

# Laurel Hill Valley Citizens Newsletter

## Spring General Meeting

**Thursday, May 20, 1999  
7:30 p. m.  
Eugene Community Church  
2335 Riverview St.**

The Spring General Meeting will include a variety of topics, including a new development proposal from Blazer Construction, Storm Water Drainage Planning, concerns about water pressure and the Annual Spring Clean-up. Join Us!

### Agenda

7:30 Introductions and Announcements  
7:40 MoonMountainUpdate  
8:00 Storm Water Drainage Planning  
8:15 Water Pressure in the Valley  
8:25 Annual Spring Clean-up  
8:35 Report from City Council - David Kelly  
8:45 Disaster Preparedness (Y2K and beyond)  
9:00 Adjourn

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### Moon Mountain Development

Son Blaze Construction recently submitted a preliminary proposal to the City for a completeness review. Although this version was not officially submitted as the final application, we did review the plan.

## Heritage Tree Cut

Neighbors at the southern end of Riverview were shocked and angry with the removal of a grand old Oregon White Oak, cut down on April 15th. Growth rings on the 34 inch diameter stump revealed the tree to be more than 130 years old. It straddled a designated right-of-way to nine lots on a two acre parcel platted since 1978. However, calls to the City of Eugene Planning Department revealed that no current permit had yet been approved to develop the street and, lacking that, the owner would have been required to get a Tree Removal Permit. No such permit was issued.

Eugene's Urban Forestry Department informed us that owners of unoccupied lots less than 20,000 square feet in area must get a permit before cutting trees. Before such a permit is granted, it must first be shown that certain criteria exist, such as disease, obvious safety hazards, or if approved development is imminent. Unfortunately, it is not certain that the large old tree in question would have met any of these criteria since it was cut and removed before an examination could take place.

Residents living near unoccupied lots with trees would be wise to educate themselves by obtaining a fact sheet from the Urban Forestry Department which details regulations about tree cutting. Residents are also advised to call the department immediately any time they are not sure if trees are being cut legally. Action can only be taken against violators of Eugene's tree ordinance if officials can document the site with "a dead body" present.

Meanwhile, officials in the Planning, Erosion Control, and Urban Forestry Departments are continuing to gather information regarding this incident. But in our view, the untimely loss of this magnificent heritage tree points out some serious flaws in the current tree code and

The proposal includes the construction of 285 residential units. The project consists of nine phases which will all be completed by 2010. There are no details in this plan regarding the commercial portion of the land. The developer is requesting that this area be dealt with later through the site review process. This process does not provide an avenue for public input as the PUD process does.

By the time you receive this newsletter, the official application will be submitted. The development committee will be evaluating the proposal. It is important to stay informed and involved because the public hearing on this application will be scheduled in the near future. Please attend the May 20th meeting for an update. If you are interested in helping the development committee please call Jake Bradshaw (485-3631).

Max Ansola received a road approach permit from ODOT and will begin work on a motel in the near future. The motel will be located to the south of the hair pin curve as you approach the intersection of Moon Mt. and Laurel Hill Dr. from the freeway interchange. The road will be reconfigured to remove the hair pin curve and replace it with a four way intersection farther to the south. Road work ahead.

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## **Water Pressure In The Valley**

The Eugene Fire Department and EWEB are concerned about water pressure and flow in some parts of our neighborhood. Large parts of Riverview and Augusta do not have the flow/pressure levels desired by the Fire Department. Similar situations are present in other parts of the city. Although the Fire Department is confident they can handle most fire emergencies with the current level of flow, improvement of the present situation is desirable. At our May 20th meeting, City Councilor, David Kelly will outline the current situation, discuss possible solutions and try to answer your questions.

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## **Annual Neighborhood Clean-up, May 22-23**

hopefully may spur some local residents to become active in persuading the City Council to enact stricter enforcement sanctions. For further information, please call the Department of Urban Forestry at 682-4800.

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## **Community Garden Update**

The Community Garden at Northwest Youth Corps recently held two neighborhood work parties. On April 7th several folks came to help start building a fence. On March 22nd, hedgerows were planted and Jude Hobbes, permaculture designer and neighbor, did a presentation about the benefits of hedgerows.

Local business, PW Pipe recently donated supplies and funding for the garden's irrigation system. On May 16th, AmeriCorps members will host a plant start sale at NYC, mark your calendars!

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## **Northwest Youth Corps Summer Program Schedule**

NYC's summer program will begin in June. Participating teens will be spending the night at NYC facilities on the following dates: June 12th and 19th, July 16, 23-24, 31 and August 20th.

NYC will also be operating a new program this summer entitled, YouthWorks. This program will serve youth ages 12-13, 14-15 and 16-18. Youth participating in this program will be at NYC, Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. throughout the summer. YouthWorks will provide education and experience in food growing, building wood products and community service. For more information, questions, comments or jobs for kids, call NYC at 349-5055.

NYC will also be providing space for Imagine That, a creative arts & performance summer camp for youth ages 6 1/2-11 and 12-17. For additional information about Imagine That, please call Terry

If beautifying your yard is on your list, mark your calendar for the weekend of May 22-23. It's time for our Annual Spring Clean-up! Two large dumpsters will be available, one for compost yard debris and one for trash. No kitchen garbage, please. In addition BRING will recycle reusable building materials, bikes, canning jars and other reusables. Specific guidelines will be posted on site. Bring your yard debris, reusables and junk to Northwest Youth Corps, 2621 Augusta St. between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 22 and Sunday, May 23.

This event is made possible by Sanipac who donates the dumpster use, Sanipac employees who bring them and pick them up, Lane County, who waives the dumping fees and Northwest Youth Corps who donates the space. You can help too, by volunteering to monitor the dumpsters for an hour or two during the weekend. A sign up sheet will be available at the General Meeting.

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Broomberg at 686-8119.

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*Comments, Letters to the Editor, and news articles are welcome. Send them to [Laurel Hill Valley Citizens](#)*

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