THE TIMES of the CENTRAL WILLAMETTE VALLEY

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Red, White & Blue Across the Valley

Harrisburg Fourth of July parade *— The Harrisburg High School state champion wrestling team cools off parade spectators. Top center: The Big Banana Car drew smiles and laughter as it cruised through downtown Harrisburg as part of its "The World Needs More Whimsy" tour. Center: A patriotic Volkswagen Beetle represented Mel B's Medicare Solutions. Left: A Comunidad Latina rider showcases a dancing horse during the parade.*

Brownsville Independence Day Celebration *— Top: Fireworks light up the night sky over Pioneer Park. Right: Rachel, Haley and Nolan Streitberger, of Albany, pose in front of "The Bull," a Mad Max-style Gambler 500 build constructed from a 1990s Honda Civic del Sol.*

Rally on the River Celebrates 10 Years in Brownsville

Public Invited to Vintage Trailer Open House July 18

By Mikayle Stole, Editor

BROWNSVILLE — For the 10th consecutive year, Pioneer Park will become home to dozens of vintage travel trailers as Rally on the River returns to Brownsville July 15–19.

Friends gather for a card game in the shade trees at Pioneer Park during the 2025 Rally on the River, where families camp, socialize and enjoy old-fashioned summer fun throughout the week.

The annual gathering brings together owners of beautifully restored travel trailers built from the 1920s through the 1970s for five days of camping, friendship, and family fun. While the rally is a private event for registered participants, the public is invited to tour the campground during a free open house from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 18.

Visitors can stroll among the vintage trailers, meet their owners, and step inside many of the restored campers. From polished aluminum classics to colorful, retro-inspired interiors, the rally offers a glimpse into the history of American camping and road travel.

Organizer Lisa Long said Rally on the River has become as much about family traditions as it is about vintage trailers.

"We've watched some of these kids grow up over the years as they camp with their grandparents and great-grandparents," Long said. "They get to play like kids from the past — riding bikes, swimming in the Calapooia, and playing old-fashioned games."

Throughout the week, camper kids enjoy activities such as rock painting, games, campfires, and s'mores, while adults gather for meals, dancing, and fellowship. The event is intentionally family-friendly, giving children plenty of room to explore, play, and make friends.

Long said Brownsville has remained the rally's home for a decade because Pioneer Park offers everything the group needs. The park's towering shade trees provide relief from the summer sun, while the pavilion, dance hall and stage create ideal spaces for meals, entertainment and children's activities. She also credits the City of Brownsville staff for helping make participants feel welcome year after year.

This year's rally coincides with Brownsville's Citywide Garage Sale on Saturday, July 18, and many rally participants will be joining in by hosting sales from their campsites. Visitors can browse garage sales throughout town before or after touring the vintage trailers during the open house.

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INSIDE

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ONGOING EVENTS

StrongPeople™ Classes
Tuesdays & Thursdays • 9–10 a.m. • FREE
OSU Extension Linn County
33630 McFarland Rd., Tangent

An evidence-based fitness program designed primarily for adults to improve strength, balance, mobility, and flexibility with progressive resistance training and balance exercises that use ankle weights, dumbbells, and bodyweight movements.

541-730-3541 • Tina.Dodge@oregonstate.edu

Free Coffee, Donuts, & Fellowship
Wednesdays • 9:30 a.m.
Central Valley Church, 657 W. American Dr., Halsey
(not a church-sponsored event).

Brownsville Thursday Market
Thursdays • 3–6 p.m., 185 S Main St., Brownsville

Located across from Dari Market — shop local vendors and learn more about the community market initiative through the Calapooia Food Alliance.

https://www.calapooiafoodalliance.org

Community Connection Market
Fridays • 4–8 p.m. • 311 E Blakely Ave. Brownsville

Featuring local vendors, food and food trucks, live music, community resources and organizations, kids' crafts, and a playground nearby • 541-214-1098

Jefferson Night Market
First Thursdays • 4–7 p.m. • 150 N. 2nd St., Jefferson

Browse local produce, handmade goods, crafts, food vendors, held monthly through September.

Scio Saturday Market
Saturdays • 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Linn County Lamb & Wool Fairgrounds
38999 NE 1st Ave., Scio

Open through Sept. 26 (except Aug. 1), local produce, baked goods, crafts, food vendors, live music, and family-friendly entertainment.

https://www.sciosaturdaymarket.com

American Legion Bingo Night
Saturdays • 6 p.m.
American Legion, 339 N. Main St., Brownsville

Community fundraiser supporting programs such as Quilts of Valor and local senior activities. All are invited to play and support the Post.

JULY & AUGUST EVENTS

ALBANY

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Now–July 25 • Fri. and Sat., 7:30 p.m. • Sun., 2:30.
Albany Civic Theater, 111 W. First Ave., Albany

Celebrate Albany Civic Theater's 75th anniversary with Shakespeare's beloved comedy, featuring mischievous faeries, young lovers, and plenty of magical mishaps.

https://actshow.link/midsummerlive

Linn County Fair
Thursday–Saturday, July 16–18
Linn County Fair & Expo Center, 3700 Knox Butte Rd E

Three days of family fun featuring 4-H exhibits, livestock and animal shows, carnival rides, food vendors, and live entertainment. Evening concert headliners include Frankie Ballard on July 16, Montgomery Gentry featuring Eddie Montgomery on July 17, and The Band Perry on July 18. Rodeo events are scheduled for Thursday and Friday. Reserved concert seating is available.

https://www.linncountyfair.com

Springhill North Albany Car Show
Sunday, July 19 • 9 a.m.
Bryant Park, 801 Bryant Way SW

This car show benefits the South Willamette Valley Honor Flight, which provides veterans with trips to visit military memorials in Washington, D.C.

Dave Faller: SHNACS@gmail.com

River Rhythms: Bill Haley Jr. and the Comets
Thursday, July 23 • FREE
Food vendors 5:30 p.m. • Concert 7 p.m.
Monteith Riverpark, 489 NW Water Ave.

Enjoy an evening of a high-energy popular tunes from the 50s and '60s. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. A $1 donation is encouraged. Outside beer, wine, cider, and hard seltzer are permitted after 5:30 p.m.; no hard alcohol. Service dogs only. Rain or shine.

https://albanyoregon.gov/parks/events/river-rhythms

Marbles Activity Day
Friday, July 24 • 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
Albany Regional Museum, 136 Lyon St. SW, Albany

Learn to play marbles, sharpen your skills, and join friendly matches during this all-day event for visitors of all ages.

47th Annual Historic Home Tour
Saturday, July 25 • 11 am.–5 p.m. $20
Albany Visitors Association, 122 Ferry St. SW

Several lovely historic homes will be open for touring, along with the Monteith House, the Albany Regional Museum, the Albany Municipal Airport, and other historic buildings. The Cumberland Church — which will be home to the Cumberland Community Events Center after the full restoration — will host an Open House featuring tours and snacks. Walk, drive, or take the trolley to any of the destinations. Proceeds from Albany's Interior Tour of Historic Homes benefit the Monteith House Museum. Tickets include a map and a wristband, but a wristband is not required to tour the homes. Well-behaved children under 12 are free with a paid adult. No photos or videos are allowed.

Tickets: https:// MonteithHouse.org. Albany Visitors Association the day of the event, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

BROWNSVILLE

Junk Art Show: "Signs of the Times"
July 15–Aug. 29 • Wed., 1–4 p.m.
Thu.– Sat., 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
Brownsville Art Center, 255 N. Main St.

Explore imaginative sculptures and artwork created from recycled, repurposed, and found materials as part of the Brownsville Art Association's annual Junk Art Show.

https://brownsvilleart.org

Citywide Garage Sale
Saturday, July 18 • 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

Over 50 sales can be found throughout town, with all kinds of goodies to shop for. Pick up a physical map at Randy's Main Street Coffee or Dari-Market. Or download a PDF or google map of the participating yard sales, then drive around town to find your treasures.

https://www.historicbrownsville.com/citywide-yard-sale

Rally on the River Vintage Trailer Open House
Saturday, July 18 • 11 a.m.–2 p.m. • Pioneer Park

Tour a nostalgic campground filled with beautifully restored vintage travel trailers during the Rally on the River Open House. Meet trailer owners, admire vintage rigs, and shop as many participants also take part in Brownsville's Citywide Garage Sale. The rally is private for registered campers, but everyone is welcome to attend the Open House.

https://www.rallyontherivervintagetrailers.com

Free CONNECT Linn County Community Dinners
Wednesday, July 22 • 5:30 p.m. • Pioneer Park Pavilion

Looking for a fun evening with family, friends, and neighbors? CONNECT Linn County is serving free community dinners on select Wednesdays through Aug. 26. The dinners are open to everyone and include great food, activities, and a chance to connect with the community.

https://www.connectlinncounty.net

'Stand By Me' Day
Saturday, July 25 • 8 a.m.–11 p.m. • Pioneer Park

Brownsville's claim to fame? Many scenes of the iconic film "Stand By Me" were shot right here in town. Locals and folks far and wide from around the world proudly celebrate each year on the 4th Saturday in July. Featuring a blueberry pancake breakfast, cruise in, walking tours of film locations, fan forum, live music, pie-eating contest, games, a treehouse replica, 50s sock hop, live music, and the movie in the park. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the release of the film.

https://standbymeday.com

CORVALLIS

Graand Kinetic Challenge & Corvallis Kaleidoscope
Saturday & Sunday, July 18–19 • FREE
STEAM Festival: Saturday, July 18 • Noon–6 p.m.

Watch imaginative human-powered art vehicles race through city streets, mud, sand, and the Willamette River during the 33rd annual Graand Kinetic Challenge. On Saturday, enjoy the Corvallis Kaleidoscope STEAM Festival with hands-on exhibits, live music, and food trucks at PRAx, 470 SW 15th St. in Corvallis.

https://corvalliskaleidoscope.org

HARRISBURG

Summer Sounds Concert Series: The Riverside
Thursday, July 16 • 5:30–8:30 p.m.
Riverfront Park Gazebo, First and Smith streets

Food trucks begin serving at 5:30 p.m., followed by live music by The Riverside at 6:30 p.m. Bring lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy a free evening of music along the Willamette River.

https://www.tri-countychamber.com
https://www.ci.harrisburg.or.us

Hometown Fun Day and Pop-Up Farmers Market
Saturday, July 18 • 9 a.m.–7:30 p.m.
Grocery Deals, 295 N. Third St., Harrisburg

Enjoy a day of shopping, local vendors, and family fun. Free hot dogs and snow cones will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Shoppers can also enter to win a steel fire pit and receive a free pair of sunglasses with any $10 purchase, while supplies last.

https://grocerydealsor.com

LEBANON

Family Day in the Garden
Saturday, July 18 • 11 a.m.–4 p.m. • $20
Boulder Falls Inn Event Center, 605 Mullins Dr.

Enjoy a day of hands-on, nature-inspired activities for children, families, and adults. From a storigami storytelling experience to an immersive bonsai workshop, this special event invites participants of all ages to explore arts and crafts in the garden. Registration required.

https://samhealth.org/event/family-day-in-the-garden

Linn County Small Woodlands Association Summer Picnic and Tour
Saturday, July 18 • 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Fun Forest Barn, Upper Berlin Dr.

Enjoy a free summer picnic and tree farm tour hosted by Jim Cota and Mike Melcher at the award-winning Fun Forest. The day features tours of a working tree farm and antique logging equipment, a demonstration of a recently thinned Douglas-fir stand, and family-friendly activities. Lunch and cold drinks are provided, and carpooling is encouraged.

https://linncountyswa.com/event
lcswa-annual-summer-picnic

Waterloo County Park Encampment 2026
Friday–Sunday, July 24–26 • 10 a.m.–5 p.m. • FREE
Waterloo County Park, 39510 Gross St., Lebanon

Join the Native American Cultural Encampment this July at Waterloo County Park near Lebanon for a weekend celebrating Native culture, music, and community. Flutestock Lite will join the encampment on Saturday, featuring flute music throughout the day accompanied by drum, rattle, and vocals.

https://www.nativeamericanencampment.com
541-570-5950 • petersdietz@gmail.com

STAY CONNECTED!
Discover events or add your own to our community calendar:
https://brownsvilletimes.org/community-calendar

Grocery Deals to Host Pop-Up Farmers Market July 18

HARRISBURG — Grocery Deals will host a Hometown Fun Day and Pop-Up Farmers Market Saturday, July 18, with local vendors, free food, prize giveaways, and store specials.

The event will take place at Grocery Deals, 295 N. Third St., during regular store hours, from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Free hot dogs and snow cones will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The pop-up market will feature local vendors offering handmade items, baked goods, crafts, fresh produce, boutique merchandise, and other unique products. Shoppers can also take advantage of in-store specials, receive a free pair of sunglasses with any $10 purchase (while supplies last, limit one pair per customer), and enter to win a steel fire pit.

Organizers say the event aims to bring the community together, support local small businesses, and offer a fun day of shopping and family activities.

