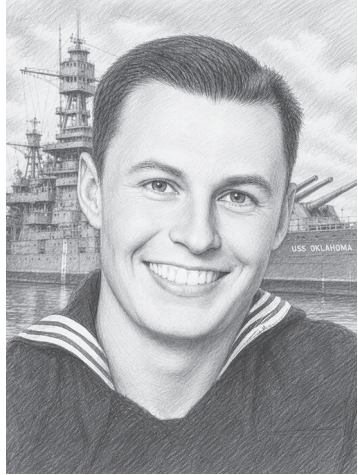


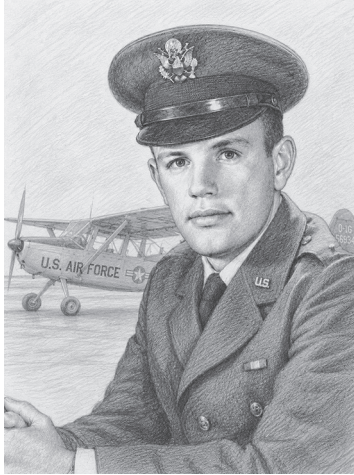


Memorial Day Tribute: Remembering Central Linn's Fallen

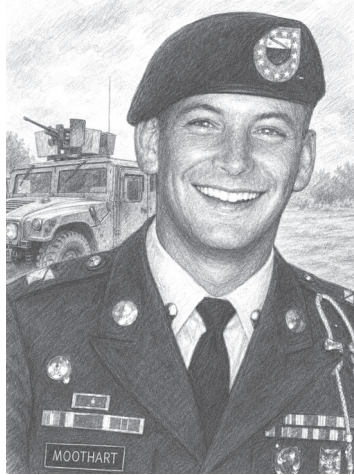
By LTC Sharon K. Banks (Retired) U.S. Army



Claude Olliver Gowey of Tangent served as a Fireman 1st Class in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He gave his life during the war that shaped a generation of Americans.



Maj. Richard Gene Elzinga of Shedd served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. His casualty record lists Laos and hostile death while missing in action.



Sgt. Travis A. Moothart of Brownsville was killed Jan. 27, 2004, in Khalidiya, Iraq, while serving in the U.S. Army. He is remembered by family, friends, and the community.



Lance Cpl. Tyler J. Troyer of Tangent served in the U.S. Marine Corps and died Nov. 19, 2005, from wounds received during combat operations near Al Karmah, Iraq.

On Memorial Day, the communities of Central Linn pause to remember those who left home in service to the United States and did not return.

From Brownsville, Halsey, Shedd, Tangent, and Harrisburg, their names remain part of our shared history. Some served in wars more than a century ago. Others died within living memory. All are bound by the same solemn truth: they gave their lives in service to their country.

We remember the Central Linn-area men listed in Oregon's World War I: Bennie Robert Green of Brownsville, Chester Carl Lehn of Shedd, James Morgan of Harrisburg, Ralph E. Savage of Halsey, Elden P. Swank of Tangent, and Grant Grover Wasson of Harrisburg. The soldiers we lost from this era died from diseases like pneumonia, measles, and the flu that modern medicine would have cured. Their generation answered the call during a war that changed the world, leaving behind families, farms, schools, churches, and small towns that carried their memory forward.

We remember the World War II sailors and servicemen connected to Central Linn: Albert David Fruit of Brownsville, Machinist's Mate 1st Class, U.S. Navy; Claude Olliver Gowey of Tangent, Fireman 1st Class, U.S. Navy; Orla Dean Jennings of Harrisburg, Machinist's Mate 3rd Class, U.S. Naval Reserve; and Sylvan Bender Pool of Shedd, Hospital Apprentice 1st Class, U.S. Naval Reserve. Their sacrifice came during a global conflict that required extraordinary courage from ordinary American families.

We also honor Linn County's fallen of the Korean War.

County records list servicemen who died from hostile action, wounds, while missing or while captured between 1950 and 1957, including Elmer W. Keesee Jr. of Tangent, Julius H. Koster of Albany, Raymond F. Parks of Lebanon, Willard J. Whaley of Lebanon, and Donald L. Whitaker of Albany.

We remember the Vietnam War fallen with Central Linn ties: Maj. Richard Gene Elzinga of Shedd, U.S. Air Force, whose casualty record lists Laos and hostile death while missing, and Spc. 4 Larry Jay Wheeler of Tangent, U.S. Army, who was killed in South Vietnam on Aug. 12, 1969. Their names stand among the Linn County men who died in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos.

We also remember the more recent fallen. Sgt. Travis A. Moothart of Brownsville, U.S. Army, was killed Jan. 27, 2004, in Khalidiya, Iraq. Lance Cpl. Tyler J. Troyer of Tangent, U.S. Marine Corps, died Nov. 19, 2005, from wounds received during combat operations near Al Karmah, Iraq. Their names are not distant history. They are sons of our own valley, remembered by classmates, neighbors, families, and friends.

Memorial Day is more than a holiday. It is a promise that the names of the fallen will not be reduced to stone, paper, or record books. They were husbands, sons, brothers, classmates, neighbors, and friends. They walked the same streets, knew the same fields, and belonged to the same small towns we do.

Today, Central Linn remembers them with gratitude, humility, and respect. ☸

More about the above four servicemen on page 4

Honoring the Fallen, Remembering Why it Matters

Jeff Brown, Staff Writer and Columnist

Memorial Day is often seen today as the unofficial start of summer — marked by barbecues, travel, and a long weekend. But its roots run far deeper, grounded in loss, remembrance, and a nation trying to heal after the Civil War.

Originally known as "Decoration Day," the observance began in the late 1860s, when communities across the country — North and South alike — gathered to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers with flowers. In 1868, General John A. Logan formalized the practice, calling for a National Day of Remembrance. Over time, the observance's meaning expanded to honor all U.S. military personnel who died in service, and the name Memorial Day became more widely used after World War I.

So why has the original meaning faded for many? In part, the passage of time has softened the immediacy of those early losses. The shift of the holiday to a three-day weekend in 1971 also helped make it a marker of seasonal change. Traditions



STOCK PHOTO

endure — flags placed on graves, moments of silence — but they can be overshadowed by modern routines.

At home, those traditions still carry weight. Each year,

members of the American Legion and local volunteers place small American flags beside headstones across area cemeteries — a quiet, visible reminder of service and sacrifice. Across Central Linn County, remembrance remains personal. Names on those markers are often familiar, and the stories behind them still echo through generations.

As Memorial Day approaches, consider taking a moment beyond the picnic or parade to reflect on those who did not come home.

We'd like to hear from you. How do you and your family observe the day? Share your traditions, memories, or tributes with us to help keep the meaning of Memorial Day alive in our community. ☸

INSIDE

HARRISBURG HERO



5



TABLE TALK

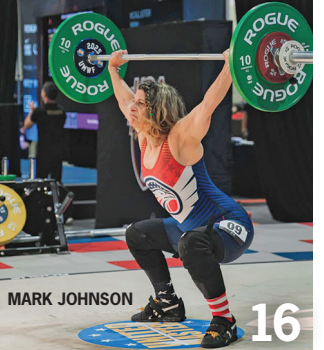
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SOFTBALL



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WOMEN'S GRAND MASTER

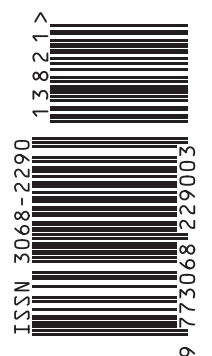


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ONGOING EVENTS

Sunny Nights Swim & Deep Water Aerobics

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays • 6 p.m.
Lebanon Community Pool, 1800 5th St., Lebanon
Led by longtime instructor Debbie, the ongoing sessions offer low-impact exercise, social connection, and a welcoming group of members, both longtime and newcomers alike.
lebanon.aquatic@gmail.com • 541-451-8551.

Lebanon Swim Club

Tuesday & Thursday afternoons • Ongoing
Lebanon Community Pool, 1800 S. 5th St., Lebanon
Youth are invited to join the Lebanon Swim Club, a year-round program focused on building swimming skills, fitness, and friendships. A summer session may also be offered.
541-451-8551 • Lebanon.Aquatic@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday Swim Lessons

Saturdays, through May 30 • 9 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.
Lebanon Community Pool, 1800 S. 5th St., Lebanon
https://www.lebanonpool.org • 541-451-8551
lebanon.aquatic@gmail.com

Brownsville Thursday Market

Thursday, May 21 • 3–6 p.m.
185 Main St. across from Dari Market, Brownsville
Shop local vendors and learn more about the community market initiative through the Calapooia Food Alliance.
https://www.calapooiafoodalliance.org

Eagle Park Ribbon Cutting & Celebration

Thursday, May 21 • 3–6 p.m.
Ribbon cutting at 4:30 p.m.
Eagle Park, Harrisburg
Celebrate the reopening of Eagle Park with an open house and ribbon cutting by the Tri-County Chamber of Commerce. Visitors can explore the upper park trail, ADA pathway to the riverfront, picnic areas and new interactive signs highlighting local history, nature and the park’s connection to Morse Bros. The park gate will remain open through fall.

Weston A. Price Foundation Meet, Greet & Eat

Thursday, May 21 • 3:30-6:30 p.m.
Natural Grocers Kitchen Demo Area
1235 NW 10th St., Corvallis
The Linn/Benton Counties chapter of the Weston A. Price Foundation will host a casual gathering featuring food samples and information about traditional foods and healthy living. Attendees are encouraged to bring a dish to share along with a list of ingredients for allergy-sensitive guests. Booklets will be available for purchase for \$5, along with Weston A. Price Foundation products.
WAPFLinnBenton@gmail.com • 541-954-2047

‘Final Cut’ — Interactive Murder Mystery

Friday, May 22 and Saturday, May 23 • 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 23 • 2:30 p.m. matinee
Albany Civic Theater, 111 First Ave. W, Albany
An interactive murder mystery by Susan Haley directed by Jillian Alden and Casper Oliver. Set at a Hollywood gala, audience members become part of the mystery as betrayal, drama, and murder unfold around them. Guests are encouraged to dress up, interact with actors, and help solve the crime. Doors open 45 minutes before showtime. Admission is \$18.
https://www.albanycivic.org • 541-928-4603

Miller Cemetery 175th Anniversary Memorial Day Remembrance

Sunday, May 24 • 2 to 5 p.m.
Miller Cemetery, Woods Rd /Millersburg Dr., Millersburg
The Miller Cemetery Association will host a free public remembrance event celebrating the cemetery’s 175th anniversary and honoring Millersburg’s founders, veterans, and volunteers. The event will include a tribute to Civil War veterans, dedication of a newly installed gate, recognition of the City of Millersburg and Pacific Power & Light, and appreciation for volunteers and founding families. Light refreshments will be provided.
541-729-6738

Free Coffee, Donuts, & Fellowship

Wednesdays • 9:30 a.m. • Central Valley Church,
657 American Dr., Halsey (not a church sponsored event).

Not Rocket Science Trivia

Thursdays • 6 p.m. • Free
Dixie Creek Saloon, 32994 OR-99E, Tangent
Weekly pub trivia with bragging rights on the line. Bring a team and play every Thursday night.

