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www.goodpastureislandneighbors.com

GOODPASTURE ISLAND NEIGHBORS

GOODPASTURE ISLAND NEIGHBORS BECOMES NEW EUGENE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Goodpasture Island Neighbors is a neighborhood association that includes all residents, property and business owners within the boundaries south of Papé Beltline highway between the Willamette River and Delta Highway in Eugene, Oregon.

The mission of the organization is to build community at the neighborhood level and improve the livability of our neighborhood by:

- Sponsoring neighborhood improvement projects and social events
- Providing a forum to identify, discuss, and resolve neighborhood issues
- Establishing a two-way communication between neighborhoods and the City, and between neighborhoods and other external agencies
- Educating neighbors on issues, public process, City services, and elections
- Identifying and advocating the Neighborhood Association's position on issues such as land use, transportation, public safety, and social services

Visit our new neighborhood association website for more information or to leave a suggestion for making our neighborhood a better place to live:
www.goodpastureislandneighbors.org.



This map shows the Goodpasture Island area with major roads and bicycle paths. Our neighborhood includes the Delta Ponds natural area, East Bank of the Willamette Greenway, Marist High School, a fire station, Valley River Center and Valley River Village shopping areas. Excellent restaurants and a wide variety of businesses are located nearby.

UPCOMING EVENTS

GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday, May 8 at 7 PM
Marist High School Theater
1900 Kingsley Rd., Eugene, Oregon

Meeting Agenda

- Presentation about Delta Ponds development by Eugene's Parks and Open Spaces Natural Resources Manager
- Update on the Planned Unit Development at Goodpasture Island Rd./Alexander Loop
- A brief presentation about the 2012 Olympic Trials by Marilyn Milne, a representative of the organizing committee

Add These Dates to Your Calendar!

General Meeting: Tuesday, August 14 at 7 PM
Annual Meeting & Elections: Tuesday, October 23 at 7 PM

All GIN meetings are held at the
Marist High School Theater
1900 Kingsley Rd., Eugene, Oregon

Thanks to Marist for welcoming our group to the neighborhood!
All meetings are open to the public.

AROUND TOWN

2012 OLYMPIC TRACK & FIELD TRIALS COMING TO EUGENE IN JUNE

by Marilyn Milne, Track Town 12

From Eugene to London: Track Town USA will host the Olympic Track & Field Trials, and then the winning athletes will head to London for the Olympics.

Eugene residents have learned that you don't have to be a track and field expert to get excited about moments like:

- The 2008 men's 800-meter race, where local athletes finished 1-2-3 in a thrilling finish;



Thousands of visitors enjoyed the 2008 Olympic Trials which were held at Hayward Field

- The traditional victory laps around Hayward, with fans high-fiving the athletes;
- Fans clapping rhythmically for the competitors, sometimes acknowledged and encouraged by the athletes, while multiple events unfold simultaneously.

The 2012 Trials occur from June 22-July 1 at historic Hayward Field. Each day will have a theme, and the fan festival and activities throughout Eugene and Springfield will build on the atmosphere. The "Starting Block" area of the festival focuses on activities for younger fans. Plus, the Trials provide a \$31 million boost to our local economy.

Get more information and tickets at www.gotracktownusa.com; check the Facebook page (Track Town USA), too.

While Goodpasture neighbors



shouldn't be affected by traffic issues, you may see track and field athletes around town, and you will certainly see out-of-town visitors who have come to Eugene to witness sports history.

Happily, the Trials are for us local residents, too, and you are invited to enjoy them!

JUVENILE CHINOOK SALMON FOUND ON GOODPASTURE ISLAND

from City of Eugene's Stormwater Connections

For the first time in over 60 years, juvenile spring Chinook salmon can swim freely through newly created side channels of the Willamette River at Delta Ponds and Heron Slough. With completion of the major restoration work this year, water can now flow for 2.2 miles through the ponds and Debrick Slough, before it meanders back into the river.

Across the river from Delta Ponds is Heron Slough, a quarter mile of newly constructed stream-like side-channel, where river water can also flow during high water events like those Eugene has had over the past several weeks.

Slow-moving side-channels, such as those recently restored at Delta Ponds and Heron Slough, provide areas of calm water during high winter flows. It is here that juvenile salmon are able to rest, feed, and grow larger before migrating to the ocean.

Although the Delta Ponds and Heron Slough projects provide benefits to multiple wildlife species, both projects were designed specifically to provide overwintering habitat for juvenile Chinook salmon.

A grant from the NOAA Restoration Center has allowed the City of Eugene to hire a consultant to monitor fish in Delta Ponds and Heron Slough. The consultant has been running a rotary screw trap at the inlet at Delta Ponds. Since January, over 50 juvenile Chinook have been captured and released using the

rotary screw trap. A handful of Chinook were also found in the interior ponds at Delta Ponds and hiding under submerged tree roots in Heron Slough.



■ This is the official newsletter of Goodpasture Island Neighbors. Funds for the printing and mailing of newsletters are provided 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 Goodpasture Island Neighbors.

