

The River and Garden District

2012: WeGene Neighborhood of the Year for SCRROL
(Santa Clara-River Road Outreach and Learning)

**2013: 2nd Place Award in Multi-neighborhood projects at
Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) for SCRROL**

February 2014

Welcome to the RRCO eNewsletter.

RRCO regular monthly meetings - Second Monday (USUALLY)
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
River Road Annex
1055 River Road

All RRCO meetings are open to the public and include a **public comment** period. Contact RRCO Co-Chair Jon Belcher riverroadcommunityorganization@gmail.org for more information.

Watch for a postcard in the mail with information about upcoming meetings. As funding runs low for mailing postcards and newsletters, encourage your friends and neighbors to sign up for monthly electronic e-mails from RRCO: riverroadcommunityorganization@gmail.com.

RRCO Seeks Newsletter Assistance

In case we find additional funding, a volunteer is needed with computer graphics skills to layout occasional newsletters--about one per year. Content and pictures are provided. Contact Co-Chair [Jon Belcher](#) to put your skills to work for your neighborhood.

Santa Clara-River Road Implementation Planning Team (SCRRIPT)

SCRRIPT's Land Use Committee continues its work on recommendations for area plans for both neighborhoods in preparation for the time when the City is ready to receive our

RRCO Meetings 2nd Mondays 7-9pm

Feb 10, 2014: General Membership Mtg - Howard School replacement, EWEB Commissioner, other

Mar 10: General Membership Mtg - Board elections, Goodwill Bldg update

Apr 14, 2014: Board Mtg - Officer elections

ideas. The Transportation Committee is reviewing our needs and problems so we are prepared to respond to various transportation plans. We want to be proactive--prepared to speak knowledgeably when a plan for our area is presented. Responding reactively to plans presents a crisis with deadlines that we want to avoid. Your concerns and ideas are welcomed.

Contact the SCRRIP Land Use and Transportation Committees or participate in the process by contacting Co-Chairs [Jon Belcher](#) or [Jerry Finigan](#).

Please contact Jon Belcher (jbelcher@efn.org) for more information or to be included on the RRCO land use mailing list.

~ River Road Community Organization ~

RRCO General Membership Meeting
February 10, 2014; 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
River Road Annex, 1055 River Road

Several updates will inform us about the repurposing of the Goodwill Building to a community gathering place with businesses our community desires, Howard School Replacement, EWEB Commissioner to provide info and take questions, SCRRIP status, and land use activity. Changes are planned for the schedule for LTD bus #55. They want to know what ideas are feasible.

In order to be a candidate or vote in next month's election, a neighbor or business person must attend at least one meeting in the prior year. February is the last month to gain eligibility to be a member and vote or run for a seat on the RRCO Board.

RRCO General Membership Meeting - Board Elections
February 10, 2014; 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
River Road Annex, 1055 River Road

Four RRCO Board members terms end, and neighbors are sought to fill seats with the resignation of at least two board members. If you want to learn about how neighborhoods work and have a say in the direction it takes, this is your opportunity to run as a candidate for a position. New ideas and new energy are the life blood of the neighborhood.

The featured topic will be the full details of the Goodwill

Announcements

Rosetta Park Work Party
Saturday, Feb 1, 2014, 1:00 - 3:00

Filbert Grove Work Party
Saturday, Feb 8, 2014, 9:00 - Noon

Contact list

Here is a list of e-addresses for you to cut and paste in your browser.

Co-Chair Jon Belcher:
riverroadcommunityorganization@gmail.com

SCRRIP Co-Chair Jerry Finigan:
jerfinigan@comcast.net

Goodwill Building Redevelopment - Clare
Strawn:clarestrawn@gmail.com

Homeless Rest Stops - Michael Wisth:
Michael.C.Wisth@ci.eugene.or.us

Oregon Passenger Rail:
www.OregonPassengerRail.org

Neighborhood Services - Rene Kane:
<http://www.eugene-or.gov/neighborhoods>

Eugene Park Stewards - Lorna Baldwin:
<http://www.eugene-or.gov/neighborhoods>

lorna.j.baldwin@ci.eugene.or.us

Building planning. This is an exciting project to provide the community with an asset that will be frequently used for a gathering place and to provide goods and services highly desired by our neighbors. We are most fortunate that the owner of the building is community minded and desires a collaborative enterprise.

