



Cobras Launch Fall Sports as Fans Race To Vote

By Eva Wada, Assistant Editor

HALSEY — The official start of Cobra football returned with electric excitement as Central Linn High School (CLHS) in Halsey kicked off its season with a midnight practice. Head Coach Mike Day gathered players in matching Cobra gear to launch “Midnight Madness” at 12:01 a.m. Monday, Aug. 17.

Before field drills began, Day exclaimed, “I’m so excited! We’ve never done this before. It’s going to be a great night!” He reassured the team, “No, we are not going to practice all night! Two hours of drills and then some team-building fun. Don’t forget we’ll also have breakfast at the end.”

Parents and supporters pitched in to keep players fueled after the early-morning session. Betsy Ramshur supplied paper products and utensils, while Leesa Helms helped cover breakfast with donuts.

As the community rallies around the team, local Cobra fans also have an opportunity to support senior multisport athlete Colton Hein, who was nominated in the national Youth Athlete of the Year competition. Recognized for his strong work ethic and plans to pursue sports medicine after graduation, Hein



Senior Colton Hein (Right) takes a break at the Cobra Midnight Madness practice. Hein is counting on your vote to catapult him to the top of the national Athlete of the Year competition. Use the QR code to vote or go to <https://athleteoftheyear.org/2026/colton-2879>

currently ranks first in his group.

Supporters can cast one free vote daily at <https://athleteoftheyear.org/2026/colton-2879>. Want a way to make an even bigger impact? When you select the option to donate between \$10–250 to the Why Not You Foundation, each dollar pays for one vote, up to 250 votes per day, for Colton Hein. The deadline for the first round of voting is Thursday, Aug. 27, at 8 p.m. PDT.

With the season underway, the Cobras are focused on a preseason play at the Monroe High School Jamboree on Friday, Aug. 28, at 5 p.m. We hope to see many Cobra fans there in red, white, and blue. 🌀



Head Coach Mike Day is overseeing the skill level and progress of this year's Cobra Football team at CLHS.

PHOTOS: EVA WADA

INSIDE



Latoya Webber, 6, of Tangent feeds a calf during the Freitag's annual Open Farm event.

PHOTOS: SHARON BANKS

Open Farm Welcomes Community to Freitag's Family Farm

By Sharon K. Banks, Staff Writer and Columnist

HALSEY — The Freitag family's Willaval Dairy Farm has been part of the local agricultural tradition since 1939. From August 14–16, the Freitag family welcomed the community to its annual Open Farm event, giving visitors an up-close look at farm life and the work involved in raising dairy calves.

The farm specializes in raising calves for its own operation and one other local dairy farm. About 80 calves, ranging from newborns to 3-month-olds, are currently being cared for on the property. Caring for that many young animals is a significant daily responsibility, requiring twice-daily feedings and ongoing pen maintenance to keep the herd healthy.

During the event, guests learned how calves are raised and saw the work that takes place behind the scenes. Hayrides were also popular, with neighbor Andy Walton volunteering his time to drive the tractor and give families tours around the farm.

The weekend provided a memorable experience for children to learn where dairy farming begins long before milk reaches the grocery store. While the farm has adapted over the decades, caring for animals, working the land, and maintaining strong ties with neighbors remain at the heart of the operation. 🌀



Lyzira and Zephaniah Herrington of Myrtle Point get an up-close look at one of the calves.

ONGOING EVENTS

Weekly Block Party Quilting Gathering
Tuesdays • 10:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
Yankee Dutch Quilting, 140 Spaulding Ave., Brownsville
Bring your quilting project and enjoy a day of quilting, conversation, and community. All skill levels are welcome to drop in for fellowship, inspiration, and fun.
<https://www.yankeedutchquilts.com> • 541-466-3662

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
Across from Dari Market — shop local vendors and learn more about the community market initiative through the Calapooia Food Alliance. Linn County Master Gardeners are on site with additional resources.
<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. End of season market: Aug. 28.
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. End of season market: Sept. 3

Scio Saturday Market
Saturdays through Sept. 26 • 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
Linn County Lamb & Wool Fairgrounds, 38999 NE 1st Ave.
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 Post 184, 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.

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER EVENTS

ALBANY

Northwest Art & Air Festival
Friday-Sunday, Aug. 28-30 • 6:15 a.m. • FREE
Timber Linn Memorial Park, 900 Price Rd., SE
Hot-air balloons, art, food vendors, a car show, concerts, kids’ activities, and a beer and wine garden. Balloon launches begin each morning, weather permitting, with Night Glow Friday evening. Festival ends after Sunday’s balloon launch. Parking is \$10 daily. (See page 3).
<https://albanyoregon.gov/nwaaf>

History Bites — The Next Chapter: Writing about the Albany Bureau of Mines & The Cold War
Wednesday, Sept. 9 • noon–1 p.m. • FREE
Albany Public Library, 2450 14th Ave. SE
Albany author Tai Stith will discuss her latest research on the U.S. Bureau of Mines. She will talk about her writing progress so far and the surprises that have come up while uncovering information that has been completely buried for decades. Additionally, she will share stories she’s been able to piece together that have never been revealed to the public.
<https://www.armuseum.com/events/2026/9/9/the-next-chapter>

BROWNSVILLE

‘Signs of the Times’ Junk Art Show
Through Aug. 29 • Wed., 1–4 p.m.
Thu.– Sat., 10 a.m.–4 p.m. • FREE
Brownsville Art Center, 255 N. Main St.
Explore imaginative sculptures and artwork created from recycled, repurposed, and found materials.
<https://brownsvilleart.org>

CONNECT Linn County Community Dinner
Wednesday, Aug. 26 • 5:30 p.m. • FREE • Pioneer Park
Celebrate the Last Blast of Summer at CONNECT Linn County’s final community dinner of the season, with a free meal and activities for all ages. Everyone welcome.
<https://www.connectlinncounty.net>

Shop in the Shadows at Runa Boutique
Friday, Aug. 28 • 4–8 p.m.
Runa Boutique, 439 N. Main St.
An evening of shopping and to celebrate the lighting of Runa Boutique’s new business sign. Browse clothing, locally handmade jewelry, crystals, incense, and books. Phases with M. MacAuley will offer tarot readings, and treats will also be available. (See page 9).

Family Fun Day
Sunday, Aug. 30 • 10 a.m.–Noon • FREE
Assembly of God Church, 313 Washburn St.
Family fun with games, a cakewalk, food, face painting, and a bounce house. Outdoor service at 10 a.m.; games and food 11 a.m.–noon. Weather permitting.

Death Cafe
Tuesday, Sept. 8 • 6:30-8 p.m.
Brownsville Community Library’s Kirk Room
Join an open, judgment-free conversation about death and dying over coffee, tea, and cake. No agenda, counseling, or religious focus. Hosted by retired registered nurse Nan VanSandt. Free and open to adults.

Sip and Support
Saturday, Sept. 12 • 4 p.m. • \$75 • 713 Amelia Ave.
A benefit for the Sharing Hands food bank featuring wine and food pairings, music, raffle, and silent auction. Tickets available at Sharing Hands, 107 W. Bishop Way.

CORVALLIS

Forestry Tools & Tree Science
Friday, Aug. 28 • 9:30–11 a.m. • FREE
Firefighter Memorial Shelter, Peavy Arboretum, 8392 NW Peavy Arboretum Rd.
Explore the forest through free, hands-on activities with the OSU Research Forest. This Forest Fridays session focuses on forestry tools and tree science. For ages 6+, but all are welcome.
kelsie.szeszulski@oregonstate.edu

Forest Printmaking
Friday, Sept. 4 • 9:30–11 a.m. • FREE
Firefighter Memorial Shelter, Peavy Arboretum, 8392 NW Peavy Arboretum Rd.
Explore creativity in the forest during this free, hands-on Forest Fridays program from the OSU Research Forest. Participants will take part in forest-themed printmaking activities. For ages 6+, but all are welcome.
kelsie.szeszulski@oregonstate.edu

HALSEY

Halsey Community Movie & BBQ Night
Friday, Sept. 11 • 5:30–9:30 p.m. • FREE
Halsey Memorial Park, 300 W O St.
Kids’ zone with games, activities, and face painting from 5:30-7 p.m.; BBQ burgers and hot dogs while supplies last start at 6 p.m. At 7:45 p.m., bring a chair or a blanket to enjoy the outdoor movie “Lilo & Stitch” on the big screen. Enter the Raffle! Donate shelf-stable food or cash to Sharing Hands for a chance to win a prize basket! One entry per family. Brought to you by the City of Halsey and the Halsey-Shedd Rural Fire Department.

JEFFERSON

Jefferson Night Market Season Finale
Thursday, Sept. 3 • 4–7 p.m. • 150 N 2nd St.
Jefferson Area Chamber of Commerce hosts local farmers, crafters, artists, food vendors, community outreach, and much more.

