



# Laurel Hill Valley Citizens

N E W S L E T T E R

## Ice Cream Social and Neighborhood Picnic

Sunday, August 28, 2016, 5 to 7pm at Laurel Hill Park

(on Augusta Street at 26th Avenue)

**You're invited** to join your neighbors for our annual Ice Cream Social in the park. Come enjoy an ice cream sundae that you create yourself. The neighborhood association will provide ice cream and toppings, plus a non-dairy option for those who can't eat dairy. This year our ice cream has been donated by **Red Wagon Creamery** of Eugene. Red Wagon's creative chef makes her ice cream using fresh local ingredients and the result is really wonderful, so come savor this special treat.



We'll also have **games** including "corn hole" bean bag toss, bocce ball, ladder ball, and volleyball. Favorite activities that the smaller children always enjoy include the "big ball" (an inflatable ball that is almost 6 feet across!), and sidewalk chalk to allow anyone to express their inner artist.



**Entertainment** will be provided by Mitch Hider's Music Box Revue. See and hear songs from jazz to country to opera, tap dancing, scat singing, an original "dog and chicken blues" and a variety of whistling. It's a whole vaudeville show in a miniature theater. A delight for all ages! Additionally, Cedar Caredio has agreed to get this event off to a great start by playing a few tunes on the bagpipes.

As a special treat, Ron Peterson will bring a vintage automobile and offer rides to those who are interested. Also, Lynn Bruno will provide a table with information about disaster preparedness.

If you love to bake, enter our **dessert contest** for the chance to win **great prizes** as well as some local fame. All types of dessert are welcome. Please bring your entries in reusable containers and put your name on the bottom where the judges won't see it. Another label, where it will be seen, should have the name of the dessert and information about any possible allergens (such as nuts). When the judging is over the desserts will be shared with the crowd.

Suggested items to **bring**: your families, a picnic dinner for yourself or your group, dishes and spoons for the ice cream (we'll provide some for those who forget), lawn chairs or a blanket to sit on, and a donation for the neighborhood association (optional).



Please **don't bring** your pets, alcohol, or glass containers, and remember that smoking is prohibited in the park. (Beginning this summer, smoking is prohibited in all parks and natural areas in Eugene.)

This event provides a great opportunity to get to know more of your neighbors and to strengthen our neighborhood community. We've also invited our elected representatives to provide us with a chance for increased communication.



## Good News: Laurel Hill Drive to be Repaved

ODOT (Oregon Department of Transportation) has confirmed that they will be repaving Laurel Hill Drive, which has been in sad shape for awhile now. The details were not settled by the time this newsletter went to press but they are currently getting bids for the work and are hoping that it will happen in August.

## East Ridge Village Update

by Tom Bruno

Proposed modifications to reduce the number of homes and to allocate more common land in phases 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8 have been sent to the city for approval. AKS, the engineering firm, had planned to start cutting in new streets, sewers, and street lights this spring but the owner of the property has decided to delay this work for a year.

## Homeowners' Associations and Neighborhood Associations

by Stephanie Midkiff

People are often confused about the difference between a homeowners' association (HOA) and a neighborhood association. HOAs exist **within** neighborhood associations but they are different creatures—in formation and purpose.

HOAs are generally established by the owner/developer when a subdivision is planned and lots are sold. Ownership and responsibility for the HOA are eventually transferred to the property owners in the form of a homeowners' association. HOAs exist to preserve the values and amenities in a subdivision through covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC & Rs), and the deed to the property provides that each purchaser must abide by them. CC & Rs may prescribe architectural plans for new homes, modifications on existing homes, exterior paint color, fence height, etc. There may also be green space or small parks held in common by the HOA. Dues are collected for the upkeep of roads (privately owned and maintained), landscaping, and maintenance of common areas. Examples of HOAs are East Ridge Village and Stonecrest.