Grocery Deals is also seeking additional vendors for the event. Call 541-995-5132 or email gdealsoffice@gmail.com for more information.

BROWNSVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Vintage Treasures and Classic Cars Await

By Eva Wada, Assistant Editor

MIKAYLE STOLE

Treasure hunters browse for unique finds during a previous Brownsville Antique Faire. This year's event returns Saturday, Aug. 1, with more than 80 antique vendors and a classic car show at Pioneer Park.

BROWNSVILLE — The world moves so fast these days, but there is still a place where you can slow down and enjoy a wonderful pastime. The annual Brownsville Antique Faire and Car Show is coming back to Pioneer Park on Saturday, August 1. Gates open at 8 a.m. to give you a chance to grab breakfast in the shade of the pavilion and get the first pick of the vintage treasures. At 10 a.m. the grass transforms into a glittering showroom of classic cars right before the trophy presentation starting at 2 p.m. Gates for the car show open at 7 a.m. and there is no fee to register.

It is amazing to think this whole tradition started decades ago as just a quiet little town swap meet. Now, it is a huge celebration. More than 80 collectors reserved every inch of booth space months ago, filling the park's main grounds with neat old items. Best of all, it does not cost a dime to get in and walk down memory lane.

If you are new to car shows, do not let the big engines scare you. The secret to having a great time is simply talking to the people sitting next to those shiny vehicles. Just walk up and ask, "What is the story of how you found this car?" or "How did you modify it to make this beauty your own?" You will see their eyes light up. Hearing their stories turns a simple stroll into a chance to connect with cool people who are incredibly passionate about their hobby. Getting there early to explore the booths and sharing a laugh with these local enthusiasts is the best way to enjoy this wonderful Brownsville tradition.

Chilly's Custom Auto Works 2nd Anniversary Car Show

By Marcy Hermens, Tangent Correspondent

TANGENT — Chilly's Custom Auto Works in Tangent is celebrating its second anniversary in style — with a car show open to the community.

The event is set for Saturday, August 8, from noon to 4 p.m. at 32841 Hwy 99E in Tangent. Whether you want to show off your ride or just come out to admire some great vehicles, all are welcome.

Entry for car show participants is a school supply donation, which will be collected and given to the Albany Public Schools Foundation. Spectators get in free, though school supply donations are happily accepted.

No pre-registration is required — just show up and enjoy the afternoon.

For more information, call 541-220-2291. Or, visit their Facebook event at https://www.facebook.com/events/2456259268517767.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 184

Legion and Auxiliary Prepare Pies for Stand by Me Day

By Sharon K. Banks, Staff Writer and Columnist

BROWNSVILLE — Members of the American Legion Post 184 and its Auxiliary gathered July 7 to begin one of their sweetest annual traditions: preparing homemade blueberry pies for the July 25 Stand by Me Day.

SHARON K. BANKS

American Legion Post 184 and Auxiliary volunteers prepare blueberry pies for Brownsville's Stand by Me Day celebration. Pictured are (from left) Sherri Lemhouse, Carl Frank, Cindy Stucky, Sandy Sayer, Opal Hetterle, Jack Sayer and Marilee Frazier.

Volunteers spent the day mixing and rolling out 200 pie crusts for the event's signature double-crust blueberry pies. Each pie will be filled with fresh, locally grown blueberries from Birky Blueberry Farm in Crawfordsville.

During the celebration, slices of pie topped with a scoop of vanilla ice cream will be served for $5 at the Pioneer Park pavilion.

Proceeds from the annual pie sale benefit the Travis Moothart Scholarship Fund, administered by American Legion Post 184. This year, the fund awarded two $2,500 scholarships to graduating seniors from Central Linn High School.

The pie sale has become a favorite Stand by Me Day tradition, offering visitors a homemade dessert, supporting local students, and honoring the memory of Sgt. Travis Moothart.

Harrisburg Water Project Enters Final Phase

By Steven Lyle Haney, Guest Contributor

HARRISBURG — After years of planning, funding challenges, and construction, Harrisburg's Water Bond Project is entering its final phase, bringing the city closer to a modern water treatment and storage system designed to serve residents for decades to come.

Most of the remaining work is now taking place inside the city's new treatment facilities and storage tanks, where contractors are installing electrical systems, mechanical equipment, and filtration components that will remove naturally occurring iron and manganese from the city's groundwater before it is stored and distributed.

Approved by voters in 2017, the $7.5 million project was created to improve water quality, increase storage capacity, and provide greater system reliability. Along the way, city leaders faced significant obstacles, including pandemic-era inflation, supply chain disruptions, and construction bids that came in millions of dollars higher than expected.

Rather than scaling back the project, the city pursued additional funding through the Harrisburg Redevelopment Agency and secured a low-interest state loan to keep construction moving forward.

Today, major infrastructure improvements are visible at both of Harrisburg's water plants.

At the North Plant on Peoria Road, the project includes a new 1.5-million-gallon storage reservoir, a filtration building, and the integration of Well No. 9. At the South Plant, improvements include a 500,000-gallon storage tank, a second filtration facility, and an emergency backup generator.

Once operational, the upgraded system will allow either plant to continue serving customers while the other undergoes maintenance or repairs, improving reliability during emergencies, peak summer demand, and firefighting operations.

Construction crews are now focused on completing the intricate systems that make the facilities function, including process piping, electrical controls, and chemical treatment equipment required to meet state and federal drinking water standards.

When construction is complete, the system will enter a curing, testing, and disinfection phase before water can begin flowing through the new facilities. City officials currently anticipate project completion in late 2026.

Residents may continue to notice periodic flushing activities as portions of the system are brought online. Public Works officials recommend checking household water filters and faucet aerators, particularly after flushing events, as sediment stirred up during the process can collect in filtration systems and reduce water pressure.

When complete, the project will provide Harrisburg with improved water quality, additional storage capacity, greater operational flexibility, and a modernized system designed to meet the community's needs for years to come.

Editor's note: Steven Haney is a water professional with more than 25 years of experience in the industry.

HARRISBURG HARVEST FESTIVAL

Tractor Pull Passion Supports Future Farmers

HARRISBURG — The countdown is officially on for one of the community's most energetic summer events, where powerful trucks and tractors take center stage to support local agriculture education. The annual Harrisburg Harvest Festival is hosting its highly anticipated Truck and Tractor Pull 2026 on Friday, August 7, and Saturday, August 8, at 23914 Peoria Road. All event profits go directly to the Harrisburg Harvest Festival Association, a nonprofit that promotes agricultural sciences and supports local FFA chapters.

To get behind the wheel, drivers can visit https://www.harrisburgharvestfestival.org/pullers to complete the entry form for all trucks and tractors. Weigh-ins run from 4–6 p.m. on Friday and from 1–3 p.m. on Saturday. A $40 puller pit pass is required per person for the weekend, but there is no hook fee to enter the competition.

To catch all the fun, plan to arrive when the gates open at 5 p.m. on Friday and 3:30 p.m. on Saturday. This gives you plenty of time to explore before the engines roar to life for the main pulling events, which run from 7–11:00 p.m. both nights. Beyond the arena, the festival grounds will feature delicious food booths, a beer garden, games, and a free kids' zone. Daily admission tickets are available through Eventbrite for $18 for adults, $13 for seniors and veterans, and $10 for youth ages 4 to 10. Children 3 and under are free. It is the perfect chance to enjoy high-energy entertainment while keeping local agricultural education strong.

CITY OF HARRISBURG

Summer Events Keep Harrisburg Busy Through August

By Michele Eldridge, CMC, City Administrator

Summer in Harrisburg is in full swing, and there is still plenty to enjoy.

The Summer Sounds concert series, organized by the Tri-County Chamber of Commerce, runs each Thursday evening through Aug. 6, featuring a fantastic lineup of local entertainment. Food trucks open at 5:30 p.m., and live music begins at 6:30 p.m. Thank you to this year's sponsors for making the concerts possible. Be sure to support these local businesses. Concert details are available at https://www.ci.harrisburg.or.us/community/page/summer-sounds-concert-series.

National Night Out is a wonderful opportunity to meet the men and women who serve our community. Join us Tuesday, Aug. 4, for a free barbecue, live music, root beer floats, face painting, and more, while supplies last. More than 250 people attended last year. You'll also have the chance to meet members of the Harrisburg Fire/Rescue District, VFW, Harrisburg Library, Harrisburg School District, and several local nonprofit organizations.

The fun continues that same week. Our final Summer Sounds concert takes place on Thursday, Aug. 6, followed by the Harrisburg Harvest Festival Truck & Tractor Pull on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 7–8. The event is held on city-owned property off Peoria Road, leased to a local farmer. Proceeds support agricultural education and scholarships for regional high school students. Local FFA members help park vehicles as part of the fundraiser.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Fourth of July celebration another tremendous success. It truly was the biggest and best fireworks show we've ever had. We appreciate our talented pyrotechnics team and the Harrisburg Fire/Rescue volunteers, who started serving pancakes before dawn, finished the day with the fireworks show, and then remained on duty throughout the night responding to emergency calls.

We also thank the many volunteers who helped clean up after the celebration, the Harrisburg Community Fourth of July Committee for organizing another outstanding event, and our Public Works crew, who worked extra hard this year despite being short-staffed. They set up barricades, no-parking signs, and trash containers, worked throughout the event, handled cleanup afterward, and then immediately began preparing the grounds for the Harvest Festival. Finally, thank you to our residents for welcoming the thousands of visitors who come to Harrisburg each year to celebrate America's birthday. We think it's done right here in Harrisburg.

Recently, many people have been discussing the growing use of e-bikes, scooters, and electric skateboards among children and adults. If you'd like to learn more about Oregon's rules for these vehicles, visit the city's guide at https://www.ci.harrisburg.or.us/community/page/oregon-moped-motorized-scooters-and-pocket-bike-guide. While I miss seeing kids pedaling bicycles all over town in the summer, these new forms of transportation are increasingly common, so it's important for everyone to understand the rules and stay safe.

David K. Hansen
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COMMUNITY VOICES

A Visit from Anne

By Zane Goodwin, Guest Contributor

Sometimes the most interesting stories don't begin with politics. They begin with a knock on the door.

A few days ago, I mailed several handwritten letters to Halsey residents, encouraging them to consider running for City Council. Anne Sunday, who serves on the Halsey Planning Commission, was among those I wrote to.

The candidate filing period is now open, and I honestly don't know who will decide to run. To me, the value of an election isn't just about who wins or loses. It's about the conversations that begin, the neighbors who reconnect, and the opportunity for people to become more involved in their community.

Anne responded in the most neighborly way possible — she stopped by the house.

I expected we'd spend most of our time discussing the upcoming election. Instead, I received a lesson about my own home.

Anne pointed out that one of the interior walls hadn't always been there. She remembered when the kitchen cabinets were replaced. She even knew about the hidden attic entrance — a small opening concealed inside a built-in cabinet that you have to climb into, step up several feet, and pull yourself into the attic. It isn't something a casual visitor would ever discover, yet she knew exactly where it was.

She remembered the previous owners as well. He had worked in concrete and once lived here. She told me that his daughter now lives in Corvallis. Later, a new owner bought the house and rented it out. She said they still live in Brownsville.

At one point, Anne mentioned that her property has a marker identifying it as the center of town, another reminder that pieces of Halsey's history are still preserved by those who have lived here for generations.

The conversation wandered from old houses to old neighbors and eventually to life in a small town. We laughed about how, in Halsey, conversations about "crime" can sometimes involve kids riding lawnmowers or electric bicycles around town. It wasn't meant to suggest that nothing ever goes wrong here. It simply reflected the kind of place where neighbors still know one another well enough to smile at everyday life.

My wife and I had discussed driving to Springfield for dinner and a movie that evening, but neither of us was very enthusiastic about the plan.

Instead, we spent the evening on our front porch, talking with a neighbor.

By the time Anne left, we'd talked less about the election than about the history of a house and the people who made this community what it is.

It was a reminder that while maps, records, and archives tell part of a town's story, some of its richest history still lives in the memories of neighbors willing to share it.

Sometimes the best evening isn't found by going out to dinner and a movie outside of town. Sometimes it's found by staying home and getting to know the people who have been there all along.

Editor's Note: Halsey voters will elect a mayor and three City Council members in the November 2026 election. The nonpartisan volunteer positions are open for candidate filing through 4 p.m. Aug. 25. Candidate packets are available at Halsey City Hall and on the city's website at https://www.halseyor.gov/government/mayor___city_council/elections.php.

HALSEY CITY COUNCIL & PLANNING COMMISSION

Conditional Use Permit Approved for Home-Based Auto Repair Business

The Halsey Planning Commission unanimously approved a conditional use permit June 10, allowing Derek and Melody Woodruff to operate a small home-based auto repair and detailing business from their existing shop at 480 W. J St., while reserving additional space in the building for a future commercial tenant.

