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**EUGENE CITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER**  
 October 23, 2014

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***When 911 Is Not an Option***

It doesn't take long to get away from it all in Oregon. Research is rife with studies testifying to the benefits of being in nature. In such a setting, one can go at a slower pace, relax and take time to marvel at the surrounding beauty.



At the same time, being in the wild also means being far away – often hours away – from the closest medical help in the case of injury or sickness.

To solve this dilemma and allow more people to enjoy the wilderness, regardless of how remote the location, Recreation's Outdoor Program began offering a course some 12 years ago to certify outdoor enthusiasts as Wilderness First Responders (WFR). The 10-day course provides enrollees with the tools needed to make critical medical and evacuation decisions in remote locations. It's perfect for hikers, fishers, mountain bikers, horseback riders, outdoor guides, hunters, all-terrain vehiclars, snowmobilers, and just about anyone who plans to be in the back country or lives where 911 is not readily accessible.

Initially, the Outdoor Program offered the certification class only once a year, but due to demand, it's now offered three times a year and usually fills the 30 seats available. To date, nearly 500 people have been certified through the Outdoor Program's WFR class; 360 people have been recertified. The next class will be held Dec.12 - 21.

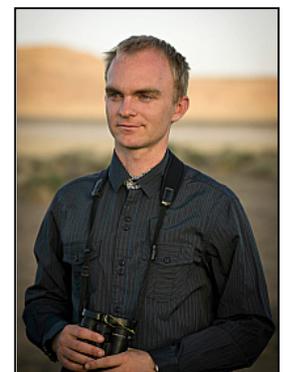
For more information, or to register for the December class, call Senior Programmer and wilderness emergency medical technician (EMT) Roger Bailey at 541-682-5329.

**“Bird World” with Noah Strycker at Eugene Public Library**

Join expert Noah Strycker for an entertaining illustrated talk titled “Bird World: Insights for Humans,” on Wednesday, Oct. 29, at 6 p.m., at the Downtown Eugene Public Library. Admission is free.

Approaching bird behavior from new and surprising angles, Strycker explores the astonishing homing abilities of pigeons, extraordinary memories of nutcrackers, self-image in magpies, life-long loves of albatrosses, particle physics of starling flocks, and other mysteries -- revealing why birds do what they do, and how humans can relate. With humor and wit, this talk draws deeply from cutting-edge science and anecdotes from the field.

Strycker is the author of the books “The Thing with Feathers” and “Among Penguins.” A well-known and widely published writer and photographer, he is associate editor



of "Birding" magazine and has studied birds on six continents with field seasons in Panama, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Hawaii, Maine, Michigan, Australia, Antarctica, the Galapagos Islands, and the Farallon Islands. Strycker also works as a naturalist guide on expedition cruises to Antarctica and Norway's Svalbard archipelago. His "life list" is approaching 2,500 species.

For more information, contact the Eugene Public Library at 541-682-5450 or [www.eugene-or.gov/library](http://www.eugene-or.gov/library).

### **New Carsharing Company Launches in Eugene and Springfield**

On Saturday, Oct. 25, car2go, a carsharing company, will be expanding to include 10 square miles in Eugene and Springfield. Car2go allows members to rent any one of the 50 car2go vehicles in Eugene by the minute, hour, or day, and take it to their destination without having to worry about returning the car where they found it. Vehicles can be located using a smartphone app, the car2go website, or simply by finding an available car2go vehicle on the street.



An agreement with the City of Eugene and Springfield allows the rentals to be parked on the street within the 10 square mile area. Car2go covers the cost of fuel, insurance, maintenance and parking. Car2go members can use cars in any of the 15 car2go locations throughout the U.S. and Canada.

The car2go launch event will be held Oct. 25, at Broadway Plaza, from 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, please visit [www.car2go.com](http://www.car2go.com) or contact Jeff Petry at 541-682-5079.

### **City Teams Up with Lane Community College to Build Local Software Labor Force**

Area youth will be the beneficiaries of a demonstration project made possible by the City of Eugene's Telecommunications Program. The partnership between Lane Community College, City of Eugene, and Eugene School District 4J will develop a Digital Dojo - a nationally connected and locally developed open source computer coding club - at Lane Community College's Downtown Center.

The dojo will provide a host of computer science-related educational opportunities and kick off with an open house on Tuesday, Nov. 18, from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. at the Lane Community College Downtown Center, 101 West 10th Avenue, Eugene. The public is invited. Youth at any level of computer skill are invited to visit to try coding and see the resources the dojo will have to offer. All attendees are required to pre-register at the website: <http://www.meetup.com/Eugene-Region-CoderDojo-Hub>.

The Digital Dojo partnership brings together instructional specialists with expertise in computer science from LCC and 4J and a state of the art classroom in LCC's Downtown campus with \$50,000 of telecommunications funds aimed at digital mentoring from the City of Eugene.

"The Digital Dojo is an investment in education for today's students, and economic development for employers, entrepreneurs and employees in the future," said Senior Planner Nan Laurence, City of Eugene. "It will help us strengthen the creative and technical skills needed to build a highly qualified and flexible workforce in the expanding software employment cluster and retain and grow high tech businesses in our region."

The dojo creates a dynamic learning environment that brings at least a dozen computer industry employees into the classroom, employs computer science faculty, and focuses on middle and high school students to create an interest in the field early in the students' school career. Eugene-Springfield area youth are welcome; females and under-represented youth are particularly encouraged to participate.

Dojo sessions will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., beginning in December. The project can accommodate approximately 800 students over the course of the 2014-15 school year. Beginning in November, youth will be able to sign up online for sessions in advance.

For more information, contact Nan Laurence at 541-682-5340.