Neighborhood associations may be formed any time – often years after an area is developed. They are nonprofit, voluntary advocacy groups sanctioned by the City. There are 23 residential neighborhood associations in Eugene, with Laurel Hill Valley Citizens (LHVC) being the oldest, chartered in 1974. Eugene's neighborhood associations receive support from the City of Eugene Neighborhood Services. This partnership between the City and the neighborhoods serves to facilitate communication between City staff and residents. One way the City fosters communication and collaboration is by helping to fund publication of association newsletters and events such as picnics and concerts in the parks.

Both HOAs and neighborhood associations may have charters and bylaws, and there are governing boards of homeowners/citizens for each. Each depends on participation by the homeowners or citizens to make an area a safer and more enjoyable place to live. Because neighborhood associations encompass HOAs, they have the potential for greater impact on community building and livability. If you live in an HOA, consider participating in both LHVC and your HOA. You really **CAN** be in two places at once!

Learn more about Eugene's neighborhood associations: [www.eugene-or.gov/531/My-Neighborhood](http://www.eugene-or.gov/531/My-Neighborhood).

– Stephanie Midkiff lives in the Hendricks Hill HOA and also serves on the board of the LHVC.

## Got a Great Idea for a Neighborhood Improvement?

by Natalie Whitson

The City of Eugene Neighborhood Matching Grants cycle will open on September 15th with funding available for neighborhood improvement and community-building projects. All participants are required to submit their project for a pre-review by October 31, 2016, with the final application due mid-January 2017.

The city encourages 1) physical improvement projects that involve recreation or public safety facilities, natural resource features, public art and spaces, or community gardens; 2) projects that improve universal accessibility; 3) public school partnership projects that benefit school children and the immediate neighborhood; 4) neighborhood-based events and celebrations; 5) capacity building initiatives that serve to create, diversify, or increase participation in a neighborhood-based organization or promote an understanding of issues important to neighborhood residents; or 6) another similar project. Secondly, the city values community involvement by requiring that the project budget include a match amount equal to, or greater than, the grant request. This may come from volunteer efforts or donations.

If you have an idea for a project, you must contact Cindy Koehler-Clarke, Program Coordinator at the city, at 541-682-5272 or [cindy.j.clarke@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:cindy.j.clarke@ci.eugene.or.us), to make sure your idea meets the city's guidelines. Grant applications also require support and coordination from your neighborhood association, in this case the Laurel Hill Valley Citizens. For more information about neighborhood endorsement, please contact a board member about the specifics of your intended project. For more details about grant guidelines and application materials, visit the City's web site at [eugene-or.gov/matchinggrants](http://eugene-or.gov/matchinggrants), or the Permit and Information Center located at 99 W 10th.

### Please Consider Joining the LHVC Executive Committee

This group has regular meetings four times a year to plan the four general neighborhood meetings, respond to events which impact our neighborhood and discuss ways to enhance the quality of life in our valley. We occasionally have special meetings to address events in a timely fashion, and we do some of our work by email. It's a great group of people. If you would like to join us, please contact one of the members listed below and we'll add your name to the ballot to be presented at our Fall meeting.



#### Save the Date

*Fall Neighborhood Meeting  
Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2016  
7pm, Northwest Youth Corps*

#### Laurel Hill Valley Citizens Neighborhood Association Executive Committee Members

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Laurel Hill Valley Citizens  
c/o Neighborhood Services  
99 W. 10th Avenue  
Eugene, OR 97401

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Policy statement: This is the official newsletter of the Laurel Hill Valley Citizens. Funds for the printing and mailing of newsletters are provided in part by the city of Eugene. Newsletters are produced by neighborhood volunteers and are free to residents and businesses of the neighborhood. Space is available for letters to the editor or articles from neighbors and will be published as space permits. The information provided and the views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the position of the City of Eugene or the Laurel Hill Valley Citizens.

All uncredited text written by the newsletter editor, Deborah Kelly. Illustrations are public domain clip art. Natalie Whitson is our talented proofreader. 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 Sheryl Kelly at 541-912-5887 or [sherylkell@comcast.net](mailto:sherylkell@comcast.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.