

Earlewood

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

Nov/Dec 2010

Thanksgiving, Earlewood Style – Wednesday, Nov. 17 at 7 pm

The Earlewood neighborhood will celebrate Thanksgiving with its traditional dinner on Wednesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. at Reformation Lutheran Church's educational wing.

All Earlewood neighbors are invited to attend. The Neighborhood Association will provide the turkey and dressing and iced tea. Those attending and who can do so are asked to bring a dish – a vegetable or a dessert. Please bring those to the church by 6:30 so we can set up.



We will have the blessing at 7 p.m. and then our meal will begin.

If last year is any indication we will have a room full of people and a lot of fellowship. That will also require a bit of patience and the usual Earlewood courtesies as people come in to eat. The evening is meant for fellowship, not just eating. So relax, enjoy and meet your neighbors – and before you leave – help clean up if you can.

As you know, many hands make work a lot lighter.

Remember, our Thanksgiving will be on a Wednesday again this year. It worked well last year and avoided the conflict with Vista Lights and other activities on Thursday.



EARLEWOOD'S HOLIDAY PARTY

Saturday, December 4th • 7 to 9 pm • 2903 River Drive

Clayton King and Jeffrey Schwalk are again hosting the neighborhood holiday party in their home on the corner of River Drive and Union Street. Please mark your calendar for Saturday, December 4th at 7pm. The turnout last year was great and more than 225 people shared in the holiday cheer and fellowship.

Our hosts have made two requests this year. If you haven't paid your Earlewood association dues (or haven't joined), please do so. The annual dues are a mere \$5 for individuals and \$10 for households. Santa knows who's naughty and who's nice.

The other is just as important – Please RSVP by December 2nd if you plan to attend. Please visit www.cpkking.com/xmas. If you don't have internet access, call Clayton at 803-376-8901.



Savannah Summers...



answers the Call of the Wild

Savannah Summers, groomer and daughter of the owner of Critter Coiffures on Elmwood Avenue, quite naturally is an animal lover. But she takes that love a step further than most.

"Here at Critter Coiffures we carry products provided by Pets Incorporated and filter the funds back to them," said the young Earlewood resident and budding entrepreneur.

"If you are interested in adopting a pet, please consider a rescue. Pets Inc. takes unwanted and unable to keep pets," she said. "There are so many types of dogs and cats available." Savannah often grooms the dogs and cats rescued by Pets Inc for free.

Savannah, who will soon turn 18, was born in Columbia, but lived on the barrier Islands, Johns Island and Seabrook Island, most of her life. She grew up fostering a wide range of wild animals. She has cared for possums, raccoons, squirrels, birds and reptiles, including logger head turtles. Savannah also had a selection of personal pets, including, but not limited to frogs, lizards, turtles, fish, birds, cats, dogs and chickens!

From the age of 12, Savannah volunteered as an intern during the summers at the Barrier Island Environmental Center on Seabrook, and became a certified "Rescue Naturalist." Soon after graduating from the South Carolina School of Dog Grooming she helped her mother open Critter Coiffures. Both recognized that the residents of Elmwood Park, Earlewood and Cottontown needed a convenient place to get their animals groomed. Critter Coiffures also offers boarding and pet-sitting services. Their business is located in Captain Telegram's offices on Elmwood Avenue and the website is crittercoiffures.com

Savannah lives on Keenan Drive with her mother, Leigh, and two brothers, Elijah and Solomon, plus two dogs and two cats.

What do you like best about living in Earlewood? I love Earlewood Park and that there are so many trees in our neighborhood. I live next to Smith Branch and a natural section of Earlewood Park, so there is a lot of wildlife nearby. We put out bird seed every day and have several cardinal families that live next door. Each morning they come and peck on my window to let me know they are hungry!

What improvements would you like to see in Earlewood? I'm excited about the new dog park and can't wait for it to open. This will be a great amenity for Earlewood Park and our neighborhood and I look forward to using it. I would like for Earlewood residents to be more involved in Pets, Inc. and support the work they do.



Bungalow Fest

DREW A FULL HOUSE

A lot of work went into preparing for the second segment of Earlewood's Centennial Celebration – our tour of homes called Bungalow Fest on September 12th. And, we really didn't know whether anyone would show up.

