

Firwood Newsletter

Spring 2019

What's Inside?

- Neighbor Tips
- Tax sites 2019
- Payee information
- RSS Office Hours

And MORE!



what do I truly value?

Recharge

change
downsize

more ME time
DEEP CLEAN

Try something different

Let Go

fresh air

outdoors
HIKING

Simplify

Renew!

How do I spend most of my time?

A Note from Our Executive Director at Homes for Good, Jacob Fox.

As you all know on February 25th and 26th Lane County was hit with the worst snow storm since 1969. I know that it impacted my family, my Homes for Good co-workers and it impacted all of the residents that are served by our programs. While we all faced challenges in terms of power outages, stuck cars, impassable streets and freezing temperatures our resilience as humans showed up in some amazing ways. I want to thank each of you for working with Homes for Good staff and for the care and support that you showed to your neighbors. People rolled up their sleeves and shoveled snow, brought supplies to each other and did welfare checks when needed. The Homes for Good team members, especially our maintenance staff members, rose to the occasion and spent countless hours shoveling snow, spreading deicer and picking up tree debris. For us this storm highlights the need for our organization to implement more robust disaster preparedness plans including better communication tools. We will be engaging with all of you as we work to develop better emergency plans. Thanks again for all that you did to help out during this challenging storm!



FIRWOOD NEWS

Resident

Services

Office Hours

2ND

TUESDAYS

3:30-5pm

If you need someone to talk to, have questions about resources etc, Frankie will be in the Firwood Manager's office on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 3:30-5.



Firwood has a New Resident Assistant: Welcome Jody!

Homes for Good is excited to have an RA at Firwood! Jody will be helping to keep the premises clean, maintain laundry rooms, pass out flyers and lend a helping hand. Jody has lived at Firwood for the past 8 years. She enjoys gardening, knitting, reading, attending various classes and presentations, and going on trips through Eugene community centers.

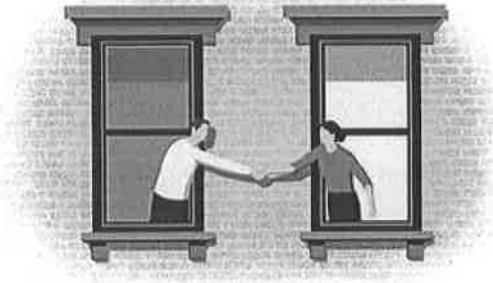
Jody wears a baseball cap due to light sensitivity, and to keep Oregon's liquid sunshine off of her glasses. Don't hesitate to say hi when you see her out and about.



Being a Good Neighbor

Tips to build community and resolve conflict with neighbors:

1) **Meet Your Neighbors:** Don't wait until you have a problem to meet your neighbor. Introduce yourself, learn your neighbor's name, say hello in passing or a cordial "good morning". Don't worry about whether or not they reciprocate, the important thing is you are making an effort.



2) **Respect Differences:** Differences in age, ethnic background, years in the neighborhood, etc. can lead to conflicting expectations or misunderstandings unless we make an effort to communicate and understand each other.

3) **Understand and Follow Rules:** It is important to understand the expectations of your lease agreement; both for yourself and for your neighbors. This document clearly explains what is acceptable and unacceptable in your community.

4) **Handle Disputes Appropriately:** Don't react in the moment, **think the problem and solution through.** Leave them a polite note or **talk to them in person. Document the issue** if it continues. Write down dates, times and how you have attempted to resolve it. Give these to your property manager. **Bring in a mutually, non-biased third party if necessary.** Mediations can often help resolve difficult issues.

5) **Be Patient:** Homes for Good is in the business of housing people and we work very hard to help residents remedy lease violations and stay housed. Even in cases of serious violations of the lease, the eviction process can be long and requires extensive documentation to win a case, so patience and follow through on the part of residents is very important. Document document! If you have made a complaint, and it has not been resolved within 30 days, make another one. Keep the paper trail going. We place high importance on the confidentiality of our residents, and property managers cannot share information about one tenant with another, even in cases of lease violations. Just know that we take your complaints seriously and are always working to improve safety and livability in our communities.

AARP Tax-Aide in Lane County

From AARP.ORG

Goodwill Industries, Lane County

855 SENECA RD, Building 1, EUGENE, OR
97402-2731

Dates Open: 2/1/2019 - 4/13/2019

Site Schedule: Thursday/Friday/Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Info: Sign up will start at 8:30 a.m. Last time slot is 2 p.m. Walk in and sign up for a same day time slot. **Not an appointment site.** Spanish interpreters available most Saturdays.

Walk-ins only.

Languages: English, Spanish

Eugene Public Library

100 W 10TH AVE, EUGENE, OR

Dates Open: 2/4/2019 - 4/15/2019

Site Schedule: Monday/Tuesday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Info: Walk in for a same day time slot. Sign up in person begins 30 minutes before site opens. No telephone appointments. Preference is given to the elderly and the disabled. Spanish Interpreters available most days.

Walk-ins only.

