

Marion County and Willamette Heritage Center Partner To Host Repair Fair & Share Event

Marion County is partnering with Willamette Heritage Center and volunteer fixers to host a Repair Fair & Share on Wednesday, June 22, 2015 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Willamette Heritage Center in the Dye House at 1313 Mill Street SE in Salem.

Embracing "repair rather than replace," the goal of the event is to provide community connections that not only provides free repair service, but promotes troubleshooting and waste reduction. Marion County and Willamette Heritage Center hopes to inspire and enable people to continue repairing and sharing in their community. "This isn't just an event; repair is a way of life. Folks will learn that repairs can be an easy and affordable alternative to tossing things in the garbage," said Jessica Ramey, a waste reduction coordinator for Marion County. The community will benefit by making connections, learning skills, reducing

waste, and saving money.

This is the second Repair Fair & Share event. "Last year fixers were able to repair 16 items, keeping them out of the waste stream, and this year we are hoping to double that amount. We are looking for repair volunteers, fixers, and supporters, as well as participants to help with the event," Ramey said. To sign up or learn more about this event, visit www.repairfair.net. For more information, contact Jessica Ramey at 503-365-3180 or jsramey@co.marion.or.us.



REPAIR FAIR & SHARE repairfair.net



June 22, 5-7 pm Willamette Heritage Center
a FREE community event



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www.buyinmidvalley.com




SALEM AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Calendar of Events for July 2016

- 7/1/2016 - Greeters Networking - NO GREETERS, Honoring Independence Day
- 7/7/2016 - Public Policy Session
- 7/8/2016 - Greeters Networking - Hosted by: Marion County Fair
- 7/15/2016 - Greeters Networking - Hosted by: Salem Area Council of Lions Clubs
- 7/15/2016 - Ribbon Cutting - Tranquil Moments LLC
- 7/22/2016 - Greeters Networking - Hosted by: Salem-Keizer Volcanoes
- 7/25/2016 - Power Hour - "Getting Things Done in the 21st Century"
- 7/29/2016 - Greeters Networking - Hosted by: Liberty House & White's Collision
- 8/5/2016 - Greeters Networking - Hosted by: Center for Community Innovation (CCI)
- 8/12/2016 - Greeters Networking - Hosted by: The Arbor at Avamere Court

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Spinnaker Pediatric Dentistry Earns Earthwise Certification

Spinnaker Pediatric Dentistry (SPD) is now Earthwise certified by Marion County. Spinnaker earned the certification by implementing environmentally-friendly practices such as energy efficient lighting, a low water use irrigation system, and an expanded mixed recycling effort. Alan Pennington, the Waste Reduction Coordinator who administers certifications, was impressed by the efforts of SPD to lessen their environmental impact.

“They are a very environmentally conscious business. Whether it’s purchasing printer paper with 30 percent recycled materials or using cleaning products without toxic chemicals, they are aware of the impact they are making on the environment. I appreciate the decisions Spinnaker has made to reduce their environmental footprint,” said Pennington.

Additionally, SPD installed 126 solar panels on the roof of its building in December. These efforts will help the practice reduce their energy costs and low their dependence on energy created by water and coal. Dr. Sean Cooper DDS, the owner of SPD, is



**Front Row: (left to right) Amanda Day DDS, Madison Watson EFDA, Sean Cooper DDS
Back Row: (left to right) Patty Crittenden, Jodi Charles, Julie Alvarez EFDA, Jane Sept, Melissa Brazil EFDA, Anna Jones EFDA, Alma Berber, EFDA, Sarah Long EFDA**

proud of this accomplishment.

Cooper says that, “We will continue to find ways to help our environment. Businesses have an obligation to do their part to help

the world around them. We take our role in improving children’s dental health very seriously. However, we are just as serious about our environment.”

Spinnaker Pediatric Dentistry is located at 1105 12th ST SE. www.Spinpedo.com, 503-363-5865.

Spinnaker Pediatric Dentistry (SPD) specializes in comprehensive dental care for patients ages 0-14. SPD provides a variety of procedures and treatments including checkups, exams; tooth-colored fillings and crowns; dental sealants; air abrasion; laser dentistry; laser frenectomy/tongue tie release; general anesthesia and oral conscious sedation; nitrous oxide; and thumb-sucking treatments. Additionally, SPD is certified in pediatric advanced life support (PALS). The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends that children be seen by a dentist by the age of 1 or within six months after his or her first tooth comes in.

About Earthwise Certification: If your business wants to become Earthwise certified, please contact Alan Pennington with Marion County Public Works at 503-365-3188 or email apennington@co.marion.or.us.

The British Stunned The World

Last week, the British stunned the world with their vote to “leave” the European Union. They had been a member of the EU for 47 years. The causes behind this move that many believe was ill conceived, and will bring financial and economic havoc, are really not all that complicated.



PATTI MILNE

**PEOPLE,
PLACES &
POLITICS**

The vote, at a solid 52%, makes a very strong and specific statement:

“Enough is enough!”

