



Logo by Ken Finch

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eastside-olympia.org

Eastside Neighborhood Association

Building Community

Summer 2010

Annual Lions Park ENA Picnic

Join your neighbors for the
Annual Eastside Neighborhood Picnic
Saturday August 21 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

The Eastside Neighborhood Association (ENA) will be providing hamburgers, veggie burgers and hot dogs along with plates and napkins, although we encourage folks to bring reusable serviceware. Please bring side dishes to share, beverages, and a blanket to sit on. Feel free to share child-safe lawn games like croquet or badminton, and we're also collecting donations of non-perishable food items for the food bank.

There will be a block watch signup, a community map to talk about projects, and the introduction of the ENA Archive Project, where folks can share information about the history of the Eastside.

We'll have entertainment, informational booths, and of course the company of friends, family and neighbors.

Capital City Stove & Grill is donating the use of a BBQ.

Third Thursday Monthly Potlucks *Get to Know Your Neighbors!*

Something's cooking in our neighborhood . . . and it's us!

Come join us for our monthly potlucks located at the Light & Life Church on the corner of 7th and Fairview. On the 3rd Thursday of most* months all ENA neighbors are invited to gather for a time of eating and getting to know each other. Bring your favorite dish to share, we gather at 6:00 p.m. It's truly potluck—one month we had a cupcake feast! Compostable paper goods are provided, but it's most ecological if you bring your own plates, cups, etc. Lower 9th Ave turned out a great representation for the month of June, so talk to your neighbors and join us in September. * **No potluck for August due to the annual picnic. September picnic may be held at Madison-Avanti Garden.** (Ruth Middlebrook)

President's Report

I am enjoying serving as the President of the Board of Directors for the ENA, and I want to invite neighbors to become involved by participating in an ENA event, hosting an ENA affiliated project, or just celebrating community with an ENA Block Party. I look forward to introducing myself and the other volunteers who are currently serving as members on the Board of Directors, as volunteers, and as community liaisons to you at the **Annual Eastside Picnic at Lions Park, on August 21 from 11 am - 3 pm.**

To become involved, please consider **joining as a member** and **volunteering your time**:

Board of Directors: currently one vacant position on the Board of Directors.

Community Representative: liaison with Coalition of Neighborhood Associations, represent the Eastside neighborhood in civic community, and make Public Announcements for the ENA.

Interim Executive Director: coordinate project to file the ENA as a federal tax-exempt non-profit.

Newsletter Team: try your hand as a reporter, volunteer to deliver the newsletter, or become involved in the production as an editor.

Interim Events Coordinator: organize potlucks, picnics, block parties, and other events.

Interim Grant-Making Lead: develop ENA resources and contribute to the development of special projects in the neighborhood such as a Community Center and Pathways projects.

Projects

Adopt a Roundabout or Chicane: beautify a space for everyone by adopting a planting bed in the public right-of-way: a roundabout or chicane.

Block Watch Roster: say hello to your neighbors; volunteer and sign-up to participate in forming community safety connections at the picnic.

Public Pathways: help to beautify a pedestrian connection such as sidewalk or pathway.

Map Your Neighborhood: complete neighbor-to-neighbor disaster preparedness training.

Madison-Avanti & Neighborhood Gardens: volunteer to support the new garden at Madison school, organize work parties, and participate in garden walks.

Eastend Urban Renewal Project: work to update the City of Olympia Comprehensive Plan for the Eastside, improve sidewalks, and install rain-gardens to reduce street flooding.

These opportunities exist now and are waiting for you, and please feel free to bring your ideas about how we can work together to improve the quality of life in Eastside for today and for tomorrow.

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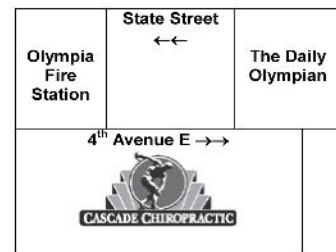
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*All memberships based on monthly auto debit or yearly prepay only. Memberships are non-transferable. (See Membership rules at Cascade Chiropractic for details).

****Get your Charter Membership today!!**

Madison Elementary School has been shrinking... but that could be changing!

Madison has become too small for its students, families and staff. Madison Elementary's enrollment has declined by 29% in the last six years while neighboring schools' enrollment has increased. The current enrollment is 149 students (K-5) and is projected to continue to decline, apparently due to population shifts in the neighborhood, not to inter-district transfers. Madison now has the smallest enrollment in the Olympia School District.

Madison parents and supportive neighbors asked the school district to return students to Madison - to fill up the empty classrooms and restore the school to the size it was when it moved into that beautiful new building on Legion Way just 11 years ago. The School Board said YES - WE HEAR YOU!