Languages: English, Spanish

Education Center

1540 E ST, SPRINGFIELD, OR

Phone: (458) 209-9870

Dates Open: 2/1/2019 - 4/16/2019

Site Schedule: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Walk ins only.**

Info: Sign up begins 30 minutes before start time. Use East Parking Lot on E St. Near 16th. (541) 636-8163 or 2-1-1

Willamalane Adult Activity Center

215 W C ST, SPRINGFIELD, OR

Phone: (541) 736-4444

Dates Open: 1/28/2019 - 4/15/2019

Site Schedule: Mondays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

By appointment only. Call 541-736-4444

Lane Community College- Main Campus

4000 E 30TH AVE, EUGENE, OR

Dates Open: 2/6/2019 - 4/12/2019

Site Schedule: Wednesday/Thursday/Friday 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Info: Center Building, 2nd Floor, NW Commons WALK IN/SIGN UP only.

Languages: English

Catholic Community Services

1025 G ST, SPRINGFIELD, OR

Dates Open: 2/2/2019 - 4/13/2019

Site Schedule: SAT: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Info: Walk-in only. Sign up at least 30 minutes before first appointment (9 a.m.)

Languages: English, Spanish

Park at Emerald Village Community Center

1950 2ND ST, SPRINGFIELD, OR

Dates Open: 2/1/2019 - 4/16/2019

Walk-in Site Open Tuesday-Wednesday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Languages: English

Success Stories

A volunteer helped an 80-year-old Bill Pay consumer to pay off mounting debt and gain confidence in managing her own finances. The consumer learned budgeting, debt management, and saving skills. She was able to successfully end her Bill Pay service, save a rainy day fund, and handle her own finances again.

A Representative Payee consumer is once again managing her own federal funds, thanks to the help of her volunteer. The consumer and volunteer began working together in May 2016 and by April 2017 the consumer was approved by Social Security to be her own payee.

A volunteer was able to get a Bill Pay consumer out of a predatory loan. The amount of back-charged interest was over \$1,000 if the consumer did not make payments of \$400 each month, which was not in his budget. The volunteer helped the consumer refinance the loan at a credit union at 0% interest for one year.

If you know someone who needs help or would like to volunteer, please contact:

ADRRC
Aging and Disability
Resource Connection
of OREGON

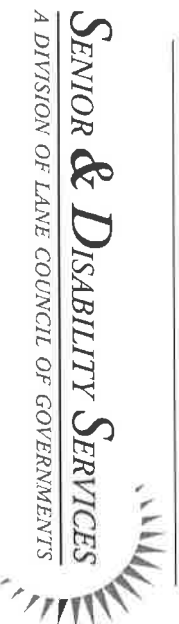
541.682.3353

800.441.4038

ADRClane@lcog.org

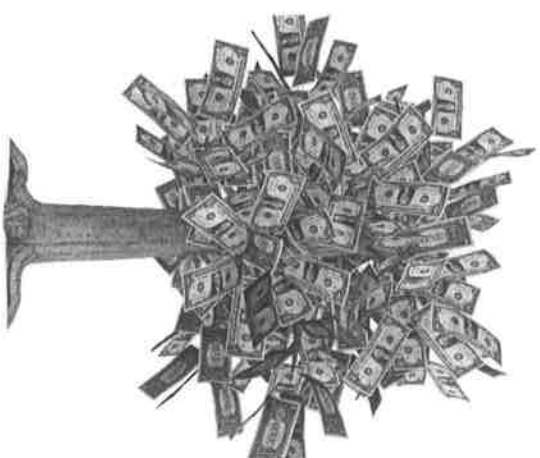
www.adrcoforegon.org

Serving Lane County:



1015 Willamette Street
Eugene, Oregon 97401

Oregon Money Management Program



Our mission is to help consumers maintain **peace of mind, independence,** and **protection** against fraud and financial exploitation.



OREGON MONEY
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Hey There!

What do you think of the Firwood newsletter? Have an idea for the next issue? Let us know your thoughts! Contact Frankie at 541-682-2538

Agency SPOTLIGHT



White Bird Clinic is a collective environment organized to enable people to gain control of their social, emotions, and physical well-being. They offer Mental Health Counseling, Accessible Health Care, Dental Services, and 24/7 Emergency Response amongst many other services!

For more information call: 541-342-8255

WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

Do you have a goal you want to achieve? A resolution you are trying to keep? A vision for your future?

Come check out the workshop at Homes for Good with the Resident Services Team for a chance to strategize together about ways to set yourself up for success!

Thursday, April 18th

5:45pm-7:00pm

Homes for Good Office

**177 Day Island Road Eugene
OR 97401**

Public Housing Front Desk

541-682-4090

Property Manager

Jon Wild 541-682-2595

jwild@homesforgood.org

Assistant Property Manager

Maryanne Bussey 541-682-2569

mbussey@homesforgood.org

Work Order Line: 541-682-4010

*(Submit a work order online at
www.homesforgood.org)*

After Hours Emergency:

541-359-8874

Resident Services Manager

Wakan Alferes 541-682-2508

walferes@homesforgood.org

Resident Services Assistant (Se habla Español)

Frankie LeeJohnson 541-682-2538

fleejohnson@homesforgood.org

FSS Information

Suzanne Gatch 541-682-2548

sgatch@homesforgood.org

Member, Board of Commissioners

Michelle Thurston 541-682-3409

thurston.mn@gmail.com

Char Reavis 541-682-3410

charreavis@charter.net