

# SANTA CLARA NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Building a Better Community

April 2017



## Rest Stops

Over the last several months SCCO has been working to educate its board and members about the need for creative solutions to homelessness. There is a clear and present need for action from all areas of the city to provide some measure of temporary relief. There are two programs used throughout the city at this point; car camping and rest stops. Members of SCCO's board toured one of the rest stops early this year and found that it was well run, orderly, and successful. Its success was measured by its harmonious coexistence with neighboring businesses and residents, and by the fact that over 40% of the residents went on to more permanent housing solutions.

Rest stops provide a safe environment from which people can look for work, access social services, volunteer in the community, and sleep without fear of arrest or endangerment. They provide a measure of independence and dignity to those who need it most. We expect that Santa Clara, like other neighborhoods, will host these programs. Join the conversation during our SCCO meetings, the first Thursday of each month from 7-9 pm at Messiah Lutheran church on River Road.

## A Better Way to Run Eugene Parks?

Santa Clara residents, the City of Eugene parks and recreation departments are preparing to roll out three possible plans for the future of our community. We, the SCCO, believe there is a fourth option not on the menu; a metropolitan parks and recreation district. We urge you to contact the mayor and city council and ask them to support an independent feasibility study regarding the creation of a parks and recreation district for all Eugene. Please take a few minutes out of your day and follow up with a few calls or emails.

Email: [mayorcouncilandcitymanager@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:mayorcouncilandcitymanager@ci.eugene.or.us)

Group distribution telephone: 541-682-5010

Individual phone numbers:

Mayor 541-682-8340 Lucy Vinis

Ward 5 541-682-8345 Mike Clark - Representing east Santa Clara

Ward 7 541-682-8347 Claire Syrett - Representing west Santa Clara

## Rest Stops

*With a good dose of preparation and forethought we can make our neighborhood the site of another success.*

*We welcome your participation, join the conversation during our SCCO meetings, the first Thursday of each month from 7-9 pm at Messiah Lutheran church on River Road.*

## In This Issue

- 6th Annual Wildflower Celebration
- Luper Pioneer Cemetery Open Memorial Day Weekend
- Community Garden Plots Available
- SCRRIP your Santa Clara future. Join our planning team.

SCCO meetings are the first Thursday of each month and last about 1 1/2 to 2 hours



Luper Pioneer Cemetery will be open for tours and viewing on Memorial Day weekend

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## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND AT LUPER CEMETERY

*Luper Cemetery will be open 9 am to 4 pm May 27, 28, 29 so people can walk the grounds and take a self-guided tour. A variety of other events are in the planning stage.*

*Luper Cemetery (also known as Irving or Baker Cemetery) was founded in the mid-1800s. Eighteen of the interred arrived in 1853, by way of the Oregon Trail and the Free Emigrant Road across central Oregon. The story of The Lost Rescue about the wagon train rescue party will be on sale. Over 160 people are buried at Luper Cemetery.*

*The cemetery may be accessed every day from dawn to dusk by walking the half-mile gravel road from West Beacon Drive to the cemetery. During Memorial Day weekend the main gate will be open to allow cars to park next to the cemetery, thus avoiding the half mile walk. Please check [www.lupercemetery.com](http://www.lupercemetery.com) for more information about the cemetery.*

**DIRECTIONS** to Luper Cemetery:  
From Eugene, take River Road north to Beacon Drive, on the north boundary of Santa Clara.

From Junction City take River Road south, turn west onto Beacon Drive and travel about a ½ mile to a white metal gate, marked with Luper Cemetery signs on the north side of Beacon Drive.

Proceed through the gate approximately 1/2 mile to the parking lot and cemetery entrance.

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## SCRIPPT the Way You Want to Live

Over two years ago the SCCO was involved in listening sessions to itemize and prioritize the components of our area plan. Since that time, other events in the City have diverted the City's attention from our project. City planning staff time that everyone thought would be available for the River Road-Santa Clara area plan was needed when the South Willamette project was rejected and when the Urban Growth Boundary portion of Envision Eugene had to go through the process of adoption.

