



THE BROWNSVILLE TIMES

VOLUME 137, NO. 13

SERVING CENTRAL LINN COUNTY, OREGON SINCE 1889

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

A Heartwarming Tale: First Day of School — Monday, August 25, 2025

The morning sun filtered softly through the tall Douglas firs lining West 2nd Street, as families trickled toward the Art Deco brick entrance of Central Linn Elementary in Halsey. Excitement — and just a whisper of nervousness — filled the air; after all, today marked the first day of school for the 2025–2026 year in the Central Linn School District.

Inside, Principal Joel Sauter stood by the front doors, greeting each child with a warm smile. This school, built in the 1930s, is more than just a building — it's a trusted hometown institution, serving about 250 students from kindergarten through sixth grade. The scent of freshly polished floors and the hum of chatter made the moment feel timeless.

A seasoned kindergarten teacher knelt beside a wide-eyed five-year-old clutching a brand-new backpack. "You're going to be wonderful," she whispered. Just a few steps away, older students compared fresh pencil boxes while swapping stories from summer vacation.



Students and families gathered outside Central Linn Elementary in Halsey on Monday morning, August 25, for the first day of the 2025–2026 school year.

In the hallways, third graders reunited with friends who had grown taller over the break, their laughter echoing off the lockers. Meanwhile, kindergartners walked hand-in-hand with parents, while older students offered helpful smiles and directions.

The school's dedicated staff — from its 13 certified teachers to its 15 classified support staff — were ready to offer guidance, encouragement, and a sense of routine.

By recess, the playground buzzed with activity. Jump ropes slapped the blacktop while kids raced in tag, meeting new friends under the late-summer sun. Teachers looked on from nearby benches, trading summer stories of their own.

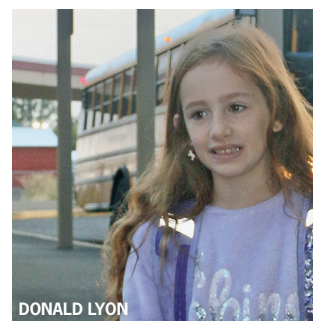
Inside classrooms, the first reading circles, name games, and opening lessons stitched together a sense of belonging. Parents lingered outside

SCHOOL continued on page 8

INSIDE Interviews with Central Linn students on page 8



Sharon Banks interviews students at Central Linn Elementary



Briar James answers silly "what if" questions.

A Fond Farewell: Honoring Joe & LeAnne Ervin's 40 Years of Service

by Staff Writer, Sharon Banks

On May 1, 1985, Joe Ervin walked into Brownsville Pharmacy for his first day on the job. Having worked in a fast-paced pharmacy since graduation — filling over 200 prescriptions a day — he was struck by how quiet things were in Brownsville. The pharmacy filled only about 40 prescriptions daily at the time, and he wondered if he had made the right decision or whether the business could truly sustain itself.

Four decades later, there's no doubt he did.

Pharmacy was always a part of Joe's life. His parents were the previous owners of Brownsville Pharmacy, which was initially located in the historic Howe Building. In 1992, they purchased a new location, and with the help of many friends and volunteers, completely remodeled it. By August 1993, the community celebrated the grand reopening in its new home.

Though Joe once considered careers with the Forest Service or in education, he ultimately followed the path laid by his family. Pharmacy, after all, was in his DNA.

ERVIN continued on page 3



DONALD LYON

Cobras Ready for Fall Competition

by Sports Editor, Tony Koontz

That time of year has arrived again. Loved by some and yet despised by others. The first week of school has arrived!

Most certainly, the love reaches fever pitch for the student-athletes (SAs) and coaches of Central Linn HS. After weeks (for some, months) of preparation, games, contests, and matches are finally here. Most of us who have had a few trips around the sun can fondly remember our high school days and the anticipation of our first contests. Our Cobra SAs will create memories and friendships that last a lifetime.



Whether it's 'Friday Night Lights' and football, weekday contests for volleyball and soccer, or weekend cross-country meets, the excitement is certainly felt by the SAs, their parents, extended family, friends, and neighbors.

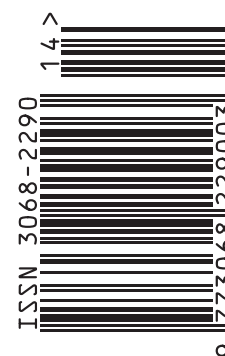
Don't miss a contest and an opportunity to cheer on your favorites. Schedules can be found on ossa.com, athletic.net, and the CL District Calendar. *COBRAS continued on page 9*



Michael Keel is excited for his first day of first grade.

MAILING LABEL BELOW

\$2.00



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Brownsville Thursday Market
Thursdays, 3–6 p.m.
Held at 185 Main Street just off Highway 228, this weekly market offers local produce, crafts, and more.
<https://www.calapooiafoodalliance.org>

GriefShare Support Group
Saturday, Sept. 6 – Nov. 15, 10–11:30 a.m.
First Baptist Church, 27910 Seven Mile Ln
A 13-week support group for those navigating loss and grief. Each session includes a 30-minute video from grief recovery experts, group discussion, and take-home exercises for personal healing. In-person, open to all.

Tangent City Council
Monday, September 8 • 7 p.m. • Tangent City Hall
<https://www.tangentor.gov>

Halsey City Council
Tuesday, September 9 • 7 p.m. • Halsey City Hall
<https://halseyor.gov/government/meetings.php>

Tangent Harvest Festival
Saturday, September 13 • 6:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Bass Estate Park & Tangent Elementary School
6:30 a.m. HOT AIR BALLOON LAUNCH
7:00 a.m. PANCAKE BREAKFAST
10:00 a.m. PARADE
11:00 a.m. FESTIVAL OPENS
Noon DERBY-PULL GATES OPEN
1:00 p.m. TRACTOR PULL STARTS
5:00 p.m. COMBINE DERBY STARTS
6:00 p.m. FESTIVAL ENDS

FREE Family Fun all day: Live music, vintage car and antique tractor show, community booths, and more.
FREE Kids’ Activities include: Kids’ pedal tractor pull, face painting, kids’ village, bounce house and more.
Artisan Market, Food Trucks, & Beer Garden

Brownsville Book Club
September 17 • 7 p.m. • Brownsville Library Kirk Room
Discussion on “The Circle” by Dave Eggers

Widows’ Brigade
Thursday, September 18 • 1:30 p.m.
Central Valley Church

Tangent Together Meeting
Thursday, September 18 • 6:30-7:30 p.m.
at Tangent Rural Fire District

Tangent Together is a volunteer-run nonprofit that hosts citywide events. Everyone is welcome to attend and help make them a success
<https://tangenttogether.org>

Estate Planning: Making a Trust
Thursday, September 18 • 7 pm
Brownsville Community Library’s Kirk Room • 146 Spaulding Ave.

Local attorney Danielle M. Myers is donating her time as the guest speaker. The session is FREE and open to the public — no registration required.

