



CELEBRATING TRADITION: The 2025 Brownsville Pioneer Picnic Princesses Crowned

Central Linn honors its past and future with a court full of spirit, heart, and community pride.

As the scent of cotton candy and the sounds of laughter return to Pioneer Park, Brownsville proudly welcomes its 2025 Pioneer Picnic Princesses. This cherished tradition, dating back more than a century, continues to honor local heritage, celebrate community spirit, and showcase the vibrant young women who represent the heart of Linn County.

This year's court brings together a spirited group of young women with diverse interests and strong roots in the community. While each has her own unique story, they share a common love for Brownsville, a sense of service, and an appreciation for the traditions that define this historic town.

High School Princesses



Gracie Lynn Droback, a home-schooled senior and longtime Brownsville resident, is the eldest of seven siblings; Rosiee (18), Jude (15), Angie (14), Lily (13), Ellie (11), Luke (9), and baby James. Known for her creativity, fun-loving and outgoing nature with a great sense of humor, Gracie enjoys line dancing, playing softball, watching "Barbie as the Princess and the Pauper," and spending time with family and friends. She loves fish tacos, Taylor Swift, puppies, and pink. Her fondest Picnic memories include sharing shaved ice and

exploring the vendor booths. Among her proudest moments: stepping in to coach her sister's volleyball team when no one else could. She looks up to her dad as her hero.



Dakota Grace Ramshur, a Central Linn junior, brings a blend of confidence, compassion, and country charm. Her favorite subject is Animal Science, and she fills her time tending to chickens, playing soccer, and going on road trips with her family, including her brother Wyatt, age 14. A fan of Zach Top and "The Princess Bride," Dakota is especially looking forward to representing the community at Picnic events. She's known for her willingness to stand up for what she believes in and for being a reliable friend. She describes herself as adven-

turous, hardworking, and rooted in faith, drawing inspiration from her supportive parents.



Luci Grace Kennedy, a home-schooled sophomore, is known for her fun-loving personality and leadership skills. She enjoys country music, dancing, and her grandmother's biscuits. Her favorite Picnic tradition is the Talent Show, and she's passionate about wrestling, board games, and helping others. Whether scaring friends with a Halloween mask or offering a hand when someone's in need, Luci brings humor, heart, and humility to the court. She looks up to her mom, whom she describes as brave and kind-hearted.

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Central Linn High School's Class of 2025 Graduation

by Staff Writer, Sharon Banks



Audrie Pieske, salutatorian and five valedictorians, Madelyn and Olivia Howard, Coen Schneiter, Emmie Helget, and Ava Glaser.

On Saturday, June 7, 2025, Central Linn High School gathered to celebrate the achievements of its Class of 2025 in a heartfelt ceremony held in the school gymnasium in Halsey.

The event brought together seniors, families, friends, and teachers in a celebration of perseverance, community, and academic accomplishment.

The graduates, 39 students from Central Linn's close-knit rural district, walked down the aisle to the tune of "Pomp & Circumstance" in their blue and red regalia—a proud tribute to the school's colors and mascot, the Cobra. The ceremony commenced with a procession led by seniors, followed by a performance of patriotic music inspired by the National Anthem from the Blue Notes Choir. The band played "Over the Rainbow," followed by heartfelt speeches from school administrators and student representatives. The atmosphere was warm and inspiring, highlighting the district's vision: preparing "well-rounded, confident, and responsible individuals."

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Kendra Glaser Awarded American Legion Scholarship

by an ordinary seaman

Folks, there's some excellent news emerging from our community, a story that truly highlights the dedication and bright future of one of our own. Kendra Bethany Glaser, a graduate of Central Linn High School and a member of the well-respected Glaser Farm family from Shedd, has been named the recipient of the prestigious American Legion Post 184 Sgt. Travis A. Moothart Memorial Scholarship. This significant award, totaling \$2,500, will undoubtedly aid Kendra as she embarks on her higher education journey.

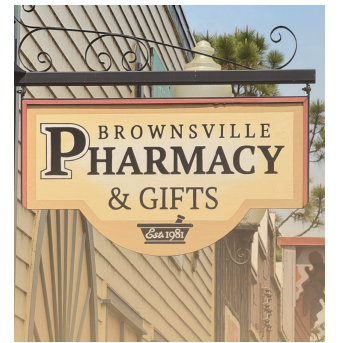


Since its founding, just after World War I, the American Legion has emphasized youth education. The local American Legion Post 184 has established a scholarship to support Central Linn High School students in their pursuit of future education. The Post, its leaders, and members have established a process to raise funds, select candidates, and name a winner. The local Legionnaires are grateful for the support they have received from the community.

Ultimately, Kendra was chosen for her exceptional achievements and all-around excellence. Kendra's academic record is nothing short of impressive. She consistently excelled in her high school coursework, achieving an outstanding GPA. Furthermore, she proactively sought advanced learning opportunities, enrolling in several college-level courses at Linn-Benton Community College. Beyond her academic pursuits, Kendra was deeply involved in numerous school activities with a strong emphasis on farming-related activities.

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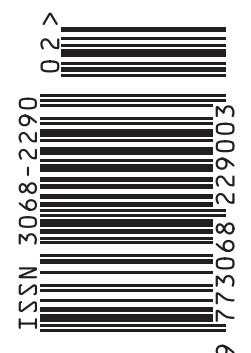
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\$2.00



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Brownsville Thursday Market

Thursdays, 3–7 p.m.
Held on Main Street just off Highway 228, this weekly market offers local produce, crafts, and more.
<https://www.calapooiafoodalliance.org>

Linn County Pioneer Picnic

Friday–Sunday, June 20–22
Oregon’s longest-running celebration features a parade, dam run, car show, and various activities at Pioneer Park. This year’s theme is “Pioneer Logging Camps.”
<https://www.pioneerpicnic.com>

Halsey Parks & Library Committee

Tuesday, June 18, 5:30–7 p.m. · 773 W 1st St.

Widows’ Brigade

June 19 1:30 p.m. Central Valley Church

Halsey Spring Clean-up Day

Saturday, June 21, Items placed for pickup by 7 a.m.
Tires, lumber under 4’ long, metal, and bundled plastics. Large furniture, appliances, and mattresses, all under 4x4x4’ and less than 150 lbs (limit 2 per household max). Sweet Home Sanitation: 541-367-2535

Silver Screen Cinema

“The Snows of Kilimanjaro”

Friday, June 27, 7 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30)
The American Legion Travis Moothart Post 184 at 339 N. Main. \$2 per ticket, Concessions will be available

Brownsville City Council

Monday, June 30, 7 p.m.
Fisher Hall, upstairs at City Hall 255 N Main
<https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us/citycouncil>



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editor@brownsvilletimes.org

Board of Directors:
Sharon Banks, Chair
thebrownsvilletimes@gmail.com
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Advertising: Jeff Brown 541-657-8148
advertise@brownsvilletimes.org
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The Brownsville Times is a small, independent, nonprofit weekly newspaper sharing real local stories that reflect, inform, and uplift our community.

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WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Brownsville Assembly of God

313 Washburn St · 541-466-5030
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Services 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Classes Wednesday 7 p.m. all ages

Brownsville Christian Church

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

Brownsville Community Church

198 Washburn St · 541-936-9131
<https://hislifeinbrownsville.com>

Brownsville Mennonite Church

34795 OR-228 · 541-466-5622

Central Valley Church

657 American Dr · Halsey · (503) 602-6796
<https://www.cvchalsey.com>

Sunday Corporate Service 8 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. (during school year)
Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.
Monday Prayer 7–8 p.m.

Crawfordsville Calvary Chapel

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

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.

Halsey Mennonite Church

910 E 1st St · (712) 432-8773
<https://www.halseymennonite.org>
Sunday Service 10 a.m.

1st & 4th Sunday evening 6 p.m.
Prayer meeting 1st & 3rd Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.

Harvest Reformed Baptist Church

411 W 2nd St · Halsey · 541-220-1902
<https://harvestrbc.org>
Sunday School 9 a.m.
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Fellowship Meal Noon

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

104 W Blakely Ave · Brownsville · 541-367-2530
holytrinitybrownsvilleor@gmail.com
Weekday Mass Wednesday Noon
Sunday Service 11:30 a.m.

Riverside Christian Fellowship

(360) 880-4734
Sunday Prayer 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Service 10 a.m.
Sunday School 11 a.m.

