



Churchill Area Neighbors

Next General Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2008

7:00-8:30 pm

Churchill Estates, 1919 Bailey Hill Road

Topic of discussion: Churchill Community Gardens

Invited guest: Jen Anonia, Food for Lane County

This is the official newsletter of the Churchill Area Neighbors. Newsletters are published and mailed courtesy of 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 and 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 City's elected officials, or City staff.

Churchill Community Garden, History and Future

By Jennifer Anonia, Gardens Program Manager, Food for Lane County

Winter is relatively quiet in the garden. Overwintering plants such as fava beans, garlic, leeks, and greens wait the return of warm, sunny days. The occasional gardener stops by to weed and mulch, casual preparation for the busy spring. In March the garden slowly awakens and by April it's a lively and growing space.

On any spring day, a visitor to the Churchill Community Garden may find a myriad of groups and individuals participating in garden activities. Students from the Looking Glass Center Point School haul wheelbarrow loads of leaves donated and delivered by the city of Eugene to mulch pathways and garden beds. Kennedy Middle School's Outdoor Science class turns a compost pile and explores the many critters turning garden debris into rich soil. The Churchill High School Greenhouse class delivers starts they've tended in their greenhouse to transplant into the class garden bed. Volunteers spend a few hours to help grow food for the food bank. And a community gardening family rests under the grape arbor, enjoying a snack of garden produce after working hard in their own garden plot.

The Churchill Community Garden is nestled in between playing fields at the south west corner of the Churchill Youth Sports Park. Initiated in 2001 by the efforts of then CAN chair Mitzi Colbath, the garden's success is reflected in the number of organizations and sponsors that have supported its work. Two past neighborhood matching grants written and submitted to the city by CAN, local school teachers, the 4j School District, FOOD for Lane County, local businesses, and area neighbors helped fund the initial infrastructure of a fence, irrigation system, a tool shed, benches, and an arbor.

Since 2001, over 30 volunteer groups a year from universities and colleges, civic and faith-based organizations and local businesses and corporations help with maintaining the garden and growing food for FOOD for Lane County. Local businesses like Rexius and Down to Earth donate garden materials and supplies. Hundreds of school children from six local schools visit the garden, helping with tasks and benefiting from hands-on learning. Teachers utilize the garden as an outdoor classroom, exploring subjects as diverse as science and art, math and creative writing.

For many of the children and youth participating in garden activities, it's the first time they've sampled fresh produce straight "off the vine." Garden favorites include sugar snap peas, carrots, strawberries, and kohlrabi. And for students who struggle in a traditional classroom, the garden is an opportunity to find success in working with other students and adult mentors to make the garden productive and beautiful.

FOOD for Lane County (FFLC) distributes the garden's valuable bounty through its network of over 100 agencies and programs, including meal sites, shelters, and emergency food box programs. The garden's produce is the freshest and some of the most nutritious food that the food bank acquires. FFLC estimates that it serves 1 in 5 Lane County residents, and over 1 in 4 children in our community have to access emergency food. Other challenged populations that need the garden's produce are seniors and the disabled. Our most vulnerable populations benefit greatly from the healthy fruits and vegetables grown at the site.

The garden also provides nearly 60 garden plots for neighbors to rent and maintain. For a small annual fee, gardeners receive access to a 20' x 30' plot, garden tools and equipment, greenhouse space, and irrigation water provided by School District 4J. Over half of the garden plots available at the Churchill Community Garden are provided to limited-income Latino Families through a strong partnership with a local non-profit, Huerto de la Familia/the Family Garden. Huerto also sponsors workshops and a children's garden in its efforts to alleviate poverty and eliminate hunger among low-income Latino families. The cross-cultural connections benefit all as people from different backgrounds work together and share knowledge and skills.

Monthly work parties and pot-lucks held the 2nd Saturday of each month encourage community gardeners and the general public to work together to maintain the garden, share skills and resources, and build community. Join us for the first community garden work party and pot-luck of the year, Saturday April 12th, 10 am – 2pm. For more information, contact Jen at 343-2822, gardens@foodforlanecounty.org.



Upcoming Events

Mulkey Cemetery

2nd Annual Nondenominational
Easter Sunrise Service
Sunday, March 23rd, 7 am
3335 S. Lambert Street

Spring 2008 Workdays:
10 am to 2 pm on
Saturday, May 10th
Saturday, May 17th
Sunday, May 18th

*Anyone who wants to volunteer
at the Mulkey Cemetery, please
contact Limda Peterson Adams
at 434-1266 or visit
www.mulkeycemetery.org.*

Churchill Gardens

1st Community Garden work
party and pot-luck of the year
Saturday, April 12th
10 am to 2 pm

West Eugene Wetlands

Wetland Wednesday Wanders
Always the second and fourth
Wednesdays of the month

March 26th, 9 am to 10 am
West end of Royal Avenue

April 9th, 9 am to 10 am
Willow Creek Natural Area

*See www.wewetlands.org for
more information.*



Meet One of Our Neighbors

By Suzanne Buck, Newsletter Editor

Although I have been a member of the Churchill Area Neighborhood for nearly 4 years, it recently occurred to me there are some neighborhood landmarks I still know nothing about. Case in point: the Eugene Bible College. I contacted the school officials about writing an informational article for the CAN Newsletter. Dr. David Cole, the President of the Eugene Bible College was more than happy to oblige. I hope you'll enjoy his informative article as much as I did. If you have anyone you'd like to meet (or any other suggestions for articles), please drop me a note and I'll see what I can do (newsletter@churchillareaneighbors.org).