Jefferson Service Integration Team Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 8 • 9–10:30 a.m.
Greater Jefferson Community Center, 107 N Main St.
The Jefferson Service Integration Team serves those who live in the Jefferson School District area. If you are interested in learning more about resources and programs in our community, please attend.
[Kim.Dwyer: kdwyer@santiamhospital.org](mailto:Kim.Dwyer@santiamhospital.org)

LEBANON

Whispers of the Night Garden
Saturday, Aug. 29 • 10:30 a.m.–4 p.m. • \$25
Lebanon Senior Center, 80 Tangent St.
The Linn County Master Gardener Association’s Pollinator Project presents an afternoon exploring the nighttime world of pollinators, including moths, bats, insects and night gardens. Speakers will discuss nocturnal pollinators, moon gardens, moths and Oregon bats, with practical ideas for making gardens more welcoming to nighttime pollinators. The event will also feature local vendors and nonprofit organizations, plants and night-garden ideas from Shonnard’s Nursery, and raffles for a bat house and a moon garden plant.
<https://www.linnmastergardeners.com/whispersofthenightgarden>

Santiam Food Alliance Tomato Day
Thursday, Sept. 3 • 2–6 p.m. • FREE
Ralston Park (at Park & Oak)
Tastings of fresh tomatoes and tomato products. Advice from Master Gardeners and Master Food Preservers. The Lebanon Downtown Farmers’ Market and the Santiam Food Alliance invite you to admire, taste, and stock up on tomatoes. Taste dozens of unusual and often beautiful tomato varieties from the market farmers and our own gardens. An Oregon State University Extension Master Food Preserver will offer information on drying and canning tomatoes, a Master Gardener will provide advice on growing them, and volunteers will offer free samples of tomato-based foods.
<https://santiamfood.org>

SHEDD

Cider Pressing at Thompson’s Mills
Saturday, Sept. 5 • 11 a.m. until apples run out (about 2 p.m.) • FREE
Thompson’s Mills State Heritage Site
32655 Boston Mill Dr.
Celebrate apple season with a family-friendly cider pressing at Thompson’s Mills. Enjoy free cider tastings and free mill tours, or bring a picnic and spend some time at the historic site. Half gallons of cider will be available for a \$5 suggested donation to the Thompson’s Mills Preservation Society.

TANGENT

Tangent Harvest Festival
Saturday, Sept. 19 • 6:30 a.m.–6 p.m.
Tangent City Hall, 32166 Old Oak Drive
A full day of harvest fun featuring a hot air balloon launch, pancake breakfast, parade, kids’ activities, food, live music, Combine Demolition Derby, and Tractor Power Pulls. Parking \$5.
<https://tangenttogether.org>

STAY CONNECTED!

Discover events or add your own to our community calendar:
<https://thetimescww.org/community-calendar>



Must-See Oregon Balloon Festival

By Eva Wada, Assistant Editor

ALBANY — There is a quiet, awe-inspiring magic that settles over Timber Linn Memorial Park as the first rays of dawn break over the Willamette Valley and dozens of giant hot-air balloons rise into the morning sky. Returning the weekend of Aug. 28–30, the Northwest Art & Air Festival offers a free, breathtaking bucket-list experience every Pacific Northwest resident should witness at least once in their lifetime.

“This beloved festival provides a weekend full of hot air balloons, artists, live music, and delicious food,” noted a guide from Tinybeans Family Travel. “What a great combo!”

First conceived in August 2000 by Albany Parks & Recreation and the Albany Visitors Association, the three-day tradition quickly grew into a premier regional event with an estimated 50,000 attendees in 2025. At the heart of that legacy was long-time Recreation Programs Manager Katie Nooshazar, whose vision helped shape the festival from a local gathering into a premier regional attraction before her passing in 2017.

“A balloon festival is pure magic because it relies so heavily on nature, timing, and community,” Nooshazar once shared. “When you see 30 balloons rising together over the Willamette Valley at dawn, or watch the grounds light up like giant paper lanterns during Night Glow, there’s

an energy you just don’t get at a standard park concert.”

The festival centers on striking visual moments, starting daily with 6:15 a.m. balloon launches, weather permitting. “We have no directional propulsion system; we can control our altitude, but not our speed or exact path,” explained pilot Robb Green during a festival launch over Linn County.

On Friday evening, the park transforms during the Night Glow display, where tethered canopies illuminate against the dusk sky. Visitors can also explore art booths, food vendors, a car show, and a family zone with \$10 daily parking available on site.

Classic rock icons Cheap Trick will headline the festival’s main stage concert inside the amphitheater at 8 p.m. on Saturday. Throughout the weekend, a diverse lineup of local and regional musical acts will perform continuous live sets across the park’s secondary Festival Stage.

Whether standing spellbound as colors ignite the night sky or watching aircraft drift overhead,



COURTESY: NORTHWEST AIR & ART FESTIVAL

attendees leave with moments that linger long after the burners fade. It is an extraordinary late-summer tradition that transforms first-time visitors into lifelong regulars, proving year after year that some experiences simply must be felt in person. Find out more about the show at <https://albanyoregon.gov/nwaaf>. 🌞

Theater Lineup Announced in Albany

ALBANY — Albany Civic Theater (ACT) has announced its 76th season, offering a varied lineup of seven productions running from September through June 2027.

The community theater, located at 111 W 1st Ave., opens its mainstage lineup Sept. 11 with the musical “Come From Away,” directed by Lorian Schmidt. The season continues with the psychological drama “The Haunting of Hill House,” opening Oct. 23, followed by the holiday satire “Inspecting Carol” in December.

The new year brings the classic courtroom drama “Twelve Angry Jurors” in January, the musical “Finding Neverland” directed by Mirinda Keeling in February, and the family drama “Terms of Endearment” in April. The season concludes in June with the interactive musical comedy “The Trail to Oregon!”

Selected shows offer options for varying age groups. “Finding Neverland” and “Come From Away” provide inspiring, family-friendly viewing suitable for older children and teenagers. Meanwhile, productions like “The Haunting of Hill House” and “Twelve Angry Jurors” feature suspenseful or mature themes best suited for



COURTESY: ALBANY CIVIC THEATER

high school students and adults. Theater officials advise “The Trail to Oregon!” is intended for mature audiences due to frequent adult language and crude humor.

Full-season tickets cost \$126 for adults and \$108 for seniors, military members, and youth. Individual tickets are \$19 for plays and \$23 for musicals.

Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m., while matinees start at 2:30 p.m. Closed captioning is provided during select weekend dates. Tickets and season passes may be ordered online at <https://www.albanycivic.org> or by calling ACT at 541-928-4603. 🌞

GRIEFSHARE Support Group

FOR THOSE GRIEVING THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE

First Meeting: Saturday, Sept. 5 • 1-2:30 p.m.
Then: Saturdays, Sept. 12–Nov. 14 • 10–11:30 a.m.
First Baptist Church, Seven Mile Lane

Find comfort and support at GriefShare.

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- What’s normal in grief
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- Coping with regrets, questions, and worries

More info: First Baptist Church
541-642-3000 • visit GriefShare.org

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Sunday, Sept. 27
Greenside Golf Course, Salem



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11AM–NOON • GAMES AND FOOD

TANGENT HARVEST FESTIVAL

Farm Kids, Full Throttle

By Marcy Hermens, Tangent Correspondent

This is part one of a three-part series on the Tangent Harvest Festival Combine Demolition Derby

When the Tangent Harvest Festival's Combine Demolition Derby & Power Pulls returns to Tangent City Hall on Sept. 19, three combines will be driven by local teens with deep community roots. From a student crew project to cousins carrying on a family tradition, this next generation is ready to go full throttle. Meet Layla, Little Rammie, and Caution.



The Fix It Friday Crew gathers atop Layla, the John Deere combine the group built for the Tangent Harvest Festival Combine Demolition Derby. Mady Vandiver returns behind the wheel Sept. 19.

Layla

The Fix It Friday Crew brings together area students and a mentor teaching hands-on skills in mechanics, welding, and automotive repair. When the derby was announced last year, the team built a combine from the ground up and named her Layla. Supported by local business JTI



Grant Wahl, a junior at Central Linn High School, sits atop Little Rammie, the John Deere combine he will drive in the Tangent Harvest Festival Combine Demolition Derby

Supply, the crew upgraded Layla for her next battle. Mady Vandiver returns behind the wheel with a full season of lessons learned. As Eric Clapton warned, Layla is a dangerous woman — and rival teams already know it.

Little Rammie

Built in the 1980s, Little Rammie retired from farming a decade ago when Garret Glaser parked her at Tracy Parker's farm. She eventually acquired her rich patina in a Shedd field. What this small John Deere lacks in horsepower, she makes up for in ramming speed. Last year, Cody Younger drove her through the arena. This year, Cody's nephew Grant Wahl, a junior at Central Linn High School, takes over the wheel to prove ramming speed runs in the family.



Caution, a former working farm combine from Montgomery Farms, is being readied for her demolition derby debut with Jesse Younger behind the wheel.

Caution

Caution makes her demolition debut with Jesse Younger, a junior at East Linn Christian Academy who helped build both Layla and Little Rammie last year. Caution spent years working valley fields, trading crop rows for crash zones. Her name is a warning to competitors: she was built for hard work, and her driver is ready to test her limits.

See Layla, Little Rammie, and Caution square off Sept. 19. Tickets are \$10 for ages 10 and up, \$5 for ages 5–9, and free for kids 4 and under at <https://tangentogether.org>.

PHOTOS: MARCY HERMENS

GriefShare Program Offered to the Local Community

BROWNSVILLE — Community members who have experienced the death of a family member or friend are invited to participate in GriefShare, a nondenominational grief-support program being offered at Brownsville First Baptist Church.

GriefShare is a Christ-centered program that uses biblical teaching, video presentations from respected grief experts, and real-life stories to address the many challenges associated with losing a loved one. Each session includes a video presentation followed by small-group discussion, giving participants an opportunity to share their experiences and learn from others who understand what they are going through.

Many grieving people find that their healing process is just beginning when friends and family members return to their normal daily routines. Past participants have said the information and follow-up discussions provided valuable encouragement and support during that time.

The program is open to those whose loss is recent as well as those who have been grieving for some time. Participants will learn about the symptoms of being stuck in grief, ways to deal with difficult emotions, and how to face a new normal while finding renewed hope for the future.