The public hearing centered on whether the proposed commercial use was compatible with the surrounding residential neighborhood. City Planning Consultant Dave Kinney explained that although the property is zoned residential, the shop has a long history of commercial use dating back to the 1980s. Because the property changed ownership from a utility-related business to a private owner, the prior commercial use no longer automatically applied, requiring the Woodruffs to obtain a conditional use permit. The proposal did not include any structural additions or exterior changes to the existing building.

During the hearing, Derek Woodruff told commissioners that the first two shop bays would be used for family storage and a small vehicle repair and detailing business, primarily serving family and friends, as he works full time elsewhere. He said he has not yet identified a tenant for the remaining west side of the building. No written or verbal testimony was submitted in support of or in opposition to the application.

Commissioners discussed potential impacts, including noise and lighting. Melody Woodruff said most repair work involving air compressors, impact tools, and drills would occur inside the enclosed shop, with minimal outdoor activity. She added that the business would primarily operate in the evenings and on Saturdays.

Commissioner Anne Sunday raised concerns about a bright exterior light that she said impairs visibility for westbound traffic on J Street. Commissioner Ken Lorenson noted that Halsey has lighting standards requiring fixtures to direct light downward and recommended adding a lighting requirement as a condition of approval. Commissioners also discussed what would happen if the building were destroyed or the home were rented in the future. Kinney explained that a rebuilt structure would be allowed within one year under the current permit, while any longer delay or significant changes would require the property to revert to residential use. He also clarified that the conditional use permit would remain tied to the residence and could not be separated without additional city approval.

After a brief deliberation, Commissioner Anne Sunday moved to approve the permit, including the staff's recommended conditions and the additional lighting requirement. Commissioner Ken Lorenson seconded the motion, and the commission voted unanimously in favor. The hearing adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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HALSEY CITY COUNCIL

Utility Rates, Budget Approved at June Halsey Council Meeting

HALSEY — The Halsey City Council approved the city's 2026–27 budget, adopted utility rate increases, and addressed a variety of community issues during its June 9 meeting.

Three public hearings were held before the budget and rate increases were approved. During public testimony, Anne Sunday and Shawn Johnson expressed concerns that higher utility bills would place an additional burden on residents, particularly seniors and those on fixed incomes. Michael Wells submitted written comments in support of the increases.

The approved monthly increases include a $2.50 increase in the base water rate, small increases in higher water-use tiers, a $1.40 residential sewer increase, a $2 increase in the base commercial sewer rate, and a 50-cent increase in stormwater rates. City Administrator Briana Parra said the increases are needed to address aging water and sewer infrastructure and to prepare for future maintenance and unexpected repairs.

Linn County Sheriff's Sgt. Frambes reported that deputies responded to 119 complaints and incidents in May, issued six traffic warnings and two citations, investigated one crash, and made two arrests. He also discussed concerns about e-bikes and other small electric vehicles, noting operators generally must be at least 16 years old and that e-bikes belong in bike lanes rather than on sidewalks, where city code prohibits them. Riders can be cited for driving under the influence because e-bikes are considered vehicles under Oregon law. Frambes also updated the council on reports of youths riding lawn mowers on city streets, saying the youths and their parents were cooperative and the issue appears to have been resolved.

During citizen comments, Zane Goodwin submitted written concerns about the proposed H Street paving project, questioning whether the potential impacts on the historic Koontz House had received the required review under the city's development code. He asked the council to pause the project until the review process is clarified. Goodwin also submitted a second comment on council appointments and term structure but later withdrew it after discussing the matter with Mayor Jerry Lachenbruch.

Council members also agreed not to aggressively enforce sidewalk repair requirements for adjacent property owners at this time. Instead, enforcement will focus on vegetation obstructing sidewalks while the city develops an inventory of sidewalk locations and conditions.

The council unanimously adopted the 2026–27 budget, approved the resolutions needed to receive state shared revenues, adopted the updated fee schedule reflecting utility rate changes, accepted a $5,000 CIS Oregon grant for a sewer inspection camera, and appropriated $2,275 in Book-IT 5K donations to support Halsey Public Library programs. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

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BROWNSVILLE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Fairy Tales Meet Real-World Science This July

By Eva Wada, Assistant Librarian

Can magic and science go together? The Brownsville Community Library is proving they can with two Summer Reading Program events that blend imagination and nature.

Young readers can begin their adventure with "The Tiptoe Guide to Tracking Fairies" by Ammi-Joan Paquette, an interactive picture book that pairs real nature photography with whimsical illustrations, inviting children to search for signs of woodland magic in their own backyards.

On Thursday, July 16, from 4–5 p.m., children are invited to create their own miniature fairy or gnome gardens as part of the library's Let's Make Fairy or Gnome Gardens program.

The magic continues the following week with a closer look at nature's real wonders. On Thursday, July 23, from 4–5 p.m., the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History will present Bee Amazed, where families can learn fascinating facts about honeybees and their role in the natural world.

Children will have access to a wide variety of craft supplies and recycled materials to create this week's Fairy and Gnome-themed hands-on activity for the Brownsville Library's Summer Reading Program.

Sarah Glenn, who has served as a coordinator for the Oregon Summer Reading Program in Brownsville for 16 years, led the kids' bike-safety education parade before the Bike Rodeo began on July 9.

Right: Librarian Sherri Lemhouse sports the 2026 "Plant a Seed, Read" Summer reading program t-shirt for Brownsville Library volunteers.

PHOTOS: EVA WADA

Did you know honeybees flap their wings about 200 times per second? They also communicate through a special waggle dance and visit nearly 2 million flowers to produce a pound of honey.

To add a little laughter to summer reading, here's a bee joke to share:

Q: What kind of grades does a hard-working bee get at school?

A: Mostly straight A's and Bees!

As children continue reading this summer, don't forget to bring weekly reading logs to the Brownsville Community Library to enter them in the weekly prize drawing and pick up a new log sheet. Every book opens the door to another adventure — whether it's filled with fairies, bees, or both.

The Brownsville Community Library invited local children to the Bike Rodeo obstacle course drawn in chalk on Park Ave on July 9.

Brownsville Rural Fire Department was on site for the educational portion of the Bike Rodeo. Kids answered questions about fire and water safety with resident Joe Kirk.

Library volunteer Carol Humphreys helped a local mom by holding baby Freida in the shade as siblings stood in line to spray the fire hose behind the Brownsville Community Library.

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.

The Page Turners Book Club
Wednesday, July 15 • 7 p.m. • Kirk Room

Summer Reading Program 'Plant a Seed, Read'
Through July 31 • 4–5 p.m. except July 31 • FREE

Brownsville Community Library's summer reading program features weekly activities, special presentations, and prizes for readers. Bring weekly reading logs to enter weekly prize drawings.

- July 16 — Let's Make Fairy or Gnome Gardens
- July 23 — University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History presents "Bee Amazed,"
- July 30 — Going to Seed at the Library and the 3rd Annual Stuffed Animal Sleepover
- July 31 — Story Time and stuffed animal pickup 11 a.m.–noon.

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
146 Spaulding Ave., Brownsville • 541-466-5454
https://www.brownsvillecommunitylibrary.org
https://www.facebook.com/BVORLibrary

HARRISBURG LIBRARY CALENDAR

Tiny Tots Story Time
Wednesdays • 11 a.m. • Ages 0–3

Friday Storytime & Activity
Fridays • 10 a.m. • Ages 4 and up

Adult Craft Night Out
Thursdays • 4–6 p.m. • 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, through August 7 • 10 a.m. • FREE
Family-friendly activities, storytimes, crafts, and educational presentations. Supplies for some activities are limited.

- July 17 — Honey bee presentation by Ethan from Honey Bee Apiary
- July 24 — Nature Walk Scavenger Hunt and wildflower seed scatter
- July 31 — Storytime and Make-and-Take Seed Bombs
- Aug. 7 — Carnival

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.

Connect with the Library
354 Smith St., Harrisburg • 541-995-6949
https://www.ci.harrisburg.or.us/library
https://www.facebook.com/HarrisburgOregonLibrary

HALSEY LIBRARY CALENDAR

Summer Reading Program 'Plant a Seed, Read'
Saturdays, July 11 to August 8

This year's theme aligns with the launch of our Pollinator Garden and our much-loved Seed Library. Here's what's on the schedule so far.

- July 18 – Planting Party
- July 25 – To be Announced
- August 1 – Museum of Natural and Cultural History
- August 8 – Ice Cream Party!

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

Connect with the Library
773 W 1st, Halsey • 541-369-2705
https://www.halseyor.gov/library
https://www.facebook.com/HalseyLibrary

HALSEY PARKS & LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Summer Reading, Library Resources Take Center Stage

By Mikayle Stole, Editor

During its June 18 meeting, the Halsey Parks & Library Committee covered a range of projects, including the upcoming Summer Reading Program, future library resources, and park improvements, before taking a two-month summer break.

Committee members finalized plans for the Summer Reading Program, discussing volunteer availability and strategies to encourage participation. The group agreed to continue offering small weekly prizes and to add raffles for larger prizes, with separate drawings for different age groups. Participants will earn raffle tickets each week they attend the program. Members also suggested reminding children to turn in their reading logs weekly and creating a colorful display that shows the community's cumulative reading progress throughout the summer.

The committee also highlighted the library's Oregon State Parks Pass program. The library currently has one pass available for checkout, enabling patrons to explore Oregon's state parks. To complement the program, the library has ordered additional books on outdoor recreation and summer activities and is seeking recommendations for more family-friendly titles, such as hiking guides and activity books.

Members continued discussing the expansion of the library's growing "Library of Things," a collection of items available for checkout beyond traditional books. Suggested additions included pressure washers, weed whackers, pruning kits, camping equipment, life jackets, yard games, sewing machines, drills, stud finders, and soil testers. The committee reported that donation requests for some tools have already been submitted to local hardware stores and that it is awaiting responses. Members also discussed reaching out to emergency service agencies about life jacket donations and recommended conducting a community survey to help prioritize future purchases while considering available storage space.

Library staff also announced that Librarian Kaitlyn has registered as a bee advocate with Oregon State University Extension and will begin sharing pollinator education materials with library patrons.

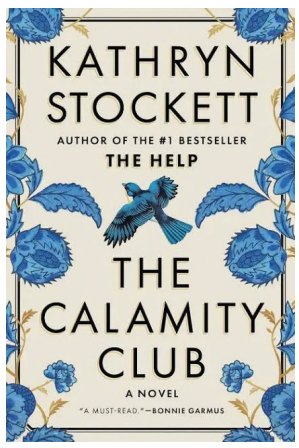
On the parks side, the committee reported that the latest park improvement project is complete. Attention is now shifting to planning an end-of-summer community barbecue. Members also noted that annual flowers have recently been planted beneath the park sign and hope to transition the area to native plants and perennials through future volunteer work parties.

The committee announced it will pause its regular meetings in July and August while volunteers focus on the library's Summer Reading Program.

BOOKS TO CONSIDER

A Sweeping Tale of Friendship and Survival

By Nancy Diltz, Staff Writer and Columnist



Where do I begin? You may have noticed all the attention "The Calamity Club" has received since its release in May 2026. Truly, it is an amazing book. For me, it was a must-read because the author, Kathryn Stockett, wrote one of my favorites, "The Help," in 2009, which later became a movie starring Emma Stone, Octavia Spencer, and Viola Davis in 2011. "The Calamity Club" is well-written, with characters you feel you really know and events that keep drawing you back in. At 638 pages, it has a section or two that lag a bit; however, I enjoyed the characters so much that it never disappointed me.

According to an article on pleasereadittome.com, "Stockett is a genuinely skilled storyteller who understands how to build a world, populate it with people you care about, and keep you turning pages..." and "What Stockett is really writing about is found family — the particular kind that forms between people who have been failed by every official structure meant to support them. In that respect, she delivers in spades. For as heavy as this novel can be at times, you leave it feeling hopeful and happy."

The plot includes mature topics that I personally think place the book at about a "PG-16" rating. All that said, I found "The Calamity Club" to be a story I had trouble putting down. The themes bounced between poverty and wealth, family loyalty and family destruction, and how far a person will go out of sheer desperation.

Set in Mississippi in the 1930s, the backdrop includes Prohibition, the Great Depression, and ingrained racism in the Deep South. The characters endure oppressive weather and a lack of food and basic necessities required for a healthy life. The author makes the reader feel just what that must have been like for these women in Oxford, Mississippi, and it was truly rough.

If I did not know how to begin this, I sure don't know how to end it, except to say that the book's ending brought me to tears. Available at the Brownsville Library.

JEFFERSON LIBRARY CALENDAR

Storytime
Wednesdays • 11:30 a.m. • Ages 0–6
Stories, songs, and early literacy activities for young children and caregivers.

Robotics
First Saturdays • 10 a.m.–2 p.m. • Ages 10–18
Explore coding and robotics through hands-on projects.

All Ages Craft Day
Second Saturdays • 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Dungeons & Dragons/ Game Day
Third Saturdays • noon–4p.m. • All ages and experiences

Upcoming June and July Events
- July 16 — Red Yarn performance, 12:30 p.m.
- July 23 — Bee Amazed presentation, 12:30 p.m.