Spirit of the Valley United Methodist Church

611 W 3rd St · Halsey · 541-654-8144
spiritofthevalleyumc@gmail.com
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

1111 North Main St · 541-570-2903
Sunday Service 10 a.m.

Valley Christian Fellowship

690 W 2nd St · Halsey · (732) 434-3592
<https://vcfhalsey.com/>
Sunday Service 10 a.m. & Wednesdays 7:15 p.m.

Is Your Church Listed? We want to keep our Worship Directory accurate and complete. If your place of worship is missing or your service times have changed, send updates to editor@brownsvilletimes.org

PRINCESSES

continued from page 1

Junior Princesses



Naomi Raelynn Whittam, 8, attends Central Linn Elementary and enjoys music, Minecraft, and spending time with her siblings. She’s known for her kindness and bravery, especially when standing up for others. Naomi loves family camping trips and says her favorite part of the Pioneer Picnic is the games, bounce house, and shopping.

Emily Steele, 9, of Albany, brings a creative spirit and playful energy. She enjoys reading, drawing, and playing outdoors with her dogs. While new to the Picnic experience, she’s excited to dive in this year. Emily’s known for her sassy sense of humor and generous heart, and she calls Jesus Christ her greatest hero.



Morgan Mae Leigh, a third grader from Sand Ridge School, is an outdoors-loving, horse-adoring nine-year-old with a love for math and Hamburger Helper. She’s brave — having had pins removed from her arm — and always ready to support her friends. Her favorite Picnic moment? Watching the parade go by.

Esther Joy Neal, 8, of Brownsville, shines with creativity and courage. She enjoys math, soccer, drawing, and playing board games with her family. Whether she’s dressing up as Ron Weasley for Halloween or standing on the edge of a cliff, Esther embraces every moment. She especially admires her big sister Amelia, who inspires her to be kind and brave.



Addilynn Joy Carter, also 9, is home-schooled and passionate about baking and roller skating. She’s fearless — having eaten chocolate-covered ants — and thoughtful, often making surprise gifts to brighten someone’s day. Her favorite Picnic treats are the ice cream cart and the parade. She looks up to her dad, her favorite snuggle buddy during movies.

Abigail Davis, a third grader at Central Linn, is a lover of math, dogs, and books. She enjoys coloring, reading, and spending time outdoors. She recalls jumping off a rock into a river as her bravest feat and says she looks up to both her family and her friends. Her favorite Picnic activity is playing the games.



Throughout the summer, the princesses will represent the Central Linn area at regional parades, festivals, and civic events. A queen will be crowned during the 2025 Pioneer Picnic, held June 20–22. The court also participates in historical education programs, dons traditional pioneer attire, and helps tell the stories of Brownsville’s founding families.

Now in its 138th year, the Brownsville Pioneer Picnic remains Oregon’s longest-running community celebration. What began in 1887 as a reunion of early settlers has grown into a beloved tradition filled with music, food, games, and history. As ambassadors of the past and future, the 2025 Pioneer Picnic Princesses stand as symbols of resilience, pride, and the enduring spirit of small-town Oregon.

See more princesses in the next issue on Thursday, June 19

BROWNSVILLE LIBRARY

LEVEL UP @ YOUR LIBRARY

2025 Summer Reading Program

You are your child’s first teacher. Look at picture books with your children who have not learned to read and point out people, animals, and objects in the pictures. Read to your children and ask them to read to you. Your librarian will be happy to help you find books that are just right. We hope that you and your family enjoy looking at books and reading together and that you discover the treasures of your Library.

Your children are invited to join Brownsville Community Library’s Summer Reading Program. We will kick it all off with Anne Louise at the Pioneer Picnic Saturday, June 21, beginning at 1:30 p.m. on the Main Stage. Anne Louise presents a joyful program of songs and stories to keep you chuckling, laughing, singing, and tapping those feet! And of course — finding your voice!! This program is sponsored by the Brownsville Women’s Study Club. The Library appreciates their dedication to our programs and the children in our community.

Activities include a Take-and-Make Out and About Bingo activity for the first week of July. In Week 2, we welcome performer Kelli Welli! Kelli draws upon her unique upbringing to create songs that often defy categorization. Week 3 will play I-Spy with my little eye — what kind of game is this? In Week 4, we will have our Library Olympics! We will wrap it up with our 2nd Annual Stuffed Animal Library Sleepover! The 2025 Summer Reading Program is free and open to children of all abilities. Kids who read succeed, not only in school, but in life.

Join us this summer for books, activities, and fun... together we can demonstrate how to LEVEL UP @ YOUR LIBRARY

Normal Library hours
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10 a.m.–5p.m.
Thursday, 1–7 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Closures
June 24–28, *Library Maintenance*
Friday, July 4, *Independence Day Holiday*

Library Summer Schedule

Songs, Rhymes & More Story Time
Fridays 11 a.m.–June 13, 20 | July 11, 18, 25
August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Summer Reading Program Kick-off Performer
Anne Louise at Pioneer Picnic Main Stage,
Saturday, June 21, @ 1:30 p.m.

July 1–5	Take-and-Make Out and About Bingo
Thursday, July 10	Kelli Welli Performer
Thursday, July 17	I-Spy With My Little Eye
Thursday, July 24	Library Olympics
Thursday, July 31	2nd Annual Stuffed Animal Sleepover
August 1, 10–5 p.m.	Pick up your stuffed animal from the Library

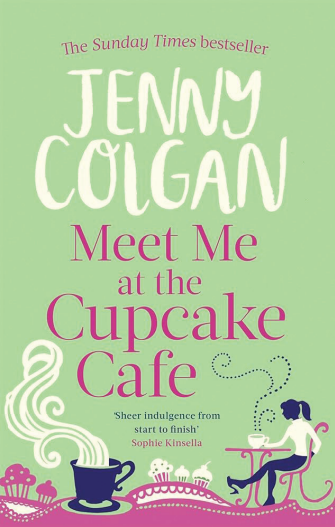
Library manners are expected. No childcare provided.
All programs are free of charge. Join us each Thursday to pick up your weekly activity and stock up on books to read. For more information, call the Library at 541-466-5454 or visit our website: www.brownsvillecommunitylibrary.org or find us on Facebook @BVOR Library.

BOOK REVIEWS

by Nancy Diltz

Meet Me at the Cupcake Café by Jenny Colgan

I’ll admit it, I am a sucker for novels that include cooking recipes that are woven into the story. This book did not disappoint! The story begins with a recipe for Drop Scones, something I have recently desired to master, on page one. Blended into the story are unusual recipes such as a Brandy and Horlick Get Well Cake and the scrump-



tious-sounding Strawberry Meringue Cupcakes. Author Colgan peppers her story and the recipes themselves with wit and humor. The Orange Cupcakes with Marmalade Icing for a Grumpy Day include directions such as, “Use the fire of your righteous anger to melt the butter if a pot isn’t handy”, and “Pour the mix into a bowl with the flour and whack repeatedly with a wooden spoon until subdued.” If you are more of a chocolate person, you may enjoy Colgan’s *The Loveliest Chocolate Shop in Paris*, complete with a look at chocolate making and a luscious cake recipe.

Jenny Colgan is a Scottish bestselling and award-winning author. This book contains some mildly mature themes.

- Drop Scones**
1 cup self-rising flour
2 tbsp superfine sugar. Can be licked off spoon.
1 egg Budget for four eggs if working with children under seven.
2 1/4 cups whole milk. 1 1/4 cup for recipe, plus one glass to be taken with results.
... and on it goes!

Recipe from *Meet Me At The Cupcake Cafe*
by Jenny Colgan, 2011 Sourcebooks, Inc.

HALSEY LIBRARY

Check Out the “Lending Library”

The following items are now available to borrow from the Halsey Library, courtesy of the OSU Extension Service! Each item comes with instructions and information.

- Turbo Steam Canner
- Presto Pressure Canner
- Kenley Fermentation Crock
- Presto Food Dehydrator
- Nesco Vacuum Sealer

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Saturday, July 12	Kickoff with Caesar the No Drama Lama
Saturday, July 19	Lego Derby Car Races
Saturday, July 26	Museum of Natural and Cultural History
Saturday, August 2	Game Day & Ice Cream Party

Register at the Library. All programs start at 11 a.m. at the City Hall Community Center 541-369-2522. www.halsey.org/services/library

Albany Summer Passport Program Returns for 14th Year on June 21

by Lonna Capaci, Historic Resources and Visitor Services Manager at Albany Visitors Association

ALBANY — The 14th Annual Albany Summer Passport Program kicks off Saturday, June 21, at the Albany Historic Carousel & Museum, 503 W 1st Ave. Families can register at the launch event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., or anytime throughout the program’s duration.

Running through Friday, Aug. 8, the free passport encourages children to explore Albany by visiting local businesses and attractions, collecting stamps, and completing fun challenges like trivia, puzzles, and games. Each location is listed on a map included in the passport, and participating sites will display posters to welcome young adventurers.

