

## MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

In this issue:

- Take a Ride on Link Lane!
- May is Bike Month
- LCOG Awarded \$5.3 million PROJECT Grant
- Brenda Moore Honored as Springfield Community Champion
- Senior Meals Program Earns \$3,112.71 in Subaru Share the Love® Campaign
- Senior Meals Program Bowling Tournament Fundraiser
- Ems Baseball Game Fundraiser for Senior Meals Program
- What's Happening!

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## TAKE A RIDE ON LINK LANE!



Did you know LCOG runs a transit service?

LCOG has provided the Link Lane transit service since 2019, connecting communities via transit within and beyond Lane County.

In response to a gap in the statewide transit network connecting Florence and Eugene along Highway 126, LCOG conducted a study in 2018 to evaluate transit demand along this corridor. The study, funded by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and driven by the community, identified an overwhelming demand for transit service and an opportunity for LCOG to offer it through a partnership with the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians. LCOG applied for and was awarded funding to operate two pilot services: the Eugene-Florence Intercommunity Route and the Florence-Yachats Connector.

The Florence-Yachats Connector is a service initiated through a partnership with ODOT and Lane Transit District (LTD) in 2018. The service, initiated as a

pilot, closed the last gap in service along the Oregon coast. In Fall 2019, LCOG took over the Florence-Yachats operations from LTD. The route is operated by River Cities Taxi. Service of the Eugene-Florence Intercommunity Route began on February 18, 2020 as a pilot. The service is operated by Pacific Crest Bus Lines and has additional funding from the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians. Both routes have now transitioned to permanent service.

In July 2023, LCOG took over the Metro Shuttle as a new pilot, partnering with LTD to provide a reservation-based, door-to-door shuttle service operating on weekdays shuttle in south Lane County.

Link Lane is primarily funded by Oregon's Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund. LCOG also received grant funding from the Federal Transit Administration to purchase a bus for the Eugene-Florence route.

On the Eugene-Florence Connector, there are two round trips per day, seven days a week. A new midday route became available April 10 for the Eugene-Florence route. On the Florence-Yachats Connector, there are four round trips per day, Monday through Saturday.

For the Eugene-Florence Connector, the cost of a one-way ticket is \$5. Fares between Florence and Mapleton are \$1 each way. For the Florence-Yachats Connector, the cost is \$2.50 for a one-way ticket or \$5 for all day service. Riders should bring exact change or pre-purchase tickets to ride. At this time, tickets must be purchased from the bus driver with exact cash only. Tickets for the Florence to Yachats route are also available for purchase at: River Cities Taxi, 1699 Pine Street in Florence.

The Link Lane buses are fully accessible. The buses are also equipped with bike racks. Bathrooms are not available on the the buses.

For more information, go to <https://link-lane.org/faqs/>.



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**MAY IS BIKE MONTH**

All Bikes  
All Ages  
All Month!



# May is Bike Month

• Rides • Prizes • Fun •

[webikelane.org](http://webikelane.org)



May is officially Bike Month in Lane County - so mark your calendars and get your bike ready to ride! Nationally celebrated since 1956, Bike Month has been celebrated in Lane County since 2014. Throughout the month, community members are invited to bike for fun, exercise, errands, and trips around town.

This May is Bike Month, there are even more reasons to hop on your bike! Get ready for a kick-off party at Oakshire Brewing, a fun passport with prizes, a bike month challenge, a bike film fest, and fun rides, among other happenings. For a complete list of Bike Month events and activities, visit [WeBikeLane.org](http://WeBikeLane.org).

Keep your eyes peeled for this year's Bike Month poster and fill-out your Bike Month passport to win swag including bells, pins, mugs, and bandanas - all designed by local artist Erick Wonderly. Simply pick-up a Bike Month passport at your local bike shop and gather passport stickers by attending Bike Month events or visiting local bike shops.

#### Some 2024 Bike Month calendar highlights include:

- Kick-Off Party - May 1
- Learn To Ride - May 4
- Birds, Bikes & Balance All-Ages Yoga - May 12
- Filmed By Bike Film Festival - May 18
- Better Ways Block Party - May 19

**Interested in hosting a Bike Month event?** Anyone can create a ride or event and make it part of Bike Month. Submit your event at [WeBikeLane.org](http://WeBikeLane.org) and it will be posted to the May is Bike Month event calendar.

## LCOG Awarded \$5.3 Million PROJECT Grant

Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), in partnership with Lane County, has been awarded \$5.3 million in funding from the new resilience focused federal PROTECT grant program. Funds will support **Resilient Lane**, an equity-focused, data-driven planning effort to understand and address the surface transportation network's vulnerability to hazards in Lane County. Resilient Lane, a multi-year, countywide effort includes six components:

1. Conduct a **Vulnerability Assessment** of the surface transportation network.
2. Plan for and designate **Emergency Transportation Routes** for disaster recovery and response.