Calapooia Food Alliance Harvest Party
Friday, September 19 • 6 p.m.–Dark
Community Garden, 185 Main St, Brownsville
Provided: Grilled corn and zucchini, bean medley, salsa, salads, fruit, zucchini bread, dessert. Please bring your favorite dish, chips, or beverage to share. Free to attend. RSVP calapooiafood@gmail.com

Cider Pressing at Thompson’s Mill
Saturdays, Sept. 20, Oct 11 & 25
11 a.m. until apples run out (usually before 3 p.m.)
Thompson’s Mills | State Heritage Site
32655 Boston Mill Dr, Shedd, OR 97377
\$5 per half gallon. Bring a picnic, take a tour, and enjoy fresh-pressed cider.

Tickets On Sale Now for Albany’s Haunted Tours

ALBANY — October brings a chilling lineup of haunted experiences from Monteith House, and tickets are on sale now.

Early October events include:

- **Trolley of Terror**
Thursday, October 3 at 6 p.m.
- **Ghost Walk in Albany**
Thursday, October 10 at 6 p.m.
- **VIP Paranormal Investigation**
Friday, October 18 at 10:30 p.m.

The month’s grand finale is the Carriage of Shadows, a haunted horse-drawn tour through Albany’s shadowy streets, with stops at more than 15 haunted sites. Tours end inside the historic and famously haunted Monteith House.

- **Carriage of Shadows** runs October 24 and 25 at 6, 7, 8, and 9 p.m.
- Tickets: \$25/adult, \$20/child

Each event raises funds for the Monteith Historical Society, helping preserve Albany’s oldest frame house and its collection of pioneer artifacts.



Seats are limited — reserve your tickets now before these haunted tours sell out. 🌀

OBITUARY

Nellie Hanft
January 4, 1948 - August 24, 2025

Nellie June Hanft, 77, of Brownsville, passed away peacefully at home, Sunday, August 24, 2025 with her husband Stan and son Mark at her side. Nell fought so many health battles over the years and won. This final battle with cancer — she fought and lost.



She was born January 4, 1948 in Salem, Oregon to Olen James and Myra June (Hooker) Mouser. Nell lived in Salem, Bend, Tumalo, Leaburg, and Brownsville.

She wore many hats: a mother, wife, rodeo princess, insurance agent, and antique collector and dealer. Her passion was children. She opened her home to nieces, nephews, and stray kids — some of which stayed for years. She loved them all unconditionally. Nell had a great sense of humor and could keep up with the guys in deer and elk camps.

Nell is survived by her husband, Stanley; son, Mark; stepson Charles and five grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Kym.

Nellie who touched so many lives, will stay in our hearts forever.

A viewing will be 1 p.m., Wednesday, September 10 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Brownsville followed by a funeral service at 2 p.m. Graveside service will be 1 p.m. Thursday September 11 at Redmond Memorial Cemetery. Sweet Home Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements. <https://sweethomefuneral.com>. 🌀

Tarweed Folk School Opens September Classes

Tarweed Folk School has opened registration for its Fall 2025 season, with September offering a wide range of hands-on learning opportunities.

The season begins Sept. 6–7 with Pack Basket Weaving taught by Rose Holdorf. In this two-day workshop, participants will learn to weave a traditional Adirondack-style pack basket, blending form and function into a sturdy piece that can be used for years to come. Beginners are welcome, and all materials are provided.



On Sept. 7, Kiko Denzer will lead Mud Ovens in a Day. This full-day workshop offers a chance to get your hands dirty — literally — by building a working earthen oven. Students will gain practical skills in natural building and leave with the knowledge to create a backyard oven for baking bread, pizza, and more.



Additional September classes include Make a Handcut Dovetailed Bench (Sept. 15–Nov. 3), Bowls on the Spring Pole Lathe (Sept. 23, 25, 27, 30), Dairy Goats and Cheese making Basics (Sept. 27), Introduction to Natural Dyes (Sept. 27), and Acorn Processing Basics (Sept. 28).

Classes take place at Tarweed’s new home inside Wade Hardware in downtown Corvallis



and at partner sites throughout the community. Scholarships are available.

For more information and to see the complete list of fall classes through November, visit <https://www.tarweedfolkschool.com>. 🌀

CENTRAL LINN SPORTS

The 2025 Girls Soccer team plans to return to the Playoffs again.

by Sports Editor, Tony Koontz

Head Coach: Robert Arteaga
Asst. Coach: Miranda Leatherman

Last Year Record:

- Overall Record 16-1-1
- League Record 11-0-1 (3A/2A/1A Special District 3 League Champs)
- 3A/2A/1A State Runner Ups last season

Returning Starters:

Hazel Huxford (So) Goalkeeper
Georgia Wahl (Sr) Defender
Addie Wolff (Sr) Defender
Jayne Neal (Sr) Midfielder
Maddie Durringer (So) Midfielder
Peyton Gaskey (Sr) Forward
Avery Runyon (Jr) Forward

Returning All-League/State:

- Addie Wolff - (3A/2A/1A Special District 3 Player of the Year)/ 1st Team All-League/ 1st Team All State
- Jayne Neal - 1st Team All-League/ 2nd Team All-State
- Avery Runyon - 1st Team All-League/ 1st Team All State
- Georgia Wahl - 2nd Team All-League
- Peyton Gaskey - Honorable Mention
- Maddie Durringer - Honorable Mention

Coach Arteaga had this to say about this year’s goals and aspirations, “Our team is coming off a historic season in the short time the program has been around. We will be looking to build upon last season’s results and defend the league title and achieve another playoff berth. We will be collectively looking to be growing and developing players coming into the team.”



CL vs. Salem Academy:

The first game of the season vs Salem Academy resulted in a 2-1 victory.

Goal scorers: Jayne Neal, Addie Wolff
Assisters: Maddie Durringer, both goals.

Coach Arteaga states, “Overall, good start to the season, took some time to get going. Possessed the game 80% of the time and controlled the game throughout. Despite the result, [there is] plenty [of] room to grow and learning moments to fix as the season starts.”

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ERVIN
continued from cover



Brownsville Pharmacy clerk Harriette Wingren rings up a sale for Judge Loveta Allison at the new Pharmacy location at 411 N. Main on Monday morning, their first day of business. Pharmacist Joe Ervin said moving over the weekend went smoothly with the help of a lot of very good people. Ervin said building the new store was made possible because people have supported their business so well. "It's nice to have a new store for our customers," he said.

The Times highlights the “new” Brownsville Pharmacy location at 411 N. Main Street, as it appeared in 1993.

LeAnne, who graduated alongside Joe from Oregon State University in 1981 (Joe in pharmacy, LeAnne in education), brought her own passion and talents to the business. In addition to raising the family, she managed the pharmacy’s finances and curated its beloved gift shop. From charming children’s clothes to whimsical teapots and handmade soaps, LeAnne’s eye for quality and style made the pharmacy a favorite stop not only for medicine but for meaningful gifts and beautiful cards.

Over the years, technology has transformed the pharmacy landscape. Joe recalls the early days of handwritten prescriptions, manual documentation, and lengthy waits for insurance approvals. Today, prescriptions are sent by fax, entered into databases, and insurance claims are processed in seconds. Computers have brought efficiency and accuracy to billing and record keeping.