GriefShare can help those grieving the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, other family member or friend, regardless of the circumstances surrounding the death. Books and other grief-related materials will also be available for participants to borrow or purchase.

The GriefShare sessions will be held Saturdays, Sept. 5 through Nov. 14, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., except for the first session, which will be held from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Meetings will take place in Room 3 at Brownsville First Baptist Church, 27910 Seven Mile Lane, Brownsville.

To register or for more information, call 541-642-3000. There is no registration fee. The cost for the participant guidebook is \$25, although scholarships are available. Childcare will not be provided.

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AMERICAN LEGION POST 184

Travis Moothart Post Hosts District 3 Picnic

By Sharon K. Banks. Staff Writer and Columnist

BROWNSVILLE — American Legion Travis Moothart Post 184 welcomed veterans from across District 3 to a picnic Saturday, Aug. 15, at Brownsville’s Pioneer Park.

The district provided hamburgers and hot dogs, while attendees brought an assortment of potluck favorites, including homemade potato salad, watermelon, chips, and desserts.

The gathering offered veterans and their families the opportunity to visit, share stories from their military service, and remember those who served before them.

A highlight of the afternoon was a special presentation by the Brownsville chapter of Quilts of Valor, which honored four veterans with handmade quilts for their military service.

Quilts were presented to Philip Rice of Shedd, Arlene Taylor of Eugene, Paul Brewer of Lebanon, and Richard Klotz of Brownsville.

The four presentations brought the chapter’s total number of Quilts of Valor awarded to 1,037.

The picnic combined good food, fellowship, and recognition of veterans, continuing Post 184’s tradition of honoring those who have served their country. ☼



Philip Rice of Shedd receives a handmade Quilt of Valor from Judy Clay and Norm Simms during the District 3 picnic at Pioneer Park.

Judy Clay, left, of the local Quilts of Valor chapter helps wrap Paul Brewer of Lebanon in a handmade Quilt of Valor in recognition of his military service.



Arlene Taylor of Eugene is wrapped in a handmade Quilt of Valor during the District 3 picnic. Taylor was one of four veterans honored by the Brownsville chapter of Quilts of Valor.



Carl Frank watches as Richard Klotz of Brownsville displays the Quilt of Valor presented to him in recognition of his military service.

PHOTOS: SHARON K. BANKS



A Chance to Help —

and Keep SNAP Benefits

By Jeff Brown, Staff Writer and Columnist

A win-win situation is developing across Oregon. Local nonprofit organizations are seeking volunteers, while updated federal requirements mean that certain SNAP recipients must participate in work or approved activities to maintain their food benefits.

The federal government expanded SNAP work rules, which Oregon began applying statewide in December 2025. Generally, adults ages 18 to 64 who do not have a child under 14 in their household must meet the requirements, though exemptions exist.

To maintain benefits, individuals must complete 80 hours a month — roughly 20 hours a week. Qualifying activities include paid work, self-employment, training programs, or volunteering. Volunteer hours must be documented and verified.

This option is vital for smaller communities. Local food banks, thrift stores, senior centers, and churches frequently struggle to find enough volunteer help to keep their doors open. At the same time, SNAP recipients need a practical way to satisfy federal rules while contributing locally.

Consider the possibilities. A volunteer at a food bank might stock shelves, sort donations, help distribute food, or manage food drives. At a thrift store, they might organize merchandise, price items, or assist customers. For nonprofits, these hours represent a valuable addition to their workforce; for SNAP recipients, they help secure essential food benefits.

The rules do not apply to every recipient. Anyone receiving benefits should check with the Oregon Department of Human Services to determine their status at <https://www.oregonfoodbank.org/posts/getting-started-with-snap-food-assistance-benefits>

For those subject to the requirement, volunteering offers a practical way to meet federal rules while supporting their community. Local nonprofits should ensure their volunteer opportunities are clearly advertised and establish systems to track and verify hours. Sometimes a community’s greatest resource is simply people willing to pitch in. ☼



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BROWNSVILLE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

Story Time with Craft

Fridays • 11 a.m.–noon

Story time with rhymes, songs, and a craft activity.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Death Cafe

Tuesday, Sept. 8 • 6:30 p.m. • Kirk Room

Estate Planning: Making a Trust

Thursday, Sept. 17 • 6 p.m. • Kirk Room

World Cultures & Travel: Lebanon, Syria & Jordan

Oct. 15 • 7 p.m. • Kirk Room

ADULT GROUP GATHERINGS

Thread Wizards Stitchery Group

Wednesdays • 1–3 p.m. • History Room

Bring your project, have some fun — get things done!

The Page Turners Book Club

3rd Wednesdays, Sept. 16 • 7 p.m. • Kirk Room

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>

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.

Library Hours: Closed Sat–Sun.

Mon–Thu 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; Fri 9 a.m.–Noon

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<https://www.sciooregon.gov/library>

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Tue–Fri 1–5 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

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KIDS' KORNER

Helping Kittens and Making Friends at SafeHaven

By Smiley Wright, Youth Contributor

TANGENT — On Sunday, August 16, my family went to SafeHaven Humane Society for our first Family Volunteer Day with coordinator Katie Bateman.

SafeHaven is a full-adoption, limited-intake shelter, meaning pets stay as long as it takes to find a home. Recently, long-term pet, Canyon the dog, was adopted after a full year at the shelter.

On Family Volunteer Day, usually three to six groups of people work together for about an hour. They help staff by cleaning or packing dog and cat food for the Pet Food Pantry. SafeHaven gives out 4,000 to 6,000 pounds of free food on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month. I felt good knowing families can feed their pets.

Everyone volunteers for different reasons. Eleven-year-old Matilda Lauterback, who hopes to study animal science, has volunteered three times with her dad. Three-year-old Westley thought packing food was fun with his parents, Jared and Margarita Rumsey. My family volunteered to honor my great-grandmother, C.J. Monroe, on her birthday. She loved her dog Nikki and helping

children.

In the last hour, we visited the pets at SafeHaven. Katie taught volunteers how to swaddle kittens. Many dog beds were empty. On the second Saturday of every month, pets can be adopted without any fees. Last weekend, 48 animals went

home with their new Pet Parent. The next Waived Adoption Fee Day is September 12, from noon to 5 p.m.

Katie said, "SafeHaven's goal is to make a more humane world for everyone, and they need volunteers for morning cleanup, afternoon dog walking, and staffing their Lebanon and Tangent thrift stores."

I think you should ask your family to volunteer or visit SafeHaven Humane Society. Visit <https://safehavenhumane.org> to find out more. ☺

Matilda and her dad Steven Lauterback have returned three times to the Family Volunteer Day at SafeHaven Humane Society in Tangent after she expressed an interest in becoming a veterinarian someday.



Visitors can feed, walk, and spend time in fenced play areas with dogs before deciding to adopt at SafeHaven.

PHOTOS: EVA WADA



Three-year-old Westley Rumsey meets one of SafeHaven Humane Society's dogs during Family Volunteer Day with his parents, Jared and Margarita Rumsey, as volunteer coordinator Katie Bateman assists.



HARRISBURG LIBRARY CALENDAR

Tiny Tots Story Time

Wednesdays • 11 a.m. • Ages 0–3

Friday Storytime & Activity

Fridays • 10–11 a.m. • Ages 4 and up

Popsicle Picture Frame on Aug. 28.

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.

Lego Club

Fridays • 3 p.m.

Build, create, and explore with Lego activities. Earn Lego prizes. Free Build on Aug. 28

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check out e-books, audio books, and more via the Libby app at no charge. <https://library2go.overdrive.com>

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Thu 1–6 p.m.; Fri 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sat 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

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<https://www.ci.harrisburg.or.us/library>
<https://www.facebook.com/HarrisburgOregonLibrary>
 cnelson@ci.harrisburg.or.us

JEFFERSON LIBRARY CALENDAR

NeedleCraft Group

2nd and 4th Tuesdays • 3–5 p.m.

Bring your knitting, crochet, or other needlecraft project and enjoy crafting with others.

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

Read-to-a-Dog (Shasta)

Fourth Saturdays, Aug. 22 • 2–3 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

Local Hands Recreate Famous Film Hideout

By Eva Wada, Assistant Editor

BROWNSVILLE — The 1986 classic movie “Stand by Me” forever connected Brownsville, Oregon, to the fictional town of Castle Rock. Among the most recognizable scenes in the film is the opening sequence set in the boys’ treehouse, originally built in an ancient oak tree along School Avenue. Since it was constructed on private residential property as a temporary set, crew members dismantled the structure immediately after production wrapped in 1985.

To celebrate the movie’s 40th anniversary, local volunteers banded together to construct an accurate, full-scale replica of the iconic structure. Spearheaded by Bizzy Beez Events, the ambitious build became a true labor of love that relied heavily on local dedication. Tishana “Tika” Harrison said, “We knew we wanted it to feel as authentic as possible. What I didn’t expect was just how invested the people helping with the project would become.”

Builders Stan Clark, Korey Patzer, Ronnie Companion, David Ringel, and Bill Clark painstakingly studied photos from the film, carefully choosing lumber, nails, and placement details to ensure the hideout matched the original screen set as closely as possible. Tika continued, “For Bizzy Beez Events and me, the treehouse became one of those projects that represented exactly what we hoped the 40th Anniversary of “Stand By Me” [event] would be about — honoring the movie and its history in Brownsville while also showcasing the people in our community who are willing to come together and create something special.”

