

Being open secret to success with landlords

For some renters landlords rank just above student loan officers and dentists, there are a few things renters can do to make their tenancy, and coexistence, with their landlord close to a blissful experience.

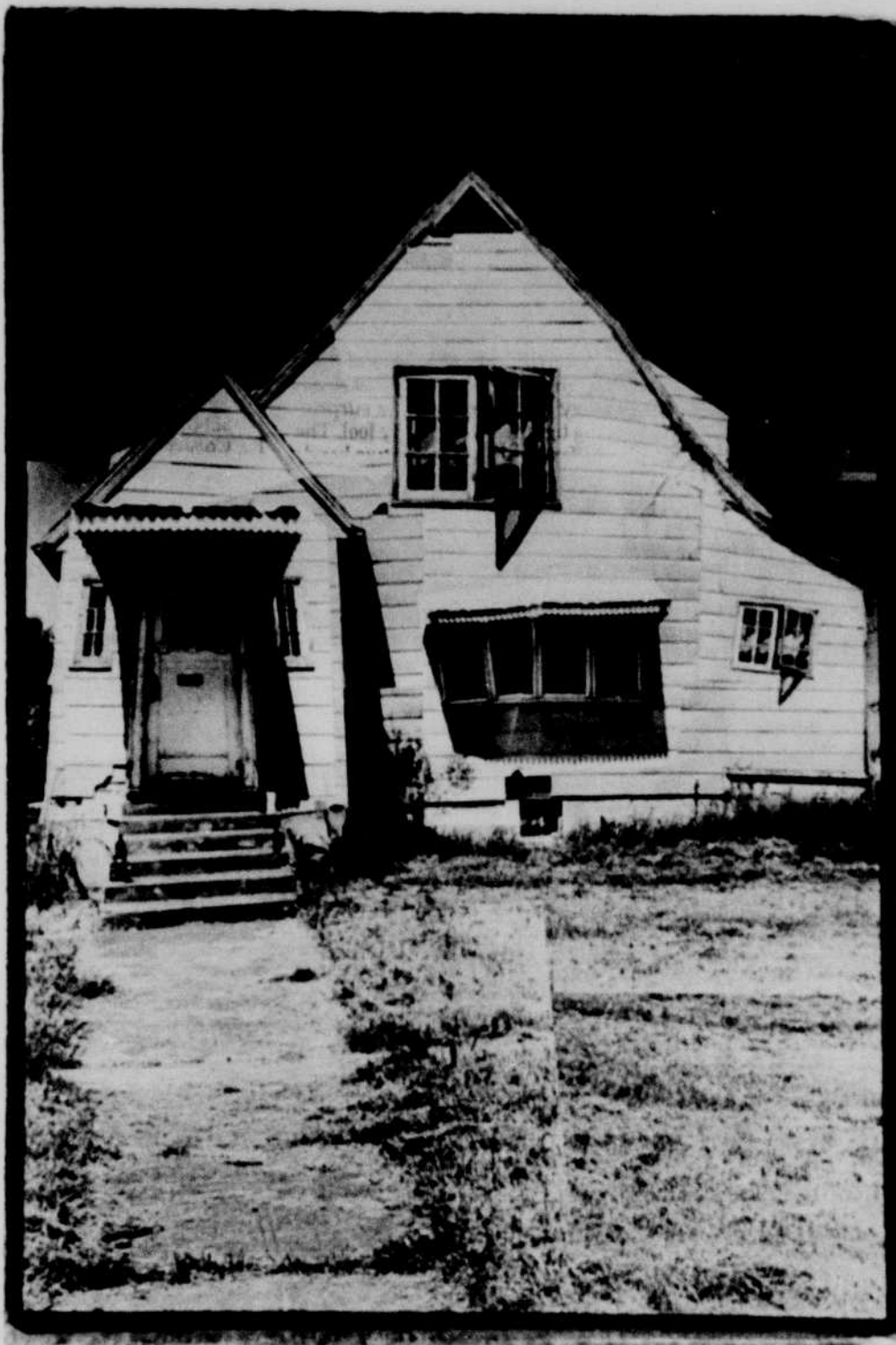
While no one likes to hand over their hard-earned money, the exchange of services and currency between landlord and tenant doesn't have to be a parasitic relationship.

When dealing with a landlord, one of the first things to remember is to be honest. "Be right up front with them," said Brenda Wood of the campus Rental Information Office.

Renters who suddenly find themselves having problems paying rent, being driven crazy by a loud neighbor or being flooded out by a leaky faucet should let their landlord know right away. "The biggest thing is to communicate," said Faye Caswell, manager of operations for Umbrella Properties Inc. property management. "If you're having a problem, tell them. Be honest about it." Renters are better off telling their landlords right away if they are having problems paying rent instead of making up a different excuse each month, said Caswell. If a renter lets the landlord know about a problem, it's more likely they'll be able to work it out or compromise.

Procrastination may in some cases actually intensify the problem. Repairs or improvements are more likely to be made if renters let their landlords know sooner rather than later, said Don King, a law student who manages the Millrace Apartments. "Don't wait until the last minute," he said.

Landlords are also more likely to



Inexpensive moving costs can be found in Eugene

Summer is fast approaching and with fall term looming ahead, now is the ideal time to search for housing next year.

For those of you who can't even meet this month's rent, let alone feed yourself, here are some tips for keeping your moving costs and traveling expenses at a minimum.

If you don't have a clue as to how to haul your beloved possessions home, or where to store them for the summer, rest easy because you have several options. The most energy efficient and affordable solution is to:

- Find a friend staying in Eugene for the summer and store your goods with them.
- Car-pool your things home and relive the Oregon Trail.
- Rent a storage unit and hardly lift a finger.

At U-Haul the smallest storage units which is 5x9x5 range from \$27 to \$33 a month. A larger unit that is 5x10x10 rents for \$47.95 per month. If you share the space with a couple of friends, this is a smart way to save time and energy.

If you must haul your loot home with you, U-Haul has several options, with the most affordable being a 10 ft. truck without a ramp for about \$87 if you're traveling about 150 miles. It will cost you \$239 if your journey will be 632 miles or more in one direction. An \$82 refundable deposit is also required.

For those of you who possess cars with some degree of horsepower, a trailer is also an economical option. A 5x8 trailer will cost you between \$48 and \$200 depending on the length of your journey.

Now that you know what you can do with your things, you need to know where you are going to live in the near future and how much it's going to cost. An apartment is a good choice, especially those close to campus. For such living quarters, you can expect moving costs to amount to about \$600 to \$700, although it is not all usually

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