Contact **Charlie Cole** for more information:

- To provide announcements of meetings and events
- To request topics be placed on the agenda
- To get additional information

EMAIL: chair@goodpastureislandneighbors.org

PHONE: 541-683-5083

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

by *Charlie Cole, Chair of the Goodpasture Island Neighbors*

We are off and running to a good start with building the Goodpasture Island Neighborhood Association (GIN).

At our first General Meeting in October, we elected the officers and board members and since then your board has held several planning sessions to learn more about how we would be organized, to begin preliminary discussions of issues apparent in our area, to identify resources available to us for gathering information about these issue areas, and to establish some ongoing General Meeting dates.

We had our first General Meeting on February 7 in the theater at Marist

High School. General Meetings for the remainder of the year will be on May 8, August 14 and October 23 (Annual Meeting and Elections). Please put these dates on your calendar and plan to be there.

Next General Meeting on May 8 presentations and discussions: Probably the most significant public asset in our GIN area is the Delta Ponds. Note the item elsewhere in this letter about the returning presence of juvenile Chinook salmon in the Delta Ponds.

We will have a presentation from the city Parks and Open Spaces Natural Resources Manager (oversight for Delta Ponds).

A most visible issue of greatest potential impact on our GIN community is the Planned Unit Development at Goodpasture Island Road/Alexander Loop. I'm sure you have noted that construction has begun on the project. We will have an update on that construction progress.

The 2012 Olympic Trials track and field event will be held in Eugene in June 2012 just a month after our General Meeting. We will have a representative of the organizing committee present to give us a short briefing on the event including ticket purchase, parking, and other aspects of attendance.

RECAP FROM OUR LAST MEETING

Our General Meeting on February 8 was most interesting. We elected a new At-Large Board Member, Scott Smith, to fill a needed vacancy.

We then went through discussions describing the GIN, what it encompasses, how it was formed, how the first officers were selected, etc. There were some questions, but seemed to be no problems for the attendees understanding what was happening.

Principle presenters were three persons from the Eugene's Pedestrian/Bicycle Advisory Committee and the GEARS cycling club.

A very good discussion focused for the most part on the pedestrian safety problems along Goodpasture Island Road, especially at Alexander Loop. Many concerns were expressed about the impact on traffic on the entire island and residents movements, especially at the Goodpasture Island Road/Delta Highway intersection.

Interestingly, a Eugene Associate Transportation Planner was there – and he heard it all. He has only been in the job since September and obviously was not aware of all the concerns we were expressing. This classically demonstrates how our advisory role can have a direct impact in city planning. He did say they expected to repave Goodpasture Island Road from Kingsley Road to Marie Calendars this coming summer.

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY

There were several concerns expressed about criminal activity in the neighborhood, particularly in the vicinity of Village Plaza. The Board will be working with the Eugene Police Department to gather data regarding these concerns and discussing possible recommendations to reduce these incidents. Accurate data is necessary in order for the Board to address the issue. Neighborhood residents can assist by ensuring all such incidents are reported to the Eugene Police.

GOODPASTURE HISTORY

GRAVEL MINERS & ROAD BUILDERS

During the 1950's much of the old Willamette River channel was cleared of forest for gravel extraction, leaving behind pits we now know as the Delta Ponds. The gravel was used to build a network of Lane County roads including Delta Highway in 1964. During the same era, Beltline Highway (now Randy Papé Beltline) was constructed across the north end of Goodpasture Island with a cloverleaf intersection placed in the middle of the old river channel (Lane County Review Board, 2003). With flood protection and access roads in place, Goodpasture Island was open to development.

OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Charlie Cole, *Chair*

Mike Edwards, *Vice Chair*

Dennis Gregory, *Secretary-Treasurer*

David Larson

John Helmer

Richard Hamilton

Scott Smith

Webb Sussman

Joanne Todd, *Newsletter & Website*

Charlene Simpson, *Newsletter & Website*



Goodpasture Island Neighbors

c/o Neighborhood Services

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www.eugene-or.gov/neighborhoods
or GoodpastureIslandNeighbors.org

NATURE NEWS

MAPLE WOODS: GOODPASTURE ISLAND REFUGIA OF NATIVE TREES, SHRUBS & WILDFLOWERS

Photos & article courtesy of Charlene Simpson, Island Lakes Condominium resident

The Oregon Flora Project at Oregon State University defines a native plant as one that existed before Euro-American settlement. Most plants native to Goodpasture Island have been extirpated by conversion of suitable habitat to farms and development. However, some can still be found in scattered remnants of the pre-settlement landscape along the Willamette River and its sloughs. Patches of native vegetation persist in the Delta Pond area. The re-introduction of native plants at the Delta Ponds will be the topic in this space in the August Newsletter.

Maple Woods is a small preserve located between Goodpasture Island Loop Road and the Willamette River. Four acres were set aside by developers of Valley River Village, removing lucrative home sites from the project. This action was not without controversy. Developers dreamed dollars; conservationists envisioned a Willamette Greenway.

Towering over the preserve are big leaf maples. Indian plum, vine maple and elderberry form a middle canopy. The blue blossoms of tall larkspur and the giant leaves of cow parsnip with huge umbels of creamy white flowers are seen at the preserve's south border along Goodpasture Island Loop Road. Giant trillium and bleeding heart nestle in shady moist places.

Learning about the natural history of our area enriches our lives and contributes to our sense of place

