to consider selling.

If you are considering selling your home, or are just curious about your home's value, please contact me today:

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featuring Dianne Reeves, Becca Stevens, and Alicia Olatuja

May 5 7:30 PM



2016-17 Season

MOMIX Opus Cactus
SEPT 29 & 30

Capitol Steps OCT 6

Los Angeles Guitar Quartet
OCT 20

Bridgman Packer Dance NOV 19

Cecile McLorin Salvant NOV 30

The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center Brandenburg Concertos, J.S. Bach DEC 12

> Roomful of Teeth JAN 18

Edgar Meyer and Christian McBride JAN 26

Kodo

FEB 14 & 15

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet FEB 25 & 26

> DakhaBrakha MAR 9

> > yMusic MAR 23

Black Grace APR 5

"Nude Music"

Featuring Musica Nuda from Italy and Håkon Kornstad from Norway

APR 27

Branford Marsalis Quartet

MAY 13

303.871.7720

WWW.NEWMANCENTERPRESENTS.COM

University of Denver, Newman Center for the Performing Arts, 2344 E Iliff Ave. Denver, 80210

Greetings from City Councilman, Paul Kashmann District 6

Happy Springtime -

Cory-Merrill, as with all of our fine District 6 neighborhoods, is getting greener by the day. And, as the weather begins to get warmer on a consistent basis, more and more people are emerging from winter hibernation to tend to early season garden tasks and stretch their legs to shake off the effects of reduced winter activity.

With that need to get back in a movement oriented mindset, as Chairman of the City Council Sidewalks Working Group, I am committed to working with my colleagues to develop a system that results in a better maintained, more complete sidewalk system to facilitate the ability of residents and visitors to navigate their way safely around our fair city. The District 6 office continues, as well, to be in ongoing discussion with the traffic engineering staff at Denver Public Works to bring safer street crosswalks and increased bike trails to our neighborhood streets. There are locations throughout the District that demand increased safe crossings.

City Council is nearing a new proposal for how we will license marijuana businesses in the future. It seems to be the opinion of a majority of Council that we have arrived at, or are very near, a condition in which our retail landscape is saturated by the number of marijuana outlets as well as the product they are marketing. We are looking at proposals that will cap the number of licenses that we will allow in our city, and protect neighborhoods from additional, unwanted intrusion. One of the sticking points centers on whether we allow several dozen pending licenses to proceed toward issuance. The argument in favor is that these are business people who have followed instructions they were given to earn their license- some spending in the millions of



- Please bring your own pitchfork or shovel, and bags or containers for loading mulch.
- Bring a tarp to cover your truck or trailer.
- Due to limited quantities, Denver residents only.
- Commercial vehicles are prohibited from taking or selling the City's mulch or compost.







Compost Prices are \$3.75 per 1.25 cubic ft. bag (9 gal.) or \$31.50 per cubic yd. (Includes tax). Compost limit of 3 cubic yards or 20 bags per vehicle.



Compost is a nutricate bit and arrestment made from decomposed organic oraterial that one be:

- mixed into soil to help reduce water and fertilizer needs
- spread thinly over lawns to help grass roots retain moisture

311 (20-913-131

DIG-YOUR-OWN SITES

South of Dartmouth Ave. on Raleigh St.

lowa St. & Vine St.

Bear Creek Park

Steam's Lake Park

Fred Thomas Park

control weeds

Quebec St. & 26th Ave.

Sheridan Blvd. & 17th Ave.