Yet, with progress came new challenges. Insurance reimbursements to small, indepen-

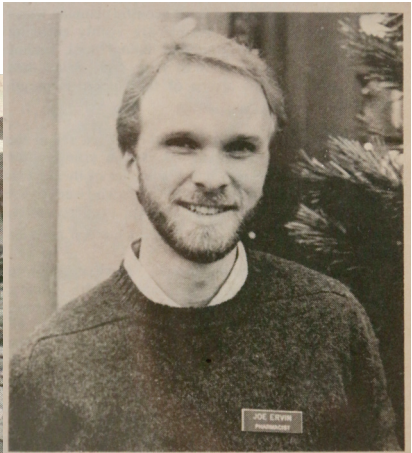
A Letter from Joe and LeAnne Ervin

Dear patients, patrons, and friends,

Joe and LeAnne Ervin are retired effective August 1, 2025. It has been a long journey, but we are thrilled to announce that through our retirement, we have found a new owner, a pharmacist, and a group of independent pharmacies who will keep the pharmacy alive and well in Brownsville!

Brandy Davis is the new PIC (pharmacist-in-charge) for Brownsville Pharmacy. She comes to us with a passion for small-town pharmacy, providing the care that you have come to expect from Brownsville Pharmacy. Our pharmacy technician, Kristen Westfall (with 14 years of service,) and clerk, Doris Westfall, will remain on staff, offering you the same excellent service. Pharmacists Tyler Dearing and Jeff Harrell are the new owners of the pharmacy.

It has always been our passion to provide pharmacy services in a one-on-one manner, as we have been able to do in Brownsville. It has been a great honor and privilege to be a part of our Central Linn community and your families since 1985. We will be staying in Brownsville, as this is our home. So, you can expect to find us in and around town. Thank you all for supporting us, the pharmacy, and your community over the past 40 years.



New Chamber of Commerce President, Joe Ervin, welcomes all business people to the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce monthly meetings, held on the second Tuesday of each month. Doug Linford is the new Vice President, and Marcie Smith the new Secretary-Treasurer. They all look forward to a busy year.

In the December 27, 1989 edition of The Times, readers met Joe Ervin, serving as President of the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce during that time.

dent pharmacies, such as Brownsville’s, have steadily declined, favoring larger chains with greater purchasing power. Still, Joe and LeAnne never let that get in the way of caring for their customers.

To the people of Brownsville, Joe was more than a pharmacist — he was a trusted advisor, a neighbor, and a quiet force of stability. One long-time customer recalled a moment when their adult son couldn’t afford a crucial prescription. His insurance wouldn’t cover it. Joe personally reduced the price by \$300, likely taking a loss himself. That kind of compassion wasn’t a rare exception — it was the Ervin way.

“Joe didn’t just run a pharmacy — he showed up for his neighbors in their most vulnerable moments.”

Going Above and Beyond:
A Fire Chaplain’s Reflection

From Nick Droback, Brownsville Resident and Fire Department Chaplain

In a small town, we lean on each other — and few have been leaned on more, or with greater trust, than Joe Ervin.

During a structure fire here in Brownsville, the homeowners had to evacuate suddenly, leaving everything behind. As I assisted at the scene and checked on one of the bystanders for smoke inhalation, I began helping the family with immediate needs — connecting with insurance and ensuring they had what was essential.

One critical concern that comes up in traumatic situations is medication. People often forget in the chaos, but going without even a single dose can be dangerous. In this case, the homeowner urgently needed a vital medication. I called Joe at the pharmacy, knowing he’d understand the urgency. Without hesitation, Joe filled every prescription quickly, ensuring the family had everything they needed — with his usual compassion and calm presence. It made all the difference.

This is the kind of care that simply doesn’t exist in larger cities. Joe didn’t just run a pharmacy — he showed up for his neighbors in their most vulnerable moments.

On a personal note, Joe has helped my family countless times over the years — rushing to fill a prescription before we left town or making sure one of our kids had what they needed before a doctor could update a refill. That kind of support can’t be measured in dollars or convenience. It’s a community at its best.

BROWNSVILLE ART CENTER

From Wool to Acrylics:
Art Center Offers Creative
Fall Lineup

by Staff Writer, Lori Garcy

Brownsville Art Association has events you may already know about, like the Junk Art Show that is going on now. We continue to add new art to this show as community members bring it in. That show runs through September.

Our classes are going strong. Connie Swindoll had her “Painting with Wool — Sun Flowers” class Saturday, August 23 and her students enjoyed the class. Connie’s classes are always well-received. She has one more class before the end of the year, “Painting with Wool — Pumpkins”.



Registration and more information for all our classes are on our website, <https://brownsvilleart.org>

- Saturday, September 20 – Learning to create a Collage with Brynn Carter
- Saturday, October 4 – Beginning Acrylic Painting with Brynn Carter
- Saturday, October 25 – Wool Art Painting - Pumpkin with Connie Swindoll
- Saturday, November 1 – Acrylic Painting – Paint a Turkey with Brynn Carter
- Saturday, December 13 – Acrylic Painting – Paint a Santa with Brynn Carter

We are already making plans for our Holiday Show, which runs from November to December, and our Holiday Market, which is on the first Saturday in December. We will have a lot more information about them later.

If you're interested in a specific art area and would like to take a class, please email us at baaartcenter@centurylink.net, and we will look into finding an instructor. Or if you are interested in teaching a class, let us know.

The Art Center is open Wednesdays from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm and Thursdays through Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ☺

Oregon Community
Foundation Awards
\$1 Million to Bold Arts
Projects

PORTLAND — The Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) has announced more than \$1 million in Creative Heights grants to support 14 innovative arts and culture projects across the state. The initiative, launched in 2014, invests roughly \$1 million annually to help artists and cultural leaders take risks, elevate underrepresented voices, and expand community access to groundbreaking work.

Grants this year range from \$24,000 to \$100,000 and encompass a wide spectrum of disciplines —



Steph Littlebird from *This is Kalapuyan Land*, Portland Oregon

from music and performance to film, visual art, and multimedia storytelling. Portland-based composer Luke Wyland will expand his Library of Dysfluent Voices, an audio archive celebrating people who stutter, into immersive “voice portraits” and performances. Artist and curator Steph Littlebird is partnering with the Salem Art Association to grow a Contemporary Indigenous Art Biennial showcasing Native artists in the Pacific Northwest.

- Other highlights include:
- **Albina Music Trust (\$100,000):** An episodic docuseries honoring Portland’s historic Black music scene.
 - **Masami Kawai with Portland Art Museum (\$100,000):** Valley of the Tall Grass, an independent feature film centered on a TV/VCR, told through an Indigenous worldview.
 - **enTaiko (\$66,000):** A multisensory taiko performance designed to include deaf, blind, neurodivergent, and disabled artists and audiences.
 - **Nez Perce Wallowa Homeland with Oregon East Symphony (\$100,000):** Rhythms of a Homeland, an outdoor symphonic and Indigenous performance on ancestral Nez Perce land.

“We want to support bold creative visions — not just to advance the careers of these artists, but also to enrich Oregon’s creative landscape,” said OCF’s Jerry Tischleder.