What is going to happen? A school boundary committee will be formed this fall to look at adjusting the boundaries for all of the elementary schools on Olympia's Eastside. Moving the school boundary could bring new students to Madison!

What can you do?

- Learn about our neighborhood school so you can answer questions people might ask.
- Come down and enjoy the new Madison-Avanti Giving Garden created by families and students from both schools and our invaluable neighborhood friends.
- Listen for future developments. As the School District school boundary committee works, questions will come up that neighbors can help with.

We at Madison School would like to thank neighbors for their support with both our declining enrollment problem and the construction of the Madison-Avanti Giving Garden! It really made a positive difference.

Questions? Contact neighborhood resident Bonnie Guyer Graham at olygraham@earthlink.net.

New Apps for Eastside Neighbors

Did you know that the ENA has several online resources?

Website: <http://eastside-olympia.org>

This is the best resource for quick information about the ENA. Check this site for meeting dates, times, and locations, and learn more about the ENA.



Google Groups

The ENA has two different Google Groups as resources for neighbors. The *Announcement* list is for official ENA posts and notices from the city that are of interest to the neighborhood. If you have been getting our regular announcements, you are already subscribed. On the *Discussion* list, members can share other local events and activities, look for volunteers, and discuss issues of interest to the neighborhood.

Announcement list: <http://groups.google.com/group/ena-announce>

Discussion list: <http://groups.google.com/group/ena-discussion>

Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/eastsideolympia>

Post pictures of ENA events, share local happening with your friends and more.

There are opportunities to be come more involved right from your own home. If you are interested in becoming an admin for the Facebook page, a moderator for the discussion list, or would like to add a new resource, please contact Elaine Nelson at secretary@eastside-olympia.org.

Lions Park to Get Facelift

Lions Park, originally constructed in 1946, is going to be revitalized with approximately \$450,000 in improvements during 2010-2011. A final design has not been completed yet, but based on suggestions at a spring public meeting, the improvements will likely include the following:

Playground: New play equipment, including a rotating net climber and a climbing rock/slide is scheduled to replace all current equipment by Summer/Fall, 2010.

Shelter/Restroom: To be completed in 2011, the existing shelter will be removed and rebuilt in a more central location, further from the road, but leaving large grassy playfields intact. The existing restrooms will remain in place, but get a new roof.

Lion Theme: To make this park truly "Lions Park" approximately 10 lions of various media will be located throughout the park, some hidden, some not. Kids can try to find all of the lions.

ADA Path: An ADA accessible paved path will be constructed connecting west side parking, restroom, playground, and new shelter. If budget allows, the path will loop throughout the park.

Volleyball Net: A volleyball net will be installed using the existing poles south of the tennis courts.

Spray Pole Fencing: Low fencing will be installed on the south and west sides of the spray pole area.

Questions about this project?.....Please contact Jonathon Turlove, Associate Planner for Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation at jturlove@ci.olympia.wa.us or 753-8068.

Pathway Cleanup Coming

The Eastside Neighborhood Association has applied to the city's Pathways Pilot program designed to encourage the maintenance of connecting pathways.

We have selected the paved pathway that connects Fairview between 10th and Union. It is listed on the city's inventory of potential pathways. We are now working with one of the adjacent homeowners and will be contacting others.

The city will provide technical assistance, establish that the path is in a city right-of-way, install notification signs, and perhaps provide gravel or wood chips.

ENA will organize volunteers to clean up the area, install drainage and new plantings and install an ENA sign. The unpaved part of the right-of-way will need to be cleared, and new no-maintenance plantings installed. The wooden posts will be replaced with metal or concrete bollards, and signs placed at either end. We'll also be working to improve the drainage.

We already have a volunteer who is interested in designing the planting area. Others will be needed to clear blackberry and other nuisance plants, dig drainage and fill with gravel. We are also interested in donations of low or no maintenance shade: if you have extra, please let us know.

We'll let you know when we hear whether we have been accepted into the pilot. We may also apply for grants for materials once we've got approval.
(Elaine Nelson, Secretary)

Do you want a yard sign? Last year ENA purchased 15 or so yard signs that show up in front yards throughout the neighborhood advertising a meeting or event for the coming week. If you live, walk, or drive near one of these signs, take a peek! They note when and where our next monthly meeting takes place, and events like the annual picnic in August, and the garden walks. By the way, our monthly potlucks, happen both indoors and out, weather dependent. Again, watch the olive green signs with the ENA logo for details, and if you are interested in posting one in your yard, email president@eastside-olympia.org

The Madison-Avanti Giving Garden

A once muddy section of the play field at Madison Elementary has been turned into a beautiful and productive garden. This spring Avanti High and Madison Elementary students started growing food and enjoyed tasting broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce, peas, radishes and strawberries.