Middah is ground wood

help soil retain moisture

étaps that can be used to:

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from weather extremes

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dollars – and it is unfair to stop the process in mid-stream. The argument against allowing these new licenses is that many of them are for properties in areas that already have more than their share of marijuana businesses. City Council is also considering an ordinance legalizing rentals of residential properties for periods of less than 30 days – Short Term Rentals – as an accessory use in all residential zones of the city. Current Denver law forbids rentals of terms less than 30 days, unless licensed as a hotel, bed and breakfast, etc. There are at least 1500 property owners, listing with companies like Air BnB, VRBO, HomeAway, etc., that have been violating this law through online and print ads. Denver is not currently equipped to enforce our existing law. Cities around the country have been experimenting with licensing short term rentals as a way to control the industry and collect lodging taxes to set a fair playing field with the legal short-term lodging industry. If you have particular concerns about issues in your community, please give my office a call at 720-337-6666, or call my cell phone at 720-260-0638. I also continue my weekly office hours on Thursday mornings, 8a.m.-10a.m., at Pete's University Park Café, at Evans Ave. and University Blvd. Drop by, or call us in advance to reserve a time. Have a great start to Spring!



CORY MERRILL REAL ESTATE UPDATE - Q1, 2016

By Holly Carpenter, Broker Associate LIV Sotheby's International Realty

Hello Cory Merrill!

Wondering if it's a good time to buy or sell? Denver's bustling real estate market is on many people's minds. The low supply of inventory in Denver combined with a high buyer demand to purchase is creating a market where values continue to increase.

So, what does this mean for you? Well, it depends. Sellers are experiencing an opportunistic time in Denver real estate with the influx of people to the city and limited number of inventory for sale, which drives home values up. Good news for current home buyers is that mortgage rates are expected to stay historically low.

Whether you are in the buying and/or selling position, it is important to be informed and know where you stand to best navigate the current market. Some frequent concerns— If I sell, will I be homeless!? How will I find a replacement home in time if inventory is low? If I buy, am I buying at the top of the market? Does it make sense to wait?

For sellers: There are agreements between sellers and buyers that are becoming the "norm" in Denver's market that give sellers the time they need to find a replacement home. For buyers: There are some great tools available to show buyers financial scenarios of waiting to buy versus acting now. If you're considering a move, please feel free to contact me for more insight. 303-589-7449, holly.carpenter@sothebysrealty.com. ~ Holly Carpenter, Broker Associate, LIV Sotheby's Realty

CORY-MERRILL

S University Blvd to S Colorado Blvd; I-25 to E Mississippi Ave

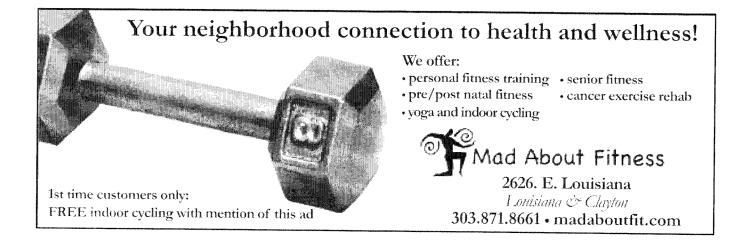
January through March	2016	2015	% Change
Average Price	\$813,412	\$604,065	34.7%
Augusta Delas par Causara Fast	\$389	\$358	8.7%
Average Price per Square Foot Average Days on Market	62	56	10.7%
Highest Price	\$1,535,000	\$1,250,000	22.8%
Properties Sold	29	28	3.6%
% Sold Price to List Price	97.7%	96.1%	1.7%

FALL DUES DRIVE WAS A SUCCESS! THANK YOU from CMNA!

When we deliver our Fall newsletter, we insert an envelope to make donating to our dues drive easier. This year 118 households voluntarily contributed to our drive for a total of \$2,577.00, an average of \$22 per donation. The suggested donation is \$15 per household, and this year the largest donation was \$150. THANK YOU to all the folks who made donations! Without your support, we would not be able to fund social events for the neighborhood, pay our running expenditures, or make donations to neighborhood causes. The CMNA prints and volunteers hand deliver four newsletters a year. We host four all neighborhood meetings with guest speakers on a variety of topics. We hold a Halloween event, a Holiday event, and we will have another Neighborhood picnic at Cory Elementary again this year. New this year, CMNA is hosting food truck nights on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from May – August. Each of these social events draws a different demographic from our neighborhood. Our goal is to include everyone in our events! We try to send a personal thank you post card to all homes who make a donation - in case you got missed, THANK YOU!