Of course, the mainstream media, the political elite and the academics of the world can’t believe what just happened. However, to the majority of the Brits, the decision to “Leave” is the culmination of years of those very political elite and unelected “officials” not listening to the voice of the people.

Nonetheless, the elite accuse the “leavers” of not knowing what they have done. They claim the “leavers” did not consider the ramifications of this unthinkable action.

So, England has decided to take its country back; back from faceless bureaucrats in Brussels who have no accountability yet impose laws, regulations and taxes on them and the bureaucrats are angry!

Yes, these unelected bureaucrats are miffed because their unelected authority and overreaching power have been challenged. And, not surprisingly, those at the EU headquarters in Brussels are scurrying about to keep all the other EU member countries con-

vinced they should stay.

Melissa Francis, in a Fox News TV segment, said, “The British like their toasters, tea kettles, and hair dryers.” “The vote to leave the EU, is about government’s constant meddling in the business and personal life of everyone. It’s about Brussels’ involvement in the life of the English. Kumbaya is nice, but when you come in my bathroom, no!”

“Enough is enough!”

“The vote is a stark reminder that the voice of the people cannot be repeatedly ignored,” wrote Brian Burch in CatholicVote, June 24, 2016.

Mr. Burch thinks this vote has a message that reaches beyond England. He says, “People are fed up with big unaccountable governments dictating their lives, ruining their jobs, taxing them into oblivion to enrich special interests and cronies.”

Julia Limitone’s column, June 23, 2016, quotes Steve Hilton, Former Senior Advisor to Prime Minister David Cameron. Mr. Hilton goes right to the point when he said, “Who is in control?” “Quite simply, he said, this is the question that faced the voters.”

He went on to say, “At one point it was over half of the actions that the British government was taking were driven by the EU —

and they were things that the British government didn’t actually agree with, but we had to concede in order to win other arguments in Brussels. So it really made the job of governing a country, the elected government, kind of impossible and I thought fundamentally undemocratic.”

Mr. Hilton, like Mr. Burch, believes the vote to leave the EU will have “an impact around the wider world because it will send a signal that this centralization of power that you see going on everywhere — people have had enough of it.”

Kathleen Parker’s commentary in the SJ, June 26, 2016, talks of

the direction the “leavers” want to go. They, she suggests, have had enough of globalization and the New World Order. “Leavers” want to go back home. “Home is who we are, the values we share, the traditions we practice and the one flag to which we all pledge allegiance,” she said.

Voters in America and voters in Oregon are asking the same question: Who is in charge? All across the United States, centralized government is not working. Here in Oregon, one-party rule is not working. Are we ready to say, “Enough is enough” and take action so our voices are heard?

Patti Milne, retired Marion County Commissioner and State Representative, can be reached at 503.551.5590. Watch Patti Milne on CCTV’s People, Places and Politics.

Special Transportation Fund Targets Services For Seniors, People With Disabilities

The Public Transportation Advisory Committee is recommending \$8 million in funds for 72 projects around the state benefiting transportation services for seniors and individuals with disabilities, among others. The Oregon Special Transportation Fund is a state-funded program for transportation services needed for access to health, education, work and social/recreational opportunities so that seniors and individuals with disabilities may live as independently and productively as possible. The recommendations now go to the Oregon Transportation Commission for final approval at its June 16 meeting in Hood River.

In March 2016, designated Special Transportation Fund agencies submitted 94 applications requesting \$13.3 million. Projects recommended for funding range from bus purchases to translation services, from adding bus shelters to enhancing non-emergency medical transportation services. The applications were evaluated and ranked by several stakeholder committees, reviewed by ODOT staff for feasibility, and discussed at several public hearings. Evaluation criteria included how well the project contributed to investment goals of providing support for cost-effective programs, innovation and growing the economy, among other requirements of the Special Transportation Fund.

Retiring to Greener Pastures? Willamette Lutheran Retirement Community Takes Environmental Ethic Seriously

By Beth Casper

Special to the Salem Business Journal

Willamette Lutheran Retirement Community residents remember the days before disposables, when it was the norm to reuse most household products. And many of their staffers at the retirement community are young people who grew up in a culture of recycling and composting.

So it is no wonder that the nonprofit earned its EarthWISE certification in 2009 and continues to examine its practices with an eye toward waste prevention, energy conservation and environmental preservation.

EarthWISE is a Marion County free business assistance program. EarthWISE staff helps businesses recycle, save energy, reduce waste, and much more. To earn certification, a business meets criteria in six areas. Willamette Lutheran Retirement Community is one of more than 150 EarthWISE businesses and organizations in Marion County.

"Our residents don't want to leave the environment worse off than when they got here," said executive director Raeann McDonald. "They've really seen the world change and they wonder, 'What is going to happen to our grandchildren?'"

Recycling stations to collect paper, plastic, glass, oil, printer cartridges, batteries and computers replaced garbage containers in the janitor's closets on every floor. Instead of having an overflowing dumpster, the gar-

bage hauler was asked to pick up trash three times a week instead of four.