Hope in Halsey Al-Anon Weekly Meeting

Fridays • Doors open at 6:45 p.m.; meeting 7–8 p.m.
Halsey City Hall, First Floor, 100 W Halsey St.
Park in front of the building. The group meets in the back room; walk down the hallway. The last Friday of the month is a Recovery Night book study.

Memorial Day Ceremony

Monday, May 25 • 9:30 a.m.
Brownsville Pioneer Cemetery
35707 Kirk Ave., Brownsville
The Sweet Home American Legion Auxiliary and Brownsville Travis Moothart Post 184 will host a Memorial Day ceremony honoring veterans and fallen service members of the United States Armed Forces. Community members are invited to attend this annual observance of remembrance, reflection, and gratitude. Attendees are encouraged to arrive early.

CLES Kindergarten Signing Day

Wednesday, May 27 • 3:30 - 4:15 p.m. or 4:30 - 5:15 p.m.
Central Linn Elementary School
Incoming kindergarten students and their families are invited to Kindergarten Signing Day at Central Linn Elementary School. Families can meet teachers and the principal, receive important registration and school information, tour the school, enjoy sweet treats, and pick up a swag bag with Cobra gear and other goodies. Photos on the playground and popsicles will also be available.

117th Annual Lebanon Strawberry Festival

Thursday, June 4–Sunday, June 7
Cheadle Lake Park, 37941 Weirich Dr, Lebanon
The Lebanon Strawberry Festival returns for its 117th year with the theme “Strawberry Nights,” featuring carnival rides, live entertainment, family activities, the Grand Parade, fireworks, youth performances, strawberry shortcake, and more. Highlights include performances by Bryan Martin, Brady Goss and Roll On, the Queen Coronation, and the World’s Largest Strawberry Shortcake.
https://www.lebanonstrawberryfest.com

Veterans Memorial Service

Saturday, June 13 • 2 p.m.
Harrisburg Area Museum, 490 Smith St., Harrisburg
The City of Harrisburg will hold its first annual Veterans Memorial Service, beginning with a flag raising and welcome from Mayor Duncan. The event honors veterans past and present, with special recognition of 1st Lt. Russell Quinn, a Harrisburg native who died June 13 during World War II. The service also reflects Harrisburg’s sister city relationship with Bréail-sous-Montfort, France, which holds a memorial service on the same date.



Breaking Free Weekly AA Meeting

Fridays • Doors open at 6:45 p.m.; meeting 7–8 p.m.
Halsey City Hall, First Floor, 100 W Halsey St.

Park in front of the building. This group meets in the front room.

American Legion Bingo Night

Saturdays • 6 p.m.
American Legion Travis Moothart Post 184
132 N. Main St., Brownsville
Bingo is a community fundraiser supporting programs such as Quilts of Valor and local senior activities. All are invited to play and support the Post.

See what’s happening and add your event:
https://brownsvilletimes.org/community-calendar

ALBANY PRESERVATION MONTH

Historic Window Demonstration

Friday, May 23 • 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
Albany Farmers’ Market
Water Avenue & NW Ferry St, Albany
Vance McDermott of Tried and True Historic Windows will demonstrate historic window restoration techniques and preservation methods as part of Albany’s National Historic Preservation Month activities

Vintage Windows Open House

Friday, May 23 • Following the Farmers’ Market demonstration above, 1 p.m.
635 Water Ave. NE, Albany
Visitors can explore historic window restoration tools, materials, and preservation methods during this open house event celebrating Albany’s preservation efforts.

Downtown First Avenue Historic Walking Tour

Tuesday, May 27 • 6 p.m.
Burkhart Square, between the Lyon Street Bridge and the Albany Civic Theater
Join Oscar Hult of The Natty Dresser for a guided walking tour exploring Albany’s historic storefronts, architecture, and downtown history along First Avenue.

Downtown Second Avenue Historic Walking Tour

Wednesday, May 28 • 6 p.m.
Burkhart Square, between the Lyon Street Bridge and the Albany Civic Theater
Oscar Hult of The Natty Dresser will lead a guided walking tour highlighting the historic buildings and architectural details of Albany’s Second Avenue district.

Objects of Albany

Friday, May 30 • 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Carnegie Library, 302 SW Ferry St., Albany
View rare historical artifacts and local treasures during this special Preservation Month exhibit featuring items rarely displayed publicly.

Oregon Electric Railway Depot Tour and Hackleman District Walk

Sunday, May 31 • 2 p.m.
Sybaris Bistro/Oregon Electric Railway Depot, 442 W 1st Ave., Albany
Participants will tour the historic 1912 Oregon Electric Railway Depot before taking a guided walk through the Hackleman Historic District. Led by Lonna Capaci, Liz Rapp, and Sybaris owner Matt Bennett. Space is limited to 20 participants. Reservations required by calling 541-928-0911.

More information about the above events can be found at: https://www.albanyvisitors.com/events

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THE TIMES *of the* CENTRAL WILLAMETTE VALLEY

The Times of the Central Willamette Valley

For some time now, we've taken a thoughtful look at who we are as a newspaper — our purpose, our voice, and the role we play in our readers' lives — and, just as importantly, who we need to be to remain strong and sustainable. We are deeply grateful for the loyal support of our Brownsville readers, who have been the foundation of The Brownsville Times from the very beginning. At the same time, we recognize that in order to remain viable and continue delivering the kind of local journalism our communities deserve, we must grow beyond a single town.

The truth is, our readership and our mission already extend well beyond Brownsville. Across the Central Willamette Valley, more and more read-

ers have come to rely on us for local news, stories, and connection. It's something we're proud of — and something we want our name to reflect.

With that in mind, we are excited to announce that The Brownsville Times will soon become simply "The Times of the Central Willamette Valley."

This change isn't about leaving Brownsville behind. Our roots here remain strong, and always will. Instead, it's about ensuring we can continue to serve this community — while also welcoming and representing the many others who now look to us as their local paper.

Same commitment. Same local focus. Just a name that better fits the future. ☀

LEBANON STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

"Strawberry Nights" Theme Brings Four Days of Fun June 4-7

LEBANON — One of Oregon's longest-running community celebrations is set to return this summer, with the 117th Annual Lebanon Strawberry Festival taking place June 4-7 at Cheadle Lake Park.

Founded in 1909, the festival continues to celebrate Lebanon's agricultural heritage, community spirit, and volunteer tradition. This year's theme, "Strawberry Nights," evokes a 1950s-inspired atmosphere influenced by the movie *Grease*, with live entertainment, family activities, and classic festival traditions throughout the weekend.

Organizers said that hundreds of volunteers across 20 committees coordinate the annual event, including the Grand Parade, Coronation, Run/Walk, Souvenirs, and the popular Strawberry Shortcake booth. More than 9,000 servings of strawberry shortcake were enjoyed at the 2025 festival.

The festival's Grand Parade returns Saturday with more than 100 expected entries traveling through downtown Lebanon. Parade highlights include the World's Largest Strawberry Shortcake, along with appearances by the festival's Senior and Junior Courts, marching bands, equestrian groups, businesses, and community organizations.

Festivalgoers can also enjoy carnival rides and

games from Rainier Amusements, along with Family Land attractions such as Waterpalooza water tables, Circus Imagination, and a new Kid Zone presented by the Boys & Girls Club of the Greater Santiam. Roaming entertainment will feature the Mac Flex Bot, ventriloquist Vikki Gasko Green, and Washboard Willie.

Entertainment kicks off Thursday with the All Heroes Celebration and Queen Coronation. Friday's main stage lineup features Lebanon native Actual Size and country music artist Bryan Martin, whose song "We Ride" reached No. 3 on Billboard's Country Airplay chart.

Saturday's schedule features performances by Brady Goss and Roll On, a community-wide Hand Jive performance, and a fireworks finale.

Sunday will spotlight local youth performing arts groups, including Hollywood Dance Studios and the Lebanon High School Jazz Band. Festival organizers said expanding opportunities for youth performers became a 2026 priority.

Additional updates planned for this year include expanded food and vendor offerings, a showcase of the historic float restoration, and enhancements supporting ongoing improvements at Cheadle Lake Park.

For more information and a full schedule, visit <https://www.lebanonstrawberryfest.com>. ☀

Miller Cemetery to Mark 175 Years with Memorial Day Remembrance

MILLERSBURG — The Miller Cemetery Association will host a 175th anniversary Memorial Day remembrance event Sunday, May 24, honoring Millersburg's founders, veterans, and volunteers. The free public event will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. at Miller Cemetery, located at the corner of Woods Road and Millersburg Drive in Millersburg.

Founded more than 175 years ago, Miller Cemetery is the final resting place of early settlers, members of the Miller family, four Civil War veterans and generations of Millersburg residents. The land was originally donated by the Miller and Conser families, whose gift helped establish one of Linn County's oldest historic cemeteries.

The remembrance will include a ceremonial tribute to the cemetery's Civil War veterans, the dedication of a newly installed gate, and recognition of the City of Millersburg, including re-

mains from the mayor. Pacific Power & Light will also be recognized for its assistance with capital improvements.

The event will acknowledge the Miller and Conser families and thank volunteer board members who have worked to preserve and maintain the cemetery. Light refreshments will be provided.

"This cemetery quietly tells the story of Millersburg," said a representative of the Miller Cemetery Association. "This event is about remembrance, gratitude, and ensuring that future generations understand the people who built this community."

Families with loved ones buried at Miller Cemetery, history enthusiasts, veterans, and community members are encouraged to attend.

For more information, call Tim Walter of the Miller Cemetery Association at 541-729-6738. ☀

BROWNSVILLE ART ASSOCIATION

Artists Invited to Enter 2026 Junk Art Show

The Brownsville Art Association is inviting artists and "wannabe artists" alike to participate in its 2026 Junk Art Show, themed "Signs of the Times." The exhibit will run July 15 through Aug. 29 and will feature creative works made from recycled, reclaimed, or found materials.

Participants are encouraged to think creatively and transform everyday objects into imaginative works of art inspired by the theme. Artwork submissions will be accepted July 1-10 at the Brownsville Art Center, 255 N. Main St.

To help artists get started, the Art Center will host two Junk Art Workshops: June 24 from 4-6 p.m. and June 27 from 2-4 p.m. Workshops will take place at the Brownsville Art Center and are open to community members interested in learning techniques and gathering ideas for their projects.

The Brownsville Art Center is open Wednesdays from 1-4 p.m. and Thursdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

More information about the show and workshops can be found online by visiting their website at <https://brownsvilleart.org>. ☀

LINN COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION

Pioneer Picnic Flower Show Returns with Patriotic Theme



MIKAYLE STOLE
A bright orange begonia grown by Nettie Reed earned first place in the Division VII — Potted Plants — during the 2025 Pioneer Picnic Flower Show in Brownsville.

The Linn County Pioneer Association is inviting gardeners, floral designers, and young creators to take part in the 2026 Pioneer Picnic Flower Show during this year's Pioneer Picnic celebration in Brownsville.