The centerpiece project was made possible only by generous donations across Linn County. Larry and Tay Thornton, along with Robert Pettinger, contributed most of the wood. Kelsi Spencer and his crew at McFarland Lumber supplied the signature log pole, while Bob and James Babcock handled transportation to set up the finished piece in Pioneer Park for public access. Throughout the process, Paula Clark photographed every stage, creating a permanent visual history of the team’s hard work.

Linda McCormick commented, “Thank you all for the hard work and effort to make this a reality. The treehouse is in storage so it can be used again.”

The detailed replica gave visiting fans an



The completed treehouse replica was built to closely match the hideout seen in the opening sequence of “Stand by Me,” using photographs from the film as a guide.



Volunteers work on the treehouse replica, which was constructed with donated materials and countless hours of local labor before being displayed at Pioneer Park.

unprecedented photo opportunity and an immersive piece of local film history during the anniversary festivities. More than just a movie prop, the project highlights the collaborative spirit that continues to define the Brownsville community. 🌳

PHOTOS: PAULA CLARK



Volunteers carefully move the full-scale “Stand by Me” treehouse replica into place for the 40th anniversary celebration in Pioneer Park.

BOOKS TO CONSIDER

A Year of Vegetarian Recipes

By Nancy Diltz, Staff Writer and Columnist

“Albert Einstein supported vegetarianism in principle for decades, stating that it aligned with moral and aesthetic ideals. However, he only adopted a strict meat-free diet during the final year of his life on the advice of his doctor. He famously noted that humans were not born to be carnivores,” according to The San Diego Union-Tribune on Aug. 9, 2026.

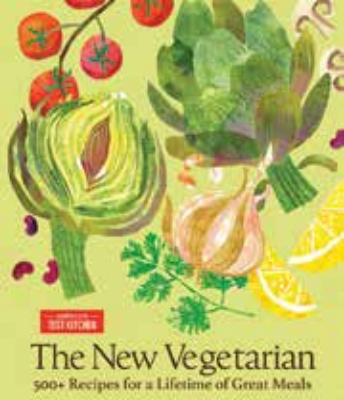
Einstein was a pretty smart guy, so I am all ears!

The Vegetarian Society at <https://vegsoc.org> outlines several key reasons to consider a vegetarian diet: plant-based foods have a lower environmental impact, they offer health benefits, and they support animal welfare.

While a vegetarian diet has many benefits, the challenge for some is creating tasty, simple meals without relying on meat. Many people have adopted a “flexitarian” eating style, dedicating one or more days per week to meatless meals while serving traditional meat proteins on other days. Whatever your preference, a good vegetarian cookbook, showcasing a wide variety of vegetables and alternative proteins, makes healthy eating at home easy.

At 640 pages, “The New Vegetarian: 500+ Recipes for a Lifetime of Great Meals from America’s Test Kitchen” (publishers of “The Complete Mediterranean Cookbook” and “The Complete Plant-Based Cookbook”) offers meal ideas for every day of the year. Eggplant with Black Bean Sauce, Creamy Broccoli Pasta with Crispy Panko, and Summer Squash Tart are just a few recipes featuring eggs, beans, legumes, tofu, and tempeh.

Plant-based eating helps reduce the risk of chronic illnesses, conserves environmental resources, and supports animal welfare. Whether you are adding a “Meatless Monday” or are already a devoted vegetarian, this collection will inspire your next great meal. Available at the Brownsville Community Library. 🌱



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Scio Saturday Market Serves Community

By Donald Lyon, Staff Writer and Columnist

SCIO — For the past six years, the Scio Saturday Market has helped bring the community together. On a recent visit, a dozen canopies were set up on First Street behind the Main Street shops as customers and vendors mingled, visited and shared the latest news.

While many tables held collectibles and crafts, Crystal Cook's table featured fresh produce from her family farm. Other tables were heavy with baked goods, ranging from cheesecake to artisan sour-dough bread.

Ten-year-old Ellianna displayed award-winning earrings. Given that she earned a blue ribbon this year for her designs at the Linn County Fair, her prices were very reasonable. Scio is the venue for the Linn County Lamb & Wool Fair as well as the NW Champion Sheepdog Trials every May. When I saw a collection of small, crocheted animals at Lauri and Russell Blumenstein's booth, I was sure there would be some lambs and sheepdogs among the critters.

I mentioned to several vendors that The Times was interested in finding a Scio correspondent. Folks pointed to Lauri Blumenstein and Karen



Crystal Cook offers a delicious selection of fresh produce from her family farm at the Scio Saturday Market.



Russell Blumenstein sits behind a colorful collection of amigurumi offered at the weekly market.



Ten-year-old Ellianna displays her handcrafted jewelry, including earring designs that earned her a blue ribbon at the Linn County Fair.

Borchard Isaac, Karen was running the Community Booth where produce from local backyard gardens was for sale alongside items supporting the Lamb & Wool Fair.

Nearby, Dustin and Charlie Blumenstein were setting up speakers and amplifiers on stage. Isaac explained that the market received a grant from the Linn County Community Foundation to bring live musicians to the venue. On Aug. 29, local favorite "The Brazen Squirrels" will play classic rock. "When Picks Fly" will take the stage with their own blend of classic rock on Sept. 26 — a couple of can't-miss shows for classic rock fans.

The Scio Market is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through September. It reopens in November for a Christmas Bazaar and in February for its Winter Market. for more details visit <https://www.sciosaturdaymarket.com>.



Dustin and Charlie Blumenstein set up for live music at the August 15 Scio Saturday Market, where a community foundation grant is helping bring musicians to the stage each week. August 29 performers will be The Brazen Squirrels.

PHOTOS: DONALD LYON

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A HOUSE ON WASHBURN STREET

175 Years of
Brownsville History
Part 1: On Blakely Land

By Sharon K. Banks, Staff Writer and Columnist

BROWNSVILLE — Long before the house at 189 Washburn St. became a familiar part of South Brownsville, the land beneath it belonged to one of the community’s founding figures.

Captain James Blakely, born in Tennessee in 1812, came west to Oregon in 1846 and settled in Linn County. He became one of Brownsville’s early leaders, helping shape the town during its pioneer years. His 640-acre donation land claim eventually made up a large portion of Brownsville, including the ground where the Washburn Street house would later stand.

Blakely’s life reflected the sweeping changes of Oregon’s earliest settlement period. During the Rogue River War of 1855–56, he formed a company of volunteers and was promoted to captain. Afterward, he became active in Brownsville’s business life, helping establish the town’s first flour and woolen mills. He also operated a farm and ranch outside town.

Blakely and his wife, Sarah, raised 11 children. He lived to be 102, dying in 1914 after witnessing Oregon’s transformation from frontier settlement to modern state.

The Washburn Street house itself was not built by Blakely, but its story begins with his land. On March 26, 1861, William C. Baird and his wife, Margaret Ann McBride Baird, purchased the property from Blakely for \$100.

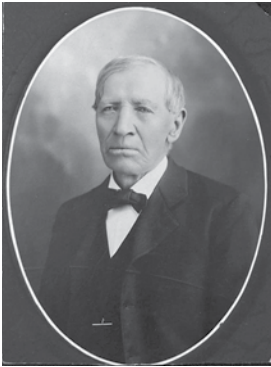
The Bairds were part of another wave of settlers who helped Brownsville grow.

William was born in Columbus, Ohio, in 1814, and Margaret was born in Clinton, Indiana, in 1819. They married in 1837 and came to Oregon between 1852 and 1854. They had nine children.

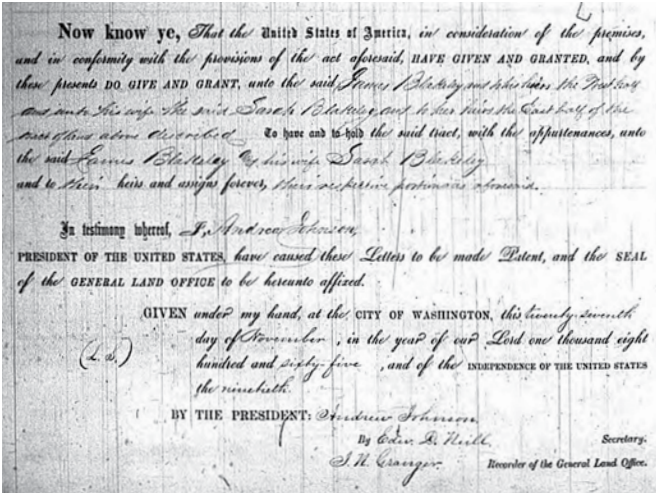
The house is believed to have been built later, possibly around 1875, either during the Bairds’ ownership or under a later owner. At the time, Washburn Street was no quiet side street. The first Brownsville bridges were located near the end of the street, and Washburn served as Main Street for South Brownsville.

The house’s earliest years were tied not only to one family, but to the growth of Brownsville itself.

Coming next: A teacher, a preacher, and the academy across the street. ☯



Brownsville pioneer Captain James Blakely owned the land on which the house at 189 Washburn St. would later stand. His 640-acre donation land claim encompassed much of what became Brownsville.



Issued Nov. 27, 1865, this federal land patent formally granted land to James and Sarah Blakely under Oregon’s Donation Land Claim Act.

From Shadows to Illumination at
Runa Boutique

By Eva Wada, Assistant Editor

BROWNSVILLE — Step through the threshold at 439 North Main Street into an enchanting sanctuary housed within a historic 1910 wood-frame structure. Local stylist, dreadlock artist, and curator of oddities Teresa “Teek” Loukota has manifested Runa Boutique — a warm, inclusive refuge created especially for the curious, the creative, and those who embrace the extraordinary. On Friday, August 28, from 4 to 8 p.m., the boutique invites seekers to “Shop in the Shadows” and witness the ceremonial lighting of its new building sign.