The program is designed for elementary-aged children, but siblings, parents, grandparents, and caregivers are all invited to join in the fun.

Weekly prizes will be awarded throughout the summer, with grand prize winners announced at the Carousel Carnival on Saturday, Aug. 16.

The Passport Program is a collaborative effort between the Albany Visitors Association, Albany Downtown Association, Albany Regional Museum, Albany Historic Carousel & Museum, and the Monteith Historical Society.

For more details, visit albanyvisitors.com, call 541-928-0911, or email info@albanyvisitors.com.

KIDDIE PARADE
Calling All Kids!

Get ready for the Linn County Pioneer Picnic Kiddie Parade, proudly sponsored by the Pollyanna Club. On Friday, June 20, decorate your wagons, wheels, small pets, and yourselves like Pioneers from the 1800s. Line-up begins at noon at the old Baptist Church Parking lot, 515 N. Main St., Brownsville, behind Carlson’s Hardware and next to Poppi’s Place. Judging is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. The parade will begin at 1 p.m.

The Kiddie parade theme this year is “Pioneer Kids”. There are six categories, and cash prizes are awarded for each category: Create a Float, Decorate a Bicycle, Dress Up as a Pioneer Kid, Dress your Small Pet, Decorate your Little Wheels, and Children’s Motorized Ride-Ons. An adult must accompany any motorized ride-on. Sweepstakes prize is \$50, First Place for each category is \$20, Second Place for each category is \$15, Third Place for each category is \$10. So, choose your category and create your entry to be a part of this fun event! See you there!

CALL FOR SPONSORS:
Help Make Stand By Me Day a Success.

by Linda McCormick

The highly anticipated Stand By Me Day event is just around the corner, attracting fans from across the globe to celebrate this beloved occasion! This year, in an effort to encourage greater local attendance, we have moved the event to Saturday, July 26. (The last Saturday in July from now on.)

Organizing an event of this magnitude requires substantial support and we rely on the generosity of our corporate and personal sponsors to cover the associated costs. As a registered 501c3 nonprofit organization, all contributions made to Linn County Museum Friends are tax-deductible, making your support not just beneficial for the event, but also for your tax returns.

SBM contined on page 11

PIONEER PICNIC

Thursday, June 19

5:30-7 pm Flower & Student Art Show entries accepted *Log Cabin*

Friday, June 20

8–10 am Flower & Student Art Show entries accepted *Log Cabin*

9 am–4 pm Pioneer Picture Gallery opens

1 pm Kitchen Opens *Pavilion*

11 am–6 pm Quilt Show *Community Arts Bldg*

Noon Kiddie Parade Assembly *Poppi’s Parking Lot*

1 pm Kiddie Parade *Main Street - Pollyanna Club*

1:30–7 pm Flower & Student Art Show *Log Cabin*

1–7 pm Food, Arts & Crafts Booths, Inflatables *Pioneer Park*

2 pm Spelling Bee *Stage*

3:30 pm Penny Scramble *Family Games Area*

7 pm Opening Ceremony, Coronation, Raffle *Stage*
Queen’s Reception *Stage*

8:30–11 pm Queen’s Dance *Dance Hall*

Saturday, June 21

Sign-up: Beard and Mustache Competition *Info Booth*

Sign-up Talent Showcase *Info Booth*

7–9 am Wagon Train Breakfast *Pavilion*

8 am Parade Entrants Assemble *Templeton & Hwy 228*

9 am Parade Judging *South of Hwy 228*

9 am–5 pm Picture Gallery Opens *Picture Gallery*

10 am Sign-Up: Horseshoe Tournament *Horseshoe Pits*

10 am Grand Parade *Through Town - Central Linn Lions Club*

11 am Kitchen Opens *Pavilion*

11 am–6 pm Quilt Show *Community Arts Bldg*

After the Parade Cruise-in *Pioneer Park*

12 pm Horseshoe Tournament *Horseshoe Pits*

12–7 pm Flower & Student Art Show *Log Cabin*

12 pm “One More Time Band” *Stage*

11 am–7 pm Food, Arts & Crafts Booths, Inflatables *Pioneer Park*

12:45 pm NW Scots Honor Guard Presentation by Colonel Daniel Gepford, Commander *Stage*

1:30 pm Summer Reading Program Kick Off presents “Let’s Make Some Noise” featuring Anne-Louise *Stage*

2 pm Square Dance *Dance Hall*

3 pm Pie Eating Contest *Stage*

4 pm Talent Showcase *Stage*

7 pm Quilts of Valor Presentation *Stage*
Beard and Mustache Competition

7:30–8:30 pm Country Line Dance lessons

8:30–11 pm Social *Dance Hall*

Sunday, June 22

7–7:45 a.m .Sign-in/Sign-up Pioneer Dam Run 5K/10K *Museum Park*

7-10 am Wagon Train Breakfast *Pavilion*

8 am Pioneer Dam Run 5K/10K *Museum Park*

10 am Church Service *Stage*

11 am Horseshoe Tournament *Horseshoe Pits*

11 am Kitchen Opens *Pavilion*

11 am–4 pm Quilt Show *Community Arts Bldg*

11 am–3:30 pm Flower & Student Art Show *Log Cabin*

11 am–4 pm Food, Arts & Crafts Booths, Inflatables *Pioneer Park*

12:30 pm Penny Scramble *Family Games Area*

1 pm 64th Linn County Loggers’ Jamboree *Logging Arena*

1 pm Family Games/Races *Family Games Area*

1–4 pm Picture Gallery Open *Picture Gallery*

3:30–4 pm Pick-up Flower and Art entries/ribbons/prizes *Log Cabin*

AMERICAN LEGION

The Silver Screen Cinema
Bringing Community, Cinema,
and Service Together

by Staff Writer, Sharon Banks

The proud tradition of community service continues as Post 184 of the American Legion announces an exciting theatre event: The Silver Screen Cinema. This event brings classic films, family favorites, and a unique movie-going experience to the heart of our town — all within the welcoming space of the American Legion Post.

Located at the historic Post 184 building, The Silver Screen Cinema will offer monthly screenings designed to entertain and connect community members of all ages. From timeless black-and-white treasures to classic blockbusters with heart, each showing is curated to celebrate the golden age of cinema while supporting the values of unity and shared experience that the Legion holds dear.

“Our mission has always been to serve veterans, their families, and the community,” said Post Commander Norm Simms. “Hosting The Silver Screen Cinema aligns beautifully with that mission. It’s a chance for us to open our doors wider and bring people together around something we all enjoy — great stories on the big screen.”

The cinema features a warm, nostalgic ambiance, complete with vintage movie posters, a themed concession stand, and comfortable seating. With tickets priced at \$2, the movies are affordable and combined with concession sales, bring in a small amount of funding for the post.

Sharon Banks, creator of The Silver Screen Cinema and First Vice-Commander of the American Legion Post 184, shared her enthusiasm: “We’re thrilled to be hosting this theatre. This isn’t just about movies — it’s about creating a space where people feel welcome, seen, and uplifted. We believe in the power of stories to connect generations and honor the past while looking forward.”

Proceeds from ticket sales and concessions will support both the cinema and Post 184’s veteran services and outreach programs. The partnership represents a meaningful step forward in vitalizing the Post as a hub for civic and cultural life.

The Silver Screen Cinema shows films on the last Friday of each month at 7 p.m. The next film is “The Snows of Kilimanjaro” on June 27. For reservations call or text Sharon Banks 541-915-9322.



Advertisement for the American romantic adventure film “The Snows of Kilimanjaro” (1952). ©1952 20th Century Fox. Image via Wikimedia Commons.

POLLYANNA CLUB

Tradition of Service
Continues into Second
Century

Brownsville tradition thrives through youth events, local donations, and decades of volunteerism

By Staff Writer, Nancy Diltz

Have you noticed that there’s usually a strong driving force behind both the big and small happenings in a community? In Brownsville, one of those forces is the Pollyanna Club — an institution that has positively shaped our town since 1926, almost a century ago!

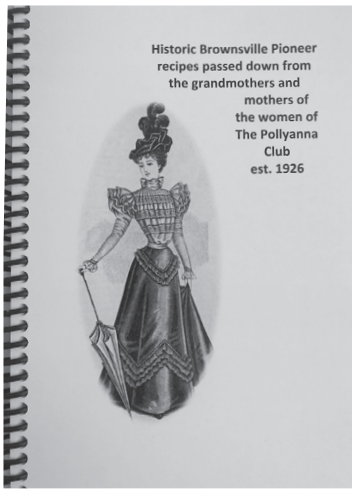
Who are the Pollyannas? A group of about 15 women of all ages, committed to promoting, encouraging, and supporting school and community life. Some of today’s members are descendants of the original founders — families like the Howes, Isoms, and Kirks — continuing a nearly century-long legacy of civic pride and service.