Since its inception, Creative Heights has supported 151 projects across Oregon, offering communities new ways to engage with creativity, heritage, and culture. ☺

Pay It Forward Program
Keeps Seniors Connected
Through The Brownsville
Times



In small towns, staying connected matters. For many seniors in our community, the Brownsville Times is more than a newspaper — it is a lifeline. It informs them about what’s happening in the neighborhood, shares stories about their friends and family, and keeps them connected to the place they call home.

But for those living on a fixed income, even a modest subscription can sometimes be out of reach. That’s where the Pay It Forward Program comes in. Through the generosity of neighbors and friends, subscriptions are being gifted to seniors who would otherwise go without.

“This program is a beautiful way of showing respect for our elders,” said one grateful reader. “It makes me feel remembered and included.”

Donors, many of whom wish to remain anonymous, are ensuring that the people who built this community can continue to share in its stories. Their kindness is more than financial — it is a message of love, gratitude, and connection.

The ripple effect is powerful. When seniors receive their paper, they share it with friends and family, sparking conversations, memories, and sometimes even solutions to local challenges. In this way, the Brownsville Times doesn’t just inform — it strengthens the bonds that hold us together.

Every donated subscription represents more than just newsprint. It represents joy, dignity, and belonging. It reminds us all that we are looking out for one another, especially the most vulnerable.

Thanks to the Pay It Forward Program, the Brownsville Times continues to be a gathering place for voices of every generation. Our donors are helping to build not only a community of informed readers, but also one of compassion and care.

If you are a senior living on modest means, you can pick up an application through Meals on Wheels or at Sharing Hands Food Bank. If you would like to Pay it Forward to fund a subscription, please go to our website at brownsvilletimes.org, click on subscribe and select a gift subscription. If you don’t know a senior to gift your subscription to, the Brownsville Times will assign your gift to a senior on our waiting list. ☺

WHERE TO STAY



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SEASONS EATINGS

Late Summer's Tomato Treasures

Part 1 of 3

by Staff Writer, Lisa Keith

Hello again, dearest friends and family! This week I am focusing on one of my favorite fruits/vegetables. Yeah, yeah, yeah, I know there is a long-time debate between some re: the subject of “tomato vs tomatoe” and “fruit vs veg”. I really don’t care what you consider this luscious gift from the gods that only comes around in late summer, I treat it like the short-lived treasure that it is and eat it in every form possible! Because I truly REFUSE to eat them out of



season, unless they are cooked. Yup, that’s me. Do not give me a pink, mealy, baseball in January and tell me it’s a tomato! Uhhhgh!

So, Pico, salsa (cooked vs. fresh, ahhh, yet ANOTHER debate!), sauce, ketchup, frozen, fried, baked... the possibilities are really endless! Try some super simple tricks, like a classic Caprese plate or baked at 350°F for 15 minutes with Parmesan and fresh ground pepper, or sliced in half and sprinkled with pink Himalayan Sea salt. Yummers!

I have three tomato recipes I’ve collected over the years, and I’ve had success with all of them.

This week, I’ll begin with one especially close to my heart. Two more tomato recipes will follow in the coming issues.

Sweet & Spiced: Patti K.’s Tomato Jam

This cherished recipe comes from one of the most wonderful female friends I’ve ever had in my adult life. She shared a jar and the recipe with me in 2014, one year before she passed from a brain tumor. RIP, my dear Patti K.

A fragrant blend of tomatoes, lemon, sugar, and warming spices, this jam is as much a memory as it is a flavor. Perfect for spreading on bread, pairing with cheese, or enjoying straight from the spoon.

Spiced Tomato Jam

- 3 cups prepared tomatoes
- ¼ fresh lemon juice
- 4 ½ cups sugar, measured and set aside
- 1 package pectin

Directions:

1. To prepare tomatoes: Scald, peel, and chop 2 ¼ pounds. Cover and simmer 10 min, stirring occasionally.
2. Measure 3 cups of prepared tomatoes into a large stock pot. Add lemon juice.
3. Add:
 - 1 ½ tsp fresh lemon zest
 - ½ tsp ground allspice
 - ½ tsp ground cinnamon
 - ¼ tsp ground cloves
4. Stir, then add the pectin. Continue stirring constantly while bringing the mixture to a full boil over high heat.
5. Pour in ALL the pre-measured sugar. Bring back to a rolling boil for 2 full minutes.
6. Proceed as you would with any jam recipe. (Sanitized jars, lids, and rings, etc., etc., etc.)
7. Enjoy spreading this jam on anything and everything. 🍷

TAKING ROOT

Pick Your Vegetables at the Ripe Time

by Staff Writer, Donald Lyon



Green peppers are ripest when they begin to turn color, but can be eaten at any stage.

It seems that every vegetable in the Garden is hollering. “Pick me, pick me”. How do you know when the right time is? Too young, texture and taste are lacking, too old, and the tomatoes are mushy, and the cucumbers are all seeds. Here is a short guide to picking at the ripe time. Tomatoes offer a fairly wide window of opportunity, but it is best to pick them a bit early and let them ripen indoors in a paper sack rather than wait too long. Same for cucumbers. Pick them as soon as the bumpy skin smooths out. Zucchini is best when it is six to eight inches long. Larger plants will be tough — okay for zucchini bread or leaving on the neighbor’s porch, but not so tasty. Green beans can be harvested when they are about pencil size. Once they begin to mature, harvest every other day. The more you pick, the more they will produce. At the end of the season, you can leave them on the vine to turn brown, then harvest for dry beans. Green peppers are ripest when they begin to turn color, but can be eaten at any stage. They are sweetest as they turn fully yellow or red. Sweet corn is ready as soon as most of the silk turns brown.

Tip: Serious sweet corn aficionados have the pot boiling as they pick the corn. Garlic bulbs should be harvested when the leaves turn yellow or brown. Onions should be harvested when the tops flop over and turn brown. Beets are a little tricky. Select one and uncover the soil around the top of the root. If it is the right size for the variety (1.5 to 3 inches), harvest them all. If too small, cover it up, water it, and wait a week. Too big and they will be tough and woody. Potatoes are ready to harvest when the foliage dies back. Carrots are ready when they push themselves up, exposing the tops of the roots. It’s Okay to leave them in the ground for a while, though. Much of this information comes from Jessica Damiano’s Weekly Dirt Newsletter.

Got a gardening question? Ask a Master Gardener at phototraveler02@gmail.com. 🍷

WHERE TO EAT



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BOOK REVIEW

"Into Thin Air" by Jon Krakauer

By Nancy Diltz

Jon Krakauer, a best-selling American author, raised in Corvallis, Oregon, wrote two books that truly changed my perspective on life. Published in 1997, "Into Thin Air" is a first-hand autobiographical account of Krakauer's 1996 climb up Mount Everest — the 29,032 ft. beast in the Himalayas first ascended by Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay in 1953.

A #1 National Bestseller, "Into Thin Air" is on the Los Angeles Times Best Nonfiction Book of the Last 30 Years list. "A harrowing tale of the perils of high-altitude climbing, a story of bad luck and worse judgment and of heartbreaking heroism." —People Magazine. "Ranks among the greatest adventure books of all time." —The Wall Street Journal.

