



Southeast Neighbors News

We care about the quality of life in our neighborhood and we work together to maintain and improve it.

Thoughts From Our President

By Heather Sielicki

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For me, September means back to school, garden harvest and canning season, and our neighborhood picnic in the park. At this year's celebration, live music, food carts, circus arts, water spray play, an urban garden sharing table, a gift circle, adaptive recreation, and a nature scavenger hunt await you. What do you dream for our neighborhood? Bring it with you to Tugman Park on Sunday September 15.

September is also National Emergency Preparedness Month. Is South Eugene prepared for a disaster like a wild fire or an earthquake? Are you? Stop by the Community Emergency Response Team table at the picnic for takeaways to help you get prepared, and save the date of October 17, 2013 for the Southeast Eugene Great Oregon ShakeOut event at the Hilyard Community Center. In a real earthquake, the level of preparedness of your neighbors may affect your ability to recover quickly, so encourage them to attend too. We'll hold a drill, watch informative video clips, and discuss what it means to be prepared.

Are you signed up for our email list yet? Our postcards and printed newsletters are sent to all the residents of the city-defined Southeast neighborhood, about 6,000 homes, but funding for mailings may not be available next year. Email will be the major communication channel for our community. Our e-mail newsletter is currently sent out to about three hundred people. We use it to send alerts if there is danger in the neighborhood, and to share events, opportunities and news. If you have an email address, please subscribe at southeastneighbors.org.

Picnic Happening at Tugman Park

By David Saul

Sunday Sept. 15 4-7 pm

Pack your picnic basket and come on down!

Our live music lineup includes banjo singalongs for the young and young at heart from **Emily Fox**, exuberant Indian folkdance by **Eugene Bhangra**, folk tunes and sweet harmonies in laid back Northwest style by **Late To Dinner**, American roots from **The Posse**, and alternative indie rock by **Edeward**

Free Raffle with great prizes from True Value Hardware, Off The Waffle, Holy Cow, Arriving By Bike, Watermelon Kidz, Pegasus Pizza, 16 Tons, Extreme Yogurt & more !

We'll have an Urban Garden Sharing Table. Bring your victory garden victories to share with the neighbors.



Update: 30th Avenue Crossing

By Reed Dunbar AICP | Associate Transportation Planner

A community meeting was held on May 23rd at Camas Ridge Elementary School to discuss concerns about crossing 30th Avenue east of Hilyard Street. There were 53 names recorded on the sign-in sheet.

The meeting consisted of a brief presentation describing existing conditions, reviewing data collected for automobile speed and volume as well as the number of bicyclist and pedestrian crossings, and announcing an open-ended timeline for next steps. The majority of the meeting was reserved for community comments regarding hopes and concerns for crossing 30th Avenue.

In a city staff meeting subsequent to the community meeting it was determined that the alternative treatments would focus on providing positive control (a red signal light) to stop traffic on 30th Avenue. A meeting with 4J Staff is currently being scheduled to discuss future site plans and how the addition of new traffic controls might impact traffic patterns at the school site. Once there is agency support for the alternatives city staff will hold another community meeting to test the alternative treatments. This meeting is likely to occur in September.

For more information on the 30th Avenue crossing please visit the city's website at www.eugene-or.gov/30thcrossing

Bicycle Theft—Crime Prevention Tips

by Tod Schneider, Prevention Specialist, Eugene Police Crime Prevention

There were 848 bicycles reported stolen in 2012 and 846 reported stolen in 2011. That's about 2.3 bikes reported stolen per day or one bike every 10 hours—and 2013 is shaping up to be far worse. 174 bikes were reported stolen in the first quarter of this year, a huge jump of 64% compared to reports entered during the first few months of 2012.

If you'd like to keep your bike from being stolen, consider the following measures:

1. Register your bicycle with Eugene Police on line at www.eugenepolice.com. Select "prevention and safety," then select "bicycle safety/theft prevention". An on line form will lead you through a thorough description of your bike. Once your bike is registered, if your bike is stolen, when you call us we will already have your bike's description and the information needed for a detailed report. Your odds of getting your bike back will go up considerably.
2. Lock your bike with a substantial lock – a U-bolt style is best. No lock is foolproof, but a high-end lock is more likely to deter thieves. Bikes have frequently been stolen from inside garages, storage sheds and apartments, so make sure those locations are well secured.
3. If you are a UO student, register your bike with the UO Police Department, on campus, at 1319 E 15th, tel. (541) 346-2919. One prudent approach to consider: buy a cheap bike and an expensive lock!

For more information, contact Eugene Police Crime Prevention at 541-682-5137. Also watch for us at neighborhood events – including the picnic at Tugman Park, **September 15th from 4-7 pm**.