Goodwill Building, Elections, RRCO 2014 Goals, and Homeless Rest Stoop are on the agenda.

Graffiti is getting worse - want to do something about it?

It is time to get serious about eradicating the graffiti that has blossomed in our 'hood. If you are willing to join a team to help remove it, please contact Jon Belcher at jbelcher@efn.org and get on board.

Goodwill Building Plans Are Ramping Up

We are quite excited about the increasing potential that desirable businesses such as a natural food store may be housed in the 1050 River Road site most recently occupied by Goodwill Industries. A very active committee is plowing through the tasks necessary to make this a reality:

- NEDCO has offered fiscal sponsorship so that neighbors can contribute to or invest in the project. You can contribute (tax deductible) or invest (interest return) through Community Lending Works earmarked for the River Road community. To learn more, go to <http://www.communitylendingworks.org/> and attend an informational seminar at the next RRCO meeting.
- We are pursuing a 501(c)(3) organization to guide the effort and also provide support for other community projects. Please take the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/J58ZRYT> and consider volunteering for the board.
- We are soliciting businesses that best serve the needs of the Neighborhood. Please make suggestions of potential anchor tenants on the survey.
- We are discussing with the City what economic development options they can offer. Please contact Karrie Walters <kwalters@uoregon.edu> to learn how you can get involved.

Homeless Rest Stop at Northwest Expressway and Chambers Overpass planned to open in March

Heron Pond Habitat Team - Bill Allison:

mrbill@rancholoco-salsas.com

River Road Website:

riverroadco.org

Facebook Page:

www.facebook.com/pages/River-Road-Community-Organization/361757733858734

Ongoing Events & Neighborhood News

River Road Beautification Crew

Meets each Sunday, 10:00 to 12:00, Global Delight - River Road and Hilliard Lane. We would appreciate your support and company.

Opportunities

Report Graffiti on EWEB Poles


Call 541-685-7457 with pole Transformer number or switch box number and Street Address of property close to EWEB facility. For graffiti on a traffic control box, call Eugene Public Works 541-682-4800 with the location.

Eugene Park Stewards

Seeking volunteers to remove invasive species along the river bank. Contact Lorna Baldwin.

Heron Ponds Habitat Team

Contact Bill Allison, mrbill@rancholoco-salsas.com



Community Supported Shelters, the operators of the first Rest Stop at Roosevelt Boulevard and Garfield are negotiating with the City of Eugene to operate the second rest stop at the north end of the Chambers Overpass between Northwest Expressway and the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks. It is planned to house 15 homeless folks in tents placed on platforms. There will be on-site managers, and the site will be closed during the day. Occupants will be screened and will be required to comply with site rules and complete volunteer service in order to stay. RRCO plans to have Erik and Fay de Buhr from Community Supported Shelters attend our March General Meeting to describe the program and answer your questions.

River Road and Howard Elementary School Replacement

Design has started on a new Howard Elementary School building. Groundbreaking may occur as early as spring 2014. A design open house will be held on February 4 for community members to view the initial design, share comments, and visit with the architects and other design team members. Neighbors are cordially invited to attend.

Schematic design: <http://4jnewschoolshoward-riverroad.org/howard-schematic.html>

A postcard will be sent to residences near the school. We would appreciate any assistance you can provide spreading the word in other ways.

New School Design Open House

Tuesday, February 4, 5:30-7 pm.

Howard Elementary School, 700 Howard Ave.

- 5:30 p.m. Open house begins
- 6:00 p.m. Presentation
- 7:00 p.m. Ending time

Stay in touch:

- Join the mailing list for school design news by emailing howarddesign@4j.lane.edu
- Watch for updates at www.4j.lane.edu/bond

Alternatively, you may also attend RRCO's February General Meeting where School Board members, 4-J staff and Pivot Architects will describe the plans and take your comments.