Krakauer's gripping autobiographical account of a storm at the top of Mt. Everest is as inspiring as it is tragic. As I read Krakauer's account, I felt that my own life experiences had been rather small. There are so many grand possibilities in the world, and after reading "Into Thin Air," I reached higher for personal adventure than I might otherwise have done. Jon Krakauer, a young writer from Corvallis, Oregon, pursued his dream and headed around the world to the China-Nepal border seeking the summit of the world's highest mountain. Adventure stories don't get much better than this.

Additionally, in 1996, Krakauer published the true story of Christopher McCandless, a young man who gave everything away and hitchhiked alone to the wilderness of Alaska. As well as relating to the concepts of a desire to travel and to change one's life, Krakauer taught me that research, knowledge, and an understanding of risk and danger are crucial when undertaking challenges — especially those as enormous as climbing Mt. Everest or heading out alone into the wilderness. In 2007, Krakauer's biography "Into the Wild" was released as a movie directed by Sean Penn. Powerful, touching, and heartbreaking, this story has left me with a lifelong admiration for the young man, Christopher McCandless. Thanks to Jon Krakauer, Christopher will not be forgotten.

This brings to mind a poem by Walt Whitman

Song of the Open Road

"Afoot and light-hearted I take to the open road,
Healthy, free, the world before me,
The long brown path before me leading
wherever I choose.

Henceforth I ask not good-fortune, I myself am
good-fortune,
Henceforth I whimper no more, postpone no
more, need nothing,
Done with indoor complaints, libraries,
querulous criticisms,
Strong and content I travel the open road." ☺

BROWNSVILLE BOOK CLUB

Why Read Historical Fiction?

by Barbara DeRobertis

By far, my all-time favorite literary genre is historical fiction. Historical fiction transports you into another time and place and makes the past come alive. Our August Book Club selection was "The Last Report on the Miracles of Little No Horse," by Louise Erdrich. Many members have read at least one other work by Erdrich, whose many novels typically center around Native American heritage. Erdrich, herself, is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa. Her mother was of Ojibwe and French American descent, and her father was German American.

This novel begins in North Dakota in 1912, primarily taking place on an Ojibwe reservation over a span of 50 years. Father Damien is the main character, who is actually a woman (a former nun) who assumes the identity of a Catholic priest. You can imagine the complications in the story lines... and there are many. One being the priest's desire to reveal her true identity before taking her last breath. This book involves several characters and subplots, often making it difficult to determine who is speaking or being spoken about. Most characters have two names, and Father Damien was often referred to by both her given name, Agnes, and Fr. Damien in the same paragraph. Many book club members thought that trying to identify who was who made for a tedious read.

Two main topics of conversation took place amongst attending members: (1) the assimilation of Native Americans and (2) the beauty of historical fiction. The narrative in this book paints a vivid picture of the relationships often formed between priests and Native tribes that were characteristic of the missionary work of that era. At one point in the book, the Ojibwe elder, Nanapush, asks Father Damien, "Why Jesus?" prodding the priest to question his own dogma.

POEM SELECTION

The Man In The Glass

Peter Dale Wimbrow Sr.

When you get what you want in your struggle
for self
And the world makes you king for a day
Just go to the mirror and look at yourself
And see what that man has to say.

For it isn't your father, or mother, or wife
Whose judgment upon you must pass
The fellow whose verdict counts most in your life
Is the one staring back from the glass.

He's the fellow to please — never mind all the rest
For he's with you, clear to the end

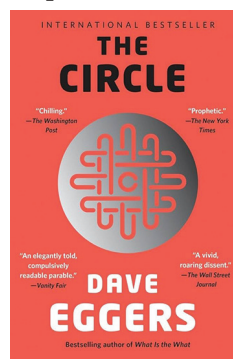
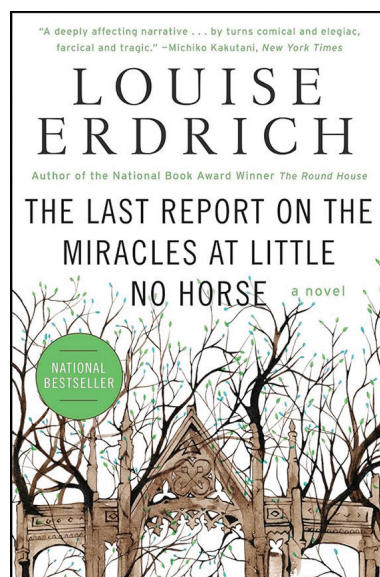
In this story, the Ojibwe were quite receptive to learning about Christianity and many Ojibwe (as well as Fr. Damien) adopted some combined version of Catholicism and Native American spirituality, an intermingling of faiths, thus validating both spiritual paths.

Authors of historical fiction often go to great lengths to research events, base their writings on historical facts, and aim to portray events in a way they consider most accurate. Erdrich obtained a great deal of her material by reading

journals and letters of missionaries from that time. Many of us spoke of our experiences in history class (my personal least favorite subject). We generally agreed that the history classes of our childhoods were extremely dry. I think this is why I find myself preferring historical fiction over any other genre. I crave more. I have gained a much greater appreciation and deeper understanding of past events from reading historical fiction, and I can't seem to get enough. These works typically depict the human side of struggle and, most of all, give one the distinct feeling of being there.

As is customary, members shared what they've been reading. Recommendations this month include good old Agatha Christie mysteries; "The Library of Lost Doll Houses" (Hooper); "The Book Club for Troublesome Women" (Bostwick); and 2 non-fiction books: "Blood and Thunder" (Sides) and the latest edition of "Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain" (Edwards).

We will be discussing "The Circle" by Dave Eggers at our September meeting. The Brownsville Library owns a copy of this title, go check it out. Book Club meetings take place on the third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Kirk Room of the Brownsville Library. New members are always welcome. If you have any questions, email: bderobertis@yahoo.com. ☺



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BROWNSVILLE LIBRARY

Box 1 of New Books Added to the Brownsville Library in August

by Sherri Lemhouse, Brownsville Librarian

The Brownsville Community Library has added a fresh selection of new titles to its shelves. Librarian Sherri orders new books in the first couple of weeks of each month. The first box for August, featuring a selection of children’s and young adult titles, as well as patron requests, is now available. Box 2 will be listed next week.

Children’s favorites

- “The Invisible String” by Patrice Karst is a thoughtful story that helps children cope with grief and loss.
- “The Day the Crayons Made Friends” — the newest sequel to the beloved “The Day the Crayons Quit.”
- **Boxcar Children series additions;** “A Holiday Special,” “Bus Station Mystery,” “Benny Uncovers a Mystery,” “Election Day Dilemma,” “Houseboat Mystery,” “Mystery Ranch,” “Schoolhouse Mystery,” “The Caboose Mystery,” and “The Mystery in the Sand,”

Young adult

- A continuation of the “Shatter Me” series, “Watch Me” is a popular dystopian saga blending action, romance, and intrigue by Tahereh Mafi.
- “Where You Are Planted” by Melanie Sweeney is about a librarian and a perfect end-of-summer romance.
- The fourth and final book in Lynette Eason’s Lake City Heroes series is “The Final Approach.”
- Jennifer Lynn Barnes’ “Grandest Game” and “Glorious Rivals.”