Their next big contribution is just around the corner: the Pioneer Picnic Kiddie Parade. Since 1939, the Pollyannas have organized the Kiddies Parade, set for Friday, June 20, at 1 p.m. Judging begins at 12:30 p.m. behind Carlson Hardware on Main Street. Kids can win cash prizes and receive a popsicle courtesy of Dr. Kirt M. Glenn, DMD, PC. And don’t miss the return of the picnic game favorite, Chicken-In-A-Pot—another long-time Pollyanna tradition.

Beyond events, the club supports numerous local causes. They donate regularly to Sharing Hands, the Central Linn School District Scholarship Fund, and the Oregon Veterans’ Home in Lebanon. Past recipients include Girl Scouts, Pee wee Baseball, the Red Cross, March of Dimes, the American Cancer Society, and many more. Funds come from member donations and community fundraisers, including a limited-run cookbook: *Historic Brownsville Pioneer Recipes Passed Down from the Grandmothers and Mothers of Women of the Pollyanna Club*, est. 1926 — available for a \$10 donation. (Contact Nancy Diltz at misscabc@yahoo.com to purchase.)

The term “Pollyanna” comes from Eleanor H. Porter’s 1913 novel, where the heroine is known for her steadfast optimism and ability to see good in every situation. Brownsville is lucky to have its own version of Pollyannas—women quietly working behind the scenes to lift up their community.

See you at the parade and picnic!



CENTRAL LINN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Serving Local Communities

by Don Ware

The Central Linn Community Foundation was established in 2002 with the following stated mission, to support and promote the health, vitality, and quality of life in the Central Linn communities. Thousands of dollars each year have been awarded to projects to such organizations as Sharing Hands, the Calapooia Food Alliance, Cobra Booster Club, and Central Linn Rec Center.

Local organizations and citizens are encouraged to donate to CLCF, PO Box 4, Brownsville, Oregon, 97327.

Grant applications are available in January each year.

TAKING ROOT

Seed Starting, part 1

by Staff Writer, Donald Lyon

There are so many pleasures in gardening but the one that stands out for me is starting plants from seed. Harvesting and eating are great but when I look over my young seedlings, I'm like a proud father looking over his children. Let's take it step by step and maybe I can convince you to partake in this small pleasure that saves money (as opposed to buying six-packs and flats.) Starting from seed also increases your choice of varieties and species.

Buy good quality seeds from reliable suppliers. I like to purchase from local suppliers like Adaptive and Territorial because those seeds are adapted to our Willamette Valley climate. Most seeds will last for several years if stored in a cool, dry environment, but seeds packaged for this year will have a higher germination rate. Keep them cool and dry until planting.

If the seeds are large like peas, beans, and squash, I will germinate them before planting. Sprinkle them onto a paper towel and fold the edges into an envelope. Wet with warm water, squeeze out the excess and put your little bundle of joy into a plastic sandwich bag with the name and the date



Snow peas germinated in wet paper towel prior to planting.

by which germination is expected. This information is generally found on the seed packet. Check every few days to ensure that the towel is still damp but not soggy and watch for the appearance of a little tail emerging from the seed. This is the “radicle”, the beginning of the root. You will want to plant the germinated seeds very soon (preferably with the radicle headed downward). Days to germination vary quite a bit from one seed to the next so don't give up yet on the seeds that have not germinated. If the seeds are fresh, most will germinate.

Many seeds are quite small. It is best to sow them directly into the garden or potting medium. Typically the seed packet will also tell you how deep to sow your seeds. A rough rule of thumb is that the depth should be two to three times the diameter of the seed— one 1/8 to a 1/4 of an inch in most cases. Pay attention to this information because if planted too deep they may not germinate and if too shallow they may fail to become adequately rooted and make easy pickings for birds. Besides water and light, seeds need oxygen, thus the potting soil should be loose and well aerated. Don't use dirt you dig up in the yard — it will pack too tightly and suffocate your seeds — purchase a bag of potting soil. Over watering will drown your seeds depriving them of oxygen.

Heat is also a requirement for starting seeds. Most seeds will germinate over a wide range of temperatures but give them their preference and they will really soar. Tomato seeds will germinate at temperatures from 50 to 95° F but 80° is the optimum. We are talking about soil temperatures, not the air temperature. A cooking thermometer with a range from, say 20 to 120° F with a steel probe is an inexpensive acquisition from the housewares section of the supermarket. A chart with optimal soil temperatures can be found by searching for “OSU Extension's Soil Temperature Conditions for Vegetable Seed Germination”. Peas can be planted early in the spring when the soil reaches 40° but will take 30 days to appear. At 50° peas will sprout in just 13 days.

If you are sowing seeds directly into the garden, weed the area thoroughly. Use a hoe to break up any clods then rake smooth and level. Create a shallow trench with a stick at the recommended depth and carefully distribute seeds at the recommended spacing. With very tiny seeds, a seed dispensing device will pay for itself by preventing the whole packet from being dumped into the trench at once. I bought mine from the Territorial Seed catalog. Once sowed, I like to sprinkle potting soil over the seeds to fill the trench, then using the flat side of the hoe tamp the soil down to ensure soil to seed contact. Use a watering can or fine mist from the hose to thoroughly wet the ground. Lay a piece of clear plastic over your new seed bed to warm the soil and keep it moist. Remove the plastic once the little seedlings emerge and keep using the nozzle with the fine spray until the plants are established. Next week, we'll talk about transplanting, thinning, fertilizing and more. So much fun. Can you stand it? Questions? Ask a Master Gardener, phototraveler02@gmail.com.

Donald Lyon is a retired international photography tour guide who has lived in Brownsville for 15 years. He serves on the Calapooia Food Alliance and the Thompson's Mills Preservation Society boards. He is an at-large board member of The Brownsville Times.

TABLE TALK — DINING IN AND AROUND BROWNSVILLE

Camille's Bistro (Albany)

by Staff Writer, Jeff Brown



If you're in Albany and looking for a good dining option, check out Camille's Bistro at 210 1st Ave SW. As soon as you enter, the decor gives off a French café vibe that sets the mood for a pleasant meal. They serve breakfast, lunch, dinner, and desserts, along with a full bar.

What stood out during our visit was the friendly hospitality from owner Camille Romania. She served us with enthusiasm and shared engaging conversation about our shared interest in France and Italy, which made the experience feel personal.

Now, onto the food. My wife had the croissant filled with smoked turkey, avocado, and provolone cheese. The flavors worked well together, and the croissant was flaky and satisfying.

I tried the French Onion Soup, which was rich and flavorful, topped with melted cheese that added a comforting touch. I also added a French Onion Dip, which complemented the soup nicely. Both dishes were well prepared and flavorful — showing that care goes into the recipes.

Overall, Camille's Bistro offers a solid dining experience with a cozy atmosphere and good food. It's worth a visit if you're in the area.



Sharing Hands Receives Donation from Georgia-Pacific

by Donna Black, Georgia-Pacific Halsey Mill Communications Coordinator

On May 8, representatives from Georgia-Pacific in Halsey presented a \$5,000 donation to Sharing Hands. Mill Manager, Austin Callahan, along with Donna Black, presented the check to Debra Gruell, Executive Director for Sharing Hands.

The Halsey Mill has been partnering with Sharing Hands for a number of years. Along with monetary donations, the mill has participated in projects including painting and landscaping the building, donating toilet paper for distribution with food boxes, and helping to support the Sharing



A check for \$5,000 was given to Executive Director for Sharing Hands, Debra Gruell, by the new mill manager, Austin Callahan.

Tree program during the holidays. The mill also collects and donates recyclable bottles and cans on an on-going basis.

Georgia-Pacific is committed to giving back in meaningful ways to the communities where their employees work and live. The company has worked with thousands of outstanding community-based programs, service projects, and disaster relief efforts across the United States,

focusing investments in four areas: Education, Environment, Enrichment of Community, and Entrepreneurship. The Halsey Mill produces premium tissue, such as Quilted Northern Ultra Plush®, as well as customer branded tissue and paper towels. Be sure to be on the lookout for the Georgia-Pacific Halsey Mill float in the upcoming Pioneer Picnic parade. Employees will be tossing out candy and toilet paper to the crowd. A select few of the toilet paper rolls will have a “Golden Ticket” included to exchange for a case of toilet paper down in Pioneer Park on Saturday.