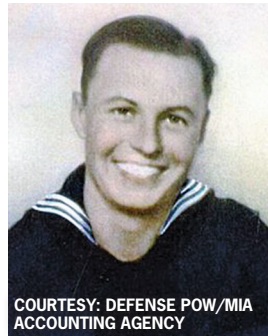
The theme for this year's show is "250 Years of American Spirit," with several divisions featuring patriotic red, white, and blue arrangements honoring the nation's upcoming semiquincentennial celebration.

The flower show includes categories for clubs, churches, businesses, floral arrangements, potted plants, annuals, perennials, roses, and youth entries. Special divisions are also planned for men, children ages 8 and younger, and juniors ages 9-17.

Creative categories include "Splendor in the Grass," "Symphony of Color," "Toy Story," and "Straight from the Beach," along with several "Anything Goes" divisions encouraging open creativity. Details can be found online at <https://www.pioneerpicnic.com/flower-show>.

Entries may be delivered to the Flower House in Pioneer Park on Thursday, June 18, from 5:30-7 p.m. and Friday, June 19, from 8-10 a.m.

Organizers encourage community members of all ages and experience levels to participate and help make the annual flower show one of the highlights of the Pioneer Picnic weekend. ☀

MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE *continued from cover***Fireman First Class — Claude Olliver Gowey**

COURTESY: DEFENSE POW/MIA ACCOUNTING AGENCY

Claude Olliver Gowey was 20 years old when he died aboard the USS Oklahoma during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

Gowey served in the U.S. Navy as a Fireman 1st Class. His father, Claude E. Gowey, lived in Tangent, and Gowey grew up near Tangent with his sister, Rosella Workinger.

On the morning of the attack, the USS Oklahoma was moored at Ford Island when it was struck by Japanese torpedoes and capsized. The attack killed 429 crewmen, including Gowey.

For decades, his remains were unidentified, but in 2018, Gowey was officially accounted for. Gowey was later buried at Arlington National Cemetery, giving his family long-awaited closure and ensuring his sacrifice would not be forgotten.

Major Richard Gene Elzinga

Maj. Richard Gene Elzinga of Shedd was one of Linn County's sons who never came home from the Vietnam War.

Elzinga was born Aug. 13, 1942, and served in the U.S. Air Force with the 56th Special Operations Wing. His name is inscribed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., on Panel 12W, Line 45.

On March 26, 1970, Elzinga was aboard an O-1 Bird Dog aircraft, call sign "Raven 23," on a familiarization flight between Vientiane and Long Tieng, Laos. Also aboard was 1st Lt. Henry Lewis Allen. The aircraft failed to return, and over the next two days, search-and-rescue efforts found no trace of the men or the plane.

For decades, Elzinga remained missing in action, leaving his family and community without final answers. Renewed recovery efforts in Laos later located human remains, aircraft wreckage, and crew-related equipment connected to Raven 23.

Elzinga was officially identified on Nov. 18, 2010, and was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery on July 8, 2011.

He was 27 years old when he was lost. His service and sacrifice remain part of Shedd's history and Linn County's remembrance.

Sgt. Travis A. Moothart, Brownsville soldier killed in Iraq

Sgt. Travis A. Moothart of Brownsville gave his life in service to his country during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Moothart served in the U.S. Army with Company B, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, based at Fort Riley, Kansas. He was 23 years old when he was killed Jan. 27, 2004, in Khalidiyah, Iraq, just east of Ar Ramadi. Reports said he died in an improvised explosive device attack while serving with his unit.

The son of Dennis & Sue Moothart of the Central Linn community, Moothart is remembered not only for the uniform he wore, but for the life he represented — a young man from Brownsville who answered the call to serve during a dangerous chapter of American history. His death was felt deeply by family, friends, fellow soldiers and the community that has continued to honor his name.

His legacy lives on in lasting local remembrance. American Legion Travis Moothart Post 184 was named in his honor, ensuring that his service and sacrifice remain part of the community's civic life. His name also continues through the Sgt. Travis A. Moothart Memorial Scholarship, which helps Central Linn High School seniors pursue their futures.

Sgt. Moothart's sacrifice remains part of Brownsville's history, Linn County's memory and the nation's debt to those who did not come home.

Lance Cpl. Tyler J. Troyer, Tangent Marine killed in Iraq

Lance Cpl. Tyler J. Troyer of Tangent gave his life in service to his country during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Troyer served in the U.S. Marine Corps with 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, based at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He was 21 years old when he died Nov. 19, 2005, from wounds received by small-arms fire while conducting combat operations against enemy forces near Al Karmah, Iraq.

A native Oregonian, Troyer graduated from West Albany High School in 2002 and joined the Marines soon after. He was remembered as a son, brother, fiancé, athlete, and friend whose life was marked by commitment, courage and loyalty.

His death was felt deeply across the Albany, Tangent, and Brownsville area, where his family and community mourned the loss of a young Marine who represented the best of small-town Oregon. His family ties included his parents, Terri and Michael Thorpe of Tangent, and David and Sandy Troyer of Sherwood, along with grandparents in Albany and Brownsville.

Lance Cpl. Tyler J. Troyer's sacrifice remains part of Linn County's memory and America's enduring debt to those who did not come home. ☼



AUDREY HILTNER

A remembrance posted on Maj. Elzinga's Wall of Faces memorial page recalls a bracelet worn in his honor for many years. "We salute you, Richard, for giving the ultimate sacrifice," wrote Audrey Hiltner.

The Hot Dog Equinox

By an ordinary seaman

A few days ago, the thermometer in Central Linn did that thing where it stops asking for a jacket and starts demanding a patio chair. My internal barometer — which is mostly calibrated for irrigation schedules and the precise moment Randy's puts out the fresh cinnamon rolls — flipped from Spring to Summer.

This means Memorial Day is loitering at our doorstep like a teenager looking for the car keys.

To the rest of the world, Memorial Day is a three-day weekend. It's a time when we attempt to organize family travel with the grace of a cow on ice skates. But here in Brownsville, it's the Great Hot Dog Equinox. Between now and Labor Day, Americans will put away roughly 818 hot dogs every second. That is a staggering, mind-bending amount of processed meat. It's the kind of statistic that would make a cardiologist faint, yet here we are, mustard in hand, ready to do our civic duty.

I learned the ropes of this season from Bill Phalen. Bill was a WWI combat veteran who survived being gassed in the Argonne and owned a surplus Jeep he claimed to have bought from the US government for \$127. That's the price he told his wife, anyway. Bill didn't talk about the war; instead, he'd strap flags to that Jeep, put me in the passenger seat, and hit every parade for miles around.

We'd often get bogged down in the "official" history — how General Logan called it Decoration Day in 1868, or how Waterloo, NY, grabbed the birthplace title. But the real heart of it is simpler.

Yes, we pause for a Moment of Remembrance. We hear the mournful sound of Taps across the tombstones. We think of the empty chairs. But then? We light the grill. We head to Pioneer Park. We jump in the Calapooia.

There's a school of thought that says we should be strictly somber, but I disagree. The men and women we honor, the ones who made the ultimate sacrifice, didn't do it so we'd spend the last Monday in May staring gloomily at our shoes. They did it so we could enjoy the maximum daylight of an Oregon summer. They'd want us laughing at Randy's, debating whether Sharon Banks' blueberry pies should be classified as a controlled substance, and definitely, successfully eating that second hot dog.

The 2026 Moment of Remembrance will be held at the Brownsville Cemetery, 35707 Kirk Ave. on Monday, May 25, beginning at 9:30 a.m. ☼



COURTESY: JOHN MORRISON

John and Bill Phalen pose outside a brick building in this undated family photograph. Bill Phalen, a World War I veteran remembered for taking part in local Memorial Day parades, often shared his patriotic spirit with younger generations.

Memorial Day Ceremony Set at Brownsville Pioneer Cemetery

BROWNSVILLE — A Memorial Day ceremony will be held at 9:30 a.m. Monday, May 25, at Brownsville Pioneer Cemetery.

The ceremony is being presented by the Sweet Home American Legion Auxiliary and Brownsville Travis Moothart Post 184 of the American Legion. Community members are invited to attend and take part in honoring the men and women who served and those who gave their lives in the Armed Forces of the United States.

The annual observance will offer a time of remembrance, reflection and gratitude for veterans and fallen service members, including those with ties to Brownsville and the surrounding Central Linn community.

Brownsville Pioneer Cemetery is located at 35707 Kirk Ave. in Brownsville. Attendees are encouraged to arrive early. ☼



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A Local Hero, A Far Away Sacrifice

By Caitlyn Walden, Harrisburg Correspondent

HARRISBURG — Memorial Day is May 25, and as it fast approaches, so do countless stories of heroism and sacrifice.

“That nation which respects and honors its dead, shall ever be respected and honored itself,” wrote Brevet Lt. Col. Edmund Whitman in an 1868 report.

But this story isn’t about Whitman; instead, it’s about a local hero whose story begins later.



JACK COOK

First Lt. Russell G. Quinn of Harrisburg served as a P-38 Lightning fighter pilot with the 77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group, during World War II. Quinn completed 21 combat missions over Europe and earned three Air Medals before he was killed in action over France on June 13, 1944, at age 24.

received his third Air Medal while flying the P-38 Lightning fighter aircraft.

On June 13, 1944, Quinn and more than 40 other pilots took off from RAF King’s Cliffe on a mission to destroy a railway bridge above the river Loire, to the west of the town of Angers, France. After the attack, the group split into two and headed to different locations.

Quinn’s group was passing over the German airfield at Point-Clos near Gaël when German anti-aircraft flak batteries opened fire. His P-38 was hit in the right engine. It is assumed that he tried to belly-land his plane but hit trees during the process, which killed him on June 13, 1944. He was 24.

Residents near Bréal-sous-Montfort, Brittany (Bretagne), France, where his P-38 crashed, tended a grave for him until the end of the war, when his body was returned to his family.

Sadly, this was not to be the last tragedy for his family.

Approximately six days later, Lt. Quinn’s brother, Lt. Edward Gale Quinn, 22, disappeared during a night combat training flight after taking off from Estrella Army Air Field near Salinas, California. Search crews combed the area, but no report was heard from him.

Harrisburg will hold its first Veterans Memorial June 13, 2026 — the same date Lt. Russell Quinn was killed in action. The service also honors Harrisburg’s sister city relationship with Bréal-sous-Montfort, France, where residents continue to hold an annual memorial for Quinn. More information will be available on the city of Harrisburg’s website <https://www.ci.harrisburg.or.us> as the date approaches. ☼

Local Quilters Seek Veterans

The Brownsville Quilts of Valor group is putting out a call to local veterans and service members ahead of this year’s Pioneer Picnic, hoping to recognize as many as possible with a Quilt of Valor during the June 19–21 celebration at Pioneer Park.

Quilts of Valor are more than just handmade quilts. They’re part of a nationwide effort through the Quilts of Valor Foundation, started in 2003, to thank veterans and active-duty service members for their time in uniform. Each quilt is made by volunteers and given as a simple way of saying “thank you.” Being wrapped in a warm quilt, stitched with care and respect, is meant to bring comfort and serve as a reminder that their service matters.

Here at home, the Brownsville group has put in many hours cutting fabric, sewing, and preparing these quilts for giving. So far, they’ve presented just over 1,000 quilts and hope to hand out many more. Now they’re asking the community to help make sure no one gets missed.