Library Hours: Closed Sun, Mon, Fri
Tue-Thu 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Sat 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Connect with the Library
150 N 2nd St., STE B • 541-327-3826
https://jeffersonpubliclibrary.org
https://www.facebook.com/JeffersonOregonPublicLibrary
info@jeffersonpubliclibrary.org

SCIO LIBRARY CALENDAR

Tiny Tots Story Time
Tuesdays • 9:30–10:30 a.m. • Ages 0–6
Scio Fire District Community Room, 38975 SW 6th Ave.
Stories, songs, finger-plays,crafts, and free play time.

Summer Reading Club 'Plant a Seed, Read'
Thursdays, July 9 to August 13 • 12:30 p.m.
ZCBJ Hall, 38704 S. Main St., Scio
Weekly educational and interactive presentations for children and families.
- July 16 — Create a Fairy Garden (pre-register)
- July 23 — Make Music with Matt
- **Monday, July 27** — OMSI presents "Going Batty!" (pre-register); sessions at 10:30 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.)
- Aug. 6 — Museum of Natural and Cultural History presents "Bee Amazed!"
- Aug. 13 — The Oregon Reptile Man

Library Hours: Closed Sat–Sun.
Mon–Thu 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; Fri 9 a.m.–Noon

Connect with the Library
38982 SE 2nd Ave., Scio • 503-394-3342
https://www.scioregon.gov/library

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BROWNSVILLE ATHLETICS HAYMAKERS BASEBALL

Players Show Growth, Determination Throughout Season

By Sharon K. Banks, Staff Writer and Columnist

Brownsville Athletics' baseball season was defined by growth, determination, and teamwork as players embraced tougher competition while building skills that will serve them both on and off the field.

For seventh- and eighth-grade coach Kyle Koontz, the season marked an important transition as players moved from smaller youth fields to regulation baseball dimensions while facing stronger competition.

"Our team had great promise and potential," Koontz said. "We had the opportunity to win almost every game. In many of our losses, it came down to one or two tough innings."

Koontz said the jump to full-size baseball requires players to master advanced strategies, defensive rotations and situational play while adapting to a faster pace and smaller margin for error.

One of the season's most memorable games came against the league's undefeated, top-ranked team. After trailing 9-1, Brownsville Athletics rallied to take the lead before the game ended in a tie.

"The boys never let up," Koontz said. "Learning to play from behind and overcome adversity is one of the hardest things to learn."

Koontz believes one of baseball's greatest lessons is learning how to handle failure.

"Baseball is a game of failure," he said. "Even the best Major League Baseball players fail more than 70 percent of the time. Learning to have a short memory and move on quickly is one of the most important things young athletes can learn."

Throughout the season, Koontz watched his players grow not only in their baseball skills but also in confidence, resilience, and mental toughness. He also praised longtime assistant coach Robert Strauss for his years of dedication to the program.

Jack Martinez swings at a pitch during a Brownsville Haymakers game this season.

"His knowledge, experience and dedication to the boys has been invaluable," Koontz said.

Minor American coach Andrew Kinder shared a similar perspective, saying coaching youth sports is about much more than wins and losses.

"Coaching these boys in a highly competitive environment has been such a highlight for me and my family," Kinder said. "It's about teaching baseball while helping them develop life skills they'll carry into adulthood."

Kinder said he was proud of the way his players handled challenges, supported one another, and competed throughout the season.

Brownsville Athletics also thanked the Central Linn School District for providing access to its athletic facilities, the City of Halsey for use of its baseball field, and the many sponsors, volunteers and families whose support makes youth baseball possible. The program hopes to return to its home field in Brownsville next season and encourages the community to continue supporting its young athletes.

MINOR BROWNSVILLE HAYMAKERS BASEBALL

Haymakers Walk Off West Albany in Season Finale

By Sharon K. Banks, Staff Writer and Columnist

HALSEY — The Brownsville Haymakers third- and fourth-grade JBO Minor American team ended its season in dramatic fashion Tuesday, July 7, defeating West Albany 13–12 on a walk-off single at Halsey Memorial Park.

The game was tied at 12 in the bottom of the fifth inning when Titus Koontz singled to center field, bringing home his younger brother, Adley Koontz, for the game-winning run.

The high-scoring game featured plenty of offense from both teams. The Haymakers collected 10 hits, while West Albany finished with 11.

Leland Pope stole home in the bottom of the first inning to tie the game at 1–1. West Albany answered in the top of the second, scoring five runs on three hits to take a 6–1 lead. The biggest hit of the inning was a two-run single by Rogue.

The Haymakers responded with five runs on four hits in the bottom of the second. Grayson Hostetler doubled to score one run, Bodie Francis singled to bring in another, Titus Koontz added an RBI single, and Colt Craven singled to drive in two more runs.

West Albany regained the lead, 7–6, in the top of the third on a single by Nash.

Coen K. came through in the bottom of the third, doubling to center field on the sixth pitch of the at-bat to tie the game at 7.

West Albany again pulled ahead in the top of the fourth, scoring five runs on five hits to take a 12–7 lead. A two-run single by Lucas was the biggest blow of the inning.

Trailing 12–7 entering the bottom of the fifth, the Haymakers rallied for six runs, capped by Titus Koontz's walk-off single to center field that scored Adley Koontz.

CENTRAL LINN HIGH SCHOOL

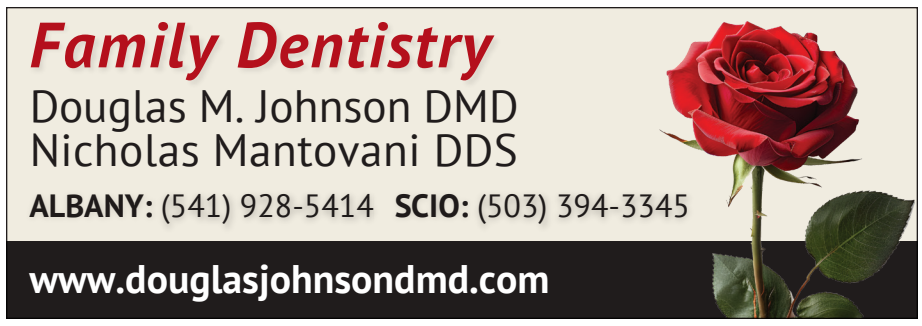
Free Sports Physicals and Early Registration Set for Aug. 7

Central Linn High School will host free sports physicals for student-athletes on Friday, Aug. 7, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Physicals will be available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Central Linn High School, 32433 Hwy 228, Halsey. The event also offers families the opportunity to complete early sports registration for the upcoming school year.

Students unable to attend on Aug. 7 will have another opportunity to register for sports at the Back-to-School Jamboree on Aug. 18.

The free physicals and registration are intended to help student-athletes prepare for the fall sports season before practices start.



Fun Summer Knights Through Aug. 2

By Nancy Diltz, Staff Writer and Columnist

CORVALLIS — If you're looking for an affordable summer evening of baseball, great food, and family fun, consider catching a Corvallis Knights game before the season wraps up on Aug. 2.

As a longtime baseball fan, I've enjoyed games in professional ballparks across the country. I wasn't sure what to expect from collegiate summer baseball, but I came away impressed. The level of play was exciting, the crowd was energetic, and the atmosphere felt like what a summer ballgame should be. With enthusiastic fans, ringing cowbells, and close competition, it was easy to get caught up in the fun.

The Knights feature top collegiate players from around the country, many of whom are being scouted by Major League Baseball organizations as they continue to develop their careers.

Several themed nights remain on the schedule, including Strike Out Cancer Night on July 19, Seinfeld Night on July 22, Salute to Service Night on July 29, Star Wars Night on Aug. 1, and Fan Appreciation Night on Aug. 2.

NANCY DILTZ

The Corvallis Knights mascot and visiting mascots entertain fans between innings at Goss Stadium during a Knights home game.

Home games are held at Goss Stadium on the Oregon State University campus. Tickets typically range from $10 to $20, with reserved bucket seats closer to the field and general admission bench seating farther away. For the best selection and pricing, purchase tickets directly from the official Knights website rather than through third-party ticket sellers.

Fans with mobility concerns should review ADA seating options before purchasing tickets. Some lower seating sections have narrow aisles, which can make entering and exiting more difficult. Protective netting is in place to shield spectators from foul balls and broken bats.

No ballgame is complete without good food, and the Knights deliver. Multiple concession stands offer everything from popcorn and peanuts to burgers, drinks, and local favorites. My recommendation? Save room for the ice cream — it's worth the trip.

During the game I attended, I met fans from across the Mid-Willamette Valley, including Brownsville. Whether you're a lifelong baseball enthusiast or simply looking for a fun outdoor evening with family and friends, the Corvallis Knights offer an enjoyable summer experience close to home.

For tickets, schedules, and promotions, visit https://corvallisknights.com.

Kaleidoscope Colors Cover Corvallis City Streets

By Eva Wada, Assistant Editor

CORVALLIS — There is no denying that Corvallis thrives on its own vibrant, community-driven energy. That is why the Graand Kinetic Challenge is such a highly anticipated free summer event — and yes, that double "a" is completely intentional and in honor of founder Raan Young. The 33rd annual race takes place on July 18–19, celebrating local ingenuity under this year's theme, "Kaleidoscope Colors." Whether you are competing, volunteering, or watching from the sidelines, you are encouraged to embrace the entire rainbow and then some.

On Saturday, the action begins at 10 a.m. at OSU's PRAx center, where onlookers can view the fantastical art installations before judges evaluate the engineering and costumes. At 12:15 p.m., racers sprint to their creative vehicles to compete on city streets and navigate the OSU campus. As if that's not enough, they will then tackle the grueling Sand Dune Challenge at the Benton County Fairgrounds before looping back to the university.

: DA VINCI DAYS

On Sunday, the intensity kicks into high gear at 10 a.m. at Crystal Lake Sports Park. Teams must push, pull, or drag their giant creations through the thick muck of the Mud Bog Challenge. From there, the race heads through Avery Park to the waterfront for the weekend's grand finale: splashing into the Willamette River to float and paddle downstream without sinking, before crossing the final finish line at Riverfront Commemorative Park. Spectators can follow the 16-mile route from multiple vantage points, though it is wise to arrive early at the mud and water features, as those locations consistently attract the biggest crowds.

COURTESY: DA VINCI DAYS

Partnering with OSU's STEM Research Center, the 2026 Graand Kinetic Challenge includes a new, da Vinci Days-inspired companion festival called "Corvallis Kaleidoscope," featuring live music and hands-on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) activities on Saturday. After more than 30 years, this challenge proves that the best innovations happen when you mix engineering, art, and a total lack of fear when it comes to getting dirty.

RALLY *continued from cover*

Over the past 10 years, Rally on the River has become a favorite summer tradition for participants and local residents alike, bringing visitors to Brownsville while celebrating a slower pace of camping, craftsmanship, and community.

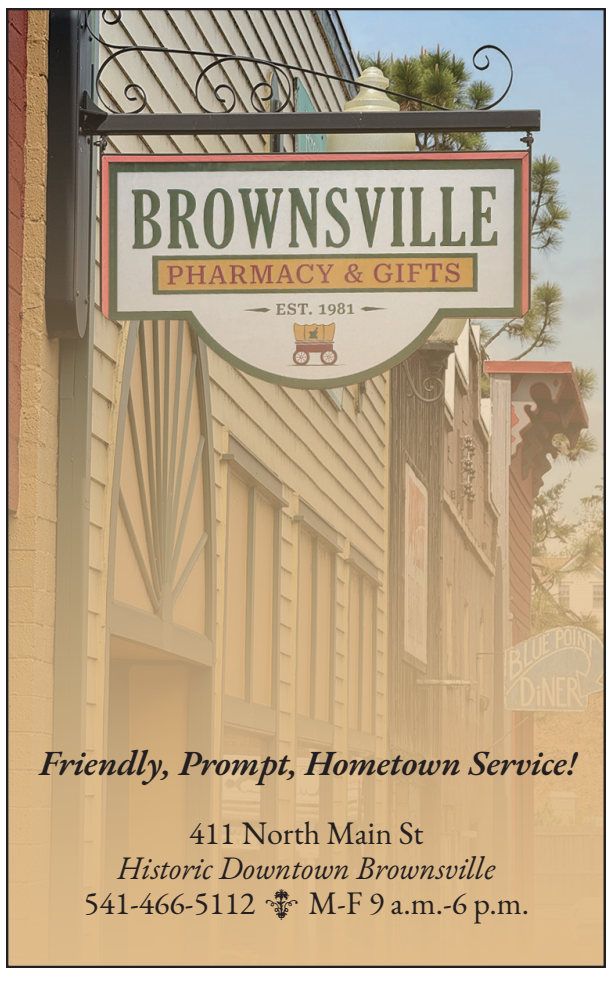
The Rally on the River open house is free and open to the public. Visitors are asked to respect participants' campsites and enjoy the trailers during the designated open house hours.

