



# Laurel Hill Valley Citizens

N E W S L E T T E R



## Neighborhood Picnic & Ice Cream Social

Sunday, August 10, 2014

5pm at Laurel Hill Park

(on Augusta Street at 26th)



You're invited to the annual neighborhood picnic in Laurel Hill Park. This year the picnic will again feature a "build your own sundae" bar, which was very popular last summer. The neighborhood association will supply ice cream and a variety of toppings, and each of you can create your own masterpiece. This year we will also have some non-dairy frozen dessert on hand for those who can't eat dairy products.

**Bring** your family, a picnic dinner for yourselves, plus a bowl and spoon each to use at the ice cream bar. We'll provide some extra bowls and spoons for those who need them. Also feel free to bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets. We'll be asking for optional donations to the neighborhood association to help pay for picnic expenses and to supplement our neighborhood newsletter budget so if you can, please bring along your extra change or checkbook (and let us know if you'd like a receipt for your taxes). **Please don't bring** your pets or any glass items.

Entertainment will be provided by our own amazing entertainer, Mitch Hider. He will accompany his songs on ukulele, and will bring along his invisible dog, Roscoe. (Roscoe is the only dog allowed at the picnic.) Cedar will signal the beginning of the picnic with a few selections on the bagpipes, so if you're not already there when you hear him, do come join us.

Naturally, we will again have our popular **dessert contest**, with prizes awarded to the winners. All types of desserts may be entered in the contest. Please bring them in re-useable containers and label them on the bottom with your name (and the name of the dessert if you want) where the judges won't see the labels. It's also a good idea to include another label (where it can be seen) that lists any possible allergens, such as nuts. After the judges have tasted all the entries and made their decisions, the rest of the desserts will be shared with the crowd.

As well as eating and visiting with your neighbors other planned activities include volleyball and croquet, playing in the playground area of the park, the very large ball that has been so popular at past neighborhood picnics, and the chance to create sidewalk chalk art.



## **Help Us Maximize Electronic Newsletter Delivery and You Will Be Entered in A Drawing to Win a Gift Certificate For Wonderful Desserts!**

If you have been following the City's budget process, you might be aware that funds used for neighborhood outreach have been severely reduced beginning with the 2015 fiscal year which starts this month. Consequently our newsletter budget has been reduced by 50%. LHVC uses these funds mainly for printing and mailing the newsletter (like the one you're reading right now). Some of the lost budget may be replaced in the future using advertising in the newsletter, but this revenue source is not available until the City Council repeals a prohibition on ads in neighborhood newsletters which was put in place many years ago.

As a result, LHVC is looking for any and all possibilities to reduce the cost of publishing our newsletters. Because postage is a large portion of the cost, we hope to minimize the number of newsletters to be mailed in favor of electronic delivery via email. However, that requires your cooperation and willingness to provide us with your email address. A couple of members of the LHVC Executive Committee will then go through the mailing list and eliminate those people who have indicated their willingness to receive the newsletter via email rather than snail mail. **So please, if you can, provide us with your email address (and postal address) so that we may send you the next newsletter electronically.** Continuation of our newsletter outreach depends on it! Thank you.

*by Gunnar Schlieder*

**Here's How to Sign Up:** Send your name, street address and email address to Stephanie Midkiff at [smidkiff2004@yahoo.com](mailto:smidkiff2004@yahoo.com) or sign up at the summer picnic. All of the names will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to Sweet Life Patisserie.

Also note that we have a Facebook group which is open to anyone (go to Facebook and enter "Laurel Hill Valley Citizens"), as well as a web page at [www.lhvc.org](http://www.lhvc.org). Further contact information is on the outside page of this newsletter plus in the list of executive committee members on the next page.

## **Update on Development Projects in the Laurel Hill Valley**

**LaurelRidge --** On June 11th the Oregon Court of Appeals affirmed the decision of the State Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) denying Environ-Metal's application for a zone change and PUD approval for the LaurelRidge Planned Unit Development. The effect of this is that the applicant will now need to begin the PUD application process from scratch, taking account of LUBA's suggestions for calculating the parks and open space area along the ridge line of the property.