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Kirk of Bonnie Brae

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Never place a period where God has placed a comma



SOUTH NEWS - SPRING 2016

It is time to show the love at Denver South High School! Deborah Blair-Minter, the Interim Principal, has taken the reins at Denver South bringing both a warm, supportive

presence and a wealth of experience. She and our current administrative team have taken over where Dr. Kristin Waters left off, allowing for a seamless start to the 2016 – 2017 school year.

After a series of parent and community input opportunities, a new principal has been selected to continue the momentum at Denver South for the 2016-2017 school year. The new principal, Jennifer Hanson, will assume her duties at Denver South High School in July 2016 and is currently involved in a lot of the decision making and hiring for the 2016-2017 school year. Jen has taught English and Social Studies and was in the classroom for 13 years. She coordinated college preparation programs, including Advanced Placement and Concurrent Enrollment. She has supervised instruction and trained instructional coaches. She is also knowledgeable in English Language Learning instruction and supports. She believes in strong parent and community engagement. Jen is currently an Assistant Principal at East High School and will join us full time in July. Please join the Denver South community in giving her a big welcome!

Denver South Athletics is excited to announce our new summer sports camp, 241Sports Denver South! We have partnered with 241 Sports, a national leader in sport sampling to bring our community the BEST multisport summer camp experience in Denver! At 2-4-1 Denver South, our Head and Assistant High School Coaches will offer top notch instruction along with our High School Athlete counselors who will bring the FUN and enthusiasm that make summer sports camp a great experience! This is for children who will be in grades 3 through 9 by the fall. They'll love it!

Please visit our website: www.241denversouth.com



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Jim Esten:

303-355-3932 - jcesten@gmail.com

PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS (continued from page 2)

7. Avoid taking shortcuts.

Try to remain where there are other people around you and help can be summoned if the need arises.

8. Look for open businesses.

If you believe you are in danger, look for an open business or nearby residences that can be accessed to obtain assistance.

9. Have your keys handy.

When approaching your residence or workplace have the entry keys in your hand ready to unlock the door. Check around the entrance to your residence or workplace as you approach. Also, keep them in hand when going to and from your vehicle. They can be used to stop an attack.

10. Check the backseat.

Before getting into your car, be sure to check the back seat before entering it.

11. Carry Your Cell Phone

Have your cell phone with you at all times and have it available to call for police assistance.

12. Avoid parking in isolated areas.

Be sure to park where there is plenty of auto and/or foot traffic.

13. Walk with confidence.

When you are conducting your daily activities walk briskly and with confidence. Keep your head upright, scan your surroundings and be aware of persons and areas that you encounter.

14. Keep your car in good condition.

Keep your car in good running condition, and try to gas your vehicle during daylight hours. If your vehicle becomes disabled park in a well lighted area, place the hood up and activate the emergency flashers and stay in the locked vehicle and call for assistance. Be sure of the intent of parties offering assistance. If you feel threatened, sound your horn until the person leaves or help arrives.

15. Purses and bags are likely targets for an attacker.

Try to avoid carrying a purse or shoulder bag if possible. Also, avoid carrying large amounts of cash.

16. Call 911.

If you do become a victim, be sure to call 9-1-1 right away and report the crime to the authorities. Call law enforcement immediately; the police can't help if they don't know about it.

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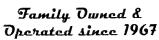
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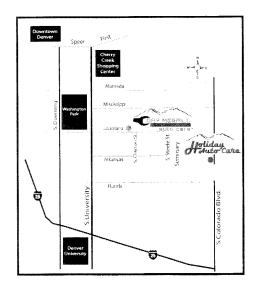








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