For more information, visit https://www.rallyontherivervintagetrailers.com.

MIKAYLE STOLE

Rally participants often welcome visitors into their restored vintage trailers during the annual public open house, sharing albums of their restoration process and the history and stories behind their rolling homes.

MIKAYLE STOLE



Brownsville Honors Milestone Fourth

By Eva Wada, Assistant Editor

BROWNSVILLE — From as far away as Tennessee to right here in Pioneer Park, friends and neighbors braved the blazing sun last weekend for a truly memorable Fourth of July in Brownsville.

"Shout out to the Brownsville firefighters and to all the community members who put on the 4th of July celebration this weekend," said attendee Scott Lawrence. The festivities kicked off early at Pioneer Park with the annual pancake breakfast hosted by the Brownsville Rural Fire Department. Lawrence continued, "My son was so excited watching you guys flip the flapjacks in the air from the grill onto plates on Saturday morning."

The local tradition was especially sweet for 30-year volunteer Christie Locke, who celebrated her 79th birthday while serving a record-breaking line of hungry attendees. Every stack of pancakes served directly raised vital funds to support the evening's grand finale.

By 11 a.m., the heat was rising, but so was the excitement as Connect Linn County and Lebanon Cars & Coffee co-hosted the afternoon community car show, featuring pride-and-joy classic, custom, and sports vehicles. Among the unique entries was Albany local Nolan Streitberger, who proudly noted that his rugged Gambler 500 rig, named "The Bull," was the first HooptieX car.

Under the late-afternoon sun, attendees were drawn in two directions across Pioneer Park. The scent of Cherry Rings wafted from Ginny's Pastry Shack on the sports fields, and performers, including the Shane Brown Trio, Randy Nicholson, and Mike Opperman, strummed toe-tapping tunes from the stage. The 250th anniversary of our nation's independence created a picture-perfect scene of relaxed country bliss, as little girls twirled in their best red, white, and blue outfits under the summer sun, men tossed patriotic footballs, and families headed to the river with arms full of floats adorned with stars and stripes.

The perfect finale to a brilliant day arrived at dusk. To keep a sweet tradition alive, free ice cream was handed out from the back of a red fire department truck to kids 12 and under. To mark the nation's semiquincentennial, the Brownsville Rural Fire District topped all previous years with a spectacular, professionally coordinated fireworks display that lit up the Oregon night sky. Kyle Kirsch, owner of SK Productions, expertly crafted a drone video with an eagle-eye view of the pyrotechnics, which is worth checking out on YouTube at SK-Productions777.

A huge thank you goes to all the sponsors, vendors, performers, and volunteers who helped make the Fourth of July in Brownsville such a memorable one!

Christie Locke has run the cash register for 30 years at the Brownsville Rural Fire Department's annual Pancake Breakfast. Her niece, Christine Hooper (right), traveled from Tennessee to celebrate the holiday and Locke's 79th birthday.

Virginia Evans of Ginny's Pastry Shack said, "My great-grandma started this tradition of making cherry rings a hundred years ago."

Eva Wada, the newly hired assistant at what was once called The Brownsville Times, wears her T-shirt and badge to inform the crowd that the local newspaper now has a new name.

Regan Ross, Ashlyn Fontanos, and Lily Dalebout volunteered with smiles, helping parents sign up their children for CONNECT Linn County's free inflatable activities.

Phoenix Bullock of Lebanon proudly stated, "My Jeep Cherokee XJ is good for my outdoor life of horses and off-roading." First produced in 1984, the Cherokee XJ is widely considered one of the most iconic SUVs of all time.

Randy Nicholson and his band entertained the crowd in front of signs honoring USA heroes as the musical lineup kicked off early Saturday evening.

The early bird didn't get the worm but secured a prime spot at the CONNECT Linn County and Lebanon Cars & Coffee-hosted car show in Brownsville's Pioneer Park to showcase a custom-built Rat Rod pickup truck with vintage cargo.

LEFT: During the hottest hours of the day, families filled the banks of the Calapooia to cool off in the shade with friends.

Car enthusiasts relaxed and chatted at Brownsville's display-focused community showcase, where no winners were announced, but everyone felt admired and appreciated.

Fashionably late to the Car Show on Saturday, the Jeep Wrangler showcased massive mud tires as it crawled over rocks on the front lawn of Pioneer Park.

Three-Day Fourth of July Celebration Draws Crowds

By Mikayle Stole, Editor

HARRISBURG — Harrisburg celebrated Independence Day with three days of festivities, bringing residents and visitors together for history, hometown traditions, and family fun.

Saturday's celebration began with the Harrisburg Volunteer Firefighters Association's annual pancake breakfast before crowds gathered along Smith Street for the community's Fourth of July parade. This year's theme, "From Revolution to Celebration: 1776–2026," recognized America's 250th anniversary.

Leading the parade was a 1916 J.I. Case steam traction engine, a rare piece of agricultural history originally found in Pendleton. Still fully operational more than a century after it was built, the engine highlighted the role steam-powered machinery once played on farms throughout the Pacific Northwest.

At 11:37 a.m., spectators paused and looked skyward as the roar of two F-15 fighter jets from the Portland-based 142nd Wing of the Oregon Air National Guard echoed over downtown. Although low clouds prevented anyone from seeing the aircraft, the flyover was still marked by the unmistakable sound of the jets overhead.

The parade featured more than 200 entries, including antique tractors, classic and sports cars from multiple car clubs, community organizations, local businesses, equestrian groups and patriotic floats. Crowd favorites included the Harrisburg High School state champion wrestling team cooling spectators with water squirters, the whimsical Big Banana Car, a Bumblebee-themed Camaro, and Comunidad Latina performers demonstrating trick roping while riders showcased the precision and grace of their dancing horses.

Throughout Saturday, visitors browsed a bustling vendor marketplace near the park and gazebo. One of the featured attractions nearby was Ray Brown's rare Sons of Liberty exhibit, which included reproductions of the nation's founding documents and artifacts highlighting the events leading to American independence. Brown shared the history behind the Declaration of Independence, including the Lee Resolution, approved on July 2, 1776, which officially declared the colonies independent before the Declaration was adopted two days later.

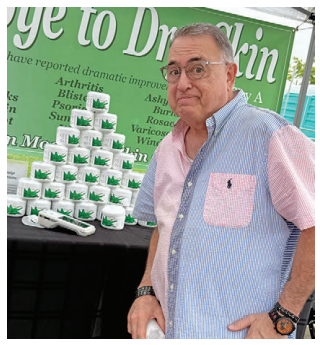
The celebration continued with live entertainment, food vendors, family activities and an evening fireworks display over the Willamette River.

The holiday weekend concluded Sunday with the Show & Shine at the 99 Grill, where classic vehicles were on display while DJ Jedidiah Flatt provided music. Visitors also enjoyed a hula hoop contest and limbo competition, bringing another successful Harrisburg Fourth of July celebration to a close.

See More Photos Online: Additional photos from Harrisburg's Fourth of July celebration, including the parade, vendor marketplace, pancake breakfast and other weekend activities, are available in a photo album on The Times of the Central Willamette Valley Facebook page at https://bit.ly/4yiAytY.

Marissa holds Hazel as they prepare to watch the parade.

Sandy Giles greets visitors at "the gallery." where she displayed a collection of her original artwork.



One of the most enthusiastic vendors in the marketplace demonstrates aloe-based products for visitors, adding plenty of personality to the bustling vendor area.

Clint of Santiam Sound flashes a peace sign while celebrating along the Harrisburg Fourth of July parade route in patriotic attire.

The front view of the restored 1916 Case steam traction engine showcases the machine's distinctive boiler, smokestack, and patriotic decorations before the start of the Fourth of July parade.

Members of the Harrisburg High School JROTC raise the American flag to commemorate the day at the Harrisburg Fire Station.

Magnuson Dental rolled through the parade with a festive float featuring patriotic inflatables, dancers, and bubbles.

Parade announcer Al Severson introduces entries as they make their way through downtown Harrisburg during the Fourth of July parade.

Harrisburg Fire & Rescue Capt. Mike Hurd serves fresh pancakes during the annual Fourth of July Pancake Breakfast, a longtime tradition that raises funds for the Harrisburg Volunteer Firefighter Association.

Anita McLure (left) and Melody Smith show off their red, white, and blue attire after breakfast.

Luna stays cozy wrapped in a blanket while waiting for the parade to start.

Jayden and Kayla celebrate Independence Day in festive patriotic outfits.

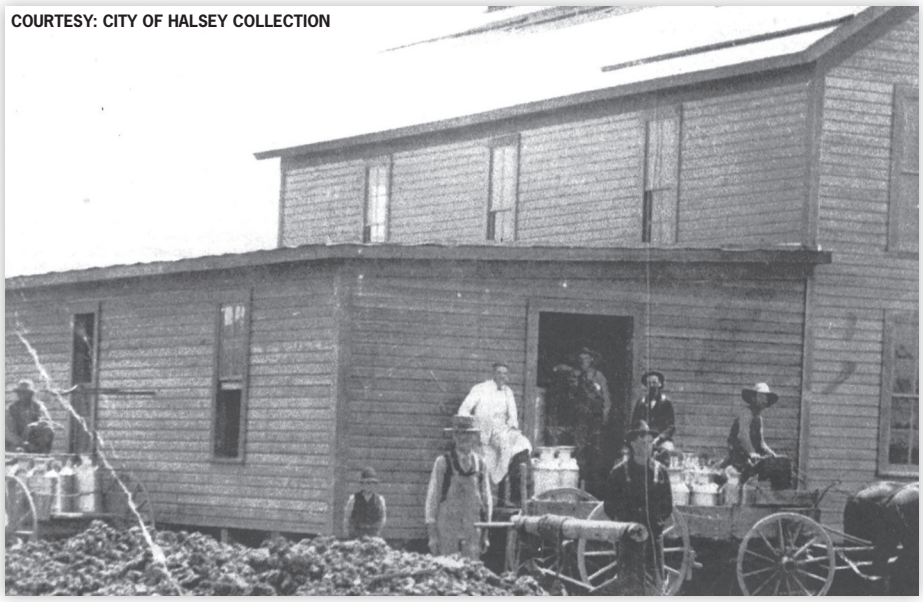
Ray Brown explains the evolution of the nation's founding documents and several historic editions of the Declaration of Independence.

150 Years of Halsey – The 1903 Fire

By Larissa Gangle, Halsey Correspondent

HALSEY — On the afternoon of July 31, 1903, the community of Halsey experienced the most devastating disaster in its history — a fire that reduced nearly the entire downtown along West First Street to ashes within hours.

The fire began at the J.L. Bishur Creamery, and flames quickly spread from one wooden building to the next. At the turn of the 20th century, nearly every commercial structure in Halsey was wooden, and without modern firefighting equipment, there was little anyone could do to stop the blaze.



COURTESY: CITY OF HALSEY COLLECTION

J.L. Bishur Creamery, where the July 1903 fire began, leading to the destruction of nearly Halsey's entire downtown business district.

Residents rushed into the streets to save what they could. Merchants carried merchandise, ledgers, and family belongings onto the sidewalks while neighbors formed bucket brigades in a desperate attempt to slow the fire.

Word of the disaster spread quickly, and the City of Albany loaded its fire engine and about 100 volunteers onto a train headed for Halsey. Sadly, by the time they arrived, the flames had already consumed most of the downtown.

More than two dozen businesses, warehouses, and commercial buildings were destroyed. Among them was the Cross and Powers hardware and tin shop, a longtime Halsey business that had served the community throughout the 1890s.

Businesses immediately began planning to rebuild. The disaster also underscored the need for organized fire protection, leading to the creation of Halsey's volunteer fire department — a tradition of community service that continues more than a century later.

Today, it is hard to imagine the devastation that unfolded on that summer afternoon in 1903. The buildings have changed, the streets have evolved, and generations have come and gone, yet the resilience of those early residents helped shape the Halsey we know today.

Brownsville Woolen Mill Lives on in Salem

By Donald Lyon, Staff Writer and Columnist

SALEM — A visitor would be surprised to read the signboard a few yards east of the Linn County Historical Museum in Brownsville and learn that the tiny stream in front of them had once powered a grist mill, a lumber mill, a door and sash mill, a tannery, and a woolen mill. That little stream was, in fact, a canal, the digging of which in 1858 heralded the rise of what would become an important industrial center in the Willamette Valley.

The Brownsville Woolen Mill was the town's largest employer, providing more than 50 good-paying jobs. Here, fleeces were cleaned, and wool was carded, spun, and woven into cloth. Saddle blankets were a specialty. It was a tragedy when, on March 2, 1955, the Woolen Mill burned to the ground. The three-story wooden structure was only partially insured, and the mill was never rebuilt. Its loss is often cited as the beginning of Brownsville's economic decline.

