

THE RIDGE RUNNER

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Hello Enright Ecovillage Community!

We are inviting you all to our first gathering of 2018 to be held at Imago Earth Center on Saturday, March 3 from 2:30pm to 4pm. We hope everyone who has been a part of the neighborhood and the ERUEV community will attend to get to know each other better and to share experiences and ideas for the community for this new year. We all have much to contribute to our community whether we are neighbors, members, or interested individuals and families. We will have some snacks and beverages provided but feel free to bring something to add to the fun. We are planning some activities to encourage us to get better acquainted with each other. You will have an opportunity to become more involved with the efforts of ERUEV as a group of people who value each other and the earth we all share through more formal membership if you wish to. We hope to see you there.

“ We all have much to contribute to our community... ”

If you have any questions, you can contact board members at president@enrightecovillage.org, vicepresident@enrightecovillage.org or by reaching out to any other board members. You may also call Jane at 513-515-8604.

Looking forward to seeing you,

ERUEV Executive Board

2018 with Intention

By Kim Brown

Thinking about my story in the Ecovillage this year, my goal is to be intentional. I want to see more of my ecovillage neighbors more often and spend time hearing your stories. I also want to contribute by taking part in more events such as potlucks and other interesting and exciting ecovillage activities and opportunities. I want to be even more vigilant in reducing, recycling, reusing, refusing, and re-purposing within my own household, as a part of this community, and as a human being in relationship with Earth. I plan on staying active and working hard this year with others on the board to further the amazing ventures happening in our community. If you have ideas, concerns, visions, or goals for our community and would like to share them, I would love to have a conversation. You can contact me at vicepresident@enrightecovillage.org. Here's to an amazing year and I hope to see you soon.



Urban Earth Farms

Interviews New Farmer, Andy Bittner

What brought you into farming?

I remember helping my Grandfather when I was very young water the tomatoes he grew in his yard and learned the names of wildflowers from my Mother that she learned from her Mother. I started my working career with plants at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens as labor support in the horticulture crew. In college, I studied philosophy which led to botany and I followed my passion to go on to work for Delhi Flower and Garden and other greenhouses on the westside. In 2008, I started my own plant nursery growing ornamental perennials and flowering shrubs. I developed a great interest in seeds, and the diversity that comes with selecting for traits. Around the same time I planted a vegetable garden for “fun” and a few huge containers of eggplants and zucchini. When it came time to pick and eat our harvest, I was astounded at the difference in flavor and the extra energy I was receiving from obvious nutritional difference from what was usually available. I started trading vegetable seeds and a huge world of amazing food opened up to me with more varieties to grow than I could imagine. I began to see the growing popularity of local food and urban farming as tools to build food sovereignty and security in our community and a path to economic prosperity in our region.

What are your favorite fruits and/or vegetables to grow?

I have a real passion for tomatoes. The diversity available is amazing. They can range from sweet and fruity to smoky, savory delights, and almost any color of the rainbow, from pea sized to as big as your hand. Its interesting to note that the modern tomato was developed in Ohio by A.W. Livingston. Super hot



chilies are a treat to me and I like to grow the sweet types as well. Culinary herbs are a must, the perennial types are the backbone of my gardens. You really can't go without pole beans in this area. Zucchini and other squashes are favorites as well. I've been developing an interest in different root crops, some useful for the tops and roots. Have to grow all kinds of good leafy greens and microgreens. Edible flowers are a really fun crop too. I like to go foraging for wild edibles now and then.

How do you see your role in the community?

I hope to be a catalyst for growth in the gardens and the community by sharing my knowledge of urban farming and my plans to use that knowledge to create positive change. Its really great to join the dedicated team that's already in place and be a part of the ongoing mission of Urban Earth Farm and our volunteers and supporters, to offer the chance to experience growing food up close and to participate and gain a sense of the joy, pride and honor in growing your own food. Everyone deserves an opportunity to experience the real difference that fresh local food has to offer, and to have a readily available source in their community, or their own backyard. I'm really lucky and excited for the opportunity and cant wait to jump in to the season, see you at the farm!



Tomatoes from Andy's garden

Thursday Night Out

By Suellyn Shupe

Open Mic Night at Common Roots is the best. Last Thursday, some hot fiddling and banjo playing wrapped up an evening that started at 6pm with a casual pot luck meal. Each week participants are invited to sign up about 7:30pm and the mic opens at 8pm for musicians, singers, and spoken word performers.

Enright resident, Rockne Riddlebarger has taken charge of the open mic opportunity and has gradually developed it into a rockin' good time. Rockne has played and taught dobro on the Cincinnati music scene for more than 30 years. He knows a lot of musicians and Common Roots patrons are the beneficiaries.

In recent weeks, a few locals have become regulars, sharing their talent, and mixing and matching with each other. Last Thursday a couple of local college students showed up with friends. Leah sang some beautiful ballads accompanying herself on ukulele.