On June 26<sup>th</sup> a few neighbors from LHVC and the Fairmount Neighbors Association met with Ralph Nauman, Richard Satre and Pat Walsh (representing the developer) at their request so that they could present a new iteration of the LaurelRidge PUD. They produced documents that asked for written acceptance, which we refused. We indicated that we still had issues with it and that we are not in a position to make any agreements, verbal or otherwise. They did honor a request to further protect the riparian corridors by not crossing them with roads, and they held to a total of 127 single family dwelling unit lots. Seven of these lots, with accompanying access road, abut the Ribbon Trail and this is problematic. They did not address the core issue regarding parks, recreation and open space zoning which requires them to set a northern boundary for this area consistent with the Metro Plan Diagram and mandated by the Hearings Official, Eugene Planning Department, Land Use Board of Appeals, and the Oregon Court of Appeals.

*by Bill Blix*

*(update on development projects, continued)*

**Landmark** -- The developer of this project, after having their PUD plan denied by the Hearings Official and the City Planning Commission, chose not to appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals. Therefore, that project will not be built, though another developer may want to build there in the future.

**Capital Hill** -- Nothing new has been submitted to the city yet.



### Newsletter Wins Award

Neighborhoods USA, a national organization, sponsors several different competitions for neighborhood organizations. This year the Laurel Hill Valley Citizens entered our newsletter and won a bronze for excellence in neighborhood newsletters.

### Traffic Calming in the Laurel Hill Valley

Many years ago, residents of Augusta Street requested that the City of Eugene take action to slow drivers on their street because of the safety hazard created to pedestrians, children playing, and pets. When Augusta Street was scheduled for repaving a few years ago, it was decided that traffic calming would be installed at that time.

Then people who lived on Riverview Street worried that drivers who did not want to be slowed by the new devices on Augusta Street would drive on Riverview Street instead and cause the same problems there. So the city said they would do traffic studies, before and after the work was done on Augusta Street, to see how it affected traffic volume and speed on Riverview. They made an agreement that if traffic volume and speed increased more than a certain amount, then traffic calming devices would also be installed on Riverview. The studies were done and the results did show increased speed and volume on Riverview, so the city will do as they promised and install traffic calming devices on Riverview. Installation will happen this year or next.

### Neighborhood Litter Cleanup

The neighborhood is planning a litter cleanup on October 4 (rain date Oct. 11). We will provide trash bags and transportation to the transfer station. Please plan to join us to make this an even nicer community. Many hands make light work. --- by Kathy Frazer

*Save The Date*

*Fall Neighborhood  
Meeting*

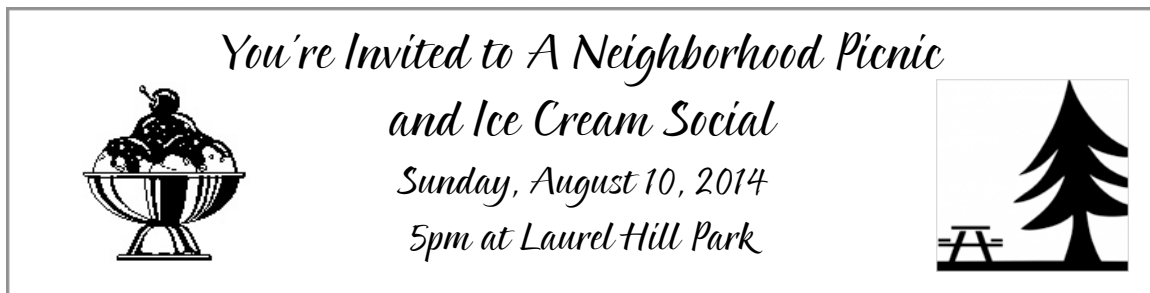
*7pm Wednesday  
November 19, 2014*

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All uncredited text and photos by the newsletter editor, Deborah Kelly. Illustrations are public domain clip art. Please send articles, comments and concerns to [dskharp@yahoo.com](mailto:dskharp@yahoo.com).

Laurel Hill Valley Citizens is Eugene's oldest neighborhood organization, chartered by the City Council in 1974. General Meetings are held quarterly to learn about and discuss issues relating to the quality of life in our neighborhood. The LHVC Executive Committee meets at other times to discuss and represent the interests of the neighborhood.

For more information see our website at [www.lhvc.org](http://www.lhvc.org) or contact Gunnar Schlieder, LHVC co-chair at 541-729-4271 or [gunnars@clearwire.net](mailto:gunnars@clearwire.net). You can also email [LaurelHillValleyCitizens@gmail.com](mailto:LaurelHillValleyCitizens@gmail.com) and we have a Facebook group. Just go to Facebook and type in Laurel Hill Valley Citizens.