It took many hands to build the successful garden—students and staff of the schools, community members, and organizations including the Eastside Neighborhood Association, GRuB, The Thurston County Food Bank (TCFB), and the First United Methodist Church located across the street from the garden. The garden was awarded some grant support for compost bins, garden books, a small greenhouse and picnic tables.

During the summer, the Garden’s harvest will be donated to the TCFB. During the school year Avanti students will operate a farm stand to distribute garden bounty to Madison students. The TCFB will supplement the stand with fresh fruits and veggies from local farms. Madison students in the free and reduced lunch program will receive tokens to “purchase” food from the farm stand to supplement TCFB sponsored ForKids food bags that go home weekly. Future plans for the garden include installation of an ecological education garden including native woodland and wetland plantings.

The Madison-Avanti Giving Garden welcomes visitors and is always looking for volunteers. Pack a picnic and come check out the garden Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. throughout the summer. To learn more about the garden or to volunteer or donate items, please contact Katie Stoll at olygarden@gmail.com or find us on Facebook under “Madison Avanti.”

Advertisements

Please support these fine local businesses.

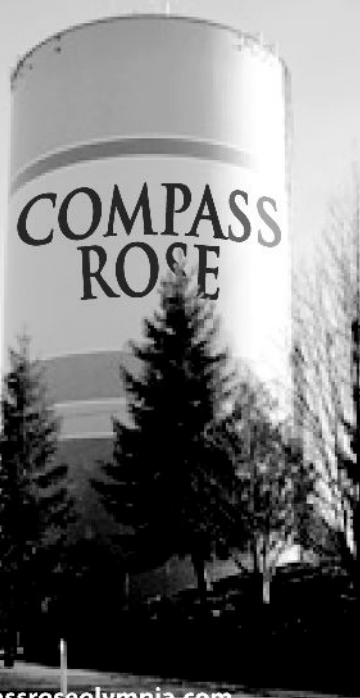
Advertise in the ENA Newsletter: see eastside-olympia.org/newsletter for details

No, we don't put our name on tall towers. This is Olympia, not Texas after all.

But we do live, play (and look up at that huge tower!) in your Eastside Neighborhood.

So swing into our beautiful store on 416 Capitol Way.

And say, "Howdy neighbor!"



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 Elaine Nelson, *Secretary*
 Jenni Fleming, *Treasurer*

Board Members:
Yvonne Fish
Bev Kooi
Ruth Middlebrook
Sam Schroeder
Kerry Smith
Open Position

Contact us:
 Eastside Neighborhood Association
 PO Box 7666 Olympia, WA
 ZIP?

Questions? Want to get involved?
 Contact 360-888-6402 or
 president@eastside-olympia.org

Join our email lists!
 Visit eastside-olympia.org for info!

Treasurer's Report

The Neighborhood Association has developed a good financial base over the last year. Our pre-picnic treasury is at \$818.64. Our regular savings is currently at \$525.74, after our investmer in January to purchase a \$1000 13-mon CD, which is earning 1.45% monthly.

We need your support as an active paying member of the Association. The thermometer on the right shows how few of us pay our modest dues.

Your \$10.00 will support the many efforts to develop our community described throughout this newsletter. You know we live in a great neighborhood, so let's show it! Send your \$10 and come out to the picnic and the monthly potluck general meetings.
 (Jenni Fleming)



Upcoming Events

See eastside-olympia.org for times and locations.

August

10th *Board meeting*
 21st *Eastside Picnic*

October

12th *Board meeting*
 21st *3rd Thursday Potluck & candidate forum*

September

14th *Board meeting*
 16th *3rd Thursday Potluck*

November

9th *Board Meeting*
 18th *3rd Thursday Potluck*



Membership in the Eastside Neighborhood Association

Membership is open to all households and businesses between 4th Avenue, I-5, between Eastside Street, and the cemetery. Dues are \$10 per year per household. Funds support the annual picnic, printing newsletters, neighborhood signs, and other improvements like gardens, pathways, & community projects. Mail your dues form to **Eastside Neighborhood Association, PO Box 7666, Olympia WA 98506**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email address _____

Add me to the announcement list. Add me to the discussion list.

Volunteer opportunities

- Deliver newsletters
- Write for the newsletter or website
- Help with the annual picnic
- Participate in garden walks
- Other _____

- I'm interested in tool sharing
- Send me a Thriftway donation card
- I'd like to advertise in the newsletter.