As I was walking back from recycling in a hum-drum kind of mode, my eye caught an unexpected splash of color. A snapdragon was growing in the seam between blacktop and a concrete wall. It was, and weeks later remains still, beautiful. It's the sort of flower that is lovely in a nurtured garden, but absolutely stunning when it arrives unexpectedly in difficult circumstances.

It's a good metaphor for community. We live often in beautiful gardens thanks to the intention and care with which our communities were created. We laugh together over a common meal, are touched when a neighbor brings us our mail, and cherish our pathway conversations about anything and everything.

Other times community is hard and a little desolate. We get locked in disagreement or frustrated with difficult behavior. We get busy with other life and feel less connected with our neighbors or find ourselves painfully at odds with a particular person. In those places beauty is far more rare, but also more precious. Often it is only because we are in community that we find it at all. The intention that we carry to stay in relationship, to work through differences, and to continue to seek connection eventually reveals compassion, caring, and kindness. It it beauty we would not otherwise notice, growing in the spaces where we least expect it.

As you move through your community, look for unexpected beauty. I’m betting there is more there than you think.

CohoUS BOD
Welcome Trish and Laurie
Trish Becker is in the Mountain Region at Chase St Commons, Wheat Ridge, CO

Trish is the owner of StorySpring Consulting and Director of Community Engagement at the University of Denver’s Graduate School of Social Work ... She is a Tedx speaker and a passionate advocate for housing solutions that address both the crisis of affordability and loneliness. Fueled by her own suburban loneliness and a desire for community, Trish was a founding member of Aria Cohousing in Denver, CO and Chase St Commons, a micro-village built upon the principles of cohousing. She believes that we are most alive when we are connected, and that intergenerational communal living offers an alternative to our increasingly isolated world.

Laurie Frank is in the Great Lakes region at Linden Cohousing in Madison, WI

Laurie Frank is a former school teacher who has worked in the adventure and experiential education arenas for over 40 years ... Ms. Frank wrote Journey Toward the Caring Classroom, an experiential approach to creating a sense of community in schools ... Laurie’s passion is to facilitate human interaction and to create environments where everyone is empowered. Although mostly retired, she continues her work with experiential education through workshops and curriculum development ... Laurie is a founding member of Linden Cohousing in Madison, WI. It has been in existence for almost two years, and she is looking forward to the tipping point where the community exists longer than the five years it took to create.

Events

Cohousing Affordability

Save the date and join us Saturday Oct 23, 2021 for an online conference event Cohousing Affordability.

One of the most common values and biggest challenges for cohousing is to be affordable to all. This event will dig into this difficult topic from many perspectives, from development options to HOA dues and the ways to help each other.

Click HERE for more information
Click HERE to register

National Cohousing Conference
Aug 25-28, 2022 in Madison, WI

Our conference committee has chosen a venue and secured the dates! As the committee begins to form the theme of this national conference, they’d like to hear
from you! What topics would you like offered? What speakers would you like to hear from?

Please [click HERE](#) to complete this brief survey.

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### Community living around the world

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### Where Home Blends With Community

By: Ilvy Njiokiktjien for The New Yorker

How co-housing in four places in the Netherlands and Belgium is helping people cope with rising costs, keep loneliness at bay and live more sustainably.

[Read More](#)

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### Family take year off to travel and find secret of happiness

By: staff writer Henley Standard

The family, who live in Valley Road, plan to visit six intentional communities, which are groups of like-minded people who have chosen to live together and pursue a similar lifestyle, for two months at a time.

[Read More](#)

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### Flashback recipes

Cohousing has changed a lot over the years, but cooking for one another remains a joy, along with our love for good, wholesome food. CohoUS Staff has recently uncovered a stash of cohousing recipes. We hope you'll enjoy them as much as we do. To add to this treasure chest, send your favorite recipe and a bit of the story, to [staff@cohousing.org](mailto:staff@cohousing.org).

- Ronnie Rosenbaum's [Sweet and Sour Lentils recipe from 2008](#)
- Sandy's [Scramble recipe from 2007](#)
We appreciate your generous donations! Donations, as a community or as an individual, are accepted year round and can be made to: CohoUS 4710 16th St Boulder, CO 80304 or Click Here to give
Thank You.

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**Classified Ads**

**Forming Communities and Communities Seeking Members**

- **Our Home - Cathedral Park**  
  Portland, OR

- **Sunnyside Village**  
  Marysville, WA

- **Skagit Cohousing**  
  Anacortes, WA

- **Alpenglow CoHousing**  
  Ridgway, CO

- **CoHousing Houston**  
  Houston, TX

- **Rachel Carson EcoVillage**  
  Gibsonia, PA

- **Village Hearth Cohousing**  
  Durham, NC

- **Heartwood Commons**  
  Tulsa, OK

- **Haystack Heights Cohousing**  
  Spokane, WA
Washington Commons
West Sacramento, CA

Cohousing ABQ
Albuquerque, NM

River Song Cohousing
Eugene, OR

Heartwood Cohousing
Bayfield, CO

Homes for Sale or Rent

Milagro Cohousing Community
Tucson, AZ

Fair Oaks EcoHousing
Fair Oaks, CA

Rooted Northwest
Arlington, WA

Touchstone Cohousing
Ann Arbor, MI

Oak Creek Commons
Paso Robles, CA

Village Hearth Cohousing
Durham, NC
Cohousing Professionals

Caddis Collaborative  CoHousing Solutions  The Cohousing Company

Fitch Architecture and Community Design  Schematic workshop  Studio Co+Hab

Urban Development + Partners  Wonderland Hill Development Company

CohoUS Community Directory

172 Established Communities
105 Forming Communities
20 Building Communities
46 Cohousing Professionals
61 Cohousing Seekers

Searching for a Cohousing Community?
Click Here for Community Directory
Click Here for Seeker Directory

Searching for Cohousing Professional?
Click Here for Professional Directory

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