They did, in droves.

Clayton King, Ira Trotter and Martha Williams registered people and put on bracelets non-stop from 1 p.m. until after 5 p.m.

When the tour was over, between 400 and 500 people had come through the 16 homes and gardens on the tour, as did WIS-TV and WOLO-TV.

Give credit to the home and garden owners who tirelessly prepared for the event. As someone remarked, work was done on their homes that they had been putting off for years – and didn't even do when family visited.

It turned out Sunday afternoon was a great time to have the tour, and altogether some 100 Earlewood neighbors participated in the event as volunteers.

Besides those in the neighborhood who helped out, a special thanks goes to Landon Johnson, who did the photography, to Debbie Bloom, who helped with the research, to Virginia Bedford, who wrote the history of each home and coordinated the event, to First Citizens for its support of the banners on Main Street and for ticket sales (they sold all of the tickets we gave them), to Cynthia South for her PR work that landed us all over the place, to the City of Columbia and the Hospitality Tax Committee, which believed enough that people would come to support the event financially.

We raised a little bit of money as a result of the strong ticket sales. More importantly, we raised awareness of the Earlewood neighborhood.

And a very positive benefit was that we found out a lot about our neighborhood and our homes historically that we did not know before.

Yard of the Month

September

2929 River Drive

Petie Bradley of Russell Jeffcoat Realtors will present Joanne & Sean Guerasio with a \$25 Lowe's Gift Certificate.

October

3111 Lakewood

Landon & Jordan Johnson Kirstin Averhoff-Gilbert of Capital Relocation Group will present Landon & Jordan Johnson with a \$25 Lowe's Gift Certificate.

November

923 Northwood

Jennifer McBroome of Russell Jeffcoat Realtors will present Claire Taylor with a \$25 Lowe's Gift Certificate.

December

3102 Lakewood

Petie Bradley of Russell Jeffcoat Realtors will present Heather Weigel & Chris Miles with a \$25 Lowe's Gift Certificate.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Are you ready for the next 100 years!!

The Earlewood Centennial has been a smash hit. It really has been a memorable year with so many people involved in both the Earlewood Reunion in May and the BungalowFest in September. Hundreds of people discovered Earlewood or became reunited with the neighborhood that has touched so many people.

The year has gone by quickly and now we are preparing for the next 100 years. So, let's start with 2011.

We are still pushing for the development of the NOMA Dog Park, which with any luck – and we need some of that – will be under construction again by the time you get this. The dog park construction was delayed by upgrades in the drainage system that runs through the park. The dog park committee is putting in place the mechanism to run the Dog Park, collect membership fees and maintain it. We are getting inquiries from across the region about the opening.

The Nature Trail has been well used since it was inaugurated as part of our Earlewood Centennial Celebration in May, but there is still work to be done. Obviously, some vicious rain storms – otherwise known as Gully Washers – took their toll on the trail and Parks and Rec will be making improvements to abate the drainage issues.

Meanwhile, we are looking to establish a Friends of Earlewood Park program to leverage the assets of the park with more activities. For example, an increased focus will be placed on the amphitheater to have more events. Under consideration will be the creation of a signature entertainment event at the park (perhaps to coincide with the annual Disc Golf tournament). The FOEP will also play a role in supporting the NOMA Dog Park as well as other initiatives such as new playground equipment and a Bocce Court.

While Earlewood Park is a focal point for our neighborhood, our goal is to get as many Earlewood neighbors engaged as possible. In the next year we will look at how we can increase “zone” activities for police and safety. We are pursuing a community garden that would be a year-round activity in which neighbors can participate. And we are also starting up a Food Co-op (see stories in this newsletter).

We are getting more engaged with Logan Elementary School with the hope of getting more and more young parents in our neighborhood connected to Logan, sending their children to Logan and keeping them in Earlewood.

These are a few of the activities from the past year that we will continue to focus on and that will have an impact well into the next century.



FRED MONK

– Fred Monk

EARLEWOOD COMMUNITY GARDEN

Plans are underway to create a community garden in the vacant land near the Earlewood entrance sign on River Drive. The area will be divided into plots of about 400 square feet each and will be available for residents of the downtown neighborhoods to grow vegetables, fruits and flowers. Work will begin in January.