Inside, late-night visitors will find an array of handcrafted goods, sacred relics, and earthly delights. Display tables showcase \$15 gemstone rings — featuring labradorite, unakite, and amethyst — alongside copper wire-wrapped rings and a \$70 bronze-toned sculpted face necklace by local artist Michelle Cossentino. Shelves hold polished crystal spheres, sandstone towers, floral greeting cards, Meadowland “Desert Fox” simple syrups, and Witches Hollow chai tea. Guests can also pick up \$3 white sage bundles, dried-petal lavender soaps, and vintage Siamese cat figurines, while Loukota will offer her own handcrafted line of dreadlock potions, including tightening sprays and herbal shampoos.

Gather beneath inverted besom brooms and glowing starlight to share delicious treats and receive intuitive tarot guidance from Phases with M. MacAuley. Whether you are looking for handcrafted art, unique clothing, or simply a safe haven where the wild and wonderful are embraced, Runa Boutique welcomes all who enter. ☯

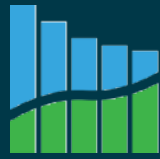


Runa Boutique owner Teresa “Teek” Loukota, left, and M. MacAuley of Phases with M. MacAuley welcome visitors into the boutique’s warm and unconventional space. MacAuley will offer intuitive tarot guidance on Aug. 28 during “Shop in the Shadows.”



Runa Boutique will celebrate the lighting and installation of its new handcrafted building sign during “Shop in the Shadows” Friday, Aug. 28, from 4 to 8 p.m.

PHOTOS: MIKAYLE STOLE



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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>
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Holy Trinity Catholic Church 104 W Blakely Ave
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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
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Calvary Chapel 38353 Glass St
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Sunday Service 10 a.m.

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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
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Spirit of the Valley United Methodist Church
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Valley Christian Fellowship 690 W 2nd St
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Riverside Christian Fellowship 29360 Abraham Dr
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Harrisburg Christian Church
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Harrisburg Church of God (Seventh Day)
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<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
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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

MOUNTAINTOP REFLECTIONS

Changing Seasons:
Traversing Transitions

By Jacquie Hoekstra, Staff Writer and Columnist

As summer break winds down, anticipation and anxiety build for the new school year. For some, this shift brings joy for the coming pumpkin-spice season as the Earth quiets and cools; others grieve summer’s wane. King Solomon wrote, “For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven” (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

Like ocean tides, an ebb and flow is designed into creation and our lives. There is a time to crash onto the scene with noise and a time to draw away from shore to contemplate in stillness. Crashing waves remind us God is all-powerful and worthy of awe. When the sea draws back, it reveals treasures left by the King’s tides. Every season reveals treasure.

Whatever season you find yourself in, you are not alone. As God purposed cycles in nature, he has purpose in the seasons of our lives. From birth until we graduate to heaven, he ordains periods of physical, emotional, and spiritual growth.

Paul wrote, “We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope doesn’t disappoint” (Romans 5:3–5 WEB). He further reminds us that “all things work together for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose” (Romans 8:28 WEB). If you are in Christ, you are called according to his purpose. “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works” (Ephesians 2:10 WEB). Our good works and his purposes go hand in hand.

Whether you are grieving, celebrating, or stepping into something new, Jesus is near. Every season helps make us more like him (Romans 8:29). The key is to embrace God in it.

Just as a new school year calls for new clothes, Christians sometimes need to exchange the old for the new. “No one puts new wine into old wineskins, or else the new wine will burst the skins... and the skins will be destroyed” (Luke 5:37 WEB). If you feel stuck between two seasons, ask Jesus what he wants you to exchange. Is there something you need to let go of in faith? Ask what to release, and what he wants to give you in return. Trust him to know what you need, allow him to trade the old for the new, and watch for the treasure. ☼

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

John Loshbaugh

The Celebration of Life service for John Loshbaugh will be held on Saturday, Aug. 29, from 1–3 p.m. at the Old Firehouse, 500 Smith St., Harrisburg. Family, friends, and community members are invited to honor Loshbaugh’s lifelong dedication to public service through the Harrisburg Fire Department, planning commission, city council, and later as a city employee. All are welcome. ☼

50TH ANNIVERSARY

Tim and Jewel McLain
Celebrate 70th
Birthdays and 50 Years
of Marriage

Tim and Jewel McLain of Shedd are celebrating two remarkable milestones this year: both recently turned 70, and on Aug. 28, they will celebrate 50 years of marriage.

Their story began at Central Linn High School, where they first started dating. Tim was a Brownsville kid and Jewel was from Shedd, but Tim crossed the train tracks, and on Aug. 28, 1976, they exchanged vows at Plainview Mennonite Church.

Over five decades, Tim and Jewel built a family that includes a daughter, Heather (Joe) Feland of Roseburg, and a son, Jered (Stefane) McLain of Brownsville. They are also proud grandparents to four grandchildren: Brynna, 15; Heath, 14; Ryan Ruby, 12; and Clyde, 8.

Reaching their 70th birthdays alongside their golden anniversary makes this a special year for the McLains, marking five decades of shared memories and family milestones.

Congratulations to Tim and Jewel McLain on 70 years of life and 50 years of marriage, with best wishes for many more happy years together! ☼



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PHOTOS COURTESY: TIM AND JEWEL MCLAIN

Heathcote and Montero Celebrate Portland Wedding

Nick Heathcote and Ruby Montero were married Friday, Aug. 14, in a joyful celebration at the airy, exposed-brick venue Castaway Portland.

Nick is the son of Brownsville attorney Danielle Myers, Esq., and the brother of Samantha “Sam” Heathcote. He and Ruby first met while working together at Target during college, where their friendship grew into a relationship that eventually led them to the altar.

Family members and friends gathered at the Portland venue in the early evening to witness the couple exchange their vows. The ceremony was made especially meaningful as Nick and Ruby shared handwritten vows, expressing their love and commitment to one another with declarations of love, promises for the future, and experiences they can’t wait to share together. The room erupted in laughter when both coincidentally joked about considering the use of AI to write their vows.

The couple’s dogs Luna and Pancho were also part of the big day, joining the celebration decked out for the occasion in costumes made by Nick’s mom, Danielle, adding a special touch to the family affair.

Following the ceremony, guests enjoyed a cocktail hour before gathering for dinner. Friends and family offered speeches honoring the newlyweds before the festivities moved to the dance floor. The celebration continued until midnight, giving the couple and their guests plenty of time to visit, dance, and celebrate the beginning of Mr. and Mrs. Montero-Heathcote’s life together.

The wedding brought together those closest to



Brownsville attorney Danielle Myers, left, joins her son, Nick Heathcote, and his bride, Ruby Montero, on their wedding day Friday, Aug. 14, at Castaway Portland.

the couple for an evening filled with love, laughter, and good wishes for their future. Nick shared, “We were thrilled Ruby’s grandmother could come from Zacatecas, Mexico and it meant a lot to us that she could be there for our wedding.”

Congratulations to Nick and Ruby Heathcote as they begin this new chapter together. 🌟

PHOTOS COURTESY: NICK AND RUBY MONTERO-HEATHCOTE



BELOW: Ruby and Nick Heathcote, center, celebrate with their wedding party following their Aug. 14 ceremony at Castaway Portland. The couple’s dogs, Luna and Pancho, also joined the festivities dressed for the occasion in costumes made by Nick’s mother, Danielle Myers.

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A weekly smile from Dean B. Kaner

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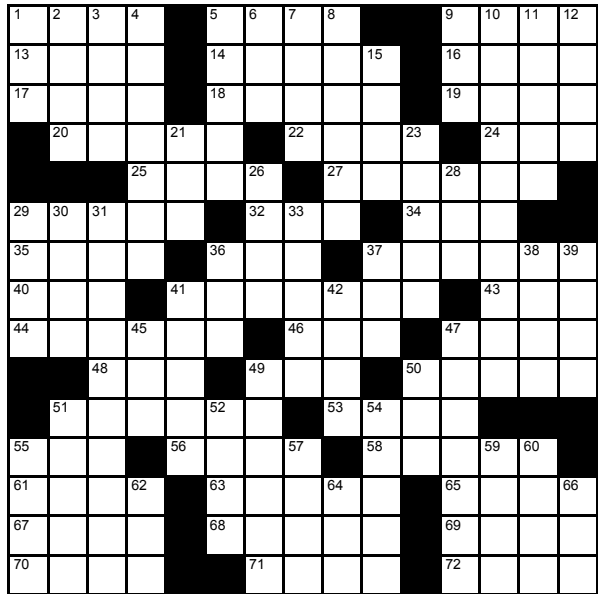
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- ACROSS