CENTRAL LINN SCHOOLS

Central Linn Launches Virtual Online Academy this Fall

The Central Linn School District is excited to introduce a new learning option: the Central Linn Online Academy, launching this fall!

Designed for families seeking flexibility, personalized support, and the convenience of learning from home, this virtual program is open for registration starting June 16.

To enroll, visit www.centrallinn.k12.or.us/online-academy and select Central Linn Online Academy during the registration process. A staff member will follow up to help finalize your enrollment.

Note: The registration system will be off line for maintenance July 1–15.

Questions? Contact Kellen Hobie at kellen.hobie@centrallinn.k12.or.us.

Student Artists Invited to Enter Pioneer Picnic Art Show

The Linn County Pioneer Association, in partnership with The Frame House, invites young artists to participate in the 2nd Annual Student Art Show during Brownsville's 138th Pioneer Picnic celebration.

This year's theme is "Pioneer Logging Camps," though any artwork inspired by Linn County's pioneer past is welcome. Students from elementary through high school are encouraged to submit original pieces in any medium — painting, drawing, photography, mixed media, or sculpture.

Entries will be judged by local artists, with awards given to the top three in each age group. Two special honors will also be awarded: People's Choice and LCPA Choice. Prizes are sponsored by The Frame House and the Linn County Pioneer Association.

Artwork drop-off at the Log Cabin in Pioneer Park:

- Wednesday, June 19, 5:30–7 p.m.
- Thursday, June 20, 8–10 a.m.

Judging concludes on June 20. Public viewing and voting run June 20–22 during the Pioneer Picnic. Artwork must be picked up Sunday, June 22, between 3:30 and 4 p.m. Unclaimed pieces will be held for 30 days at the Picture Gallery downtown.

Each entry must include a label with the student's name, parent/guardian name, grade, title, medium, and a contact phone number. While care will be taken with all submissions, the LCPA cannot be held responsible for lost or damaged artwork.

Need help with supplies or printing? Contact Al Severson at 541-974-5616 or Debie Wyne at 541-602-0945.

CLRA Opens 2025 Fall Sports Registration

The Central Linn Rec Association (CLRA) has officially opened registration for its 2025 fall sports programs. Local youth can now sign up to participate in a range of team sports and activities, including flag football, soccer, volleyball, and sideline cheer.

CLRA programs are open to a variety of age levels and provide a fun, inclusive environment for athletes of all experience levels. Whether your child is new to the sport or looking to sharpen their skills, CLRA emphasizes teamwork, sportsmanship, and community.

Sign up at www.clrasports.org or for more details. Questions? Reach out to vp@clrasports.org.

CENTRAL LINN SPORTS

Little Hitters Program Introduces Kids to the World of Baseball & Softball

by Staff Writer, Larissa Gangle

The Central Linn Rec Center is a nonprofit organization that offers a variety of sports programs for youth in the Central Linn area. One of these programs, the co-ed "Little Hitters," offers an introduction to baseball and softball for kids from pre-k through second grade. The goal of the Little Hitters program is to establish the basic concepts of the game beginning at an early age.

Pre-k and kinder begin with T-ball, with a goal to (nearly) master the basics of the game. Skills goals include hitting from a tee, throwing, catching, learning field positions, and of course, the classic T-ball activities of picking daisies in the outfield, attempting headstands at second base, and shenanigans on the bench. When asked what his favorite part of this year's season was, kindergartner Brodie Gangle responded that he "loved playing pitcher and batting." First and second graders ditch the tee and advance to coach pitch, perfecting their swing and building on the basic skills acquired in T-ball.



Kindergartner Niyah Bean playing T-ball at Pioneer Park on May 19

For the 2025 season, there were a total of 72 players in the Little Hitters Program. There were six teams, including three T-ball teams, two coach pitch teams, and one advanced coach pitch team through Mid-Valley Little League consisting primarily of second graders with a few first graders. Practices began in April with games taking place throughout May. An evening visit to Pioneer Park during April and May would almost surely result in the opportunity to watch some ball, often with all three fields in the park occupied by teams of various levels. This year's season concluded with a fun-filled end-of-season party on May 31 at Pioneer Park with hot dogs, awards, games, prizes, and water activities.

All teams were coached by local area volunteers who generously dedicated their time and energy, including Jon Moore, Chris Parker, Mike Dennis, Andrew Kinder, Brandon Bishop, Joel James, Shaun Garey-Wilder, Ashley Reese, Titus Shaum, Kyle Koontz, and Stu Short. This year's sponsors included the Honey Hole Bar & Grill. Thank you to the many coaches and sponsors who made this year's season a success!

Do you have a kiddo who might be interested in the Little Hitters Program? Registration will begin in January of next year (scholarships available). For more information about the Central Linn Rec Center, please visit clrasports.org and follow them on Facebook @ Central Linn Recreation Assoc.

SCHOLARSHIP

continued from page 1

Her contributions extend well beyond the classroom. Ms. Glaser has been an active participant in various community and church-related activities. She loves to work with youngsters.

A lesser-known fact about this remarkable young woman is that she is a competitive trap shooter, showcasing precision and discipline in her extracurricular pursuits.

This fall, Kendra will begin a new chapter at the University of Idaho, where she plans to study nutrition. While her family and friends in Shedd and Central Linn will undoubtedly miss her presence, they can take immense pride in her accomplishments and the exciting future that awaits her.

American Legion Post 184 is honored to support Kendra Bethany Glaser as she begins her college career. We extend our warmest congratulations and best wishes for her success.

As an aside, while I was interviewing Kendra, people, both young and old, kept coming up to her, shaking her hand, hugging her, congratulating her, and wishing her well. It was encouraging to see how widely known and loved Kendra is. Her family, friends, church members, teachers, and Central Linn folks in general seem to take pride in this young woman.

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SHERIFF'S REPORT

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 depending on agency availability prior to 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 Brownsville Times makes every effort to follow cases as they progress through the court system.

June 2

1:04 a.m. — Suspicious vehicle reported at block of 26300 Falk Rd. and Lake Creek Dr., Halsey. Deputy observed a suspicious vehicle. Upon investigation, nothing suspicious found.

2:29 a.m. — Suspicious person reported at block of 33600 Hwy 99E, Tangent. Male with mental health issues, left residence in middle of the night. Male was located and returned home.

7:12 a.m. — Traffic stop reported at block of 29100 Hwy 99E and Davidson Dr., Shedd. Moving violation warning

10:05 a.m. — Civil dispute report reported at block of 31300 Allen Ln., Tangent. Deputy spoke to female regarding civil dispute report.

10:08 a.m. — Report pending. Original call type: Assist other agency reported at block of 100 Putman St., Brownsville. Ashley Kay Miles, 36 of Brownsville was arrested on three outstanding warrants and lodged into the Linn County Jail.

10:54 a.m. — Extra patrol reported at block of 200 W Park Ave., Brownsville. Deputies conducted an extra patrol.

1:37 p.m. — Report pending. Original call type: Motor vehicle injury reported at block of 33500 Ridge Dr. and Seven Mile Ln., Tangent. Deputy responded to a two-vehicle crash with injuries with one being transported to a local hospital via ambulance. Cynthia Smith, 67, of Shedd, was issued a citation for failing to obey a traffic control device related to the crash.

2:33 p.m. — Report pending. Original call type: Fraud reported at block of 28200 Hwy 99E, Halsey. Deputy responded to report of fraud. Caller is out \$520,000 total. Investigation ongoing.

4:57 p.m. — Suspicious vehicle reported at block of 28100 Ogle Rd., Halsey. No public narrative.

9:08 p.m. —DHS 307 Referral reported at block of 34100 Powell Hills Ln., Shedd. DHS fax reviewed, information logged.

9:15 p.m. — DHS 307 Referral reported at block of

400 Kay Ave., Brownsville. DHS fax reviewed, information logged.

June 3

7:02 a.m. — Report pending. Original call type: Unlawful entry into a motor vehicle reported at block of 400 Moyer St., Brownsville. Donald Adams, 44 of Brownsville, was arrested on two counts of unlawful entry to a motor vehicle and trespassing. He was lodged at the Linn County Jail.

12:05 p.m. — Traffic stop reported at block of 200 Washburn St., Brownsville. Operator warned for failure to obey a traffic control device.

1:01 p.m. — Traffic stop reported at block of 100 S Main St., Brownsville. Operator warned for improper turn.

1:13 p.m. — Report pending. Original call type: Warrant service reported at block of 200 E G St., Halsey. Andrew Parker, 38, of Halsey was arrested on a fail to appear warrant DUII out of Linn County Circuit Court. Mr. parker was lodged at the Linn County Jail.