"Our dumpster is never overloaded anymore, there is always room," McDonald said. "We have a large dumpster but not a monster size one. We are not fighting to get it all in there."

The retirement community also stopped purchasing so many paper products—to-go boxes and clamshells for residents to take leftover food back to their apartments and disposable utensils and paper cups for parties and meetings. Now, residents have reusable containers for takeout, and meetings and parties are equipped with re-washable silverware and dishware.

Even the durableware is environmentally friendly. McDonald got 200 punch cups donated by a consignment store—not only were they free to the nonprofit, but they also were previously used instead of purchased new.

The community saves more than \$1,100 a year by not purchasing disposable products.

"Whenever we have a meeting or event, instead of using paper products, we are using dishware," McDonald said. "We serve refreshments on washable dishware rather than paper products we once used."

Paper usage has dramatically decreased in other ways as well.

Documents that were previously printed out and given to each of 11 departments are now simply e-mailed. Instead of paper board

and financial reports, electronic versions are distributed.

"We really have looked at how important it is for every person to have a hard copy," McDonald said. "We are using e-mail communication every day and we are doing that multiple times every day."

The retirement community saves more than 20,000 pieces of paper every year by switching to electronic copies and being more thoughtful about paper usage.

McDonald also knows that conserving energy is equally important.

As old fluorescent bulbs have burned out, workers have put in more energy efficient T8 bulbs. Lighting with motion sensors and timers has been installed throughout the building and grounds. Workers also have installed energy efficient washers, dryers, dishwashers and other appliances. Older toilets are replaced with water-conserving models.

In 2008, Willamette Lutheran spent \$177,000 to replace all of the old sliding glass doors and windows. The project is recouping its costs in the heating and cooling bills, but the impact is also felt by the residents who notice how much more consistent the temperature remains.

This year, Willamette Lutheran will replace some very outdated lighting outside with energy-efficient alternatives. According to calculations by Energy Trust, the retirement community will save more than \$2,000 a

year.

In addition to the outside lighting, the nonprofit's staff members have been working to conserve resources within the landscaping around the buildings.

The landscape crew started a compost pile with tree cuttings, grass clippings and some food such as eggshells and coffee grounds. Once composted, the rich soil is spread in the landscaped areas—saving Willamette Lutheran about \$400 a year on new soil. Landscapers have also started propagating their own native plants from the ones already growing there, so new starts don't need to be purchased from a nursery.

Future plans include composting more food waste since there is an endless supply of food from the retirement community, which is responsible for three meals a day, 365 days a year. In the meantime, the employees are reducing the amount of food waste—a free lunch from leftovers is offered to employees every day and employees who bring in reusable containers can take home any of the extra leftovers for their families.

For more information about the EarthWISE program, go to www.mcEarthWISE.net or call 503-365-3188. To learn more about Willamette Lutheran Retirement Community, visit: www.willamettelutheran.com.

Oregon Farm Bureau, RS Energy Announce New Solar System Member Benefit

Oregon Farm Bureau is proud to announce a new member benefit partnership with RS Energy, an installer of high-quality commercial solar panel systems. RS Energy has designed five optimal solar panel systems specifically for farmers and ranchers, and will offer them at significant savings for Farm Bureau members.

"Farm Bureau is very excited about this new savings program with RS Energy," said Dennis Myhrum, vice president of organization for Oregon Farm Bureau. "We're seeing more Oregon farmers and ranchers expanding into solar energy as a way to reduce always-rising power costs."

Through the new partnership, Farm Bureau members can save between \$14,515 and \$165,144 when they install a RS Energy solar system on their farm or ranch.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for the agriculture community, which has seen electrical



costs skyrocket almost 10 percent in the last two years," said Billy Sorenson, partner with RS Energy.

Using solar energy can save as much as \$2,000,000 from a farm or ranch's power bills during the life of the system, said So-

renson.

Solar systems can be installed on the roof or on the ground; ground systems take up less than a quarter of an acre. RS Energy also offers four different financing options.

RS Energy's systems qualify for the 30 percent federal investment tax credit for solar. Portland General Electric or Pacific Power customers

who install a system are also eligible for an Energy Trust of Oregon cash incentive up to \$400,000.

Based on the success of the program, RS Energy will make donations to Farm Bureau's education and outreach programs.

To determine if a solar system is right for your farm or ranch, email RS Energy's Billy Sorenson at billy@rs-s2s.com. RS Energy will meet with interested Farm Bureau members to offer site-specific walk-throughs.

The state's largest general farm organization, Oregon Farm Bureau (OFB) is a grassroots, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization representing the interests of the state's farmers and ranchers in the public and policy-making arenas. First established in Oregon in 1919, Farm Bureau is organized in all 36 counties and has 7,000 member families that are professionally engaged in agriculture.

RS Energy: RS Energy is the leading agricultural commercial solar installer in Oregon. Founded in 2009, RS Energy has installed over 550 projects. RS Energy makes switching to solar easy by being the customer's only point of contact from start to finish. RS Energy is located in Tualatin, Oregon.