Graphic novels

- Book 3 in the Agents of S.U.I.T. series, “Wild Ghost Chase” by John Patrick Green
- Series 4–8 of “The Wings of Fire” graphic novels.

Patron requests and suggestions

- “Victory ’45” by James Holland and Al Murray.
- “Speak, Memorably: The Art of Captivating an Audience” by Bill McGowan and Juliana Silva
- Adriana Trigiani’s “The View from Lake Como.”
- “Monopoly X: How Top-Secret World War II Operations Used the Game of Monopoly to Help Allied POWs Escape, Conceal Spies, and Send Secret Codes” by Philip E. Orbanes.”
- “Code Breaker” by Jay Martel is a young adult thriller.

- “Hilma af Klint,” an artist biography of a pioneering Swedish artist whose abstract work from the early 20th century predated those of more recognized abstract artists like Kandinsky, by Julia Voss.
- John Green’s nonfiction, “Everything Is Tuberculosis: The History and Persistence of Our Deadliest Infection.”
- “The Blonde Who Came Out of the Cold” is Book 2 in Ally Carter’s adult spy romance series.
- Holly Jackson’s “Not Quite Dead Yet” is her first adult fiction book by the author of the young adult book, “A Good Girl’s Guide to Murder.”
- A signed edition of “Bury Our Bones in the Midnight Soil” by V.E. Schwab.
- “The Hampton’s Lawyer” by James Patterson and Mike Lupica is the third book in the Jane Smith Thriller series.
- “The Girl I Was” by Jeneva Rose is a humorous coming-of-age story about a woman who travels back in time and has the opportunity to change her life for the better.
- “The Royal Gambit” by Daniel O’Malley is a fantasy contemporary urban action & adventure novel.

Stop by the library to explore these new arrivals and check out your next great read!

Other programs for you:

Each Friday from 11:00 a.m. to noon, the library hosts **Story Time with Craft**. Our **Stitchery Group** meets each Wednesday from 1–3 p.m. in the History Room.

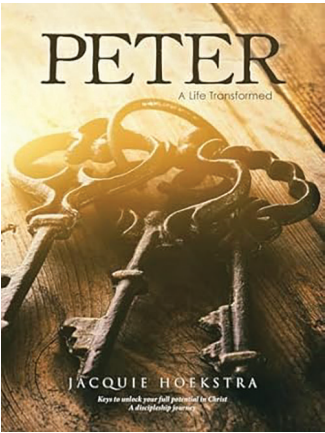
Our **Book Club** will be discussing “The Circle” by Dave Eggers on Wednesday, September 17 at 7 p.m.

Local attorney, Danielle Meyers presents **Estate Planning: Making a Trust** on Thursday, September 18 at 7 p.m.

Don Lyon continues his **World Cultures & Travel** by taking us on a virtual tour of India, Rajasthan, on Thursday, October 16, at 7 p.m. World Cultures & Travel continues to France, Provence, November 20, at 7 p.m. 🌐

Brownsville Author Publishes Second Edition of Bible Study on Peter

BROWNSVILLE — Local author and Brownsville Times staff writer Jacquie Hoekstra has released the second edition of her discipleship study, “Peter: A Life Transformed.” The book will be available beginning September 2, 2025, wherever books are sold.



The 220-page study follows the life of Jesus’ disciple Peter, tracing his journey from fisherman to apostle. The new edition has been reformatted for easier use, with updates and additions that build on the original text.

Hoekstra describes the book as “an in-depth discipleship journey” designed to help readers reflect on their own growth by studying Peter’s transformation. “By observing Peter’s successes and setbacks, readers will see reflections of their own lives and find tools for growth, healing, and celebration,” she said.

Drawing from the Gospels through Peter’s letters, the book highlights both the challenges and triumphs of a man who, through his relationship with Jesus, became a leader of the early church. Hoekstra hopes readers will be inspired to deepen their own faith and discover their potential in Christ.

A longtime Bible study leader and teacher, Hoekstra brings more than thirty years of ministry experience to her writing. She is known for her authentic and approachable teaching style, which blends humor with spiritual insight. She and her husband make their home in Brownsville.

For more information about Jacquie Hoekstra and her other works, visit her online at <https://jacquiehoekstra.com>. 🌐


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- ☐ Canned Ravioli
- ☐ Canned Soup
- ☐ Canned Corn
- ☐ Canned Fruit
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- ☐ Ketchup

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First-Year Teacher Lily Moffitt Brings Enthusiasm to Central Linn Elementary

By Staff Writer, Sharon Banks

Central Linn Elementary welcomed a new face to its teaching staff this fall — first-grade teacher Lily Moffitt, who is stepping into her very own classroom for the first time. For Moffitt, the new school year marks the fulfillment of a lifelong dream.

“Ever since I was in the first grade, I wanted to be a teacher and a coach,” she shared. “I love helping and guiding others. I had a lot of experience mentoring my own siblings, and that really shaped my passion for teaching.”

Although this is Moffitt’s first year leading her own class, she is no stranger to the classroom. She previously served as a substitute teacher and found the experience rewarding, though bittersweet. “The downside of being a substitute teacher is that just when you get to know the kids and families, the regular teacher comes back and you have to say goodbye,” she explained. “Little kids have a hard time with that. Now, I’m excited to make an impact in my own way and build lasting relationships with my students.”

When asked what excites her most about this new chapter, Moffitt’s answer was simple and heartfelt: “I am looking forward to making a positive impact in the lives of each student.”

Her approach to classroom management reflects her belief that school should feel like a community. The first few weeks, she says, will be spent building trust with both students and their families. She plans to establish consistent routines and, together with her students, create a “class promise.”

“Our class promise is that our class is a family,” Moffitt explained. “We help each other, and we build our class expectations together. Everyone has a seat at the table. Everyone feels welcome and is heard. We practice positive praise with each other.”

Moffitt describes herself as a positive person who believes strongly in encouraging a growth mindset. “When I encourage a growth mindset, good things happen,” she said. “I want every student to feel like they belong.”

Beyond the classroom, Moffitt is grateful for the camaraderie among the Central Linn staff. “I love talking and learning from my teacher part-

MOFFIT continued on page 11

SCHOOL continued from cover

to snap photos of their students, some beaming with pride, others blinking back a touch of bitter-sweet emotion — one more year beginning, one more step forward.

Voices of the First Day

We asked Central Linn Elementary students to share their thoughts about school, their teachers, and even a few silly “what if” questions. Here’s what they had to say:

Briar James, age 7, second grade

- If your backpack could talk, what would it say? “Hello, second grade!”
- Lunch preference: 1–2 snacks is just right.
- What does her teacher do at night? “Probably eats and sleeps.”

Aurora Odle, age 6, first grade

Aurora was a little camera-shy and didn’t want to answer questions, but she left us with a beautiful smile.

Michael Keel, age 6, first grade

- If you could make a school rule, what would it be? “Longer playground time.”
- What would you do if a dinosaur came in your classroom? “I would just get under my desk.”
- Nap time means: “For sleepin’.”
- Who does things best in class? “There’s nothing I can do better than my teacher.”

Michael wrapped it all up with his best thinking face.