If you are a veteran or currently serving — or know someone who is — and haven’t received a Quilt of Valor, you’re encouraged to reach out. Nominations and questions can be directed to Judy Clay (Call or Text 541-808-1970). Even passing along a name can help make sure folks are included.

The quilts will be presented at 7 p.m. on Saturday during the annual Pioneer Picnic, a long-standing Brownsville tradition held each summer at Pioneer Park. The weekend offers a little bit of everything — parades, food, music, and neighbors catching up. Quilts will also be on display in the community arts building throughout the event, and organizers plan to raffle off a quilt. The Quilt of Valor presentation offers a moment to slow down and recognize local men and women who have served.

Organizers hope to present as many quilts as they can this year — a reminder that in rural Oregon communities like ours, service is noticed and appreciated. ☼



MIKAYLE STOLE

Visitors stop by the Community Arts Building during the Pioneer Picnic, where the annual quilt show showcases handcrafted quilts and Quilts of Valor displays throughout the weekend celebration at Pioneer Park.

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TABLE TALK

Come Hungry: Brick & Mortar Cafe Delivers

By Jeff Brown, Staff Writer and Columnist

A recent search for a Sunday brunch spot led us to Brick & Mortar Cafe, located at 222 W 1st Ave, a well-reviewed destination in historic downtown Albany known for hearty breakfast fare and a lively atmosphere.

Arriving ahead of the late-morning rush, we were seated quickly. That didn't last long. Within minutes, the cafe filled to capacity, and a line began forming out the door. The steady stream of customers made it clear why the spot carries strong ratings online.

Brick & Mortar offers a breakfast and lunch menu along with a full bar. After a quick look at the menu, one item stood out: chicken and waffles, described as a house specialty. Opting for the "small" portion proved to be a bit misleading. The plate arrived with a full-sized, crisp waffle topped by two large, breaded chicken breasts. The combination was flavorful and filling, easily enough for a hearty appetite.



balanced alternative to some of the heavier dishes.

A couple of espressos rounded out the meal, and service kept pace despite the growing crowd.

Open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and weekends until 3 p.m., Brick & Mortar Café has clearly built a strong following. For those willing to arrive early — or wait a bit — it's a dependable choice for a filling, well-prepared brunch in downtown Albany.

PHOTOS: JEFF BROWN

Being extra hungry, I opted to add a plate of fresh fruit crepes, generously filled with strawberries, banana slices, cream cheese, and topped with whipped cream. The portion was substantial and leaned toward the sweet side, making it more than enough to share.

For a lighter but still filling option, my wife opted for what the menu called a Power Bowl that delivered a mix of chicken sausage, quinoa, spinach, and vegetables, finished with two poached eggs. It offered a



SEASONS EATINGS

Baked Beans for BBQ Season

By Lisa Keith, Columnist

Beans! Beans! The musical fruit! The more you eat, the more you toot! Pretty sure everyone over 40 has sung that little ditty at least once or twice in their life! In honor of the start of outdoor grilling season, potlucks, and family reunions, I am sharing several bean recipes from friends and family. I think baked beans in all forms should be a staple of outdoor BBQ dining, and I appreciate almost all of them. The first is from my mom's best friend, Jeanette Crocker and her husband, Dave. They shared it with me back in 2011. The second is from my 1980 Jr. High recipe collection. The third and fourth recipes have been hanging out in my recipe box for years. Love to all of you, and best wishes for a safe and happy weekend.

Dave's Calypso Beans

Chop one onion and sauté it in olive oil. Sprinkle in a small amount of cayenne pepper and ½ tsp of curry powder. Cook for 4 minutes, then add 2 tsp minced jarred garlic and 2 tsp lemon juice. Stir in a large can (28 oz) of Bush's Original Baked Beans. Add chopped cilantro (or parsley) and heat until warm. Dave says he always doubles the curry and garlic when making it for family.

Jr. High Baked Beans

Add 1 of each can, plus the liquid, of pork and beans, butter beans, lima beans, kidney beans, and pinto beans to a crockpot. Add 2 Tbsp maple syrup, 1 chopped onion, ¼ tsp garlic salt, 2 tsp yellow mustard, 1 dash liquid smoke, 1 slice of chopped raw bacon. Set on low for 3–5 hours until you can smell the delicious aroma.

Maple Bacon Beans

Combine all ingredients in a Dutch oven or baking dish. Set the oven to 375°F. 1 can diced tomatoes with liquid, 3 cloves pressed garlic, 3 slices cooked/chopped bacon, ½ diced onion, 1 cup mellow lager or pilsner beer, 1 Tbsp Dijon mustard, 2 Tbsp AC vinegar, 2 tsp thyme, 1 cup maple syrup, 1 tsp each of salt, pepper, red pepper flakes, 4 cans (+ their liquid) small white cannellini beans, 2 shakes of Tabasco sauce. Bake at 375° F for 45 minutes until flavors are well married.



STOCK PHOTO

New England Style Baked Beans

- 4 C dried navy beans, cooked tender
- ½ onion chopped
- 1 carrot, grated
- 1 apple, grated
- 2 Tbsp oil
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp dry mustard powder
- ½ C ketchup
- ¾ C veggie broth

Sauté veg/fruit in oil for 4 min. Mix with remaining ingredients and bake at 375° F, covered, for 45 minutes.

I also like to pick and choose my favorite ingredients and add ground beef for a heartier option. All of these are fun and worthy of any party table. Thank you for your continued support! Feel free to email me with ideas, comments, or to talk about cooking at iamcheflisa@gmail.com.



STOCK PHOTO



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OSU EXTENSION SERVICES

Extension Offers Series of Food Preservation Classes

CORVALLIS — Oregon State University Extension Service will host a series of food preservation classes throughout 2026 in Linn and Benton counties, offering hands-on instruction in safe home food preservation techniques.



STOCK PHOTO

Classes will cover topics including jams and jellies, pickling and fermentation, pressure canning, salsa preparation, and homemade holiday gifts from the kitchen. Sessions are designed for beginners as well as experienced home preservers looking to refresh their skills.

The next class, “Pickling & Fermentation,” is scheduled for June 20 at the Linn County Extension Office. Additional classes will rotate between Benton County locations and the Linn County Extension Office through November.

All classes run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$16 per person unless otherwise noted. The two “Gifts from the Kitchen” classes in November are \$20 each.

Participants can register or learn more at <https://beav.es/NfD>.

OSU Extension officials said accommodations related to disabilities should be requested prior to class dates by contacting Elizabeth McDougal at Elizabeth.McDougal@oregonstate.edu.

LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

LBCC Give Day Raises More Than \$83,000 for Student Support

ALBANY — The Linn-Benton Community College Foundation raised more than \$83,408 during its seventh annual Give Day campaign May 7-8, with funds supporting students and college programs across five key areas.

This year’s campaign, themed “All In for Hope,” supported the Student Emergency Fund, Performing Arts, Athletics, Agricultural Sciences, and Culinary Arts. According to the foundation, more than 124 donors participated, including community members, LBCC employees, and alumni.

“Give Day has always been about keeping students moving forward,” said Steven Broncheau, executive director of the LBCC Foundation. “This year, we expanded that vision, and the community showed up for it in a way that I won’t forget.”

The campaign also included two fundraising events. “Dunk for Hope” featured an executive team dunk tank, while “Monte Carlo Night” included a dinner prepared by LBCC Culinary Arts students, a performance by the LBCC Chamber Choir, a live auction, and casino games.

Foundation officials said donations are still being accepted through the Give Day website at <https://giveday.linnbenton.edu>.

CENTRAL LINN RECREATION ASSOCIATION

Your Community Needs Sports Leaders Now

By Eva Wada, Staff Writer

BROWNSVILLE — The future of local youth sports depends on your immediate action. The Central Linn Recreation Association is in urgent need of directors for football and soccer (August–November) and basketball (October–March). Registration for these programs opens soon, and without dedicated leaders in place before summer break begins, the longevity of these sports in our community is at risk. CLRA board members are already at capacity for the roles they can take on, according to President Ashley Moore.

You do not need to be a sports expert to make a difference. We are seeking community-minded individuals to manage uniforms, handle game scheduling, and coordinate with coaches. The only requirements are passing a background check, a commitment to keeping youth sports local, and the ability to work with the community.

Time is running out to secure these programs. If you are ready to step up, email president@clrasports.org or join us on Wednesday, June 17 at the Central Linn Recreation Center in Brownsville as we plan for the fall sports programs or visit <https://www.clrasports.org>. We must have responses by the end of June to move forward. Don’t wait until these programs disappear — help us keep our kids playing right here at home.

CENTRAL LINN SCHOOL BOARD

Good Things Are Happening

The Central Linn School Board reviewed curriculum adoption, financial updates, staffing, and communication efforts during its May 11 meeting.

The board approved several personnel items, including the hiring of probationary teachers Thomas Harvey, Brittany Humphrey, Linda Jackson, and Anya Branson. It also approved the April regular board minutes, policy, and budget committee meeting minutes.

Superintendent Rob Hess reviewed employee time-tracking procedures and explained the district’s systems. Supervisors approve leave requests, while secretaries help record attendance. The district also uses a white-board system to track daily staff presence in school offices.

A major discussion centered on curriculum adoption with a plan to address gaps in adopted materials for math, science, social studies, and health. The district has \$50,000 available for curriculum updates over the next three to five years. Proposed materials include McGraw-Hill for math and HMH for science and social studies, with full implementation expected next school year.

Hess said core classes will need standardized syllabi that meet Division 22 requirements, while still allowing some local flexibility. Parents will be able to review curriculum materials before adoption.

Financial reports showed interest earnings and gate collections for fall and winter sports exceeded expectations. Pay-to-play fees, however, were undercollected because of notification and collection issues at the high school level due to the newly implemented pay-to-play fees this school year. The district plans to improve electronic payment options and send invoices before year-end.

Administrators also reported on school activities and student achievement. Dean Rech, Principle of Central Linn High School, said 23 students earned 175 college credits, saving families an estimated \$37,975 in tuition. Updates also included welding class projects, the FFA greenhouse sale, the May 15 FFA banquet, state testing, prom, senior awards, graduation activities and eighth-grade promotion.

Hess also highlighted the district’s “Good Things Are Happening at Central Linn” campaign, which has drawn strong social media engagement. A website redesign is underway, with a goal of launching by Aug. 1.

Central Linn Welcomes New School Bus

Central Linn School District has a new school bus, and students are expected to be excited about riding in style.

Former Transportation Supervisor Gary VanderStelt personally delivered the new bus to the district. He is shown here with bus driver Kim Nelson.

The bus is one of the nicest in the valley, featuring air conditioning, overhead compartments, and DVD players. The new addition will provide students with a more comfortable ride to and from school events, activities, and daily routes.

Great things are happening at Central Linn, and this new bus is another sign of the district’s continued investment in students.



ROB HESS

Former Transportation Supervisor Gary VanderStelt and bus driver Kim Nelson stand in front of Central Linn School District’s new activity bus, which features upgraded amenities including air conditioning, overhead compartments, and DVD players for student travel.