The Eugene Bible College

By Dr. David Cole, President of EBC

Eugene Bible College has been planted in the Churchill neighborhood since 1974, when it moved to its location at 2155 Bailey Hill from downtown Eugene, where it had been doing business since 1925. The College is a private Christian institution affiliated with Open Bible Churches, and is approved by the state of Oregon to offer Bachelor of Arts and Science degrees. EBC is accredited by the Association for Biblical Higher Education, and has been granted candidacy status by the Northwest Commission of Colleges and Universities.

Majors include Pastoral Studies, Youth, Christian Education, Worship Arts, Christian Counseling, Intercultural Studies, and Interdisciplinary Studies. Our focus is on an integrated experience for our students that includes an excellent academic education from caring and competent Christian instructors, an emphasis on ongoing mentoring and character development, and skill development through various levels of leadership and ministry training.

The College maintains a 32 acre campus, 20 of which are currently developed. Of interest to our neighbors are Mitchell Park, a picnic area with a pavilion adjacent to Warren St. that can be rented out for private events; our Cross Plaza area, which was developed after the relocation to our campus of the former Skinner Butte Cross and is open to the public; and our library, which holds over 30,000 volumes and is also open to the public. Also, we anticipate in May the opening of our new Student Life Center, a 28,000 square foot facility that includes a new auditorium for chapel and drama events, and a gymnasium with a College-size basketball court.

Each year our College attracts nearly 200 students from states across the U.S. Our students are involved through-out the academic year in community service opportunities aimed at helping others. We truly hope that we will prove to be good neighbors in the Churchill area, and we look forward to serving our community as we seek to improve the quality of life for us all.

Election Results

Please help us welcome our Board Members for the coming year!

Chair	Alan Buck
Co-Chair	Wayne Taubenfeld
Treasurer Pro Tem	Craig Topham
Secretary	Anne Field
Newsletter Editor	Suzanne Buck
Area 1 Rep	Suzanne Buck
Area 2 Rep	Danette Olsen
Area 3 Rep	Julie Reid
Area 4 Rep	David Oaks
Area 5 Rep	Diana Lamboy

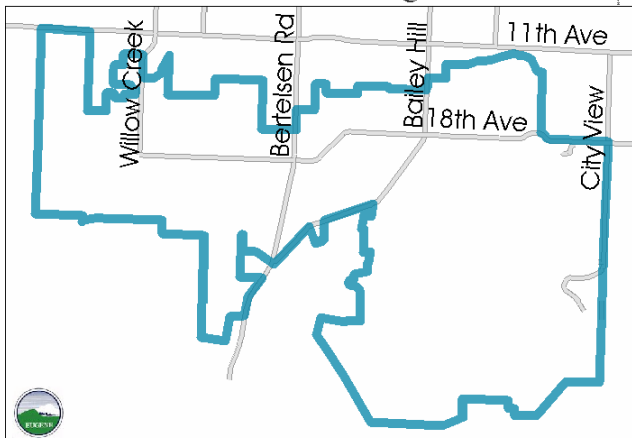
Brainstorming for CAN Ideas

By Suzanne Buck, Newsletter Editor

During the Feb 27th meeting, the attendees put forth possible goals for the year. A few of the ideas are listed below. If any of these are close to your heart or if you have something you'd like to suggest, please email your idea to Alan Buck (alan@chuchillareaneighbors.org) or attend our next meeting and add in your two cents!

- Establish relations between HOAs and CAN
- Plan a CAN event tied to the summer movie night to be hosted at the Skate Park
- Establish a dog park in the Churchill Area
- Find an alternative CAN meeting location
- Ask McKenzie-Willamette and the City of Eugene to give a presentation about the possibility of building a new hospital in West Eugene

Churchill Area Neighbors



Composting

City of Eugene Website

The Solid Waste and Recycling Program actively promotes composting at home and commercial businesses. The City of Eugene has a variety of programs which provide education and the technical assistance necessary to help you get started if you are new to composting, or supplement your current composting efforts.

The City of Eugene offers free Compost Demonstration Workshops at the River House Community Garden (301 North Adams) and the Grass Roots Garden (1465 Coburg). They encourage vermicomposting (composting with worms) at home and work. Tips for backyard and worm composting and other links to other resources for composting information can be found on the city's website. Visit <http://www.eugene-or.gov> and type "composting" in the site search then follow the "Information about composting" link.

For further information, contact the OSU/Lane County Extension Service Compost Hotline at 682-7320.

Spinach-Artichoke Dip

Original chef unknown

Submitted by Suzanne Buck, Newsletter Editor

- 1 can artichoke hearts (~14 oz), drain and chop
- 1 cup mayonnaise (no Miracle Whip)
- ¾ cup grated parmesan cheese
- dash garlic powder
- dash dill
- 8 oz cream cheese
- 1 cup chopped fresh spinach
- 1 loaf of good bread (ciabatta)

Mix ingredients and put into an 8x8 pan. Bake for 40-45 min at 350 °F. Remove from oven and let cool a bit. Cut bread into small slices for dipping and serve. Enjoy!