Jack Wyne, age 8, third grade

- Best thing about school? “Learning!”
- What does the principal do all day? “He tells people what to do and what not to do.”
- Silliest thing parents do? “Daddy broke his foot playing with us.”
- If a dinosaur came into class? “I’d try to give it a snack.”

Jack is also planning to play sports — maybe T-ball or soccer.

Faye Culp, age 5, kindergarten

- Excited to start school? “Yes!!!”
- If you could make one school rule? “You would be required to play with friends.”
- What if a dinosaur came into class? “I would be scared.”
- What do you think math is? “I don’t know, but I’m about to learn about it.”

Carson & Hayden Walter, ages 8 & 5, third grade and kindergarten

- What would you do if a dinosaur came into class? Carson: “I would probably go outside and hide.”
- Hayden’s favorite thing about school: “Lunch.”
- Hayden is most excited to make new friends.
- Carson is excited to see friends from last year.
- Favorite subject? Carson: “Recess.”
- Favorite sport? Carson: “Fishing,” but at school, he enjoys baseball and hopes to try soccer too.

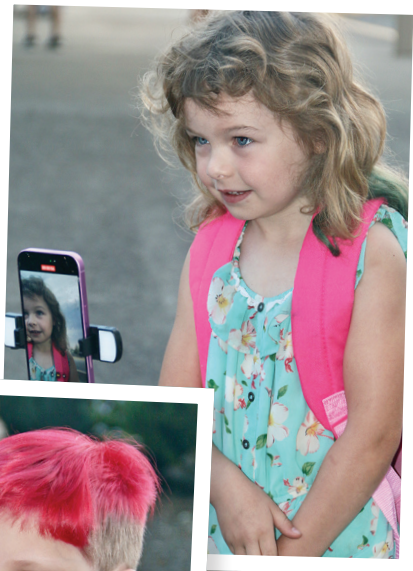
Look for interviews with older students in the next issue.🌀



Briar James



Aurora Odle



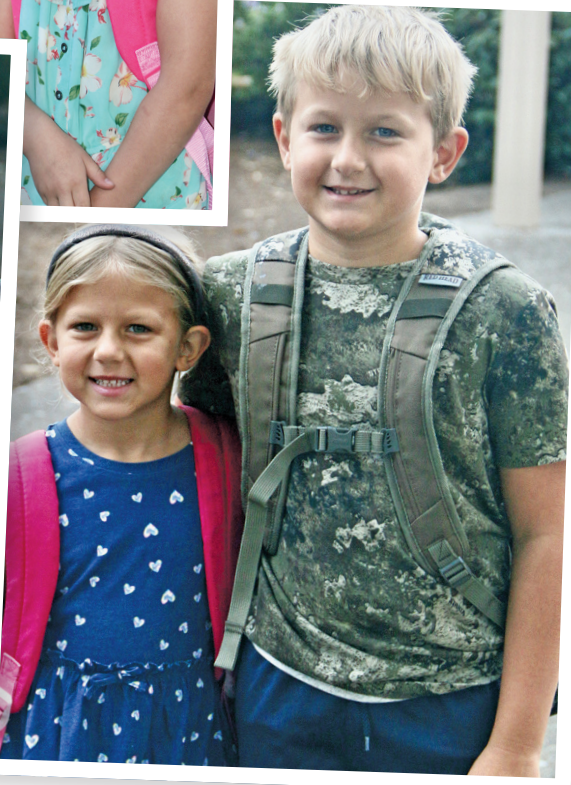
Faye Culp



Michael Keel



Jack Wyne



Hayden and Carson Walter

Central Linn School Board Member, Mandy Brady Shares Priorities

by Staff Writer, Sravya Tadepalli

This response has been lightly edited for clarity. Donald Fleckenstein did not respond to The Brownsville Times by the publication deadline. We will try to include an interview with Director Fleckenstein in a later issue.

Mandy Brady, Zone 4



1. Why did you want to join the Central Linn School Board?

I saw that there was a need for someone with the ability to bring people together, because there had been a lot of discord or mistrust between the community and the school district because of the things that have happened in the past. I was in the military for 20 years, and I have had a lot of experience leading people and communicating in a way in which people can understand, and I felt that the community needed it, the school district needed it, the kids needed it. I just saw the schools getting run down and they could be a heck of a lot better. And the kids deserve it.

2. What are the most significant issues facing the Central Linn School District?

Communication and mistrust between the community and the school district. You have to get the district and the community working together to get anything done, which leads into the second [issue], the budget constraints that are going on within the district, the state, and the nation as far as schooling is concerned. Prices are going up, and you're ending up having to do more with less. Being able to make sure that you are at a good balance at the end of the year and you're able to provide the services that the school and the kids need to actually become successful. Whether it's going out and getting a job, going to trade school, or going to college, they need services available to them. The dilapidated buildings, they are just getting outdated and things are slowly deteriorating over time, and it's starting to cause issues now from things that happened 30-40 years ago.

3. What do you see as the role of a school board member in addressing these issues?

A school board member is basically a representative of their zone, so it's my responsibility to make sure that I bring my zone's concerns to the district and work with the district as best as possible to address whichever issues the zone deems most important. It's communication. It goes up from the zone, and then when the district and the school board do things, it needs to be communicated down. Transparency is the number one thing.

4. At what point do you think the Central Linn School District would need to consider a bond measure again and what points of consideration would go into that decision?

Before another bond measure goes in, I think the district needs to basically be able to show good faith. From what I've gathered, from most of the people I have talked to, the quality of the education provided by Central Linn, and the number of teachers within the elementary school, needs to go up — or class sizes basically need to go down in the elementary school — stuff like that needs to be done prior to, maybe, with the help of a levy once a little bit of good faith has been given. A levy will help increase the ability to do the operational things from allowing the class sizes to go down, getting a special ed teacher, we need more of that type of thing, building up the trust between the community and the district, and [showing] the fact that they are able to effectively manage the district better than what happened in the past. If everything gets to be more successful, then I could see pushing a bond in the future. But you have to be in the trust of the community, you have to show them that you can do what's necessary and do what is in the community's best interest, and not waste the funds that they've provided. Everything is around trust building for me. Getting everyone on board for a good future for our kids. Rural districts throughout the state and the nation are suffering right now, and it's going to take a lot to get it back.

5. According to the most recent data from the Oregon Department of Education (for the 2023-2024 school year), only 28% of Central Linn third graders are reading at their grade level, and only 33% of eighth graders are proficient in math at their grade level. What policies would you promote as a school board member to improve these metrics, and are there any other areas (science, social studies, art, etc.) where you would seek improvement?

I support tried and true evidence-based teaching methods and learning methods. For the eighth graders, COVID hit them exceptionally hard, and I believe the district should have a regimented curriculum that's evidence-based and proven successful. As far as the third-grade numbers, I do know that they put in a curriculum that's pretty good here recently. I have a kindergartner [going into first grade], and he initially started it in kindergarten, and I will say that his reading compares to my kindergartner, who went through kindergarten during COVID. My daughter was in

BOARD continued on page 15

COBRAS continued from cover

Football

Head Coach, Mike Day, and his assistants, Dusty Birchfield, Dylan Day, Jesse Lee, Jon Luther, and Mike Day, Jr., are excited about this year's possibilities. Young and a bit inexperienced, the Cobras take on Corbett, Friday, September 5, at 7 p.m.