The featured artist, Harry Pedigo, a fiddle playing singer from Maysville, KY came to town as Rockne's invitation and really warmed up the place. He called up on stage



Rockne Riddlebarger introduces fiddler Harry Pedigo at Open Mic

with him, a banjo player from Adams County for a few licks. Turns out, Eli the banjo player, is a UC student who is very likely to return, so look for him in the future.

Check the Common Roots facebook events page to learn who is scheduled as featured artist. And note that the third Thursday of each month, Rockne will live record each artist. Have talent to share? Itchin' to get on-stage? Come, invite talented friends and join the fun.



Urban Earth Farms CSA 2018

COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE

Sign up now for the 2018 growing season. Choose from two plans: Pick Up & Go or Pick Up & Service. *Pick Up & Go* requires a payment of \$550. *Pick Up & Service* requires a payment of \$275 + 2 weekly work hours. (Based on a 27 week season.)

For more information go to the website:
www.enrightecovillage.org/our-csa/
Email: uefadmin@EnrightEcovillage.org
or call Gretchen Vaughn 859-445-5044

Common Roots Events

SATURDAY, FEB. 3, 9:30pm
John Aurther Gentry Jr.

SUNDAY, FEB. 4, 6:00pm
Super Bowl Party and Hike

THURSDAY, FEB. 8, 6:00pm
CSA Welcome Potluck

THURSDAY, FEB. 8, 8:00pm
Open Mic with Rockne Riddlebarger

FRIDAY, FEB. 9, 10:00pm
Willow Tree Duo

THURSDAY, FEB. 15, 8:00pm
Open Mic with Rockne Riddlebarger

SATURDAY, FEB. 17, 9:00pm
Maria Carrelli

THURSDAY, FEB. 21, 8:00pm
Open Mic with Rockne Riddlebarger

FRIDAY, FEB. 23, 6:00pm
CSA DAY 2018

FRIDAY, FEB. 23, 7:30pm
Free Film Series:

Connecting with Neighbors and the Land

Ask EGG: Advice for Our Ecofriends

It's not always easy to be green, so let us help. Ecovillage Green Group will be doing our best to answer your ecological, environmental, and green questions.

Dear EGG,

My new girlfriend is really in to this whole 'green' thing. I'm still pretty new to it, but open to learning and want to support her. Valentine's Day is coming up and I want to do something special, but she doesn't go in for all the store-bought, mass produced stuff (she calls it a "Hallmark" holiday). How do I still celebrate without disrespecting her values?

-Yours,

Ned the Newbie

Dear Ned,

First off -- how lovely of you to take her green sensibilities in to consideration! There are indeed many ways to show your affection without crossing the green line, so-to-speak. Consider that which is significant in your relationship. It is, after all, the connection between the two of you that truly matters when celebrating love! To celebrate Valentine's Day, you do not necessarily need to go in for all the pink, red, and hearts. Plan a picnic (weather permitting, of course) featuring her

favorite organic dishes, and perhaps some new ones she hasn't tried before -- she'll appreciate your taking the initiative. For a more classic, weather-resistant take, plan it as a surprise candlelit dinner instead -- and don't forget the beeswax candles! She'll appreciate the smallest details!

With the food sorted, you're probably thinking of the small tokens of appreciation typically given on Valentine's day. Forego the cut flowers in favor of a potted plant from a trusted nursery. Instead of a trite card, write her a poem or a song and recite it to her from memory. If live performances aren't in your comfort zone, or lyrical words do not come as easily to you, simply take a few minutes of her undivided attention to tell her just what she means to you.

To all our readers: For more ideas and thought-provoking content on how to celebrate times of love throughout the year, be sure to check your email inboxes weekly throughout the month of February.

Happy loving!
-EGG

Current Enright Ecovillage Leadership

When one has a question, concern, advice or wishes to pitch in, look here for contact info. All of our volunteers will respond as quickly as they can.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Jane Gensic, President@EnrightEcovillage.org

Vice President: Kim Brown, VicePresident@EnrightEcovillage.org

Treasurer: MerryBeth McKee, Treasurer@EnrightEcovillage.org

Secretary: Michelle Savoti, Secretary@EnrightEcovillage.org

BOARD COMMITTEES

Common Roots- Alison Gensic, CommonRoots@EnrightEcovillage.org

Communications- Dennis Cook, Communications@EnrightEcovillage.org

Eco Green Group (EGG)- Jim Schenk, EGG@EnrightEcovillage.org

Membership- Currently Unfilled

Urban Earth Farms- Angela Larck, UrbanEarth@EnrightEcovillage.org

Ecovillage Tour

Tours will resume in March.

If you would like to be notified of the next date and time, please e-mail communications@enrightecovillage.org

For more information visit www.enrightecovillage.org.



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