2:13 p.m. — Traffic complaint reported at block of 28100 Brownsville Rd., Brownsville. Deputies responded to a traffic complaint.

June 4

8:29 a.m. — Report pending. Original call type: Domestic disturbance re-

ported at block of 300 W J St., Halsey. Deputy assisted with individual who was having mental heath issues .

11:37 a.m. — Traffic stop reported at block of 25500 Hwy 99E, Halsey. Warning issued for speed.

11:47 a.m. — Suspicious Circumstance reported at block of 300 W Bishop Way, Brownsville. Deputy investigated suspicious circumstance.

2:52 p.m. — Juvenile complaint reported at block of 400 Depot Ave., Brownsville. Deputy assisted with mediating a family argument.

4:35 p.m. — Traffic stop reported at block of 31700 Hwy 34 and McFarland Rd., Tangent. Ma Vera, 43, of Albany was issued a citation for speed 90 in a 55 after a traffic stop on Highway 34 near Albany.

7:08 p.m. — Traffic complaint reported at block of 32600 Hwy 228 and Falk Rd., Halsey. Traffic complaint from Oregon State Police.

June 5

1:47 a.m. — Suspicious vehicle reported at block of 33600 McFarland Rd., Tangent. Deputy located a suspicious vehicle. Deputy learned it belonged to a cleaner.

6:15 a.m. — Suspicious vehicle reported at block of 31100 Seven Mile Ln., Tangent. Suspicious vehicle checked on.

8:27 a.m. — Traffic stop reported at block ff 34200 Hwy 228 and Fisher Rd., Halsey. Warning issued for speed.

2:36 p.m. — Traffic stop reported at block Of 26700 Gap Rd. and Lake Creek Dr., Brownsville. Driver warned for improper display of rear license plate.

2:42 p.m. — Traffic stop reported at block of 100 W Cooley Ave. and Washburn St., Brownsville. Driver warned for improper display of rear license plate.

3:58 p.m. — Traffic stop reported at block ff 100 S Main St., Brownsville. Driver warned for failing to carry drivers license.

5:20 p.m. — Traffic complaint reported at block of 29900 Peoria Rd. and Fayetteville Dr., Shedd. Traffic complaint reported on Peoria Rd. No deputies were available to respond and no information on the vehicles was provided to follow-up on.

6:40 p.m. — Report pending. Original call type: traf- fic stop reported at block of 31800 Old Hwy 34 and McFarland Rd., Tangent. Krytyna Bothern, 34, of Scio was arrested for an out- standing warrant near Old Hwy 34and McFarland Rd. Krytyna was also issued a traffic citation for a driving while suspended violation and for fail to carry proof of insurance.

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SENIORS

continued from page 1

The speeches by the students were especially inspiring. Audrie Pieske, the Salutatorian, encouraged students to “Keep pushing yourselves and never forget to dream boldly, work hard, and never give up.” She introduced the five valedictorians, who all graduated with perfect 4.0 GPAs. They were the Howard twins, Madelyn and Olivia, Coen Schneider, Emmie Helget, and Ava Glaser. Each gave an inspiring speech, and it closed out with a speech by Ava Glaser. She advised the students, “To aspire is to chase something with purpose. It means working hard, pushing through when the road gets messy, and believing it’s worth it even when the outcome is not clear. Aspiration isn’t about having it all figured out. It’s about aiming higher anyway.”

Then the Central Linn Blue Notes Choir sang “Lean on Me,” followed by Scholarship presentations. Numerous scholarships were awarded, with many top students receiving more than one award. Local organizations presenting were: The Travis Moothart Memorial, The American Legion, Central Linn Education Association, Central Linn Memorial, William Brent Anderson Memorial, Tim Wirth Scholarship, CL Education Foundation, Priscilla Club, and Frasier Memorial.

Across the stage, each graduate received a diploma, marking completion of rigorous state and local requirements — 24 credits including core



subjects, electives, and essential skills — a testament to their dedication. Many students also met the criteria for honors or distinction diplomas, highlighting strong academic achievement.

After the ceremony, caps flew into the air, capturing the joy and relief of a milestone met. Proud parents and community members lined the aisles, offering applause, cheers, and hugs — a vibrant reminder of the support system that guided these students.

As the Class of 2025 embarks on the next chapter — whether college, vocational training, military service, or entering the workforce — they carry the spirit, values, and resilience of Central Linn behind them. “Engaged learning, enrichment, and community” will continue to guide their paths, ensuring the district’s vision lives on through each graduate.

Congratulations to the graduates, families, and educators for a milestone well celebrated!

HALSEY MAYOR'S CORNER

Protect Yourself: Scam Awareness Tips from the Mayor

By Jerry Lachenbruch

Good golly, it's June! I hope you and your gardens are thriving—and don't forget, the Halsey Library still has free seeds to share.

Unfortunately, I need to share a more serious topic: scams are on the rise across Linn County. Scammers are using increasingly sophisticated tactics, including “spoofing” phone numbers to pose as banks or fraud departments. Their goal? To pressure you into sharing personal information or sending money quickly.

Please be cautious with unsolicited phone calls, emails, or texts — especially those urging immediate action or requesting personal details. Legitimate businesses will never rush you or demand payment through gift cards or wire transfers. Be especially wary if someone asks you to restart your phone during a suspicious call — it may be a tactic to erase evidence.

Stay informed on common scam tactics. If you've been targeted or scammed, report it right away to the Linn County Sheriff's Office at 541-967-3950.

As always, I'm here to serve. Feel free to reach out at Mayor@halseyor.gov.

CRITTER CHRONICLES

Jamie and the Turkey Takeover

A True Story by Sharon Banks

Jamie, the fearless (and slightly overconfident) German Shepherd, pranced through the tree farm with all the grace of a seasoned hunter. She was the self-appointed queen of the land, protector of the property, and, most importantly, the number one squirrel chaser in Linn County.

One fine spring afternoon, as she patrolled the fields, her ears perked up at a suspicious rustling in the tall grass. Just beyond a slash pile, she could hear the scuffling of some tasty critters. She crept forward, tail high, eyes sharp. That's when she spotted them — tiny, fluffy, wobbling creatures pecking at the ground. Baby turkeys.

Jamie's tail wagged. **Perfect! Something new to hunt!**

She lowered herself into what she thought was a stealthy hunter's crouch and inched forward. Just as she prepared for a glorious, dramatic leap into the middle of the baby bird bonanza.

GOBBLE-GOBBLE-GOBBLE!

The earth shook. The sky darkened. A terrifying shadow loomed over Jamie.

Mama Turkey had arrived.

Jamie barely had time to blink before the mother turkey, a creature twice her size (at least in Jamie's suddenly panicked imagination), spread her wings and charged. Her gobble had the pow-

er of a war cry and her beady eyes burned with a fiery maternal rage.

Jamie yelped and turned tail so fast she nearly tripped over herself. The baby turkeys scattered, unfazed. Mama Turkey, however, was just getting started.

She chased Jamie through the field, her wings flapping wildly, her gobble echoing like a battle drum. Jamie, the mighty protector of the tree farm, the fearless warrior of the backyard, was now **running for her life from a very angry bird.**

She sprinted past the barn, dodged a wheelbarrow, and leaped over a fence in one panicked bound — something she had never done before but discovered was suddenly within her skill set when properly motivated by poultry-based terror.

From the safety of the barn, Jamie turned back, panting. The turkey stood at the edge of the field, puffed up and victorious, as if daring her to ever try such nonsense again.

Jamie, still trying to catch her breath, flopped down with a dramatic sigh. Perhaps some battles were just not worth fighting.

The squirrels, watching from the safety of a nearby tree, chattered in what Jamie was pretty sure was laughter.



She'd never live this down.

And so, the legend of **Jamie vs. The Turkey** was born.

From that day forward, every time Jamie so much as heard a gobble, she suddenly remembered she had important business to tend to... in the opposite direction.

The End.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO

Mary Florence Potts and the Sad Iron

By Daniel R. Murphy

Brownsville has proudly embraced its history since the early 1960s, when downtown façades were restored and the community helped establish both the Linn County Museum and the Moyer House. With history such a central part of our town's identity, it seems only fitting to occasionally take a look back. We hope you enjoy this glimpse into the past



Newspaper advertisement for the sad iron.

The Linn County Museum Friends, Inc., gives guided tours of the Moyer House on Saturdays in the winter and on weekends during summer. In the kitchen of that stately little mansion, we discuss the Sad Iron improved by the patented innovations of Mary Potts. A sample of her iron is there for all to see.