Land Use Updates



- At the February General Meeting Poage Engineering will hold their Neighborhood-Applicant meeting to discuss their application for a three-lot partition of the parcel at the south end of Audel Avenue. They will describe their project and hear any issues that you may have. No application has been submitted at this time.
- The appeal of the Oakleigh Meadow Cohousing PUD hasn't been scheduled yet.
- On January 22, the Hearings Official heard the request to rezone the 17.55 acre property on the south side of Maxwell Rd, between Maxwell Connector and N. Park Ave. Staff recommended that the addition of the /SR (site review) overlay to the C-1 and GO portion, that Hearings Official approve the requested zone change to R-2 Medium-Density Residential, C-1 Neighborhood Commercial and GO (General Office), while retaining the /WR (water Resource) overlay. No significant opposition was presented. The Hearing Official's decision should be made public by February 15.

Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) Conference in Eugene

Put May 21 - 24 on your calendar.

A panel from River Road has been chosen to make a slide presentation at the Conference about what we are doing to build a local food culture. This will be an unprecedented opportunity to reach out to a much broader set of people - from all over the country and several foreign countries, too. Panel members will be Heiko Koester, Nick Rutledge, Jason Schreiner, Andrew Black, Ravi Logan and Jan Spencer.

Volunteers are needed to help meet and greet, provide food dishes to share, and offer neighborhood insights.

Eugene Park Stewards

Work Party at Rosetta Park

Saturday, February 1, 1-3:00

We will be concentrating on the swales, cutting the sedges, and cleaning the drains. Weeding the tree wells will keep us busy, so bring a friend and meet your neighbors. The Work Party is in collaboration with the City of Eugene's Eugene Park Stewards Program. Because of volunteer help, Rosetta Park

remains pesticide free.

Tools, gloves and snacks are provided. Boots are recommended.

Work Party at Filbert Grove

Saturday, February 8, 9:00 to Noon

Monthly work parties at **Filbert Grove** occur the 2nd Saturday of each month.

Filbert Grove is located at the end of McClure, along the bike path--just north of Stults Ave. The City will provide tools and snacks. Please dress for the weather. we will be digging out black berries and doing a bit more pruning. (This is not a good project for toddlers.)

A photo gallery of work parties over time from the Filbert Grove.

<http://www.suburbanpermaculture.org/filbert-grove.html>

To learn more about local park or trail adoptions or upcoming Eugene Park Stewards events, please contact us at <EugeneParkVolunteers@ci.eugene.or.us>.

To become involved in EPS volunteer projects in the West Region, contact Lorna Baldwin, 541-682-4845 or lorna.j.baldwin@ci.eugene.or.us

River Road House Concerts

The cultural life of River Road is getting zestier. Some House Concerts are livening us up. Check the River Road Facebook page to see all the house parties being held around Eugene and look at the one right here in River Road. Yippee!

What: Blind Boy Paxton and Lauren Sheehan

When: Wednesday, February 5, 2014 7:30 pm

Where: 755 River Rd Eugene, OR

Admission: \$15 door

Contact info: Mike Meyer mmeyer@efn.org

Website: <https://myspace.com/jdogsblues> <http://www.laurensheehanmusic.com/>

Tickets at the door only. Parking one block away on either side. Please RSVP at mmeyer@efn.org

"Easily the most talented young acoustic bluesman to come along in many, many years." - Living Blues Magazine

What: David Grier in Concert

When: Friday, February 7, 8 pm

Where: House Concert 755 River Rd Eugene, OR

Admission: \$20 door

Contact info: Mike Meyer mmeyer@efn.org RSVP's requested

Parking one block away on either side

David Grier is an award winning Bluegrass guitarist.

RRCO E-Updates:

riverroadcommunityorganization@gmail.com

Sign up for the **RRCO's e-news**, change your e-address, receive **Police Alerts** or **bike/ped info**, work on the **Graffiti clean up team**, organize a **Neighborhood Watch** group or become a member of the Santa Clara-River Road Implementation Planning Team (SCRRIPT) to work on land use, governance, transportation, or parks and recreation issues.

NOTE: RRCO Board and General Membership Meetings are usually held at the River Road Annex, 1055 River Road. *We usually meet the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public with a **public comment period**.*

are cont

Contact Jon Belcher, RRCO Co-Chair, with your questions or concerns about the neighborhood or River Road Community Organization.
"Like" River Road Community Organization on **Facebook** and **'invite'** your friends to **'like'** us or find us on the web at riverroadco.org