



What does it mean to live in community?

A Word from Your Chief Engagement Officer

Two months into my tenure as your association's executive director, I'm still jazzed; I'm living proof that doing what you love creates abundant energy! While my initial priority is to stabilize the association with needed resources, and engage with stakeholders, we are also pursuing education, research, and affordability initiatives. Our agenda revolves around you, and I encourage you to read our [strategic plan](#) on the NEW website] I also encourage you to email me to share your stories and ideas, and to consider [getting involved](#).

As we say goodbye to Michelle Rasa (operations manager), and Barbara Bansenauer, (advertising manager), we are grateful for their contributions to Coho/US. We are delighted that [Neil Planchon](#) has joined us as Ads Manager and Marketing Director. Neil is a founding resident of Swan's Market Cohousing, has a long history with Coho/US and we will benefit from his talents and connections. Neil will be responsible for connecting folks to opportunities and services, while helping to build our national community through networks and outreach.

This issue launches our new [Coho/US website](#), designed to be a connector and resource clearinghouse. Please bookmark and visit often!

I look forward to connecting with each of you.

[Alice Alexander](#)

Executive Director

Our New Website is Here!

I'm happy to announce the launch of our new website at <http://www.cohousing.org>. We don't promise to have gotten it 100% right, but it's a vast improvement over what we've had, and we hope that you will check it out, use it, and let us know what you think.

Thank you to Marty Maskall, Ann Zabaldo, Sheila Hoffman, and especially Muriel Kranowski for great work during the month of our beta, and to Sharon & Daniel for helping to create a new icon for the site. If you do have problems finding anything, or if something doesn't work on your computer, tablet, or phone, it's not fault of theirs! [Please let me know](#).

Late breaking news: if you have bookmarks that have https in them instead of http, they will definitely NOT work. Other bookmarks have a good chance. ([geek info available here](#))

- cat

Catya Belfer

Technical Director & Volunteer Website Builder

[Tours & Events](#)

[Announcing the 2015 National Cohousing Conference](#)

By Alice Alexander

May 29-31, 2015: Durham Convention Center - Durham, North Carolina: Come learn, share and enjoy! The national conference features cohousing and community building experts, and provides amazing networking opportunities. Presentations will offer everything from cohousing basics, designing and building communities, and enhancing life in cohousing. Opportunities will abound to learn from our shared experiences, and how we can contribute to cohousing sustainability and affordability. Gatherings of affiliated groups will add value and benefit.

[read more about announcing the 2015 national cohousing conference](#)

[New Cohousing opportunity in Northampton Massachusetts](#)

By Laura Fitch

Kraus Fitch Architects is pleased to announce that it will be partnering with Transformations, Inc in developing a new cohousing community as part of the Village Hill neighborhood development in Northampton. We have been holding informational meetings about cohousing and the potential for this new community. The first two meetings were very successful, with approximately 85 people attending in total. There's another scheduled opportunity to see the preliminary informational slideshow:

[read more about new cohousing opportunity in northampton massachusetts](#)

[Senior Cohousing Forum](#)

A Senior Cohousing Forum will be offered July 12th in San Rafael, just north of San Francisco. Co-sponsored by Coho/US, this is a collaboration between two cohousing groups (Wolf Creek Lodge and Phoenix Commons) as well as forming groups in Marin County, and McCamant & Durrett Architects and CoHousing Partners. Hosted by the UU Congregation of Marin. Email info@wolfcreeklodge.org.

[Neighborhood USA Conference - Cohousing was there!](#)

Nearly 600 participants attended Neighborhood USA's 29th annual conference May 21-25 in Eugene, Oregon, and Oakleigh Meadow, Eugene's first cohousing neighborhood, was there with them promoting cohousing as an exciting, burgeoning model for building strong neighborhoods. [read more about neighborhood usa conference - cohousing was there!](#)

[Reinventing Community](#)

Greyrock Commons, Fort Collins, Colorado: Growing Pains, Trials, and Triumphs, by Katharine Gregory

"So, what's this crazy living situation you're into this time?" my longtime friend Lindsey asked me over the phone from the East Coast. That was shortly after I'd left a voice mail message for her trying to tell her about the cohousing neighborhood my husband and I planned to move into.