In the meantime the SCRRIPPT (Santa Clara-River Road Implementation Planning Team) used the time to solidify and organize the issues we identified in our listening sessions. More recently SCRRIPPT has been lobbying to get our project back on track, and the City Council responded by funding our area plan. The timeline we put on hold for a while now has dates back on it, and we will soon be ready to do the hard work of actually agreeing on the wording and details that will be enshrined in our area plan.

The categories we were using to set our priorities included:

### (Under Land Use)

- Community Character
- Natural Resources/Stormwater
- Residential lands
- Urban design
- Economic development

### (Under Transportation)

- River Road as a corridor
- Streetscapes, Construction, & Design
- Bicycle and Pedestrian infrastructure
- Public Transit

### (Under Parks and Recreation)

- Willamette River Greenway
- River Road Park and Recreation District
- Park land development and a community center

### (Under Public Safety)

- Law enforcement

### (Under Governance)

- Representation and public process
- Coordination and communication
- The issue of Annexation
- The future of Special Districts

In the next couple of months SCRRIPPT will organize a working group for each of these categories. We're looking for Santa Clarans to help in this effort.

Please email us at [sccoorg@gmail.com](mailto:sccoorg@gmail.com) or attend our monthly SCCO meeting.

Jerry Finigan  
Santa Clara-River Road Implementation Planning Team

## Food Pantry open on last Saturday of each month in Santa Clara

Not only has St. Matthew's Episcopal Church partnered with the Santa Clara Community Organization and Huerto de la Familia to provide 36 garden plots, a tool shed and a source of water for each plot; the church also hosts the only food pantry in Santa Clara.

The permanent food pantry began as a mobile food pantry in 2013 under the guidance of Food for Lane County. Volunteers start setting up on the Friday before the last Saturday of each month. Saturday morning the food is pulled out of boxes, refrigerators and freezers and set out for pantry guests who visit from 10:00 am to 11:30 am.

**The  
Pray Big Food Pantry  
is open the  
last Saturday  
of each month from  
10 am to 11:30 am  
4110 River Road**

The pantry provides residents in the Santa Clara neighborhood of Eugene with emergency food assistance if needed.

Residents need only provide:

- proof of local address
- bring bags for carrying groceries.



The Santa Clara Community Garden was first tilled in 2012 at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

## Just a Few Garden Plots Remaining

*The 2017 Community Garden Season is here!*

The Santa Clara Community Garden, located on River Road behind St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, is about full for the coming growing season. Santa Clara Community Organization and Huerto de la Familia manage the site made available by the church.

Want to improve your gardening skills? This coming year garden plans include demonstration composting and soil preparation. More information will be forthcoming when specific dates and times are set for workshops.

The few remaining plots are available at half-price (\$30 for the year) because they are partially shaded. Contact Peter at 541-321-0798 for more information. Plot details:

*20' by 14' lot size*

*Mulching and on-site water available*

*Storage shed and use of tools*

*Organic gardening preferred*

*Bus stop in front of church where the garden is located*

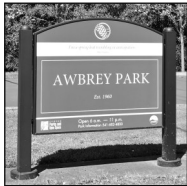
## 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WILDFLOWER CELEBRATION at Awbrey Park May 6th

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Wildflower Celebration at Awbrey Park will be Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, from 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Take a self guided tour or let one of the Friends of Awbrey Park lead you. Search for wildflowers while learning about native plants and how Awbrey Park volunteers restored the park after the park was overgrown with ivy and blackberries.

Other activities include Frisbee golf, marshmallow roasting, s'mores making, horseshoes and a treasure hunt to find native plants with the possibility of taking home a potted native plant.

For neighbors who live east of the park, don't forget we opened a new bridge last year that you can access via a new path off of Calumet Circle. There is usually a woodpecker tapping away on a tree very near the new bridge.

Drop by anytime between 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Awbrey Park is at the corner of River Road and Spring Creek Drive.



**SCCO meetings are the first Thursday of every month**

## Contact Us

**Santa Clara Community  
Organization**

Email:  
[sccoorg@gmail.com](mailto:sccoorg@gmail.com)

Visit us on the web at:  
[santaclaracommunity.org](http://santaclaracommunity.org)

Find us on Facebook under:  
Santa Clara Community  
Organization

Meetings:  
1st Thursday of each month  
7:00 PM  
Messiah Lutheran Church  
3280 River Road

### **Santa Clara Community News**

1250 Irvington Drive  
Eugene, Or 97404