Mary Florence Potts invented an improved clothes iron and received a patent for it at age 19 in 1869. The next year she added a second patent for the detachable wooden handle for the iron which made all the difference, allowing the handle to stay cool as the iron heated up. It was manufactured and sold by the American Machine Company. They were distributed by Montgomery Ward and Sears, Roebuck and Company until 1951.

Potts was born in 1850 in Ottumwa, Iowa. She married Joseph Hunt Potts. They had two children and operated a business producing optical goods. They moved from Iowa to Philadelphia. Then they moved to Camden, New Jersey. Her husband died in 1901, and she passed in 1922 in Baltimore.

The irons are called “sad” irons because “sad”

is an Old English word meaning heavy or dense. Though they were made of iron and were heavy, her irons were partially hollow and filled with Plaster of Paris because it would not radiate heat as much.

She initially sold the irons herself but in time she contracted with the American Machine Company in Philadelphia to manu-

facture them.

Potts called herself an “inventress” which Wikipedia terms a Victorian expression. Her irons became the most popular irons used in Europe and the United States.

The concept of a removable tool part was ultimately copied by Gillette in 1901 with their safety razor. Additional replaceable battery packs were later developed for tools.

Mrs. Potts received her patent from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office when she was 19 years old making her the youngest woman to receive a U.S. patent.

Much of the content here is from the Wikipedia page on Mrs. Potts and appears to have some good attribution.

The sad iron originally sold for 65 cents each but the price varied over time. It never cost more than one dollar in the 19th century.

A complete set of the Sad Iron is kept in the kitchen of the Moyer House in Brownsville, Oregon. It is unknown where that iron came from.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Florence_Potts

Stork Report & Remembrances

Celebrate a new arrival or honor a loved one's life. Submit birth and obituary announcements for publication in The Brownsville Times. Email details: editor@brownsvilletimes.org

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Breathe, Walk, Float: Stress-Relief Tips that Work

by Staff Writer, Lynlee Bischoff

Life is stressful. That is the simple truth. And while a stress-free life is a wonderful goal, the reality is that most of us aren't there yet. And that's okay — but it's important that we're at least heading in the right direction. Studies have shown that moderate stress can make us stronger and more able to manage our stress. And while the "what doesn't kill you makes you stronger" approach may work short term, our long-term goal should always lead us toward reducing stress. How you do that can be as individual as you are. So let's explore a few options and see if one doesn't pique your curiosity:

Take a walk in the forest

The act of spending time in the forest is what the Japanese call shinrin-yoku, a term that means "bathing in the forest atmosphere." Studies done by Qing Li, a professor at Nippon Medical School in Tokyo found that simply immersing all your senses in nature (sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch) could boost your immune system, lower blood pressure, and help with depression. It can also reduce the stress hormone cortisol and adrenaline! So take a walk in the forest, listen to the birds, and hug a tree!

Grounding

When you think of the body as an electrical system — the idea of grounding makes more sense. Back when we ran around barefoot, there was no need to physically ground because we already were. But with the advent of shoes, our body electric became disconnected from the grounding nature of the earth. The simple act of removing your shoes and placing your bare feet on the earth can have a profound effect on your mental, emotional, and physical stress levels. So kick off your shoes and walk on the grass or simply take a seat and place your bare feet on the ground. Now close your eyes and take some nice deep breaths. It doesn't get much easier than this!

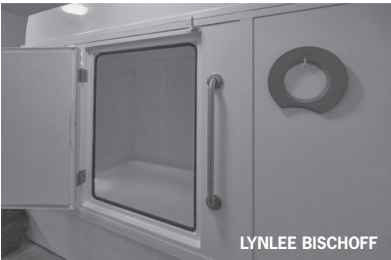
Float Tanks

"Trust me," she said, "this is amazing!" If you've ever seen the movie "Altered States" (a 1980 movie with William Hurt), then you know what an isolation tank is. Surprisingly, these have become fairly mainstream and should be experienced at least once. Don't let a little claustrophobia stop you because trust me — if I can do it, so can you!

Flotation tanks (also called sensory deprivation tanks) are shallow, enclosed structures filled with water that is saturated with Epsom salts (about 1500 pounds). The high salt concentration creates buoyancy that allows the body to effortlessly float. The water is maintained at body temperature, which reduces the sensation of being in water and makes it feel a bit more like floating on a cloud. The tank is insulated against light and sound, facilitating a silence and stillness that fosters a deep relaxation of both body and mind. This therapy is also highly effective for pain management, inflammation reduction, improved sleep, and yes, the reduction in the stress hormone cortisol. So if you feel adventurous for some serious relaxation, head to Soak Float in Salem.

Life is stressful. But reducing our stress can help us maintain a healthier body, improve our sense of wellbeing, and quiet our minds. There are an endless number of ways to achieve our goal of less stress and some of them are as easy as taking off your shoes or hugging a tree. So, turn off your cell phone and step outside — your body, mind, and spirit will thank you!

Lynlee Bischoff has been a licensed massage therapist since 1987. Her business, The Balancing Point, has been in Brownsville for nine years. She is a certified yoga instructor, avid gardener, and nature lover.



Soak Float located in Salem

CROSSWORD & SUDOKU KEY

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Do you know these classic authors?

- ACROSS
- 4. Wuthering Heights
 - 6. All the President's Men (2 names)
 - 9. The Grapes of Wrath
 - 10. Oh the Places You'll Go

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1. The Joy of Cooking

2. The Green Hills of Africa

3. Alice in Wonderland

5. The Book of Virtues

7. Rabbit Run

8. The Good Earth

SUDOKU

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Sudoku puzzles are provided by www.sudokuoftheday.com
Visit them and get a new Sudoku every day!

MEDIUM

Solutions on page 9

DEAR GERTRUDE Practical advice from a turn-of-the-century housewife
by Jaime Flynn



Dear Reader,

Ah, the lazy days of Summer are at last upon us! The songbirds are singing in the trees, the hay is rising high in the fields, and the river is finally winding down to a slow crawl for children to float along the bend at Pioneer Park. The blue evenings lengthen as the warm days stretch and cool nights shorten. We have events such as the brand-new Strawberry Festival in Lebanon to look forward to; one of many to grace us in this time of great abundance. Soon the rest of the berries of this beloved region will join in, along with apricots & cherries. Which summer fruits are your favorite to eat fresh from the bush, tree, or vine?

Along with this bounty comes now the distinguished & well-respected Mrs. Gertrude Dumas; yes, 'tis I! I am here to hand out hard-earned advice from the wealth of my experience and connections. As for anything I do not personally know, I will sniff it out amongst my peers as would any winning bird dog in a hedge full of wild turkeys (the terrors of Brownsville!) I do not mean to make myself out to be a sort of Wisenheimer, yet a lady does not reach my age while raising ten children without attaining at least some knowledge of a wide variety of subjects. Thus it is high time I share these gifts with the less fortunate, to bring solace to our beloved community here in the Willamette Valley. At this very moment, I sit here at my rather fashionable secretary desk to aid in whichever way I can, dear Reader. Ask away, and *bonne chance!*

P.S. My surname is pronounced "Dew-moss" not any other way, despite the twittering of young boys around town. It is French, darlings, as my ancestors were those who made their money in the fur trade coming out West. A few in the family say we have a connection to the author of *The Three Musketeers*, yet, we cannot ascertain completely. Ahem, onwards to our first question!

Dear Mrs. Gertrude,

I write with some urgency — I am all in a fluster! I am relatively new in town along with my husband and small children, and have just been invited personally by Mrs. Moyer to have tea with her at their lovely house in town. How do I act? How do I dress? What if I make a mistake with the cutlery and grab the wrong spoon? Oh, I have such collywobbles over it!

Yours truly, Terrified Entirely About Being A Gigglemug

Dear TEABAG,

While I pride myself on knowing the intricate details of etiquette of this fresh century: As my eldest son Gil might say, "Don't be a ninny". My sweet, you need not worry: Mrs. Moyer will not eat you in the stead of her delectable cucumber sandwiches at tea! She is a very gracious & understanding woman. All you need do is follow her lead — albeit in general, she does not tend to overdo it with airs & graces — she is indeed a most practical down-to-earth woman... who just happens to have the finest china and silk fabrics in town. Take deep, calming breaths to

See GERTIE continued on page 11

KIDS KORNER

by Nancy Diltz

Adventure Awaits!

"To live will be an awfully big adventure."
— *Peter Pan*, by J.M. Barrie

Peter Pan is a much loved and well-known book and animated movie character with a thirst for adventure. Remember Captain Hook and the pirate ship? The Island of Lost Boys?

Here are some other books about adventure that you might like to read. Each is a John Newbery Medal Award Winner.

"... the Medal shall be awarded annually to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children..."—ALSC, Association of Library Services for Children.