Community gardens beautify neighborhoods and help bring neighbors closer together. They have been proven as tools to reduce neighborhood crime. Community gardens provide safe, recreational green space in urban areas with little or no park land, and can contribute greatly to keeping urban air clean.

Stephen Gibbs, who spoke at the ECCO October meeting, has offered to help us design and plan the Earlewood Community Garden. Stephen has been involved in other community gardens in Columbia in Rosewood and USC. If you are interested in participating or would like to know more, please contact Virginia Bedford at 765-0264 or vabedford@aol.com.

Earlewood Fruit & Vegetable Co-op



ECCO's Fruit and Vegetable Co-op will begin in January and anyone who is a member of ECCO may join. Members will receive fresh produce twice a month and the cost to belong is only \$30 a month or \$90 a quarter. Produce will be picked

up the 1st and 3rd Saturdays between 10 and 12 noon at Reformation Lutheran Church.

If you are interested in joining the Co-op, please contact Virginia Bedford at 765-0264 or vabedford@aol.com.

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**First Citizens Offers
ECCO Members
Special Account**



First Citizens Bank, located between Main Street and River Drive, is offering Earlewood residents a special package because of its involvement and proximity to the neighborhood.

Called the First Platinum Banking Package, it includes free personalized checks; a complimentary 3 by 5 safe-deposit box; no fees on cashier's check, money orders and one-signature traveler checks; free Visa check card; and overdraft protection with annual fee waived.

Also part of the package, the savings specials include no minimum balance requirement and no monthly maintenance fee. Borrowing specials include origination fee discounts on mortgage loans and discounts on auto loans, including additional discounts for automatic payment from checking.

For more information call Dana Magic, Relationship Manager at 931-1276 or email her at dana.magic@firstcitizenonline.com. Better yet, go see Dana at 2621 North Main Street. She's right around the corner.

ECCO FACEBOOK REMINDER



ECCO is now on Facebook and we need everyone to join the ECCO group. Just go to facebook.com and

search for ECCO (be sure and use all capital letters). Facebook is a valuable tool in notifying Earlewood residents about neighborhood activities, crime alerts and lost pets. We also post event information, photos and discussions about neighborhood issues.

Upcoming Logan Events

Saturday, November 13, Logan will have its annual Fall Carnival sponsored by the PTA. There will be games, activities, food and performances. Family Night will be **Tuesday, November 16** at 6:00 in the school cafeteria. On **Tuesday evening, December 14**, the annual Holidays on Elmwood program will be at Park Street Baptist Church.

More info at logan.richlandone.org

**Neighborhood
Monthly Meetings**



► **Nov & Dec Meetings**

Due to the Thanksgiving Feast and Holiday Party there will not be a monthly neighborhood meeting in November or December. The January meeting will be held on January 20th, 2011.

November 17th

► **Annual Thanksgiving Feast**

Reformation Lutheran Church
6:30 – 7:00 Bring Food
7:00 pm – Dinner Is Served!

December 4th

► **Annual Holiday Party**

2903 River Drive

**EARLEWOOD EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE 2010-2012**

The Executive Committee (EC) includes officers and committee chairs. The EC meets monthly to discuss plans and projects for Earlewood.

PRESIDENT	Fred Monk (765-0264)
VICE-PRESIDENT	Drue Barker
SECRETARY	Cynthia South
TREASURER	Bill Eiwien (252-1507)
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	Susan Lourie

COMMITTEE	CHAIR
COMMUNICATIONS	Clayton King
DOG PARK	Rebecca Spratlin
ELECTIONS	Jim Prater
GRANTS COMMITTEE	Wes Crosby
MEMBERSHIP	Virginia Bedford
NOMINATING	John Sinclair
POLICE & SAFETY	Virginia Bedford
QUALITY OF LIFE	Greg Hilton
STREET CAPTAINS	Ford Mason
ZONING, PRESERVATION & DEVELOPMENT	Brian South



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ECCO Membership Form July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011

Name(s)	
Address	
Phone	
Email	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> Household Membership (\$10)	
Please mail this form with your dues to: Earlewood Community Citizens Organization (ECCO) PO Box 30225 Columbia, SC 29230	