Besides the canal and its signboard, there are a few visible reminders that clue the observant urban archaeologist to Brownsville's industrial past. Spaulding Avenue was originally Mill Street and led east from the town center to the mill. When you come to Millhouse Street, you may hear the waterfall of the canal that powered the old woolen mill before you see it. You may come across Kay Street, named after Thomas Lister Kay, an English immigrant with several generations of weaving experience in his blood. He was hired as the Loom Boss in 1863 and became the Superintendent in 1875. In 1889, he struck out on his own and built his own woolen mill in Salem.

The brick Thomas Kay Woolen Mill was built in 1896 after the original wooden mill was destroyed by fire.

If you are curious about old woolen mills and wonder how fine woolen cloth was produced, what steps were required, and who did the work in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, consider a visit to the Willamette Heritage Center in Salem and reconnect with the past. The Center is on the grounds of Thomas Kay's Mill at 1313 Mill St. SE. Besides the Mill, the Dye House, and the Warehouse, three historic buildings are located here. The Mill is made of brick (Kay was no dummy), four stories high, with the mill race flowing in front. The spinning room contains elaborate machines sourced from other mills in the state. Weaving is still practiced on the fourth floor Textile Center by members of the Weaving Guild. The many stages of producing fine woolen cloth are explained on the self-guided tour.

Historic spinning frames transformed wool into yarn ready for weaving.

The Thomas Kay Warehouse now serves as the visitor center, gift shop, and restaurant at the Willamette Heritage Center.

The Linn County Historical Museum in Brownsville also has an informative display about the Brownsville Woolen Mill, including the old labels that tie Brownsville to the famed Pendleton Woolen Mills. Brownsville Library patrons are in luck. Library cardholders can check out passes for two free admissions to the Willamette Heritage Center. Pick up a pass at the library and discover how the legacy of the Brownsville Woolen Mill lives on in Salem.

PHOTOS: DONALD LYON

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Veterans Services Department is Assisting More Families

By Alex Paul,
Linn County Communications Officer

ALBANY — Linn County Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger, and Will Tucker were told Tuesday morning, July 7, that the Linn County Veterans Services Department assisted 84 new veterans or family members over the last three months.

Veterans Services Program Manager Dee Baley-Hyder said that brings the total number of new veterans being served over the past fiscal year to 351. Baley-Hyder explained that means new accounts were opened for the veterans who had not been assisted in the office before.

Baley-Hyder was pleased to tell the commissioners that her department has increased the total number of veterans and family members helped from 9,840 a year ago to 10,191 today.

Over the past fiscal year, the department has helped veterans recover $2,366,805 in tax-free money due to them. In the last quarter of the fiscal year alone, veterans received $695,772.

Commissioner Nyquist encouraged Baley-Hyder to continue reaching out to all Linn County veterans. He would like to see veterans receive all benefits due to them.

Baley-Hyder said that in April, staff members attended a CIT Resource Fair, which helps law enforcement officers learn about other local agencies such as the Veterans Department.

"This was a good way to connect with local police about what our office does," Baley-Hyder said in her written report. "And if there are any veterans they may come in contact with who may have questions about benefits they may be entitled to, they can send them to us, and we would be happy to help."

Staff also completed national accreditation with the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers. To maintain accreditation, veteran services officers must complete six training units annually and pass a certification test every two years.

The department participated in the Lebanon Strawberry Festival parade and will be at the Linn County Fair.

Have three hours to spare?

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Support Veterans Housing Project Through Aug. 2

ALBANY — Local residents can support a new affordable housing project for veterans by donating through the Carl's Jr. Stars for Heroes campaign through Aug. 2.

The Mid-Willamette Family Y Veterans Housing nonprofit has been selected as one of two local beneficiaries of the annual fundraising campaign, which also supports USA Cares and other organizations that assist active-duty military personnel, veterans, and their families.

Donations of $1 or more can be made at participating Carl's Jr. restaurants through Aug. 2.

Funds raised locally will support the Y Veterans Housing project, a 38-unit affordable apartment complex under construction in east Albany near the airport and Timber Linn Park. Scheduled for completion in spring 2027, the development will provide housing exclusively for veterans in need of affordable housing.

"We are thrilled to have the support of the local Carl's Jr. franchise for our Veterans Housing program," said Michael Aaron, a board member of the Mid-Willamette Family Y Veterans Housing nonprofit. "One hundred percent of the residents in our apartments will be veterans who need an affordable housing option to live a healthy life."

Over the past 14 years, the Stars for Heroes campaign has raised more than $13 million nationwide to support military families and veterans.

For more information on the local veterans' housing project, contact Michael Aaron at 541-905-3138.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed

By Jeff Brown, Staff Writer and Columnist

A few hours a week can make a world of difference to a neighbor in need.

The local Meals on Wheels program, serving Brownsville, Halsey, and Harrisburg, urgently seeks additional volunteers to help continue providing nutritious meals to elderly, disabled, and homebound residents across our communities.

Operated by a handful of dedicated volunteers, the program delivers enough food to last an entire week, including fresh meals and microwaveable frozen meals. For many recipients, the delivery is more than just food — it is a friendly visit, a reassuring check-in, and an important connection to the outside world.

Volunteer drivers are especially needed, but the time commitment is minimal. Meals are delivered only twice each week, and most drivers volunteer just one day per week. Additional help preparing meals for distribution is also welcome.

If you have ever considered volunteering, this is an opportunity to make a direct, meaningful impact on the lives of local residents. The need is real, and even a few hours of your time can help ensure this vital service continues.

For more information or to volunteer, call Kay at 541-466-5015.

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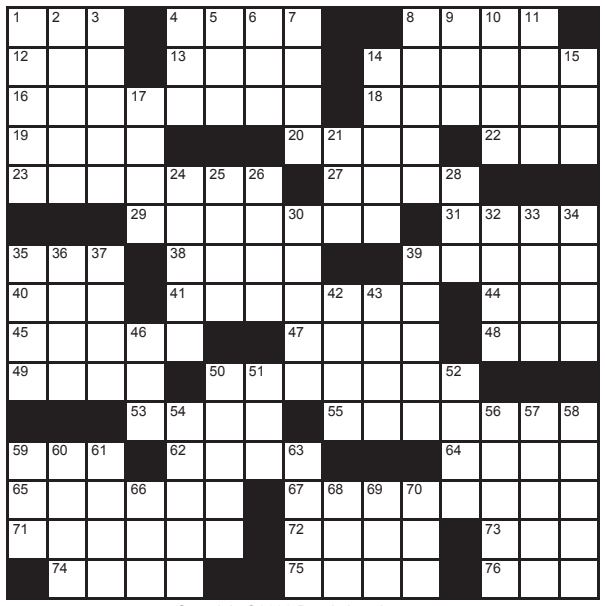

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ACROSS

1 Combat
4 Like some vases
8 Prompted
12 In the past
13 Venezuela copper center
14 Foray
16 Morning planets
18 Use a key
19 And others, for short
20 Desire
22 Maiden name
23 Brush up on a subject
27 Direction
29 Wishful thinker
31 Coarse file
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38 Sicilian city
39 ___-upper
40 "Alley ___!"
41 Child of another, at times
44 Compass heading
45 Plays a horn
47 Town in Calif. or Italy
48 Hog haven
49 Choir part
50 Make believe
53 Scarlett's home
55 Contestant
59 Stomach muscles, briefly
62 Camping gear
64 Food thickener
65 Venue
67 Headquarters
71 Clodhopper
72 Retired
73 Human race
74 Farm females
75 It can be barbed
76 Cockpit reading (Abbr.)

DOWN

1 Long-legged aquatic bird
2 Quartz variety
3 Palace dweller
4 Pad
5 A Gershwin
6 Neither's partner
7 Deep cut
8 Ice cream holders
9 WWW address
10 Collar type
11 Gaming cubes
14 Building caretaker
15 Barely get, with "out"
17 Coaster
21 Be in arrears
24 Bailiwicks
25 Rip apart
26 ___-second
28 Before angle or cycle
30 Sugar source
32 Sacks
33 Dispatched
34 Quarry
35 Small amount
36 Hammer, for one
37 Detect
39 False move
42 Carry
43 Paradise
46 Youngster
50 Primp
51 Dashed
52 Ho-hum
54 Book of maps
56 Terrestrial lizard
57 Twangy, as a voice
58 1545 council site
59 Priestly garb
60 Dullard
61 Harbor vessel
63 Defrost
66 Grow old
68 ___-Wan Kenobi
69 Sea (Fr.)
70 Dutch city

SUDOKU EASY

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GLLRI __ __ __ __ __
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PUZZLE Solutions on page 17

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

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

HALSEY

Central Valley Church 657 W American Dr
503-602-6796 · https://www.cvchalsey.com
Sun. Corp. 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://harvestrbc.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 · 541-369-2322
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 · 541-369-2322

BE THE ONE

A Personal Journey to Understanding Veteran Suicide – Part 1

By Jeff Brown, Staff Writer and Columnist

As an officer with the Travis Moothart Memorial American Legion Post 184, I have heard the phrase "Be the One" many times. It has become the American Legion's national campaign to help prevent veteran suicide. I knew it was important and that veteran suicide was considered a serious issue in our country. But if I am being honest, I didn't really know what it meant to "Be the One."

Then I realized something. Like many families, I have a veteran in my life whom I worry about from time to time. He lives far away and, like many veterans, spends a great deal of time alone. That realization led me to ask some difficult questions. How do I know if someone is struggling? What should I say? Am I doing enough? If I am worried, where do I turn for help?

I suspect I am not alone. There are likely parents, spouses, children, siblings, and friends across our community who have quietly worried about a veteran they love. Maybe it's the veteran who suddenly stops returning phone calls, or the one who seems withdrawn and isolated. Perhaps it's someone who always says, "I'm fine," but somehow doesn't seem fine at all.

The facts are sobering. Every day in the United States, veterans die by suicide. These are not merely statistics. They are sons and daughters, mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, friends and neighbors. They are people who once wore our nation's uniform and, in many cases, still carry burdens the rest of us cannot fully see.

As I began learning more about the "Be the One" campaign, I discovered something simple yet powerful. We are not all expected to be counselors or mental health professionals. Sometimes we are simply called to be present. Sometimes it means noticing when something seems off, reaching out, asking how someone is really doing, listening without judgment, and reminding someone that they matter.

Over the next week, I plan to continue learning. What are the warning signs? What should we say if we suspect someone may be contemplating suicide? What should we avoid saying? And perhaps most importantly, how can ordinary people make a difference?

I don't have all the answers yet, but if this journey helps even one veteran feel less alone, maybe that's exactly where "Be the One" begins.

Medical Equipment Available to Borrow in Brownsville

By Sharon K. Banks, Staff Writer and Columnist

BROWNSVILLE — Residents in need of medical equipment can borrow a variety of items through a program offered by the American Legion in cooperation with the Brownsville Senior Center.

The lending program provides equipment for seniors and disabled residents, with no requirements to be a veteran. Available items include hospital beds, an electric scooter, wheelchairs, walkers, commodes, shower chairs, and crutches.

Anyone interested in borrowing medical equipment or learning what is currently available can visit the American Legion at 339 N. Main St. Between 9 a.m. and noon, or call Norm Simms 541-401-0675.

Medical equipment including walkers, shower chairs, wheelchairs and other mobility aids is available to borrow through the American Legion's medical equipment lending program in cooperation with the Brownsville Senior Center.

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Summer Injuries: Know When to Stay Home, Visit a Clinic, or Head to the ER

Summer adventures often bring scraped knees, sprained ankles, and the occasional sunburn. Knowing when an injury can be treated at home, when to visit a walk-in clinic, and when to seek emergency care can save time and ensure the right treatment.

COURTESY: SAMARITAN HEALTH SERVICES

"Not every injury requires the same level of care," said David Federoff, PA-C, at Samaritan Family Medicine — Brownsville. "Some can be managed at home, some are best handled at a same-day walk-in clinic, and others require emergency treatment."

Minor sunburns and small burns with little or no blistering can usually be treated at home with cool compresses, over-the-counter pain relievers, and time to heal. Mild sprains and strains often respond to rest, ice, compression, and elevation. If pain or swelling doesn't improve within a few days, it may be time to see a primary care provider or visit a walk-in clinic.

Walk-in clinics are a good option for injuries that need prompt attention but aren't life-threatening. These include larger burns with blisters, cuts that may require stitches, minor falls, sports injuries, and sprains or strains that should be evaluated by a medical professional.

Some injuries require immediate emergency care. Third-degree burns, major falls, obvious fractures or deformities, and injuries causing tingling, numbness, or weakness should be treated in an emergency department. Head injuries also warrant special attention.

"Always seek emergency care if there's loss of consciousness, repeated vomiting, increasing sleepiness, or memory loss after a head injury," Federoff said. He added that children younger than 2, adults older than 75, and anyone taking blood-thinning medication should be evaluated in an emergency department after any head injury.