Call It Courage by Armstrong Sperry. A young Polynesian boy must prove his courage alone on a remote island.

The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg by Rodman Philbrick. Set during the American Civil War, an orphan goes alone in search of his older brother.

The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown. A group of young men from the University of Washington compete in the 1936 Olympics crew rowing competition. It takes all of their strength and ability working their racing boat on the river as they find themselves challenging Adolf Hitler's team.

These stories are wonderful to hear read-aloud for younger readers and to independently read for upper elementary and middle school levels. Enjoy a new adventure!

Adventure Word Search

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ADVENTURE
FOOTBALL
EXPLORE
ISLAND
CAREER
JUNGLE
WRITE
TRAVEL
READ
DRAW

THE LAWYER'S CORNER

by Danielle Myers

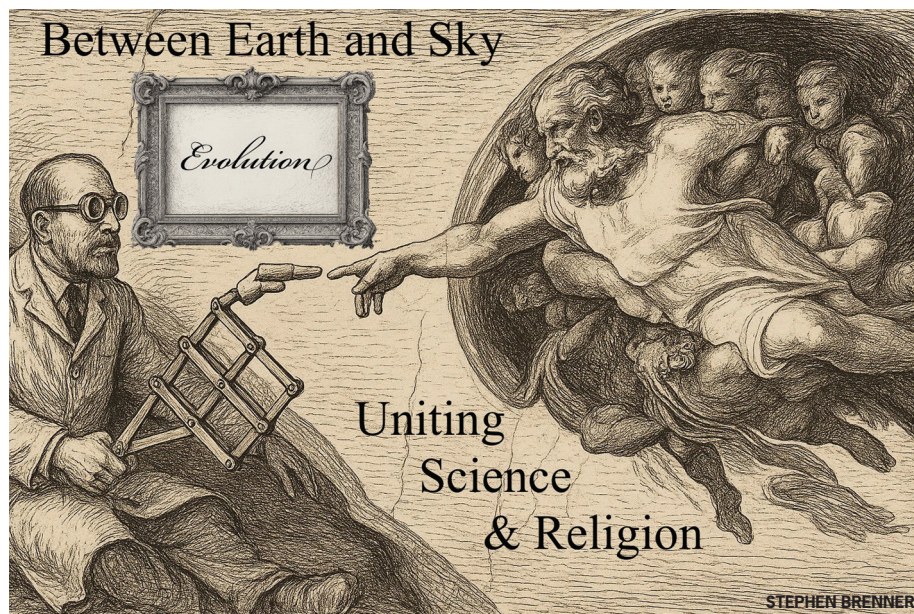
Welcome to the inaugural column of The Lawyer's Corner. The purpose of this column is to offer information and entertainment and should in no way be construed as legal advice. If you, the reader, have a general legal question, questions can be submitted via The Brownsville Times. You may use your name or be identified as Anonymous, but if your question appears in the column, you will only be identified as Reader, as in "A Reader asks..." Here we go.

A Reader asks, "Why is my legal bill so high?" Most people do not regularly engage a law firm and thus are unfamiliar with how an attorney bills. Attorneys across the nation bill the same way: in six-minute increments. This seems odd, right? Yet by using periods of six minutes, the hour can be easily broken into tenths. If you have ever received an invoice from a law firm, you should notice that the task time is recorded in tenths of an hour, i.e. 0.20, 1.30, etc. An invoice should include essential information such as a detailed account of the task performed, the person performing the task, the time spent on that task, the cost for that task, and any ancillary costs associated with the representation (postage, copies, filing fees).

An attorney rarely completes each task required throughout the course of representation by herself. Rather, support staff like a Paralegal or Legal Assistant perform the majority of the work involving drafting, filing, copying, and communications at the direction of the attorney and with the attorney's review of the tasks. Because the hourly rates of support staff are significantly lower than an attorney's hourly rate, the client's retainer goes farther.

But to get back to the question, legal bills are usually high because of emails, phone calls, and text messages. Just as billing in six-minute increments is a common practice, billing communications with a minimum of 12 minutes (0.20 HR) is standard. But what happens if the phone call was brief? Yep. You still will be billed for 12 minutes. Clients often do not understand how quickly communications can burn through a retainer. I make a concerted effort to educate my clients on the best ways to minimize their legal fees and it all starts with controlling communications. If you have three questions to ask the attorney, do not send three separate emails. Wait until you can email all three questions in one email. There is a good chance that in the time it takes the attorney to read your email and respond, you will not exceed the 12 minutes.

I hope this helped. I look forward to answering your general legal questions.



By Stephen Brenner

What could be more controversial than the concept of evolution, especially in 1825 during the Scopes Monkey Trial? The state of Tennessee prosecuted high school teacher John T. Scopes for violating the state's Butler Act, which prohibited the teaching of evolution in public schools. The primary conflict was between academic freedom of speech and the right of religious communities not to have secular ideas imposed upon them. The first amendment guarantees both no official state religion and the right to practice any faith — so it's a delicate balancing act. From a factual standpoint, scientists point to the shared DNA between species and the way embryonic development (ontogeny) repeats phylogeny (the genealogy of the species) as proof of evolution. While clerics point out the pathos of not recognizing life itself as something quite miraculous.

This rift goes way back to the dark ages where scientists were burned at the stake for heresy against church doctrine. That has caused them to create their own orthodoxy where no mention of spirituality is allowed in scientific discourse.

But in the hundred years since Scopes, have we seen much unification? Orthodoxies persist, but there's some blurring of the lines. For some clerics, Creationism has evolved into Intelligent Design which claims life is too complex to be explained without a designer. While spirituality is still taboo for science, consciousness research is gaining ground. The emerging field of epigenetics is showing that evolution is not a random process of gene mutation and natural selection; individuals adapt to their environments. The breakthrough work of Michael Levin at Tufts University shows how bioelectric signals (the voltage differences across cell membranes) guide the development, regeneration, and shape of organisms. This edges toward a teleological view of life, where form emerges from intention or purpose.

Perhaps one way to find unity on evolution is to remind ourselves that the "Kingdom of God is Within Us" and that we are partners in this process of evolution towards a more enlightened state of being.

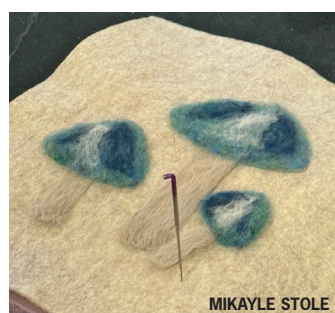
Spring Workshops Bring Art and Community Together at Brownsville Art Center

by Lori Garcy

The Brownsville Art Center welcomed spring with two hands-on workshops.

On May 24, artist Connie Swindoll led a class in 2D Wool Art, where students learned the basics of needle felting. Using colorful wool and felted backgrounds, participants created mushrooms with wool.

A week later, on May 31, instructors Kristen Norris and Jessica Bennett hosted Wreaths in Bloom, a seasonal floral workshop. Eight students decorated grapevine wreaths with greenery and flowers, creating bright, one-of-a-kind pieces perfect for summer.



Class participants Kailey Simmons (left) and Emma Gillis (right) bring home festive summer wreaths

These spring events are part of the Art Center's mission to provide creative experiences for the community. More classes are planned for the coming months.

Coming up next: Wet Felting Bowls & Vessels with Connie Swindoll on Saturday, July 19. Students will learn to shape wool into functional, artistic vessels using water, soap, and creativity. Only a few spots remain—register soon at brownsvilleart.org.

CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED

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Fully functional electric Husky power washer. No longer need it. \$40, Call 206-552-1904

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SBM

continued from page 3

We invite you to join us as a sponsor and help create an unforgettable experience for the community and our visitors. Your support can make a significant impact, and we would love to have you on board!

If you're interested in sponsoring this year's event, please make checks payable to Linn County Museum Friends and mail them to: LCHM Friends, PO Box 607, Brownsville, OR 97327. Don't forget to indicate "SBM" on your checks!

Together, let's make this year's Stand By Me Day an extraordinary event!

GERTIE

continued from page 10

steady your nerves and be as genuine as you can muster; the rattling of teacup against saucer is far more irritating than using the wrong utensil. As it is, more likely than not, you will only be using your fingers to eat the hors d'oeuvre — make use of the napkin provided frequently and all shall be well. Oh, except do not speak unless your mouth is free of sandwich or pastry, I like to take a pause to drink a sip before answering a question if it is asked of me while chewing. Crumbs are the abhorrence of the polite and tidy! Follow these rules and you will do just fine. *Bonne chance!*

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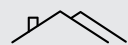
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