3. Develop **Nature-Based Solutions Strategies** that address vulnerabilities.
4. Establish a prioritized local **Resilience Project List** and bring top prioritized projects to **30% design**.
5. Create a Lane County specific **Resilience Data Visualizer** tool that incorporates social vulnerability and resilience data.
6. Tie it all together in a coordinated **Resilience Improvement Plan** covering both the metropolitan area and rural Lane County.

Resilient Lane will complement and enhance resilience work already being done in our region. It will include extensive community engagement and Tribal consultation and connections at every step of the project to help set priorities, add valuable qualitative input, and vet and refine project outcomes.

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## Springfield Community Champion Award

Springfield Mayor Sean VanGordon presented LCOG Executive Director Brenda Moore with the Springfield Community Champion Award for 2023. The Community Champion Award recognizes individuals who tirelessly work to uplift Springfield, fostering unity, resilience, and a vibrant community spirit. Recipients embody the essence of service, inspiring others to actively contribute to the betterment of Springfield. Mayor VanGordon presented the award to Brenda during Springfield's State of the City event on April 17, 2024.

Thank you, City of Springfield, for honoring Brenda!



## Subaru Awards Funds to Senior Meals Program

Senior Meals Program: Cafe 60 & Meals On Wheels has earned \$3,112.71 by participating in the 2023-2024 Subaru Share the Love® campaign. Thanks to the generosity of Subaru of America, Meals on Wheels America Members in Oregon earned a total of \$28,014.41 through this year's campaign, with nine participating Members qualifying to receive funds.

Thank you, Subaru, for your unwavering generosity and support of the seniors we serve. Meals On Wheels programs across the country thank you!

## Senior Meals Bowling Tournament Fundraiser

We are excited to partner with Playground Sports to host a Bowling Tournament Fundraiser benefiting our Senior Meals Program on **Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from 12:00-5:00 p.m. at Firs Bowl in Eugene!** We invite all who are interested to come out and have a ball! The cost to register is \$75.00 per individual, or \$450.00 for a team of 6 players. Teams will participate in a

no-tap tournament, meaning when you knock down 8 or 9 pins with your first ball you receive a STRIKE! There is a 3-game guarantee, playoffs for top 4 teams, prizes for winners and raffle for ALL! Register at [www.playgroundsports.com](http://www.playgroundsports.com). We are also accepting raffle donations and sponsors for this event! If you are a local business owner who is interested in advertising opportunities through sponsorship for this event or are looking for team-building opportunities with your staff and would like to bowl, please reach out to Marisa Andrews at [mandrews@lcog.org](mailto:mandrews@lcog.org) to learn more!



# Bowling

## TOURNAMENT

# Fundraiser

**HOSTED BY**  
*Playground Sports*

**SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2024**

**12:00 – 5:00 PM**

**FIRS BOWL**

1950 RIVER RD, EUGENE OR 97404



**SCAN TO REGISTER**

\$75 PER PLAYER, \$450 PER TEAM OF 6



**Eugene Emeralds Community Spotlight and  
Fundraiser for Senior Meals**

Join us at the ball game! Our Senior Meals Program will be featured as the Community Spotlight at the Eugene Emeralds game on **Friday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:35 pm at PK Park in Eugene!** As part of this event, we are selling tickets to the game as a fundraiser benefiting the Senior Meals Program. Tickets purchased through the link below are priced at \$12 each and \$6 from each ticket will go directly to the Senior Meals Program, which includes our Café 60 dining rooms and Meals on Wheels program throughout Lane County. Our Senior Meals Program is the **ONLY** program in our Senior & Disability Services division (S&DS) that relies on donations and fundraising to help fill funding gaps for normal operations. **Tickets must be purchased through this link to be counted toward the fundraiser:** <https://fevo-enterprise.com/Lanecounty70>



## Community Spotlight & Fundraiser

BENEFITING



## Senior Meals

Café 60 / Meals on Wheels

**\$12**  
*tickets*



WITH SPECIAL

APPEARANCE



**FRIDAY, JULY 26TH 2024 6:35 PM**

**PK PARK | 2800 MLK JR BLVD | EUGENE, OR 97401**



*Scan to purchase tickets \**

\*ONLY TICKETS PURCHASED WITH THIS QR CODE BENEFIT THE SENIOR MEALS PROGRAM. TICKETS PURCHASED THROUGH THE BOX OFFICE OR ONLINE ARE NOT INCLUDED.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING!**

- May 1-31 - May is Bike Month ([link](#))
- May 3-5 - Oakridge Tree Planting Festival ([link](#))
- May 16-19 - Florence Rhododendron Festival ([link](#))
- May 19 - Mount Pisgah Wildflower & Music Festival - Eugene ([link](#))
- May 24-25 - Spring Marketplace - Springfield ([link](#))
- May 31-June 1 - Function 4 Junction - ([link](#))

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

In addition to this newsletter, LCOG hosts pages on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn where members can track and find information about what's happening in the region. Scroll down and click on hit the buttons below the log, and be sure to like and follow LCOG's pages.



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