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PUZZLE KEY

Puzzles on page 13

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CENTRAL LINN SOFTBALL

Cobras Girls Stay Hot with Wins Over Gervais, Mohawk

The Central Linn girls' varsity softball team continued its late-season surge with a pair of big wins, sweeping Gervais in a May 8 doubleheader before rolling past Mohawk 14-3 on Tuesday.

The Cobras defeated Gervais 19-3 in the opener and completed the sweep with a 16-0 win later in the day. Central Linn followed with another strong performance against Mohawk, extending its winning streak to six games and improving to 11-11 on the season.

Callie Northern helped lead the way in both matchups, contributing to the circle and at the plate. Against Gervais, Northern pitched three innings, allowing no earned runs on one hit. She also reached base in all three plate appearances, finishing with a double, two runs, and six stolen bases.

Northern turned in another strong outing against Mohawk, striking out 11 batters over six innings while allowing one earned run and two unearned runs on three hits. At the plate, she went 2-for-3 with a double, two stolen bases, and one run.

Lilly Diaz also powered the Central Linn offense. In the win over Gervais, Diaz reached base in three of four plate appearances, hit a home run, drove in two runs, scored three times, and stole six bases. Against Mohawk, she went 4-for-4 with three stolen bases, three runs, and four RBIs.

Kayla Moore added steady production in both games, reaching base twice against Gervais with two stolen bases and two runs. She followed with a 2-for-3 performance against Mohawk, adding two stolen bases and two runs.

Central Linn's offense continued to put pressure on opposing defenses. The Cobras posted a season-best .821 on-base percentage against Gervais and finished with a .600 batting average against Mohawk. Central Linn has now recorded a batting average of .353 or better in six straight games.

The Cobras have won nine games this season by more than five runs and have averaged more than 14 runs per game during their recent hot streak.

Gervais dropped to 2-14 after the doubleheader loss. Mohawk fell to 7-11 after its fifth straight defeat. 🌀

CENTRAL LINN BASEBALL

Cobras Fall to Unbeaten Crosshill Christian, Mohawk

Central Linn came up short Friday, May 8, falling 35-2 to undefeated Crosshill Christian in baseball action.

The loss extended the Cobras' losing streak to four games and dropped Central Linn to 1-16 on the season. Crosshill Christian improved to 15-0 with the win, its seventh straight road victory. The Eagles also defeated Central Linn earlier in the week, 25-1.

Colten Northern led Central Linn at the plate, going 1-for-2 with a double, one run, and one stolen base. Jeremiah Donahue also contributed, driving in his first RBI of the season.

Crosshill Christian's offense had its biggest scoring game of the season. Miles Lute went 3-for-3 with four runs, five RBIs, and one stolen base, while Isaac Folkert went 2-for-3 with two RBIs and one run. Folkert also struck out four batters in two innings on the mound, allowing no earned runs and no hits. Lute also pitched two hitless innings without allowing an earned run.

Johan Phillips added a strong day for the Eagles, reaching base in five of six plate appearances. He hit a home run, scored five runs, stole two bases, and drove in a career-high five RBIs. Carter Hinderks went 3-for-5 with four runs, three RBIs, and a double.

Central Linn's struggles continued Tuesday, May 12, when the Cobras fell 14-3 to Mohawk. The loss extended Central Linn's losing streak to five games and dropped the Cobras to 1-17 on the season. 🌀



Lilly Diaz connects at the plate during Central Linn's May 8 doubleheader sweep over Gervais. Diaz hit a home run, drove in two runs, scored three times, and stole six bases in the Cobras' 19-3 win.



Brenna McLain follows through on a swing during Central Linn's May 8 doubleheader against Gervais. The Cobras stayed hot offensively, scoring 35 runs across the two victories.

PHOTOS: RACHAEL TRAVIS



RACHAEL TRAVIS

Kurry Travis delivers a pitch for Central Linn during recent baseball action. The Cobras faced undefeated Crosshill Christian and Mohawk in Mountain Valley Conference play last week.

LINN COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Volunteers Needed at the Museum and Moyer House

BROWNSVILLE — The Linn County Historical Museum and the historic Moyer House are seeking new volunteers to help preserve and share Linn County's rich history.

Volunteer opportunities include greeting visitors, guiding tours, helping with exhibits and events, collections work, gardening, and educational programs. No prior museum experience is necessary, just an interest in local history and community involvement. Training will be provided.

Volunteer commitments vary, and scheduling is flexible to fit individual availability.

Those interested in volunteering or learning more are encouraged to contact the Museum at 541-466-3390 or lchm@co.linn.or.us. ☼

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

County Commissioners Address Quarry Lease, Road Closure, Campground Repairs

By Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer

ALBANY — Linn County Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger, and Will Tucker took care of the following business items at their May 12 board meeting:

- Approved a two-year lease agreement with Bedrock Holdings Group for quarry space at the Wodtli Quarry near Sweet Home. Linn County had an agreement with the previous owner and maintains an operating permit with the State of Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) for the site. The new agreement allows the county to continue to stockpile aggregate and cooperation with the transfer of the DOGAMI permit. Cost of the lease is \$8,000 per year, plus the annual DOGAMI permit fee of about \$2,300 plus \$0.03/ton of aggregate produced.
- Authorized the closure of County Road 611 (Main Street in Scio) for portions of May 15, 16 and 17 for the annual Linn County Lamb and Wool Fair events.
- Gave final approval for two Outdoor Assembly Permits, one for a pirate festival June 18-22 on Allen Lane south of Albany and one for a one-day hazel nut growers tour on a farm east of Albany.

HARRISBURG ACTIVITIES & RESOURCE TEAM (H.A.R.T.)

HART Community Center Calls for Volunteers

By Caitlyn Walden, Harrisburg Correspondent

HARRISBURG — The Harrisburg Activities and Resource Team (HART) Community Center's mission is to provide opportunities and resources for individuals and families, and they need your help.

The center's board members and volunteers contribute their time to create activities and events for Harrisburg youth. For one HART board member and class facilitator, Danna Griffith, it's a matter of enjoyment.

"I like working with kids; they're worth it. It's an investment in the future," Griffith said.

The center is calling community members to action. It needs volunteers to help with administrative duties, brainstorming ideas, leading classes, and planning events, according to the center's board members.

HART board member Vesta Craiger said, "We want to bring more attention to the center, especially to adults who can facilitate classes and help us to expand. We have the potential to do more — we just need more people."

The center currently offers a Sewing 101 class every Friday from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. It is adding new summer activities to its list, including a babysitting certification course, a Teen Venture Challenge class, and a field-and-games week event.

Griffith added, "It's important to provide activities to kids so they don't get bored and do something they shouldn't do."

Those interested in volunteering can call the center at 541-852-2150, email hartcommunitycenter@gmail.com, or drop by a board meeting. Meetings are generally held on the third Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at 354 Smith Street in Harrisburg. ☼

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HARRISBURG ACTIVITIES
& RESOURCE TEAM (H.A.R.T.)

HART Announces
Summer Youth
Programs

HARRISBURG — The H.A.R.T. Community Center continues to expand programs for area youth and teens, including education, skill-building, and community support opportunities.

The center remains partnered with Jackson Street, ANDARES, Girl Scouts, and the Order of the Odd Fellows, with more summer classes expected to be announced soon.

Upcoming programs include a Babysitting Certification Course, June 15–19, from 3 to 5 p.m. daily, for ages 11–16. The course includes hands-on practice in infant care, potty training, behavior management, and emergency preparedness. Tuition is \$25, with a pay-what-you-can option available.

The Teen Venture Challenge runs June 22–July 6, with classes June 22–July 3, from 3 to 5 p.m. weekdays at the H.A.R.T. Community Center. Students will develop a business idea, receive a \$50 seed fund, and sell their products July 4 at Riverfront Park during the Old Fashioned Fourth of July Celebration. Tuition is \$50, with a pay-what-you-can option available.

H.A.R.T. also offers “birthday cake in a box” kits with toys. To schedule a pickup, call 541-995-7700 or email hartcommunitycenter@gmail.com. More information is available at <https://hartcommunitycenter.godaddysites.com>.

HARRISBURG LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Tiny Tots Story Time

Wednesdays • 11 a.m. • Story time, songs and rhymes for ages 0–3. Play and socialize afterward.

Friday Storytime & Activity

Fridays • 10 a.m.

Adult Craft Night Out

Thursdays • 4–6 p.m. • A hands-on craft program for library visitors. Free knitting and crochet lessons. Share and learn tips and tricks while you work on your own crafts or pick up something new.

Summer Reading Program ‘Plant a Seed, Read’

Fridays, June 12 to Aug. 7 • 10 a.m.

The Free 2026 Summer Reading Program will feature reading activities and summer fun for local children and families.

Lego Club

Fridays • 3 p.m. • Build, create, and explore with Lego activities. Earn Lego prizes.

Library Hours: Tue 1–5 p.m.; Wed 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Thu 1–6 p.m.; Fri 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sat 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

Library patrons can also access digital books through the Libby app and language-learning tools through Rocket Languages.

Connect with the Library

354 Smith St., Harrisburg • 541-995-6949
<https://www.ci.harrisburg.or.us/library>
<https://www.facebook.com/HarrisburgOregonLibrary>

BROWNSVILLE LIBRARY

Library Welcomes
New Saturday
Assistant

By Sherri Lemhouse, Brownsville Librarian

The Brownsville Community Library is pleased to announce that the city has hired Eva Wada as the Saturday Library Assistant. She began Saturday, May 9.

Eva is a graduate of Central Linn High School and the University of Oregon, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in applied mathematics. She fulfilled a lifelong dream of teaching English as a second language in Japan and authored two ESL textbooks used worldwide by Berlitz, one of the world’s largest and most recognized language instruction companies. Eva managed a language school in Tokyo and was handpicked by Berlitz Japan, Inc. to teach English to the 2020 Japanese Olympic team for journalist interviews.

Currently, Eva is a Staff Writer for The Times and an assistant coach for cheerleading and softball for Central Linn Recreation Association. We are fortunate to be able to welcome Eva to the Brownsville Community Library Staff!

Our next program in the Estate Planning Series will be held on Thursday, September 17, at 6 p.m. in the Kirk Room at the Brownsville Library. Local attorney Danielle Myers will present an informative session about making a Trust. This program is free and open to the public.

BROWNSVILLE LIBRARY CALENDAR

Parents & Pals Story Time

Wednesdays • 10–10:15 a.m.
A short story time followed by free play together.

Thread Wizards Stitchery Group

Wednesdays • 1–3 p.m. • History Room
Bring your project, have some fun — get things done!

Songs, Rhymes & More Story Time

Fridays • 11 a.m.–noon
Story time with rhymes, songs, and a craft activity.

Summer Reading Program ‘Plant a Seed, Read’

Kickoff Saturday, June 20 • 1:30 p.m. Pioneer Park Main Stage with performer, Dan Estep.

Thursdays, July 9, 16, 23 and 30 • 4–5 p.m.