1 Jacket

5 Exited

9 Fencing sword

13 Jackrabbit

14 Loathing

16 Horse color

17 China setting

18 ____ cotta

19 Jason’s ship

20 Implied

22 Bondman

24 French possessive

25 Cowl

27 English cathedral city

29 City on the Ruhr

32 Sea eagle

34 Beachgoer’s goal

35 Vermin

36 ____ Baba

37 Dimensions

40 Round Table title

41 Spread out

43 Arles assent

44 Like some mushrooms

46 Make lace

47 Zig or zag

48 School org.

49 Actress Dawber
- 50 Emcees

51 Brokers

53 Meager

55 Chest protector

56 Frog

58 Fancy tie

61 Employed

63 Flash of light

65 Starch

67 Attired

68 Alpha’s opposite

69 Popular fragrance

70 Superman’s AKA

71 Fitness centers

72 Coaster
- 21 Charged item

23 Malodorous

26 Wooded hollow

28 Little bit

29 Gaelic

30 Remarkd

31 Green vegetable

33 Lasso

36 Copy

37 Rainy

38 Smart

39 Transgresses

41 Bias

42 Tubers

45 Drone, e.g.

47 Male prowlers

49 Sacred songs

50 Not hers

51 Bridal path

52 African country

54 Tibetan priests

55 Stag

57 Abstruse

59 Voiced

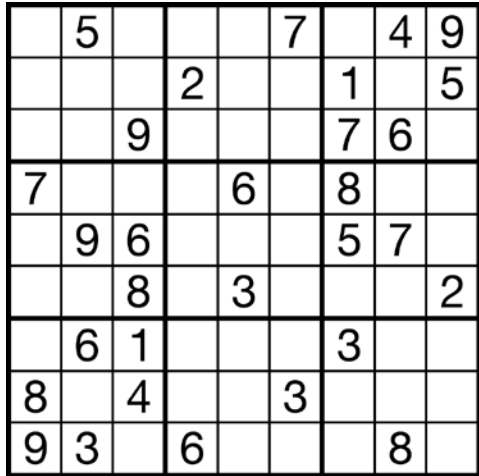
60 Toothpaste holder

62 Banned insecticide

64 ____ Khan

66 Muck

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National Dog Day, August 26

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KSCNA
-
- Boxed letters jumble: _____

PUZZLE Solutions on page 15

CENTRAL LINN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 552

Jamboree: Football, Volleyball, and Soccer
Thursday, Aug. 27

First Contest: Cross Country and Cheer
Thursday, Aug. 27

First Contest: Football
Friday, Aug. 28

Elementary Class Lists Posted
Thursday, Sept. 3 • 1 p.m.

First Day of School — Grades 1–7, 9 and 12
Tuesday, Sept. 8

Senior Sunrise
Tuesday, Sept. 8 • 6:30 a.m.

**First Day of School —
Kindergarten and Grades 8, 10 and 11**
Wednesday, Sept. 9

School in Session
Friday, Sept. 11

Central Linn operates on a four-day school week, Monday through Thursday, but school will be in session Friday, Sept. 11. A \$20 supply fee is requested per student. Donations for the Georgia-Pacific school supply drive may be dropped off at Halsey City Hall or Dollar General in Brownsville.
<https://www.centrallinn.k12.or.us>

PIONEER CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

First Day of School
Tuesday, Sept. 8

Registration and additional information are available through the PCA Parent Portal.

Back-to-School Supply Lists:
<https://pioneerchristian.org/back-to-school>

HARRISBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT - 7J

Back-to-School Night
Thursday, Aug. 27 • 5–6:30 p.m.

High School Open House
Thursday, Aug. 27 • 5–7 p.m.

Families can prepare for the new school year and connect with their schools. The Harrisburg High School Booster Club will also have a limited selection of Eagles apparel available for purchase.
<https://www.harrisburg.k12.or.us>

First Day of School — Grades 1–12
Monday, Aug. 31

Kindergarten Back-to-School Night
Thursday, Sept. 3 • 3–5 p.m. • 642 Smith St.

No School — Labor Day Holiday
Monday, Sept. 7

Regular School Board Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 9 • 6:30–7:30 p.m.
Harrisburg High School Resource Center, 400 S. Ninth St.
Online meeting: <https://meet.google.com/ipd-dkfs-kay>

Eagle Mania
Friday, Sept. 11 • 5–7 p.m. • FREE admission
Harrisburg High School Baseball Field, 400 S. Ninth St.
Hosted by the Harrisburg High School Booster Club, this annual community kickoff celebration features food trucks, inflatables, a dunk tank, kids’ games, concessions, and Eagle apparel and spirit gear. \$5 bracelets are available for unlimited kids’ games.

GREATER ALBANY PUBLIC SCHOOLS — TANGENT AREA

School Supply Giveaway
Wednesday, Sept. 2 • 3–6 p.m.
Memorial Middle School, 1050 SW Queen Ave., Albany

Title I Presentation and Supply Drop-Off
Wednesday, Sept. 2 • 4:45–6 p.m.
Tangent Elementary School

Tangent Elementary — First Day of School
Tuesday, Sept. 8

Memorial Middle — Grade 6 First Day
Tuesday, Sept. 8

Memorial Middle — Grades 7–8 First Day
Wednesday, Sept. 9

West Albany High — Grade 9 First Day
Tuesday, Sept. 8

West Albany High — Grades 10–12 First Day
Wednesday, Sept. 9
<https://www.albany.k12.or.us>

SCIO SCHOOL DISTRICT - 95

First Day of School — Grades K–6 and 9
Monday, Aug. 31

First Day of School — Grades 7–8 and 10–12
Tuesday, Sept. 1

No School — Labor Day Holiday
Monday, Sept. 7
<https://www.scio.k12.or.us>

JEFFERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT - 14J

First Day of School — Grades 1–6 and 9
Monday, Aug. 31

First Day of School — Grades 7–8 and 10–12
Tuesday, Sept. 1

Kindergarten Assessments/Soft Start
Monday–Thursday, Aug. 31–Sept. 3

No School
Friday, Sept. 4

No School — Labor Day Holiday
Monday, Sept. 7

Kindergarten First Day
Tuesday, Sept. 8
<https://www.jefferson14j.com>



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LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

No New Measles Cases Reported in Linn County Since January

By Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer

ALBANY — Linn County has not seen any new cases of measles since two cases were confirmed in January, Dr. Adam Brady told Linn County Commissioners Roger Nyquist and Will Tucker at their August 18 meeting.

Dr. Brady, who is the Linn County Health Officer, said measles are being reported in other parts of the state, including Multnomah County. Statewide, 45 measles cases have been identified in 2026, the most since 1991.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, as of August 13, some 2,566 confirmed measles cases were reported nationwide.

Some 2,550 measles cases were reported in: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York City, New York State, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

A total of 16 measles cases were reported among international visitors.

In other health-related news, Dr. Brady reported there were 51 births and 109 deaths in Linn County in July. Of the newcomers, 28 were boys, and 23 were girls.

One death was of a person who was more than 100 years old. Thirty-one of the deaths were tobacco-related, eight were alcohol-related, and 18 were diabetes related.

Dr. Brady said there were 49 reported animal bites compared to a five-year average of 38. There have been 270 animal bites this calendar year compared to 214 the previous calendar year.

There was one new case of HIV reported in July and five cases so far this calendar year. There also were 13 new cases of chlamydia and seven cases of gonorrhea reported.

The commissioners approved a contract with Gram Positive LLC, under which Dr. Brady will continue as the county Health Officer. The contract is not to exceed \$150,000 and will run from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2029.

In other business the commissioners:

- Accepted pass-through funds up to \$660,200.88 from the Criminal Justice Commission through the Justice Reinvestment Program. The funds will pay for a full-time probation officer liaison to provide Prison Re-Entry and Downward Dispositional Departure offenders with shelter beds, housing assistance, identification cards for offenders, and transportation assistance. The contract will run from July 1, 2025, to August 31, 2027.
- Accepted \$25,000 from Lane County to Linn County Public Health to coordinate

the Harrisburg Farmers Market for residents of South Linn County. The contract will run from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028.

- Approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Department of Corrections to accept pass-through funds not to exceed \$121,456.80 from July 1, 2025, to November 30, 2027. The funds will provide Linn County with an Adult Drug Court Probation Officer for up to 0.30 FTE.
- Approved a Personal Services Contract with Rebecca Hall to provide transition support to the Mental Health Department while the county recruits and trains someone for this position. Hall recently retired and was the Operations Manager for the Mental Health Department. The two-year contract is not to exceed \$150,000 from August 15, 2026, through June 30, 2027, and from July 1, 2027, through June 30, 2028. The contract can be terminated when a new employee is hired.
- Approved amending a classification for the Health Services Finance and Human Resources Manager and amending the pay range from 26 to Management Exempt Pay Range 28. ☼

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SHERIFF'S REPORT AUGUST 16-23

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., Aug. 16, 2:59 p.m. — Caller requested a welfare check on children at the Calapooia River in Pioneer Park, along with their parents. Deputy responded and conducted a welfare check on the entire group.

Mon., Aug. 17, 7:25 a.m. — Deputies conducted a welfare check in the 26800 block of Gap Rd. Everything was well.

2:28 p.m. — Andrew Pritchard, 39, of Albany, was cited for speeding in the 900 block of N Main St.

9:29 p.m. — Deputies received a cross non-criminal report from DHS about a child and their family in the 500 block of Fisher St. Information documented.

Tue., Aug. 18, 8:42 p.m. — Caller reported an injured deer in the 28400 block of Brownsville Rd. An off-duty Oregon State Trooper called back saying he was in the area and was unable to locate the deer.

Wed., Aug. 19, 8:18 a.m. — Deputy spoke with call-

er regarding a recurring suspicious person who appears at the same time each day in the 30100 block of Brownsville Rd., near Sand Ridge Rd. Deputy collected information and will attempt a welfare check next shift at that time.

12:28 p.m. — Caller reported a suspicious person outside the Brownsville Community Library in the 100 block of Spaulding Ave.

1:04 p.m. — Caller reported suspicious activity in the 200 block of N Main St.

6:46 p.m. — Deputy responded to the report of a disorderly female in Pioneer Park. She left the scene, was later contacted, and was trespassed from the park.

Thu., Aug. 20, 5:13 a.m. — Caller reported hitting a deer in the 27900 block of Brownsville Rd.