For residents needing same-day medical attention, Samaritan offers walk-in clinics throughout the mid-Willamette Valley. In Brownsville, Samaritan Family Medicine provides walk-in care Monday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sweet Home's walk-in clinic is open seven days a week, Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Samaritan also operates walk-in clinics in Lebanon and Albany with extended evening and weekend hours, giving residents throughout the region additional options for non-life-threatening illnesses and injuries. Information about clinic locations, hours, and current wait times is available on Samaritan's Care Now webpage at https://samhealth.org/CareNow.

Fire Chief Emphasizes Planning Ahead for Wildfire Season

By Jeff Brown, Staff Writer and Columnist

Last week's article examined practical steps residents can take to prepare for wildfire season. This week, Fire Chief Charles "Chuck" Chapin of the Tangent Rural Fire District shares his perspective on the most important actions property owners can take before fire danger increases.

Drawing on his experience in emergency response and wildfire preparedness, Chapin highlighted evacuation planning, defensible space, and awareness of current conditions as essential to wildfire readiness.

According to Chapin, one of the most overlooked aspects of emergency preparedness is having an evacuation plan in place before a disaster strikes. Whether facing a wildfire or another emergency, residents often find themselves making critical decisions under pressure when time is limited.

Chapin encourages families to identify the items most important to take with them, determine evacuation routes in advance, and establish a safe destination before an emergency occurs. While leaving personal belongings behind can be difficult, planning ahead can reduce stress and help residents make better decisions when every minute counts.

Another common concern is vegetation management around homes and buildings. While Oregon's trees, shrubs, and landscaping provide beauty and privacy, Chapin said many property owners underestimate how vegetation can contribute to wildfire spread.

Creating defensible space remains one of the most effective ways to reduce wildfire risk. Chapin recommends that property owners focus on maintaining the area immediately around structures, creating space to slow an approaching fire, and removing excess vegetation farther from buildings. These measures can help reduce the risk of embers igniting structures and may improve a property's chances of withstanding a wildfire.

Residents seeking additional information about defensible space can find resources from the Oregon State Fire Marshal online at https://www.oregon.gov/osfm/pages/default.aspx and are encouraged to contact their local fire district for guidance specific to their area.

Looking ahead to this year's fire season, Chapin noted that Oregon experienced another warmer, drier winter, with below-average snowpack reported in many areas. Those conditions can cause vegetation to dry out earlier in the season and may contribute to increased wildfire activity as summer progresses.

While weather conditions remain beyond anyone's control, Chapin emphasized that preparation is the best defense. Taking time now to develop an evacuation plan, create defensible space, and stay informed can help protect lives and property as wildfire danger increases.

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Simple Steps Can Help Conserve Water This Summer

Summer's warm, dry weather increases water use throughout the Central Willamette Valley. Conserving water not only helps protect a valuable natural resource but also reduces utility bills and ensures adequate supplies remain available for homes, farms, businesses, parks, and emergency services.

Small changes to daily habits can make a big difference.

- **Water lawns only when needed.** If grass springs back after being stepped on, it likely doesn't need water.
- **Water deeply instead of frequently.** Deep watering encourages stronger roots, while light sprinkling often evaporates before soaking into the soil.
- **Water during the coolest part of the day.** Early morning is ideal because less water is lost to evaporation, and watering then can help reduce lawn fungus.
- **Keep water off pavement.** Position sprinklers to water lawns and gardens rather than sidewalks, driveways, or streets. Avoid watering on windy days.
- **Choose drought-tolerant plants.** Many trees, shrubs, and flowers thrive on less water once established.
- **Sweep instead of spraying.** Use a broom to clean driveways, patios, and sidewalks rather than a garden hose.
- **Check for leaks.** Repair dripping faucets, leaking hoses, and faulty sprinkler heads promptly. Even small leaks can waste hundreds of gallons of water.

Conserving water can also save money. Reducing household water use by just 1,000 gallons per month may lower your utility bill, though actual savings vary by local water rates and individual usage.

By making a few simple adjustments this summer, residents can help conserve water resources, keep landscapes healthy, and reduce unnecessary waste.

Sharing Hands

GROCERY LIST

Canned Goods

- ☐ Complete Meals
- ☐ Canned Tuna
- ☐ Canned Chicken
- ☐ Canned Spaghetti
- ☐ Canned Ravioli
- ☐ Canned Soup
- ☐ Canned Broth
- ☐ Canned Veggies
- ☐ Canned Fruit
- ☐ Jelly/Jam
- ☐ Syrup
- ☐ Ketchup & Mustard

Grains & Breads

- ☐ Bread
- ☐ Buns
- ☐ English Muffins
- ☐ Cereal
- ☐ Crackers
- ☐ Dry Pasta

- ☐ Milk
- ☐ Cheese
- ☐ Kraft Mac & Cheese
- ☐ Fresh Fruit

- ☐ Sugar
- ☐ Snacks
- ☐ Spices

Please no expired items.

- ☐ Toothbrushes
- ☐ Toothpaste
- ☐ Shampoo
- ☐ Conditioner
- ☐ Soap
- ☐ Laundry soap

Beating the Scammers

By Ira White, Guest Contributor

In the digital world, creators are prime targets, and behind every great piece of art is a scammer trying to profit from it. I sell my books online, and my original intent was to give fellow writers tools to avoid these digital traps. However, I quickly realized that our area is a hotbed of creativity; our local artists and online shoppers alike can also benefit from learning how to spot a fake.

A fantastic masterclass in these tactics is the site Writer Beware. While it focuses on the publishing industry, I suggest anyone in the creative space scour this site at https://writerbeware.blog, as it is one of the best fraud-detection resources on the internet. Founded in 1998, Writer Beware tracks, exposes, and raises awareness of scams, fraud, and predatory practices. If you can, please contribute to keep their investigations going.

You can easily unmask these fraudulent profiles on social media. On Facebook, click a user's name to view their profile, then click it again to reveal their join date, profile updates, and history of nicknames. On X, click the three dots next to their profile picture and select "About this Account" to see their join date, location, and username changes. Watch out for brand-new accounts, frequent name changes, or locations that contradict their claims. This trick served me well when an "admirer" from Tennessee tried to entice me into a relationship; I checked her account and found the origin was actually Nigeria, and she had changed her name six times!

Beyond social media, free reverse email lookup tools like Mailmeteor and Icypeas can instantly reveal an email owner's name and location. You can also paste a fishy email or suspicious commission request into an AI chatbot and ask it to analyze the text for scams to get a full rundown of potential red flags.

As you can see, there are plenty of simple ways for writers, artists, and consumers alike to escape being scammed.

Life Insurance Fraud Targeting Older Adults

The Oregon Division of Financial Regulation (DFR) warns residents about a fraud scheme in which licensed insurance agents enroll people in life insurance policies without their knowledge or consent.

The scam, identified in multiple states, including Oregon, primarily targets older adults.

According to DFR, victims often receive repeated telemarketing calls and unknowingly provide personal information. That information is then passed to insurance agents involved in the scheme. The agents contact the victims to gather any remaining details needed to submit a life insurance application, often without explaining how the information will be used.

Insurance companies issue policies and pay commissions to agents before collecting the first premium. The fraud is typically discovered only when the company attempts to collect payment from the unsuspecting consumer.

"Because the insurance company is paying upfront commissions to the agents, the companies are experiencing high losses as a result of this fraud ring," said Oregon Insurance Commissioner TK Keen. "Additionally, the victims of the fraud ring are being targeted for other scams and schemes, putting them at risk for future fraud."

DFR encourages consumers to protect themselves by avoiding unsolicited calls, never sharing personal information with strangers, regularly monitoring financial accounts, and registering phone numbers with the National Do Not Call Registry at https://www.donotcall.gov.

Consumers with questions or who believe they may have been targeted can contact DFR's consumer advocates at 888-877-4894 for assistance or to file a complaint. Additional fraud prevention resources are available on the Division of Financial Regulation's website at https://dfr.oregon.gov.

FRAUD FIGHTERS: PROTECTING OUR SENIORS

Fake Charities and Disaster Scams

By Danielle Myers, Esq.

In difficult times, our community has always pulled together with generosity and compassion. Neighbors help one another, and a pot of soup or a warm quilt appears on the doorstep before anyone even asks. It is natural, then, that many of us feel moved to give when we hear of disasters, tragedies, or urgent needs elsewhere in the country. That generosity reflects the best of who we are. Unfortunately, scammers work hard to exploit it.

Fake charity and disaster scams are increasingly common. These schemes appear after major storms, wildfires, earthquakes, or any event that touches the heart. Calls, emails, or online posts claim to represent organizations raising money for victims. Some use the names of real charities, while others invent impressive-sounding groups that do not exist. Their goal is simple: collect donations from kindhearted people who believe they are helping.

You may receive a phone call from someone who speaks with great urgency and describes suffering in vivid detail. They may direct you to a website that looks professional or tell you that your donation is needed immediately to support rescue efforts. Some pressure you to give immediately, before you have time to think. A few will even send messages that appear to come from well-known organizations, complete with stolen logos and copied language. These scams succeed because they tap into our desire to act quickly when others are hurting.

You can protect yourself while still supporting causes. Before donating, take a moment to verify that the charity or fundraiser is legitimate. Established charities usually have a public website with clear contact information, financial transparency, and a documented history of work. Smaller fundraisers, such as GoFundMe campaigns, may not, so look for other ways to confirm they are genuine. You can also check a charity's reputation through trusted resources such as Charity Navigator, the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance, or GuideStar.

Another safe approach is to avoid clicking links in text messages or emails. Instead, search for the charity or fundraiser yourself rather than following a link. If someone claims to represent a charity, do not donate over the phone on the spot. Ask for written information and take time to verify it. A legitimate charity will never insist that you pay with gift cards, wire transfers, cryptocurrency, or any other unusual method. Reputable organizations accept standard donations through traceable, secure methods.

Giving through local organizations you already know and trust is another good way to help while reducing the risk of fraud.

In the end, your generosity is something to be proud of. A brief pause before giving ensures your kindness reaches those who truly need it. Stay safe, and give with confidence after taking a moment to verify before you donate.

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Emerald Ash Borer Spreads Closer as Other Ash Beetles Damage Local Trees

By Mikayle Stole, Editor and Donald Lyon, Staff Writer and Columnist

A destructive insect that has killed millions of ash trees across North America continues to spread through the northern Willamette Valley, while local landowners in the Central Linn area are already seeing damage from a different ash-boring beetle.

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) recently confirmed new emerald ash borer (EAB) infestations in Tualatin, Newberg, and Silverton. Although these discoveries remain within the existing five-county quarantine zone, forestry officials say the pest's continued spread is a warning to communities farther south.

Tangent seed farmer and woodlot owner Don Wirth has been watching ash trees decline locally for years. During a recent tour of his property, Wirth pointed out numerous ash trees with thinning canopies, loose bark, and winding larval tunnels beneath the bark — signs he believes are caused by the ash bark beetle rather than the emerald ash borer.

Don Wirth peels back the bark of a declining ash tree on his Tangent-area property, revealing insect galleries beneath the surface. Wirth believes the damage is caused by the ash bark beetle, a different insect from the invasive emerald ash borer now spreading through the northern Willamette Valley.

Wirth emphasized that although the damage is significant, he has not yet found evidence of emerald ash borer on his property. Unlike the ash bark beetle, the emerald ash borer is an invasive insect capable of killing otherwise healthy ash trees within a few years. Since its discovery in Michigan in 2002, it has destroyed millions of ash trees across North America.

ODF officials say the recent discoveries in Newberg, Tualatin, and Silverton were all reported by residents who recognized symptoms and submitted reports via the Oregon Invasive Species Hotline. The agency credits years of public education for helping identify new infestations before they become widespread.

The emerald ash borer has now been detected in Clackamas, Marion, Multnomah, Washington, and Yamhill counties. To slow its spread, the Oregon Department of Agriculture has established a quarantine that prohibits the movement

Distinctive winding galleries carved beneath the bark by emerald ash borer larvae are visible in this ash tree near Newberg. The tree was one of several newly confirmed emerald ash borer infestations reported in the northern Willamette Valley during a single week in June.

of ash, olive, and white fringetree material, as well as hardwood firewood, outside those counties.

Forestry officials encourage property owners throughout the Willamette Valley to identify any ash trees on their property and decide whether to preserve them. Healthy, high-value trees can often be protected with preventive insecticide treatments applied by licensed applicators. Trees already in poor condition should generally be removed after adult beetles stop flying in mid-October, before they become brittle and hazardous.

Moving firewood remains one of the fastest ways the insect spreads to new areas. ODF urges residents to buy or gather firewood locally and avoid transporting hardwood firewood over long distances.

Adult emerald ash borers are active from June through August. They leave distinctive D-shaped exit holes in the bark, and their larvae create winding, S-shaped galleries beneath the bark. Residents who suspect they have found the insect should, if possible, save the specimen, note the location, and report it through the Oregon Invasive Species Hotline at https://oregoninvasiveshotline.org, by calling 1-866-INVADER, or by contacting the OSU Extension Office in Tangent at 541-967-3871 or by dropping by 33630 McFarland Rd., Tangent.