"Well, this time," I told Lindsey and others (as opposed to last time), "the community I am moving into isn't based on a spiritual practice. It is based instead on the idea of an old-fashioned neighborhood, where people know each other, help each other, and share resources. And like many cohousing communities, at Greyrock Commons (named for the view of Greyrock Mountain), the neighbors hail from varying backgrounds, ethnic groups, and religious and political beliefs."

"But does everyone get along?" Lindsey later asked me skeptically while standing in the kitchen of my new home during a visit. [Read more...](#)

[Cohousing Blogs](#)

[Something Good has Begun](#)

By Bill Hartzell, President, Coho/US

I have the first verse of Cat Steven's "Peace Train" swirling in my noggin. "Now I've been happy lately, thinking about the good things to come. And I believe it could be, something good has begun." The tune is in my head because Coho/US has gotten off to an excellent start this year. In the last few months you may have read or heard about our efforts in bits and pieces. If I may briefly share our recent key accomplishments with you, I believe you will understand why I am feeling happy.

[read more about something good has begun](#)

[What does it mean to live in community?](#)

By Alice Alexander

What does it mean to "live in community" as we do in cohousing? This sounds wonderful, but the concept is hard to explain. I was struck a couple of Sundays ago, listening to my minister's sermon (Rev Deborah

Cayer, Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Durham, NC), by her exploration of this concept and the alignment with cohousing principles.

[read more about what does it mean to live in community?](#)

Featured Classified Ads

Please [contact our advertising manager](#) for more information about featuring your ad here

Cohousing Events

- [Liberty Village Cohousing Open House May 31st - Building Phase II](#)

Cohousing Groups For Seniors

- [Wolf Creek Lodge: Move in Now to Senior Cohousing!](#)

Cohousing Groups Seeking New Members

- [Food, fun, play and ease!](#)
- [Come Home to Neighborly Living!](#)
- [Cohousing takes off in PDX.](#)
- [Consider Jubilee Cohousing in Floyd - Heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains in VA](#)

Cohousing Homes for Sale

- [Delightful Nevada City Co-Housing](#)
- [Last Great Cohousing Deals-3 homes starting \\$139,900](#)
- [Townhome in beautiful California cohousing community in rapidly rising real estate market](#)
- [Gorgeous Home in Senior Cohousing Community in Boulder, CO](#)
- [Come visit us! Affordable homes at Mosaic Commons](#)
- [Live the Dream at an Organic Farm in Southern New Hampshire!](#)
- [Near Net Zero Duplex Condo Available in Belfast](#)
- [For Sale in New Hampshire's Greenest Community](#)
- [LIVING THE DREAM IN PORTLAND!](#)
- [Enjoy life in a village surrounded by forest in the Pacific Northwest](#)

In The News

- [City hurdles made east Vancouver co-housing project difficult, architect says](#)

California architect Charles Durrett has been involved with more than 50 **co-housing** communities in North America but has struggled to get one off the ground in Vancouver. Although the 31-unit project, at 33rd and Commercial, breaks ground on June 2 and ...

- [Elkhart group living together in 'co-housing community'](#)

WSBT-TV

It sounds like a sitcom. But Prairie Wolf Collective, the first **co-housing** group in Elkhart of its kind, takes its mission seriously. "South-central Elkhart is our home and continues to be our home," says Nicole Bauman, one of the group's co-founders ...

- [Cohousing project approved; Short Street will remain as is](#)

The Herald-Times (subscription)

Ultimately, the council voted 8-1 to not require lengthening Short Street as part of the Bloomington **Cohousing** project, so the unconnected segments of the road are here to stay.

- [West Dorset District Council votes yes on co-housing project grant](#)

Blackmore Vale

West Dorset District Council has voted to give a grant of almost £20,000 to the Bridport **Cohousing** Community Land Trust. The cash boost will help fund the project's architect fees, planning and legal costs which exceed £75,000. In addition to the ...

[more cohousing news](#) ↗

Featured Professionals

Connecting with Cohousing Professionals is easy with our [Cohousing Professionals Directory](#) webpage. Interested in getting listed below? [Contact our Advertising Manager](#) to find out more.

- [Bryan Bowen Architects, p.c.](#)
- [The Cohousing Company: McCamant & Durrett Architects](#)
- [Cohousing Partners, LLC & Wonderland Hill Development Company](#)
- [Kraus Fitch Architects, Inc.](#)

Thanks for reading

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