8:44 p.m. — Joshua Harden, 47, of Brownsville, was arrested for Criminal Mischief II for breaking a car window in the 200 block of Elm St. Report taken.

CRABTREE

Sun., Aug. 16, 2:28 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a subject smashing items with an axe in the 37100 block of Crabtree Dr. They determined the subject was smashing his own items on private property. No crimes.

CRAWFORDSVILLE/HOLLEY

Sun., Aug. 16, 11:19 a.m. — Caller requested advice from a deputy on how to navigate a social media issue in which inappropriate communication was taking place in the 38600 block of Hwy 228.

Wed., Aug. 19, 9:49 a.m. — Caller requested a welfare check on their elderly father in the 39000 block of Crawfordsville Dr.

FAIRVIEW

Mon., Aug. 17, 6:05 p.m. — Kylee Mariner, 20, of Lebanon, was cited for careless driving, failing to carry proof of insurance and failing to maintain lane after a motor vehicle crash in the 34700 block of Spicer Dr. Report taken.

HALSEY

Mon., Aug. 17, 9:25 p.m. — Deputies received a cross report from DHS about a child in the 33900 block of Lake Creek Dr. Information documented.

Tue., Aug. 18, 5:35 p.m. — A drunk male on a train misused 911 in the 28100 block of Hwy 99E. The train entered Lane County, and the call was forwarded to the Lane County Sheriff's Department.

Wed., Aug. 19, 8:32 a.m. — Deputies responded to a trespass call from Pioneer Villa Truck Stop in the 33100 block of Hwy 228 after a store employee requested customers to leave the location. Customers left without incident.

2:28 p.m. — Deputies responded to and assisted a transient male in the 33100 block of Hwy 228, helping him reach the nearest shelter.

Thu., Aug. 20, 8:36 a.m. — Kohan Rains, 22, of Albany, was cited for failing to renew vehicle registration in the 1800 block of Hwy 99E near Seefeld Dr.

Sun., Aug. 23, 4:36 a.m. — Deputies assisted Oregon State Police in responding to a wrong-way driver on northbound I-5 near milepost 208. The operator, Tina Ellison, 36, of Halsey, was arrested for DUII with a BAC of .15%.

HARRISBURG

Sun., Aug. 16, 8:37 p.m. — Deputy conducted a traffic stop on three juveniles riding e-bikes and e-scooters in the 500 block of S 6th St. Warnings were issued for violations.

9:46 p.m. — Deputy conducted a traffic stop on an e-bike in the 800 block of Territorial St. and issued a warning for improper use of the lane.

Mon., Aug. 17, 1:33 a.m. — Deputy contacted a male going through a trash can in the 400 block of S 2nd St. He was identified, warned, and advised to move along.

7:06 a.m. — Deputy spoke to a juvenile and parent in the 800 block of

Sommerville Loop about incidents which occurred out of state. Information will be provided to appropriate law enforcement. Report taken.

2:59 p.m. — Ryley McCorquodale, 42, of Eugene, was cited for driving while suspended in the 200 block of Smith St.

4:52 p.m. — Deputy spoke to a man with mental health issues threatening to shoot people in the 600 block of Territorial St., near N 7th. Non-criminal.

Tue., Aug. 18, 8:58 a.m. — Deputy responded to a possible hit-and-run in the 800 block of S 3rd St. and contacted the parties involved.

10:21 a.m. — Barry Darby, 67, of Veneta, was cited for speeding in the 23900 block of Hwy 99E.

3:13 p.m. — Leonard Watson, 40, of Harrisburg, was cited for an equipment violation in the 100 block of N 3rd St.

Wed., Aug. 19, 3:46 p.m. — Caller requested members of their household in the 800 block of S 8th Pl. be contacted and counseled for drinking and drug abuse.

8:11 p.m. — A sex offense was reported in the 600 block of Dempsey St. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

8:43 p.m. — Deputy conducted a welfare check on an elderly male in the 100 block of Monroe St. Resources were offered, and DHS was notified. Report taken.

10:28 p.m. — Deputy contacted a group of juveniles out past curfew. They were advised to go home and left when they were told.

Thu., Aug. 20, 10:47 a.m. — Timothy Baldwin, 24, of Harrisburg, was arrested on a Failure to Appear Warrant and transported to the Linn County Jail. Report taken.

Fri., Aug. 21, 7:00 a.m. — Deputy took a report of possible tampering with the caller's vehicle after the caller left for work in the 800 block of S 2nd St.

9:29 a.m. — Deputy contacted an unhoused person in the park in the 300 block of Sommerville Ave. and advised them of the no-camp-

ing rules.

Sat., Aug. 22, 5:53 a.m. — Adrian Mendez Lopez, 21, of Jefferson, was cited for driving while suspended and speeding 81 in a 55-mph zone in the 400 block of Peoria Rd., near N 3rd St.

9:53 a.m. — James Thompson, 55, of Brownsville, was arrested for a no-contact order violation in the 800 block of Sommerville Loop and was left in the custody of the Linn County Jail. Report taken.

11:07 p.m. — Zechariah Olsen, 33, of Eugene, was arrested for a warrant at Eagle Park. Report taken.

Sun., Aug. 23, 12:15 a.m. — Deputies responded to a reported fire in the 900 block of S. 2nd St. near LaSalle St. A male was reported injured. Investigation ongoing. Report taken.

12:23 p.m. — Deputy spoke to a citizen regarding a civil issue occurring over the phone in the 700 block of Priceboro Dr. Information logged.

7:28 p.m. — Lucas Ellingson, 34, of Portland, was arrested for DUII in the 32900 block of Diamond Hill Dr. Report taken.

JEFFERSON

Tue., Aug. 18, 7:04 a.m. — Caller reported a juvenile walked away from her home in the 38300 block of Densmore Rd. Deputies responded to search for the juvenile, who was located by a family member down the road. Report taken.

Sat., Aug. 22, 3:12 a.m. — Ashley Jones, 28, of Jefferson, was cited for driving uninsured in the 39000 block of Hwy 99E.

PEORIA/OAKVILLE

Sun., Aug. 16, 9:16 p.m. — Caller reported being scammed out of \$50 in the 29300 block of Park St. Report taken.

Thu., Aug. 20, 10:58 p.m. — Deputy provided a subject in the 32000 block of Oakville Rd. a courtesy ride home.

SCIO

Sun., Aug. 16, 8:22 p.m. — Deputies responded to a traffic complaint where a

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SHERIFF'S REPORT AUGUST 16-23

pickup roasted its tires in the roadway in the 28600 block of Garden Dr.

Mon., Aug. 17, 4:02 p.m. — Deputy responded to a fraud report in which an individual paid another person who claimed to be a deputy from the Linn County Sheriff's Office in the 39300 block of Jordan Rd. The person claiming to be a deputy told the reporting party she had warrants for her arrest and that the reporting party paid \$1,700 to pay off her warrants. Report taken.

Tue., Aug. 18, 12:20 p.m. — Deputy investigated a hit-and-run incident in the 38900 block of NW 2nd St. Report taken.

1:27 p.m. — Deputy began a violation of order investigation in the 43300 block of Thomas Dr. Report taken.

10:58 p.m. — Deputies investigated a death in the 36800 block of Freeman Rd. Report taken.

Wed., Aug. 19, 1:00 p.m. — Deputy responded to a harassment report in the 37600 block of Rodgers Dr. where a male called his ex-girlfriend's stepmother after she made a post about him on Facebook. Non-criminal.

Thu., Aug. 20, 1:32 p.m. — Deputy took a report of a hit-and-run involving a forklift that drove off the roadway and down a steep embankment in the 39500 block of Richardson Gap Rd., near Ridge Dr.

Fri., Aug. 21, 2:10 p.m. — Caller reported fraud in the 40600 block of Stayton Scio Rd., which is already being investigated. Information documented.

2:21 p.m. — Steven Eskeldson, 57, of Scio, was arrested for probation violation in the 37400 block of Robinson Dr. Report taken.

8:08 p.m. — Susannah Huntley, 21, of Lebanon, was cited for driving with no insurance in the 42300 block of Camp Morrison Dr., near Hwy 226.

Sat., Aug. 22, 12:08 p.m. — Deputy contacted Scio Fire for a medical evaluation of a bicycle rider who had fallen from her bike in the 38900 block of SW 6th Ave.

12:10 p.m. — Deputies responded to a report of a missing juvenile in the 38600 block of SW Elderberry St. The parent located the child while deputies were searching.

Sun., Aug. 23, 8:51 a.m. — Deputy began a burglary investigation in the 37400 block of Jefferson Scio Drive. Report taken.

11:40 a.m. — Deputy located an illegal camping site on private property in the 38800 block of N Main St. and moved the tent camper along.

11:14 p.m. — Ongoing mental health call for service in the 43100 block of Hwy 226. Information documented.

SHEDD

Thu., Aug. 20, 3:24 a.m. —

Deputy investigated a complaint of phone harassment in the 32700 block of Boston Mill Dr. Investigation ongoing.

6:13 a.m. — Jarrett Rickard, 42, of Gates, was cited for speeding and failing to carry proof of insurance in the 21800 block of I-5 Southbound.

7:07 p.m. — Deputy investigated the report of phone harassment and arrested Erin Hoover, 42, of North Albany, for phone harassment in the 32700 block of Boston Mill Dr. Report taken.

Sun., Aug. 23, 7:41 a.m. — Erin Hoover, 42, of Albany, was arrested for violation of her release agreement and phone harassment in the 32700 block of Boston Mill Dr. Report taken.