Southeast Neighbors Appeals LUBA Decision

by Heather Sielicki

Southeast Neighbors and other community groups continue to challenge inappropriate development in the Amazon Creek Headwaters. On July 30, 2013, a quorum of Southeast Neighbors' Board of Directors voted 5-1 to appeal the adverse decision issued by the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) upholding a Eugene Planning Commission decision giving developers tentative approval to develop at least 47 residential lots off the far south end of West Amazon Drive. This would involve the clearing away of habitat and soil and the introduction of pavement to an area with a history of landslides. The property stands at the source of our community creek, which was recently found to be contaminated downstream by urban runoff and pesticides, directly impacting our watershed. The board believes in the legal merits of our appeal and hopes to prevail. A decision is expected before the end of the year.

Protecting these headwaters is part of our neighborhood responsibility and cannot be done without the sustained support of community volunteers and advocates. Please contact us at (541) 782-8736 or southeastneighbors@gmail.com to help with our efforts .

Neighborhood Gift Circles

by Kim Krichbaum

Most of us want for our lives to be easier, and to be more connected to our neighbors. Neighborhood Gift Circles are a way to do both. In a gift circle you gather with your neighbors, and each of you share what you would enjoy giving - extra goods, tools and other devices you can lend, areas of expertise where you can share knowledge, and skills you would enjoy sharing. Then each person shares what they could receive that would increase their happiness and save them time and money. Then we make connections with one another, and make plans to make it happen. These circles really build community. People get the great feeling of having a need met by a person rather than by a sometimes faceless business. Those who give get the satisfaction of making a difference for someone, and all of a sudden we know our neighbors on a whole new level.

The East Eugene Gift circle meets monthly, next on Thursday Sept 12 at 1083 E 19th, 6pm potluck, 7pm circle. There will also be a gift circle at the September 15 Southeast Neighbors gathering. For more information e-mail Kim at kimkrichbaum@gmail.com .

Issues Confronting the Eugene City Council

by Betty Taylor, Eugene City Council, Ward 2

During the next few months the city council will be making a number of important decisions and trying to find solutions to very difficult problems. The most urgent problem is the budget-how to find new revenue and where to make cuts. The number of homeless residents is another problem with no obvious or easy solutions. Whether and where to expand the Urban Growth Boundary is a controversial issue, which will require our attention in the near future.

Some scheduled work sessions concerning issues which will affect the future of Eugene are:

September 9th: Possible use of Community Development Block Grants for homeless shelters and/or single room housing. This is a work session which I requested because I think there is a great need for simple, transitional shelter.

September 11th: Riverfront Urban Renewal District-should we continue to divert tax money to this area?

September 25th: Downtown exclusion zone-should it be terminated or modified?

October 14th: Downtown free parking area-continue, expand, or terminate?

October 24th: Urban farm animals-should they be licensed?

Over the next several months we will be considering the tax exemption for multiple unit housing-whether to change the requirements or end the program. I am interested in your opinions and suggestions in all these areas-as well as south Willamette street plans and safe crossing of 30th Ave.

Email Betty Taylor at : betty.l.taylor@ci.eugene.or.us

Letter To The Editor

Dear Southeast Neighbors,

I would like to identify the need for an important project supporting pedestrian safety.

There is a need for a sidewalk along a brief stretch of Willamette St., south of Spencers Crest Dr. approximately to the trailhead of the westbound Ridgeline Trail (or to the Eugene City Limits sign just north of the trailhead). The stretch of road in need of a sidewalk is approximately 1/8-1/6 of a mile.

Currently, the sidewalk along south Willamette St. on the east side of the road ends shortly after Spencers Crest Dr. (There is no sidewalk along the west side of Willamette.) This is a major concern, as residents from the south hills neighborhoods from 46th Ave. between Willamette and Donald Streets, including Saxon Way, Marlboro Lane, Spencers Crest, and the Rockridge and Highlands communities, walk, jog, and walk their dogs along this sidewalk. Many pedestrians seek access to the Ridgeline Trail system just south of Spencers Crest.

Currently, pedestrians coming from the north must pursue their way to the trailhead by walking along the side of Willamette, in the bike lane. As brief as this stretch of highway is, it is extremely dangerous for pedestrians. It is at a major bend in the road, with the possibility of fast-moving cars and bikes suddenly overtaking the walker.

Since sidewalks in this area are the responsibility of the property owner, I am presenting this issue to the Southeast Neighbors as one in need of discussion regarding financial backing and community support.

Jennifer M. Love

Schoolsolutions Offers Transportation Options for Student Families

by Allie Camp LTD Transportation Options Coordinator/Sustainability Coordinator

Busy mornings? Point2point at Lane Transit District has a solution for that! And it's FREE! Schoolsolutions offers transportation options to families with students grades K-12. Just enroll online and Schoolsolutions can match you to other families in your area that attend your child's school. Visit www.point2pointsolutions.org/schoolsolutions to enroll for walking, biking, or carpool matching services.



For more information, contact Allie Camp, Point2point, at allison.camp@ltd.org or (541) 682-6213

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editorial comments from neighbors. All signed letters will be published as space permits.

Editorials express the author's views, not the position of the Neighborhood Association, the

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