

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Oregon Senior Spelling Bee**

Many older adults enjoy playing with words and are good spellers, but did you know that there is an Oregon Senior Spelling Bee especially for people 50 years of age and up?

This year will mark Oregon's 15th annual senior spelling bee, which will be held on April 14. Although there is a national competition held each year in Cheyenne, Wyoming, there are few states that host such a contest, which may be one reason why Oregon competitors have done so well in the National Senior Spelling Bee. The national event has been in existence for about 16 years, and Oregon contestants have brought back four first place trophies, plus several more for placing second or third!

This year's Oregon Senior Spelling Bee will be held in the Heritage Center at Mary's Woods in Lake Oswego. There will be a written competition consisting of 75 words, followed by an oral round. Trophies will be awarded to the top three spellers, and the winner is offered financial assistance to attend the AARP National Spelling Bee in Cheyenne, which will be held in August, 2012.

The all-volunteer Oregon Spelling Bee Board hosts this event, which has proven to be very entertaining, with an atmosphere that is relaxed, informal, and nonthreatening. It's a great way for seniors to have fun while challenging themselves.

There is an entry fee of \$12.00. Registration forms may be obtained from Julie Golden by calling 503-287-7831, or by email to jann.golden39@gmail.com. Entrants may also register on the day of the event. Spectators are welcome.

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