TANGENT

Sat., Aug. 22, 8:15 p.m. — Deputy responded to a runaway juvenile report in the 32200 block of Tangent Dr. The juvenile was last seen at 2:30 p.m. The juvenile was entered into LEDS as missing. Report taken.

11:46 p.m. — David Sanders, 54, of Albany, was arrested for two Albany Municipal Court warrants and one Lebanon Municipal Court warrant in the 31000 block of Tangent Dr. near McLagan Rd. Report taken.

Sun., Aug. 23, 10:52 a.m. — Deputies responded to a mental health call of a suicidal subject in the 32900 block of Old Church Rd. ☼

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
August 31, 2026

Brownsville City Hall Council Chambers

The City of Brownsville will hold a public hearing before the Planning Commission on Monday, August 31, 2026, to consider an application for a Conditional Use Permit in the Old Town Commercial Zone (OTC).

The hearing will be held at 7 p.m. in Brownsville City Hall, 255 N. Main Street, Council Chambers, on the date above. The Staff Report will be available for review at City Hall by 4 p.m. August 24, 2026; a copy of the document may be obtained on that date.

NATURE OF PROPOSAL: Conditional Use Permit to allow a residence, secondary to the primary commercial use, at 439 N Main St, in the Old Town Commercial Zone.

LOCATION: 439 North Main Street
Brownsville, OR 97327

APPLICANT(S): Teresa Loukota
40849 Highway 228
Sweet Home, OR 97386

APPLICABLE CRITERIA: Brownsville Ordinances 15.125.010-050, 15.115.010-070 & 15.80.080

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

Please submit written comments to the City of Brownsville, Attention: Elizabeth Coleman, PO Box 188, Brownsville, OR 97327, fax to (541) 466-5118, or deliver to City Hall at 255 N Main St. Comments must be received by 4 p.m., August 24, 2026. Copies of materials relied upon by the applicant are available for review and may be obtained for a fee. Please contact Elizabeth Coleman with any questions at (541) 466-5666.

CENTRAL LINN SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY

The Central Linn School Board is accepting applications to fill a recent vacancy on the school board for the representative of Zone 3 of the district. This zone is within the incorporated City of Halsey. The full description may be found on the district's website: <https://www.centrallinn.k12.or.us> or by contacting the district office.

A person eligible to serve on the Board must be a qualified voter of the district, have been a resident of the district for the year, and live in the appropriate zone. Applications may be found on the district's website or obtained at the district office. Candidates will be interviewed by the Board during a public school board meeting. For first consideration, please apply by September 4, 2026.

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CLASSIFIEDS

AL-ANON WEEKLY MEETING
Fridays • 7 p.m. • Halsey City Hall, 100 W Halsey St.

AA WEEKLY MEETING
Fridays • 7 p.m. • Halsey City Hall, 100 W Halsey St.

Publishing Legal Notices

The Times is 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 11

C	O	A	T		L	E	F	T		E	P	E	E		6	5	3	1	8	7	2	4	9		
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The 1977 Drought

By Daniel R. Murphy, Staff Writer and Columnist

Media reports frequently highlight drought or near-drought conditions in western Oregon — concerns that are well founded. Heat waves across the U.S. continue to devastate farmers following consecutive dry winters.

This issue is not new. Dry years have dominated since 2000, but the most severe period since 1950 began with the 1977 drought.

The winter of 1976–77 caused one of the most damaging single-year droughts in Oregon’s recorded history, driven by historically low statewide precipitation and a collapsing Cascade mountain snowpack. At peak depletion, the snowpack dropped to 21 inches, compared with its normal 140 inches. Whychus Creek in Sisters ran completely dry, leaving local farmers without water.

PEOPLE WHO SAY THE DROUGHT IS OVER ARE ALL WET.

The power situation in the Northwest remains serious. The rains that started the first of March should have started last September. As a result, power reservoirs are still way below normal. Snowpack is less than half what it should be. Right now there is a 50-50 chance mandatory curtailment will be necessary this summer or fall. That projection is based on "normal" precipitation from here on out. Think about it this way. Loss of power will mean loss of jobs...and family hardship. It will mean mandatory steps to cut use. No ifs, ands or buts. The only way we have of avoiding this situation is to curtail use now. It may be difficult to understand why turning off lights, reducing thermostats and hot water use is so important now. But it's going to be a lot tougher next fall if we push our luck...and lose. Power curtailment check lists for home and business are available at any local Pacific Power office.

The People at Pacific Power

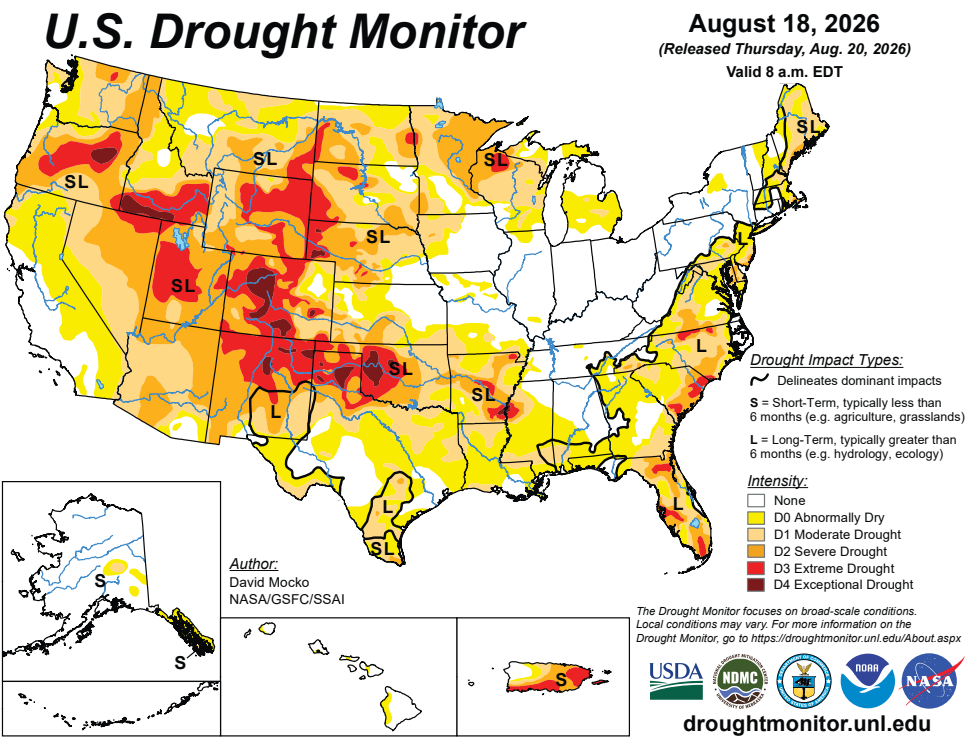
A Pacific Power advertisement published in the April 7, 1977, issue of The Times urged Northwest residents to conserve electricity during the drought, warning that low precipitation and snowpack had left power reservoirs well below normal.

Nineteen Oregon counties received federal disaster declarations due to massive crop losses and livestock stress. Because Oregon relied on hydroelectricity for 90 percent of its power, utilities prepared for rolling outages. Meanwhile, persistent wildfires forced Gov. Robert Straub to mobilize hundreds of personnel to fire lines.

The 1977 crisis prompted intergovernmental cooperative agreements to manage water shortages. These framework improvements helped mitigate the impact of later events, such as the 2015 drought, particularly for agriculture. Today, the central challenge remains balancing water distribution for farmers and fish while minimizing impacts on Oregon’s carbon footprint.

The summer 2026 nationwide drought has intensified due to a confluence of factors, including El Niño climate patterns and extreme heat driven by climate change. Currently, the U.S. Drought Monitor reports Linn County split between moderate drought in the north and severe drought in the south.

Historical records reflect similar warnings. On April 7, 1977, Pacific Power ran a full-page ad in The Times warning residents of severe drought and potential summer power loss. Brownsville officially declared a water shortage in September 1977.



The U.S. Drought Monitor for Aug. 18 shows drought conditions across much of the western United States, including portions of Oregon. The map classifies conditions from abnormally dry to exceptional drought and identifies areas experiencing short- and long-term impacts. The U.S. Drought Monitor is jointly produced by the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Map courtesy of NDMC.

On Dec. 28, 1978, The Times published an article titled “Rebounds from Drought...” While full regional recovery took years, recurring dry periods since have prevented a complete long-term rebound. Drought is increasingly becoming the region’s new normal. 🌀

Rebounds from Drought . . .

State Farm-Products Sales Sets Record of \$1.25-Billion

Oregon farmers and ranchers shook off the effects of the 1977 drought and set a record \$1.25-billion in estimated gross sales for 1978. This was the fifth year in a row farm sales have topped \$1-billion in Oregon. It includes \$785-million from crop sales (up 16 percent from 1977) and \$475-million from livestock and poultry (up 33 percent). The estimated sales total represents a 20 percent increase over the 1977 total.

A SPECIAL REPORT
Prepared by the OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY Department of Information

of wheat, cattle and calves, and specialty crops (primarily nurseries, Christmas trees and farm forestry.) All Oregon counties reported increases in sales for 1978. Three counties topped \$100-million: Marion county, which has a record sales of \$100-million.

Tree-Fruits and Nuts recorded sales of \$586-million, an increase of 23 percent from 1977. The rise is attributed to price increases since production went down for most tree fruit. Filberts and Walnuts experienced a good production year and record prices. Sales of Small Fruits and Berries were up nearly 10 percent, to \$38-million. High prices for small fruits and berries helped to offset the decline in sales of other small fruits.

A 1978 report highlighted Oregon agriculture’s rebound from the 1977 drought.

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