The Brownsville Community Library’s free 2026 Summer Reading Program invites children and families to explore reading, creativity, nature, and hands-on learning throughout July. Weekly Thursday activities from 4 to 5 p.m. include a Bike Rodeo and Fire Safety program, creating fairy or gnome gardens, a special “Bee Amazed” presentation from the U of O Museum of Natural and Cultural History, and decorating garden pots while planting seeds. The program concludes with the library’s 3rd Annual Stuffed Animal Sleepover and Story Time pickup event on Friday, July 31. Participants are encouraged to bring weekly reading logs for prize drawings.

Library Hours:

Closed Sun–Mon.
Tue–Wed & Fri 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Thu 1–7 p.m.
Sat 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Connect with the Library

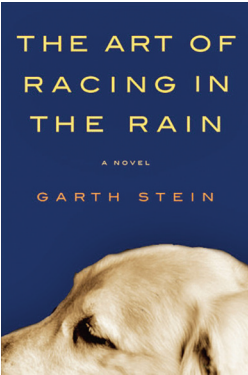
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BOOKS TO CONSIDER

An Unusual Narrator

By Nancy Diltz, Staff Writer and Columnist

“Gestures are all that I have; sometimes they must be grand in nature. And while I occasionally step over the line and into the world of the melodramatic, it is what I must do in order to communicate clearly and effectively, to make my point understood clearly and effectively.” So begins “The Art of Racing in the Rain” (2008) by Garth Stein.



The narrator is a dog named Enzo, a retriever mix who tells the story of his family: Denny, a part-time race car driver; his wife, Eve; their daughter; and Enzo. You will know within the first few pages that Enzo will die at the end of the book. However, he tells you himself that he has a positive attitude toward it because he believes he will be reincarnated as a man. “How I yearn for the moment my soul inhabits one of these poorly designed bipedal bodies and I, too, assume the health concerns of a man!” says Enzo.

There is humor and drama throughout the book, and Enzo’s retelling of the family’s ups and downs is genuine and heartfelt.

When he was about three years old, Enzo discovered a special interest in Denny’s racecar driving. He watched tapes of Denny’s races on TV (with Denny by his side, of course) and began to apply what he learned from racing to everyday life. Enzo thought a lot about what he learned from watching Denny’s race tapes. He narrates, “Denny knows so much, and I have learned so much from him... Such a simple concept yet so true: that which we manifest is before us; we are the creators of our own destiny.” Throughout the story, Enzo applies what he learns and does good for those around him.

Enzo’s frank observations about the people he interacts with are always believable, though a bit judgmental. As I read Enzo’s story, I thought of all the beautiful, kind-hearted dogs who have shared my life, and I enjoyed imagining life from their perspective.

The author did an excellent job of using a dog as a narrator. Many authors have done this; however, this story has a smooth cadence that makes it feel natural for a dog to be speaking, and it does not seem unusual. It is available at the Brownsville Library.

HALSEY LIBRARY CALENDAR

Summer Reading Program ‘Plant a Seed, Read’

Saturdays, July 11 to August 8

The Free 2026 Summer Reading Program will feature reading activities and summer fun for local children and families.

Library Hours:

Closed Sun–Mon.
Tue–Fri 1–5 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Connect with the Library

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<https://www.halseyor.gov/library>
<https://www.facebook.com/HalseyLibrary>



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YMCA Carnival a Great Success

By Sharon K. Banks, Staff Writer and Columnist

The annual Albany Community Carnival & Great Platypus Drop brought families, friends, and community organizations together Saturday, May 9, at the Mid-Willamette Family YMCA for a full day of games, entertainment, food, and fundraising fun.



Attendees wait their turn at the popular UFO-themed inflatable attraction during the Albany Community Carnival & Great Platypus Drop fundraiser, May 9 at the Mid-Willamette Family YMCA.

Local businesses also participated, helping create a strong sense of hometown spirit and support.

One of the day’s biggest highlights was the Great Platypus Drop raffle, which offered participants the chance to win a variety of prizes, including gift cards, vacation stays, local business packages, and even a trip to Disneyland. Organizers later thanked sponsors, volunteers, and attendees for making the event a success and for helping raise funds for important community programs.



Charlie and Chloe Wall of Shedd smile in matching outfits during the Albany Community Carnival & Great Platypus Drop. The twins will begin kindergarten at Central Linn Elementary School this fall.

Held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., the free community event featured carnival-style activities for all ages, vendor booths, entertainment, and the popular Great Platypus Drop fundraiser. The carnival benefited both the YMCA and Albany Area Habitat for Humanity, supporting local youth programs and community projects.

Families with kids of all ages filled the YMCA grounds throughout the day, enjoying the festive atmosphere and taking part in games and activities while children explored booths and attractions set up across the event area. Community organizations and local

The carnival once again showcased the YMCA’s community-focused mission, bringing together residents from across the Albany area for a day of family fun, giving back, and community connection. ☺



Everley Spitz-Jones of Albany shows off colorful face paint and a balloon creation.

SAFEHAVEN’S PET OF THE MONTH

Meet Canyon!

Canyon is an energetic, happy boy ready to find his new best friend. Full of curiosity and excitement, he is always eager for the next adventure — whether that means a game of fetch, a long walk, learning new tricks, or simply exploring the world around him.

This playful pup is Doggie Day Out rockstar. He loves car rides, enjoys meeting new people, walks nicely on leash, and is always excited to see where the day takes him. From beach trips to snowy mountain hikes, Canyon is ready to go wherever the adventure leads.

Canyon is a smart dog who enjoys both mental and physical activity, so he would thrive in an active home that can match his energetic lifestyle. Puzzle toys, enrichment games, and daily exercise are all right up his alley. While he has made some dog friends at the shelter, Canyon may do best as the only dog in the home so he can



COURTESY OF SAFEHAVEN

soak up all the love and attention for himself. He may also do best in a home without small children or small animals.

As part of SafeHaven Humane Society’s “12 Months of Love” campaign, adoption fees are waived for all animals on the second Saturday of each month.

Interested in adopting Canyon? Visit SafeHaven Humane Society in Tangent, open daily from noon to 5 p.m., or view adoptable pets at <https://safehavenhumane.org>. Call 541-928-2789. ☺



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WORSHIP DIRECTORY

BROWNSVILLE

Brownsville Assembly of God 313 Washburn St
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Services 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Classes Wed. 7 p.m. all ages • 541-466-5030

Brownsville Christian Church 117 N Main St
541-466-3273 • <https://brownsvillechristianchurch.com>
Sunday Services and Children’s Church 11 a.m.
Adult classes 10 a.m.

Brownsville Community Church 198 Washburn St
541-936-9131 • <https://hislifeinbrownsville.com>

First Baptist Church of Brownsville 27910 7 Mile Ln
541-642-3000 • <https://www.fbcbrownsvilleoregon.org>
Sunday Services and Nursery 9 and 10:45 a.m.

Holy Trinity Catholic Church 104 W Blakely Ave
541-367-2530 • holytrinitybrownsvilleor@gmail.com
Weekday Mass Wed. Noon • Sunday Service 11:30 a.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
1111 North Main St • 541-570-2903 • Sun. Service 10 a.m.

Brownsville Mennonite 34795 OR-228 • 541-466-5622

CRAWFORDSVILLE

Crawfordsville Calvary Chapel 38353 Glass St
541-730-4519 • <https://www.crawfordsvillecc.org>
Sunday Service 10 a.m.

HALSEY

Central Valley Church 657 American Dr
503-602-6796 • <https://www.cvchalsey.com>
Sunday Corporate Service 8 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. (during school year)
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. • Mon. Prayer 7–8 p.m.

Halsey Mennonite Church 910 E 1st St
712-432-8773 • <https://www.halseymennonite.org>
Sunday Service 10 a.m. • 1st & 3rd Sunday 6 p.m.
Prayer meeting 1st & 3rd Wed. 7:30 p.m.

Harvest Reformed Baptist Church 411 W 2nd St
541-220-1902 • <https://harvestrbcc.org>
Sunday School 9 a.m. • Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Fellowship Meal noon

Spirit of the Valley United Methodist Church
611 W 3rd St • 541-654-8144
spiritofthevalleyumc@gmail.com
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Valley Christian Fellowship 690 W 2nd St
732-434-3592 • <https://vcfhalsey.com>
Sunday Service 10 a.m. • Wednesday Service 7:15 p.m.

SHEDD/PEORIA

Oakville Presbyterian Church 29970 Church Dr
541-758-0647 • <https://oakvillechurch.org>
Sunday Service 10 a.m.

Riverside Christian Fellowship 29360 Abraham Dr
360-880-4734 • Sunday Prayer 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Service 10 a.m. • Sunday School 11 a.m.

HARRISBURG

Calvary Chapel Tri-County 255 Smith St
541-995-8221 • <https://cctricounty.com>
Sunday Service 10–11:30 a.m.
Wed. Women’s Study 10 a.m. • Wed. Study 6:30–8 p.m.

Harrisburg Christian Church
601 Smith St • 541-995-6723
<https://www.harrisburgchristianchurch.org>
Sunday Worship 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Harrisburg Church of God (Seventh Day)
820 Diamond Hill Rd • 541-995-8003
<https://harrisburgcog7.com>
Saturday Classes 10 a.m. • Saturday Service 11 a.m.

Harrisburg Mennonite Church 23688 Powerline Rd
541-995-3446 • <https://www.pilgrimministry.org>
Sunday Service 10 a.m.

Harrisburg Riverside Church 210 LaSalle St
541-743-1582 • Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses
550 Peoria Rd • 541-995-4800 • <https://www.jw.org/en>

Life Bible Church 23650 Peoria Rd • 541-995-8282
<https://www.lifebiblechurch.org>
Sun. Services 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. • Wed. Service 6:30 p.m.

United Methodist Church 710 Smith St • 541-995-6656

ODHS Seeks Public Comment on Medicaid Support Programs

Comments accepted through May 31 on services affecting seniors and people with disabilities

The Oregon Department of Human Services is seeking public comment on proposed renewals of two Medicaid waiver programs that help older adults and people with disabilities receive care and support while living at home or in community settings rather than in institutions.

The waivers help fund services such as case management, housing support, and assistance for people transitioning from hospitals or care facilities to independent living.

The programs affect services provided by local Aging and People with Disabilities offices and Area Agencies on Aging, including those serving Linn County residents.

According to ODHS, one proposed update would require case managers to document a person’s choices regarding services, providers, and living arrangements more clearly. Another would require that people leaving hospitals or care facilities move into settings that offer great-

er independence and fewer restrictions whenever possible.

The state also expects increased demand for case management services due to rising case-loads statewide.

Public comments on the proposed renewals will be accepted through May 31. The waivers are set to expire at the end of 2026, and Oregon plans to submit renewal applications to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services this summer.

Draft applications and additional information are available on the Oregon Department of Human Services Aging and People with Disabilities program website or at local APD and Area Agency on Aging offices.

Comments may be submitted through an email to Beth.Jackson3@odhs.oregon.gov or sent by mail to: Beth Jackson, Oregon Department of Human Services, 500 Summer St. NE E-02, Salem, OR 97301. ☎

REMEMBRANCE NOTICE

Celebration of Life for David Rogers

Friends and family of David Rogers are invited to gather for a celebration of life at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 31, at the Pioneer Park Pavilion and Dance Hall in Brownsville.