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The Times is now accepting legal notices and public notices for publication.
Rates are $14 per column inch (columns shown in this issue are 2 columns wide).
To place a notice or request information, contact: **editor@thetimescwv.org.**

PUZZLE KEY

Puzzles on page 13

W	A	R	■	M	I	N	G	■	■	C	U	E	D	■
A	G	O	■	A	R	O	A	■	S	O	R	T	I	E
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SHERIFF'S REPORT JULY 5–11

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); LMC (Lebanon Municipal Court). A Roman numeral listed after a charge means that the charge is of that numbered degree: Theft I (first-degree theft).

BROWNSVILLE

Sun., July 5, 8:25 a.m. — Deputy contacted a suicidal male subject in the 34800 block of Northernwood Dr. who was cooperative. The deputy provided the male with a courtesy ride to Lebanon Hospital for mental health treatment and counseling.

1:20 p.m. — Sherry Banham, 49, of Brownsville, was arrested for Assault IV and lodged at the LCJ after a disturbance call in the 300 block of W. Bishop Way. Report taken.

5:24 p.m. — Caller fell victim to a scam after attempting to purchase a puppy on Facebook in the 800 block of River Ave. Report taken.

Mon., July 6, 7:27 a.m. — Daniel Nelson, 48, of Lebanon, was arrested for Criminal Trespass II and placed under a police officer's hold in the 30700 block of Brownsville Rd. Report taken.

8:28 a.m. — Deputies responded to a person shot with a PepperBall gun in the 200 block of Elm St. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

9:40 p.m. — Donna McDowell, 60, of Lebanon, was cited for speeding and for failing to carry proof of insurance in the 35600 block of Hwy 228 near Nye Rd.

Tue., July 7, 9:37 p.m. — Deputy conducted a follow-up warrant service in the 1000 block of Pine St. Report taken.

Wed., July 8, 6:29 p.m. — Deputies responded to a civil dispute involving landlord-tenant dispute in the 700 block of Calapooia Ave.

Fri., July 10, 9:10 a.m. — Deputies responded to a verbal disturbance between neighbors in the 1000 block of Pine St. Anna House, 42, of Brownsville, was arrested on an outstanding warrant. The disturbance was non-criminal. Report taken.

1:51 p.m. — Deputy assisted medics in loading a patient at McKercher Park into an ambulance for transport to the hospital.

Sat., July 11, 3:46 p.m. — Deputy investigated a report of fraud in the 300 block of Kirk Ave. Deputy documented information at the caller's request.

11:20 p.m. — Godivar Sanchez, 49, of Eugene, was cited for driving uninsured and driving while suspended in the 500 block of Loucks Way.

CRAWFORDSVILLE

Fri., July 10, 4:57 p.m. — Deputy responded to a call regarding a dog that was hit and attempted to locate the owner's information in the 39600 block of Hwy 228. Information was provided, documented, and forwarded to animal control.

HALSEY

Mon., July 6, 1:27 a.m. — Christian Miller, 33, of Eugene, was arrested for DUII and reckless driving in the 28700 block of Hwy 99E. Report taken.

Tue., July 7, 5:07 a.m. — Aydin Yaman, 33, of San Carlos, CA, was cited for failing to drive within the lane in the 21200 block of northbound I-5.

HARRISBURG

Mon., July 6, 11:57 a.m. — Deputy searched the area for a missing person reported in the 23600 block of Powerline Rd. The missing person was not located.

Tue., July 7, 9:11 p.m. — Daniel Jacobson, 67, of Halsey, was cited for an equipment violation in the 600 block of S 3rd St.

10:06 p.m. — Deputy responded to a motor vehicle injury crash in the 32800 block of Diamond Hill Dr. The vehicle entered an intersection and drove into a residential yard, colliding with a fire truck and a barn. The driver was transported to RiverBend Hospital for minor injuries. The vehicle was towed. Non-criminal. Report taken.

11:34 p.m. — Deputies assisted a troubled individual in the 23600 block of Peoria Rd.

Wed., July 8, 9:31 a.m. — Tyrel Shelley, 41, of Eugene, was cited for driving uninsured and while suspended.

Thu., July 9, 12:27 p.m. — Deputy received a complaint about logging trucks being overweight for the roadway type in the 33700 block of Wildwood Estates Loop. Deputy issued a warning, and permit options were discussed.

3:56 p.m. — Liliana Corrales, 20, of Cottage Grove, was cited for speeding in the 200 block of N 7th St.

4:42 p.m. — Adolfo Duarte Jr., 46, of Brownsville, was cited for speeding, driving while suspended, and driving uninsured in the 33000 block of Diamond Hill Dr.

7:17 p.m. — Deputies assisted a caller in documenting that someone had fraudulently opened a checking account in the caller's name in the 300 block of S 9th St. The caller has since changed accounts and credit cards. The bank advised that the suspect would have had to have identification to open a checking account but could not provide further information.

7:18 p.m. — Deputy responded to a report of a bag containing a white crystal substance found in a bathroom sink in the 32900 block of Diamond Hill Dr. The substance tested presumptive positive for methamphetamine. The substance was submitted into evidence for destruction. Report taken.

Fri., July 10, 10:24 p.m. — Jonathan Henry, 51, of Harrisburg, was arrested for DUII and reckless driving in the 200 block of Moore St. He was transported to LCJ. Report taken.

Sat., July 11, 12:16 a.m. — Deputies assisted a suicidal subject in the 100 block of N 1st St. and transported her to the hospital.

1:12 a.m. — Deputies contacted juveniles who were out past curfew in the 400 block of S 9th St. Parents were contacted.

8:40 p.m. — Richard Adams, 22, of Junction City, was cited for an equipment violation in the 500 block of N 7th St.

8:57 p.m. — Carter Detering, 30, of Harrisburg, was cited for driving while suspended in the 1000 block of Kobe Ln.

9:57 p.m. — Wesley Smith, 42, of Monroe, was cited for driving while suspended and for an outstanding LMC warrant in lieu of custody.

JEFFERSON

Tue., July 7, 6:53 p.m. — Deputy assisted the Marion County Sheriff's Office in issuing a criminal citation to a male in the 35700 block of Helms Dr. Report taken.

Thu., July 9, 8:01 p.m. — Erik Evenhus, 31, of Jefferson, was cited for speeding 82 in a 55-mph zone in the 35400 block of Jefferson Scio Dr.

SCIO

Sun., July 5, 12:07 p.m. — Deputy responded to a single-vehicle crash into a ditch in the 43900 block of Thomas Creek Dr. A juvenile male driver was cited for failure to maintain a lane. Report taken.

1:49 p.m. — Linn County Search and Rescue, along with the Lyons Fire Department, conducted a rescue of an injured female on the roadway in the 44700 block of Camp Morrison Dr. The female was transported by Lifeflight to a higher level of care. Report taken.

1:57 p.m. — Deputies were dispatched to an overdose reported in the 38900 block of NW 1st Ave. The paramedics arrived and advised that law enforcement was not needed.

Mon., July 6, 3:06 p.m. — Deputy responded to a suicidal subject in the 43100 block of Hwy 226. The individual was transported by medics to a local hospital for further evaluation. Report taken.

7:00 p.m. — Caller reported a male in a white truck dumping a brown liquid into the river in the 40500 block of Hess Rd. The deputy began a littering investigation.

9:30 p.m. — Caller located a bullet lodged in her home's siding in the 38000 block of Robinson Dr. Deputy documented the incident.

10:22 p.m. — Michael Humphries, 44, of Albany, was arrested on an outstanding AMC warrant and cited for driving uninsured and driving while suspended in the 38800 block of Hwy 226.

Wed., July 8, 11:20 a.m. — Kailee Waltman, 22, of Scio, was arrested and lodged at the LCJ on charges of harassment and Criminal Mischief II. Report taken.

Thu., July 9, 9:48 a.m. — Caller reported an attempted fraud in which a scammer posed as Apple support and tried to obtain a credit card number from the caller. The caller did not provide any personal information and was not successfully scammed in the 38900 block of SW 5th Ave. Information documented.

11:05 a.m. — Deputy contacted a child and parent regarding a DHS report of a child injury in the 43400 block of Thomas Dr. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

2:35 p.m. — Caller reported receiving a harassing phone call from an unknown male voice in the 38300 block of Hwy 226.

8:03 p.m. — David Garcia, 51, of Salem, was cited for speeding 11-20 mph over the speed limit in the 37500 block of Hwy 226.

Sat., July 11, 12:16 a.m. — Loretta Kahle, 53, of Silverton, was cited for driving while suspended in the 39200 block of Stayton Scio Rd.

2:34 p.m. — Layla Ward, 51, of Scio, was arrested on an outstanding LMC warrant. Layla was issued a criminal citation in lieu of custody. Report taken.

4:08 p.m. — Caller reported that a pistol valued at $450 and other items valued at approximately $30-40 were stolen from a vehicle in the 38800 block of SW 5th Ave. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

SHEDD

Mon., July 6, 6:13 a.m. — Deputy responded to an injured deer from a motor vehicle crash in the 31800 block of Linn West Dr.

Sat., July 11, 11:33 p.m. — Deputy assisted a driver who struck an opossum in the 33400 block of Linn West Dr. Non-criminal.

TANGENT

Tue., July 7, 5:31 p.m. — Philip Dearing, 47, of Salem, was arrested for Criminal Trespass II in the 33600 block of Hwy 99E. He was lodged at Linn County Jail without incident. Report taken.

Sat., July 11, 7:24 a.m. — Edgar Townsend, 41, of South Beach, was cited for speeding 74 in a 55-mph zone in the 32100 block of Hwy 34.

LINN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

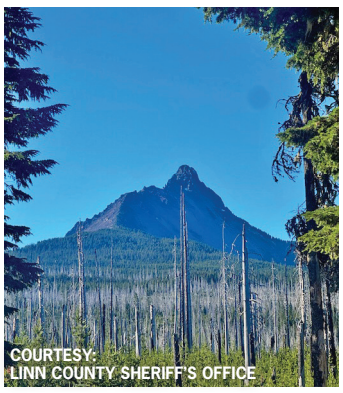
Nevada Climber Dies After Fall on Mount Washington

LINN COUNTY — A 77-year-old Nevada man died after falling while climbing Mount Washington on Thursday, July 9.

According to the Linn County Sheriff's Office, Robert "Bob" Pickering was reported missing at approximately 2:58 p.m., after he was last seen alone near the summit. A nearby climbing guide reported hearing a rockslide on the mountain's east side shortly after Pickering passed the group's location.

The Linn County Search and Rescue Team, assisted by the U.S. Forest Service, responded to the remote area while an Oregon Army National Guard helicopter searched the area from the air. At approximately 5:30 p.m., the helicopter crew located Pickering about 200 feet below the summit.

Authorities said Pickering appeared to have suffered a fatal fall near the summit. Due to the steep, hazardous terrain, recovery crews were unable to safely reach him Thursday evening.


COURTESY: LINN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Search crews located a 77-year-old Nevada climber below the summit of Mount Washington after a fatal fall on July 9.

Recovery efforts resumed Friday morning, with assistance from the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Mountain Rescue Unit.

The Linn County Sheriff's Office thanked the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office, the Washoe County Sheriff's Office in Nevada, the Oregon Army National Guard, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Oregon Department of Emergency Management for assisting with the operation.

The sheriff's office extended its condolences to Pickering's family and friends.

SAFEHAVEN'S PET OF THE MONTH

Meet Sunchip!

Sunchip is a bright, loving, and social cat who truly shines when he's with his people. Whether he's relaxing nearby or happily curling up in your lap, he's happiest when he's close to those he loves.

COURTESY: SAFEHAVEN

Gentle, affectionate, and family-oriented, Sunchip does well with respectful children who know how to handle animals kindly. He also has a playful side and loves his toys, especially a good game of fetch. In his foster home, he has done well with calm, cat-friendly dogs, making him a great fit for a peaceful household.

Sunchip previously had a serious urinary blockage, so he will need a prescribed urinary diet and a consistent routine to help keep him healthy. With the right care and commitment, he can continue to thrive and remain the affectionate, playful companion he's always been.

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. The next adoption day with waived fees will be Aug. 8.

Sunchip has been waiting since February for his forever family. If you're looking for a cuddly companion to fill your home with warmth and love, Sunchip may be the perfect match. To learn more or schedule a meet-and-greet, email fostercare@safehavenhumane.com.

You can visit SafeHaven Humane Society in Tangent, daily from noon to 5 p.m., or view adoptable pets at https://safehavenhumane.org, or call 541-928-2789.

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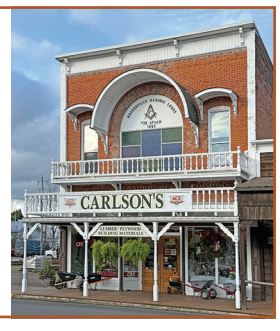

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