Those attending are invited to pay their respects, share stories of Dave’s life and many adventures, and join the family for a barbecue following the ceremony. ☎

CENTRAL LINN COUNTY HOME SALES REPORT

Brownsville Sales Lead Active Spring Market

In March and April 2026, the Central Linn County area recorded a variety of residential property sales across Brownsville, Harrisburg, and Halsey, with sale prices ranging from \$375,500 to \$540,000. The sales reflected a strong mix of newer subdivision homes, established neighborhood properties, and small-acreage rural residences. Home sizes ranged from 960 to 2,442 square feet, with lot sizes spanning from 0.11 to 2.89 acres. Most homes featured two to four bedrooms and two to three bathrooms, highlighting continued demand for both family homes and smaller residential properties throughout the region. ☎

Date	Street Address	City	Sale Price	Sq Ft	Year Built	Beds	Baths	Acres
Mar. 19	958 Smith St.	Harrisburg	\$439,000	1,555	1996	3	2.5	0.19
Mar. 26	804 River Ave.	Brownsville	\$450,000	2,442	2021	4	2.5	0.11
Mar. 30	782 Pebble St.	Brownsville	\$414,000	1,831	2024	4	2.5	0.11
Apr. 3	812 Northpoint Loop	Brownsville	\$540,000	1,866	2010	3	2.5	0.19
Apr. 9	115 2nd St.	Halsey	\$450,000	1,704	2018	3	2	0.37
Apr. 10	240 North Ave.	Brownsville	\$465,000	2,263	2021	4	2.5	0.25
Apr. 13	405 Cormorant Ave.	Halsey	\$397,000	1,304	2005	3	2	0.14
Apr. 13	93313 Westpoint Rd.	Harrisburg	\$430,000	960	1966	2	1	2.89
Apr. 13	805 Eagles Way	Harrisburg	\$375,500	1,288	1980	3	2	0.16
Apr. 14	905 Monroe St.	Harrisburg	\$429,900	1,378	1994	2	2	0.20



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FRAUD FIGHTERS: PROTECTING OUR SENIORS

If It Sounds Too Good to Be True... It Probably Is

By Danielle Myers, Esq., Columnist

As we continue our journey through this series on fraud prevention, I'd like to spend a moment on a kind of scam that arrives not with threats or warnings, but with promises. Often, these schemes sound cheerful, exciting, or downright miraculous. And yet, beneath the bright packaging sits the same old trap. You have likely heard the old saying, "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is." That bit of wisdom has aged just as well as any proverb, and in today's world, it is more important than ever.

One of the most common examples is the classic "You've won!" scam. These messages arrive by phone, email, or even old-fashioned mail. They claim you have won a prize, a vacation, or a large sum of money. Sometimes the caller sounds thrilled for you, as though you've become their favorite customer. But there is always a catch. To receive your winnings, they say, you must first pay a "processing fee," a "tax," or a "handling charge." Let me assure you, real prizes do not require advance payment. If someone asks for money before giving you anything, you have not won a prize; you have been targeted.

Another form of this "too-good-to-be-true" deception is the gift card scam. A caller may urge you to purchase gift cards as payment for a supposed debt, fee, or emergency. They might insist that the fastest way to resolve the issue is to read the numbers on the back of the card over the phone. No legitimate organization accepts gift cards as payment. Not the IRS, not Medicare, not your bank, and not any real business. Gift cards

are for birthdays, holidays, and grandkids, not settling bills.

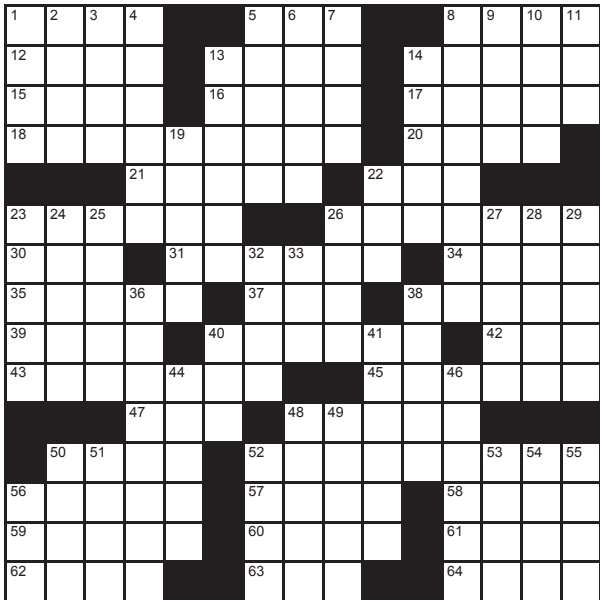
Then there are the miracle cure offers. These show up in advertisements, emails, or social media posts promising to heal arthritis, reverse memory loss, melt away pain, or cure diseases instantly. Many of these products are unproven at best and dangerous at worst. Scammers often target seniors by offering "exclusive" cures or "secret formulas" that medical professionals supposedly don't want you to know about. If something claims to work miracles overnight, especially without a doctor's involvement, it is a sign to step back and look again.

Sadly, all of these scams share the same goal: to stir up excitement or hope so you act quickly. They want you to believe that something wonderful is just around the corner, if only you do as they say. But in Brownsville, and in life, true good fortune never requires secrecy, urgency, or upfront payment.

The best defense is a calm pause. Take a moment, breathe, and ask yourself whether the offer makes sense. Call a trusted friend, family member, or your attorney before agreeing to anything. Talking it through out loud often reveals the truth more quickly than you expect.

Until next time, keep your good sense close at hand. Remember: real opportunities do not rush you, pressure you, or demand payment in unusual ways. And if something sounds too good to be true... well, you already know the rest. ☺

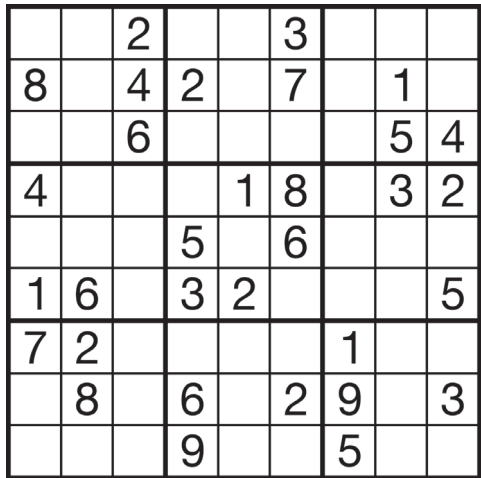
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32 Motel offering
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PUZZLE Solutions on page 8



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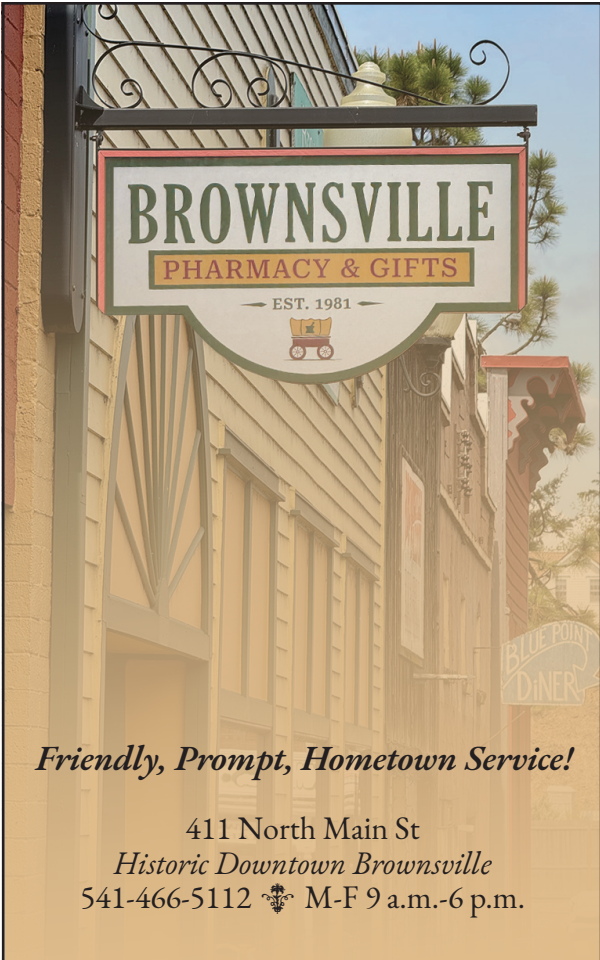
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SHERIFF'S REPORT MAY 11-15

Information in the Sheriff's Report is provided by The Linn County Sheriff's Daily Media Log of Dispatched Calls and Cases. Incident details may be limited or delayed due to agency availability before our weekly publication deadline. Addresses typically reflect the location of the incident or arrest, though in some cases they may indicate the origin of the call.

An individual's arrest or citation reported here does not imply guilt. Guilt or innocence is determined only through the judicial process.

The following is a list of abbreviations that may appear in our log reports: LCSO (Linn County Sheriff's Office); OSP (Oregon State Police); APS (Adult Protective Services); DHS (Department of Human Services); LCCC (Linn County Circuit Court); LCJ (Linn County Jail); LCJC (Linn County Justice Court); LCJD (Linn County Juvenile Department) AMC (Albany Municipal Court); FTA (failure to appear); FTC (failure to comply). A Roman numeral listed after a charge means that the charge is of that numbered degree: theft I (first-degree theft).

BROWNSVILLE

Mon., May 11, 9:38 a.m. — Ronald Katen, 70, of Brownsville, was arrested for criminal mistreatment I and assault IV, which occurred between 5 p.m. Sunday, May 10, and 9:38 a.m. Monday in the 300 block of Kirk Ave. Report taken.

6:27 p.m. — Caller reported a narcotics offense in the 35400 block of Washburn Heights Dr.

Tue., May 12, 1:05 p.m. — A driver was cited for speeding in the 35200 block of Hwy 228 near Hume St.

2:04 p.m. — A driver was cited for speeding in the 35200 block of Hwy 228 near Hume St.

Wed., May 13, 4:02 a.m. — Caller reported that someone may have knocked over an item in their carport in the 500 block of Fisher St. No suspicious persons were observed, but a cat was found in the carport.

2:24 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of verbal harassment in the 400 block of N Main St. The individual involved was experiencing mental health issues, and the reported information was not a crime. Information was documented for future contacts. No further action.

3:34 p.m. — George Glasser, 38, of Lebanon, was cited for speeding and failing to carry proof of in-

surance while driving in the 26200 block of Gap Rd.

4:15 p.m. — Jesse McAmis, 34, of Brownsville, was cited for careless driving, failing to carry proof of insurance and vehicle registration, and driving while suspended in the 36600 block of Mountain Home Dr., near Northern Dr.

8:51 p.m. — A trailer valued at \$6000 was stolen in the 300 block of Washburn St. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

Thu., May 14, 11:17 a.m. — A driver was cited for driving while suspended in the 35700 block of Kirk Ave.

11:36 a.m. — Alexsandra Soto, 25, of Springfield, was cited for failing to carry proof of insurance in the 500 block of N Main St near Locust Ave.

7:05 p.m. — Deputies took a call for a potential fraud in the 800 block of Ash St. No money was sent to the scammer.

8:30 p.m. — Shannon Duffy, 64, of Brownsville, was arrested for a driving while suspended misdemeanor, reckless driving, and a DUII felony. She was also cited for driving uninsured and for failing to use an interlock ignition device. Report taken.

Fri., May 15, 5:37 p.m. — Deputies cleared tree limbs from the roadway in the 35000 block of Cochran Creek Dr. near Brownsville Rd.

BRUSH CREEK

Tue., May 12, 3:03 p.m. — Caller received a Scam call from a person claiming to be a deputy in the 24800 block of Brush Creek Rd. The caller did not lose any money from the scam. Information documented.

CRAWFORDSVILLE/HOLLEY

Mon., May 11, 12:52 p.m. — Deputies responded to a DHS 307 referral. Information about a juvenile was documented in the 38300 block of Hwy 228. No crimes have occurred.

Wed., May 13, 4:45 p.m. — Deputies responded to the 39500 block of Crawfordsville Dr. for a dispute. A process server was posting legal paperwork to the owner's fence post. The owner did not like this and confronted the process server. As the server tried to leave the property, the property owner pulled the door handle off their vehicle. Report taken.

HALSEY

Mon., May 11, 12:30 a.m. — Deputy drove over a live skunk and had to dispatch it to prevent it from suffering in the 30800 block of Abraham Dr.

1:08 p.m. — Information about a past incident involving juveniles at school was documented. In the 200 block of W 2nd St. Non-criminal. Report taken.

1:32 p.m. — Deputy responded to a report of two males returning to a business after being trespassed in the 33100 block of Hwy 228. The business requested that they be warned. The deputy warned them for trespassing and provided them with a ride away from the location to avoid further issues. Non-criminal.

Thu., May 14, 4:19 p.m. — Deputies received a non-criminal DHS 307 referral in the 33900 block of Lake Creek Dr. that was best handled by DHS to continue providing services to the family.

Fri., May 15, 8:13 a.m. — Deputy stopped and cited a driver for driving while suspended in the 25600 block of Hwy 99E.

HARRISBURG

Mon., May 11, 10:49 a.m. — Deputies transported an abandoned dog in the 100 block of Smith St. to animal control and turned over video evidence for investigation.

7:27 p.m. — Deputies responded to a disturbance between family members in the 700 block of Territorial St. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

10:24 p.m. — Laurel Haines, 38, of Harrisburg, was arrested for an outstanding warrant in the 800 block of S 8th Pl. Report taken.

Tue., May 12, 1:47 a.m. — Female reported her husband left home and was suicidal. In the 800 block of Sommerville Loop. Deputies learned the male had learned his wife was unfaithful, and he left the house to distance himself. The man said he had no intention of killing himself.

8:39 a.m. — Deputy stopped and cited a driver for driving while suspended in the 100 block of S 6th St.

4:44 p.m. — Deputy stopped and cited a driver for using a cell phone while driving in the 400 block of S 3rd St. near Schooling St.

7:47 p.m. — Kathleen England, 61, of Albany, and

Tara Jackson, 41, of Albany, were arrested for criminal mischief III in the 300 block of Sommerville Ave. Report taken.

Wed., May 13, 5:26 p.m. — Genesis Molina Solis, 33, of Junction City, was cited for driving with a suspended driver's license and driving without insurance in the 31100 block of Substation Dr near Powerline Rd.

8:33 p.m. — Leila Pierson Kreitzburg, 19, of Harrisburg, was cited for failing to renew vehicle registration.

Thu., May 14, 9:00 a.m. — Deputy stopped and cited a driver for driving while using a cell phone, driving while suspended, failing to use an ignition interlock device, and failing to carry proof of insurance in the 600 block of S 3rd St. near LaSalle St.

10:09 a.m. — A driver was cited for driving while suspended, uninsured, and for displaying their license plate illegally in the 500 block of N 7th St. near Dempsey St.

11:17 a.m. — A driver was cited for driving without a valid driver's license and driving while using a cell phone in the 300 block of S 3rd St near Kesling St.

Fri., May 15, 1:06 p.m. — Deputy responded to a physical disturbance in the 200 block of Macy St. The parties were separated before the deputies arrived. Upon investigation, it was learned that they were family members and that one of the individuals was experi-

encing mental health issues, but they were not fighting. Non-criminal.

6:06 p.m. — Deputies responded to a DHS 307 referral in the 800 block of Sommerville Loop. A juvenile has been a suspect in prior incidents, but there is currently nothing to prevent them from being in the community. Information documented.

6:31 p.m. — Deputy responded to a suspicious situation in which a male was offering to pay a female for photographs of her in the 300 block of N 3rd St. The male left the area before the deputy arrived.

11:03 p.m. — Deputies responded to a DHS 307 referral. Concerns were documented regarding an incident at a juvenile's home in the 800 block of S 8th Pl while their parents were away. Non-criminal.

SHEDD

Mon., May 11, 3:02 p.m. — Deputy received a report that someone was posing as a property owner to sell a property that was not theirs in the 29200 block of Hwy 99E. Investigation is ongoing. Report taken.

TANGENT

Mon., May 11, 7:23 a.m. — Deputy investigated a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 32400 block of Seven Mile Ln.

12:39 p.m. — A utility trailer was stolen from the 32400 block of Seven Mile Ln. No suspects at this time. Report taken. ☀

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

June 1, 2026 • Brownsville City Hall Council Chambers

The City of Brownsville will hold a public hearing before the Planning Commission on Monday, June 1, 2026, to consider an application for a Variance in the Medium Density Residential Zone (MDR).

The hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m., in Brownsville City Hall, 255 N. Main Street, Council Chambers, on the date listed above. The Staff Report will be available for review at City Hall by 4:00 p.m., May 29, 2026; a copy of the document may be obtained on that date for the cost of copying.

NATURE OF PROPOSAL: Variance to minimum lot width standards in the Medium Density Residential zone, related to Map & Taxlot T.13S, R.02W, SEC. 31CA, TL 04700, 344 Kirk Avenue.

LOCATION: 344 Kirk Avenue, 13S02W31CA04700Brownsville, OR 97327
APPLICANT(S): Ben Swartzendruber, PO Box 485, Brownsville, OR 97327

APPLICABLE CRITERIA: Brownsville Ordinances 15.40.040, 15.50.010-.030, 15.80.060, 15.115.030, 15.115.040, 15.85.050 & 15.130.

Issues which may provide the basis for an appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals must be raised either in writing, as described below, or in oral testimony at the public hearing. Issues shall be raised with sufficient specificity to enable all parties to respond to the issue. Failure to do so preclude appeal of the City's decision to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) based on that issue.

Written comments may be submitted by mail to the City of Brownsville, Attention: Elizabeth Coleman, P.O. Box 188, Brownsville, OR 97327, fax to (541) 466-5118, or to City Hall at 255 N Main, and must be received by 4:00 p.m., May 28, 2026. Copies of all materials relied upon by the applicant are available for review and may be obtained for the actual cost of photocopies and postage (if needed). Please contact Elizabeth Coleman with any questions at (541) 466-5666. ☀

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Holly Arrow Redefines Masters Athlete

By Eva Wada, Staff Writer

At 70 years old, community member and athlete Holly Arrow is a world-class champion redefining the possibilities of aging. While many people her age are slowing down, Holly is busy maintaining a gold-medal routine in the 69-kilogram weight category. She has reached a level of dominance where winning isn't just an achievement — it is a standard she meets with incredible consistency.



As of April 2026, Holly Arrow has competed in 22 local and regional meets, 19 national meets, and 13 international meets.

Holly's journey into the world of Olympic weightlifting began in 2010 through CrossFit. Her natural talent for the snatch and the clean-and-jerk quickly propelled her to the top of the sport of CrossFit. By 2012, she was coaching others at Eugene CrossFit, and she now holds an impressive list of advanced certifications, including USAW Level 2. Her coaching is particularly focused on fellow Masters athletes, helping older adults find strength and confidence through movement.

Her competitive record is staggering. Since 2015, Holly has won 10 National Championships and is a seven-time World Champion. Recently, at the Masters National competitions in Arkansas and Salt Lake City, she delivered near-flawless performances. In Arkansas, she went a perfect six-for-six on her attempts, lifting a total of 108 kilograms (238 pounds). These victories earned her the title of Women's Grandmaster — an award given to the best overall female lifter at a meet after adjusting for age and weight.

Holly's success is built on a foundation of discipline and intellect. Before retiring as a Professor of Psychology at the University of Oregon, she spent 25 years studying group dynamics and human behavior. She even combined her professional expertise with her passion for sport by co-authoring academic articles on Masters Weightlifting. This scientific approach helps her understand the physical and mental patterns required for peak performance.

Holly "attributes [her] accomplishments in part to the support of the weightlifting community — both [her] Eastside Barbell team and the Masters Weightlifting community."

Beyond the medals and titles, it is this culture of mutual encouragement that keeps her engaged in the sport. As she continues to compete and coach, Holly Arrow stands as a testament to what can be achieved when personal drive is backed by a dedicated and caring community. 🌟



Washburn neighborhood resident, Holly Arrow, has always challenged her mind along with her physical abilities including Dutch international schooling, a Master of Fine Arts, and a Ph.D. in psychology.

Linn County Fair Adds Montgomery Gentry Featuring Eddie Montgomery

By Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer

ALBANY — Southern rock artist Montgomery Gentry featuring Eddie Montgomery will round out the 2026 Linn County Fair main stage entertainment lineup, performing at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, July 17, the Linn County Fair Board announced.

Montgomery Gentry featuring Eddie Montgomery joins a lineup that includes Frankie Ballard, who will perform on Thursday, July 16, and The Band Perry, who will take the stage on Saturday, July 18.

"The origins of much of Montgomery Gentry's music relates to agriculture and rural America," said Roger Nyquist, a Linn County commissioner and Fair Board member. "We think fairgoers are going to enjoy this show."

Montgomery Gentry has a long history of making hit music, starting in the 1990s, when Eddie Montgomery and Troy Gentry — both Kentucky natives — teamed up to take country music by storm.

In 2017, Troy Gentry died in a helicopter crash, but Montgomery Gentry lives on because the duo promised each other, they would continue their musical legacy even if something happened to one of them.

Today, Eddie Montgomery continues to entertain audiences with southern rock hits and has collaborated with Charlie Daniels, Toby Keith, Five for Fighting, and The Allman Brothers Band.

As one of the most recognizable voices in a generation of country singers, Eddie Montgomery continues to tour coast-to-coast behind a time-tested collection of rowdy and heartfelt songs.

That collection grows with the new release — "Home Run," a six-song EP that includes hard-working stories, fatherly wisdom, brotherly appreciation, and a boot-stomping reworking of Montgomery Gentry's first single "Hillbilly Shoes."

With five No. 1 country radio hits, a Grand Ole Opry membership, and a Kentucky Music Hall of Fame induction under his belt as part of Montgomery Gentry, the man in the hat shows no signs of slowing down.

After all, why would anyone walk away from a dream-come-true?

"I'm livin' life," Montgomery said. "I'm so happy that I gotta sit on my hands to keep 'em from wavin' at everybody."

"Home Run" debuted November 1 via Average Joes Entertainment. 🌟



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