When all players have completed their summer work duties, the Cobras will have approximately 20 players — plenty for the 9-man contests. Coach Day says, "We are looking to build on last year's season and make a run at the playoffs. We have a great group of coaches and players."

Key returning players include Jacob Helms QB/LB, Hank Davidson RB/S, Gradi Spencer, and Alonzo Silva-Ortiz on the OL/DL.

Boys Soccer

Head Coach Hans Schneider, in his 8th season at the Cobra helm, is excited about the season. Hans states, "This group of boys has been one of my favorites to coach in



my 25 years of coaching! They have great attitudes, work hard, and compete even harder. They have a lot of fun together and rarely disagree."

Assisted by Tim Duringer (10th season), the Cobra men intend to improve on last year's 11-3-2 season, 2nd place in league, a ranking of 24th, and going further than their second round in the state playoffs.

Coach Schneider returns 11 starters, including five seniors. Three of those seniors were All-League, including Jackson Duringer, 1st Team All-League and All-State, Leif Erickson, 2nd Team, and HM Don Ware. Other senior starters include Sawyer Kirk and Enrique Luis Gonzalez. Junior's Aren Schneider (second team All-League), Creed Mast, Wyatt Smith, Ethan Denison, and Colten Northern fill out the rest of the junior starters. Konner Gaskey is the lone sophomore and is expected to contribute greatly.

The Cobra men host their first match on September 8 at 4:30 p.m. at the CL Elementary School.

Boys and Girls Cross Country

Head Coach Johnna Neal (13th season) and her staff of assistants Jesse Mast, Blaise Timmons, and Jason Curtis lead a talented, dedicated, hard-working group of young men and women into the 2025 season. Both the Boys' and Girls' teams qualified for the OSAA State Meet in 2024. The Girls placed first at Districts while the Boys placed 4th.



The Boys return two All-League runners in Jackson Duringer (1st Team) and Ethan Dennison (3rd Team). The girls return five All-Leaguers: Janey Neal and Anya Griffith (1st Team), Izzy Curtis and Alyssa Greeno (3rd Team), and Georgia Wahl (HM).

Returning Girls runners: Seniors Jayne Neal, Izzy Curtis, Peyton Gaskey, Addie Wolff, Georgia Wahl, and Carmen Ware. Sophomores Alyse Glenn, Maddie Duringer, Ruby Nielsen, Anya Griffith, and Freshman Amelia Curtis.

Returning Boy Runners: Seniors Jackson Duringer, Leif Erickson, Don Ware and Greyson Tenbusch. Juniors Gage Leabo, Wyatt Smith, Creed Mast, Ethan Denison, and Bob Cunningham. Sophomores Chaz Mast and Logan Bundy.

According to Coach Neal, "The Girls look to repeat for the District Title. The Boys have a strong enough team to make a good run at District. "I am looking to the Seniors this year to accomplish some good things and finish off their running careers with some great results."

In Coach Neal's 13 years of coaching CC, this is the largest team and the largest group of Seniors. In addition, 9 of 11 Girls are dual sport SAs with eight in Soccer and one in Volleyball. The boys have 6 of 12 in dual sports.

Their first meet is at the Stayton CC Invitational on Saturday, September 13 with a 9 a.m. start. See athletic.net for the entire schedule.

At the time of publication, information on girls' soccer and volleyball was not available. The volleyball team's first home contest is on September 9 at 6 p.m. against Country Christian. Girls' soccer's next home contest is on September 11, 4 p.m. vs Pleasant Hill. 🌀

Coshow Park

by Staff Writer, Daniel R. Murphy

Do you know where Coshow Park is? For many years, the parkland along the Calapooia River in Brownsville was owned by O. P. Coshow and known as Coshow Park. This park originally included the land between the Moyer property and the river and included a walnut orchard in the southern part of the park. The present-day ballpark was not included.

On August 7, 1911, councilman Robert Robe raised the question of obtaining a suitable park for Brownsville. The council was told that O. P. Coshow was interested in selling his “park” property. He wanted \$5000 for the property. He was only prepared to sell the property on the condition that the Pioneer Association be granted the right to use the park for its annual picnic and at no charge. The association was also to be allowed to collect concessions.

Mr. Coshow was quite elderly and not feeling well. It was suggested that if the city were to obtain this parkland, it had to be done soon. On motion, the city attorney prepared an amendment to the city charter to allow for a bond to pay the cost of \$5000. A special election was called at the soonest possible date.

The action in the park was then delayed for reasons we are not told. On April 29, 1912, the city council finally approved the purchase.

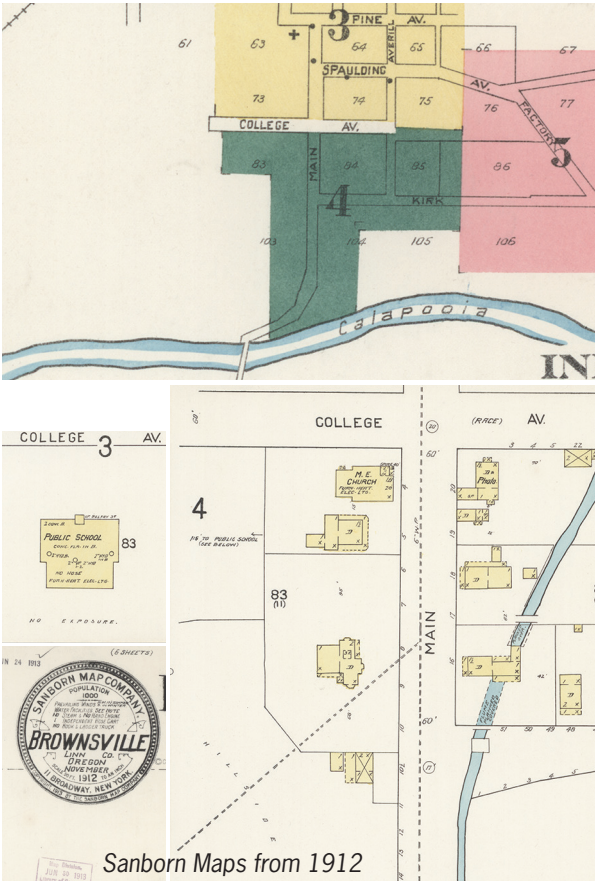
For many years, the park was used only for the Pioneer Picnic and was not improved in any way. As time passed, members of the community became increasingly interested in improving the park. During the Depression, through a WPA (Works Progress Administration) project, a dance hall was constructed in the park. Then a building was added for flower shows.

The flower show building suffered significant damage from falling trees during the Columbus Day Storm on October 12, 1962.

During 1963, the current kitchen and dining area was built. In 1976, the covered eating area was added, as well as the dance hall.

The Wally Byam Airstream Trailer Club donated \$500 to the city to install running water for the use of overnighters. The park is officially known as the City Park but is commonly known as Pioneer Park. 🌳

Source: Past Times City Park by Vivian Meacham. Edited by Daniel R. Murphy, 08.24.2025



Sanborn Maps from 1912

COLLEGE AVE a.k.a. PARK AVE

by Allen L. Buzzard, retired history teacher

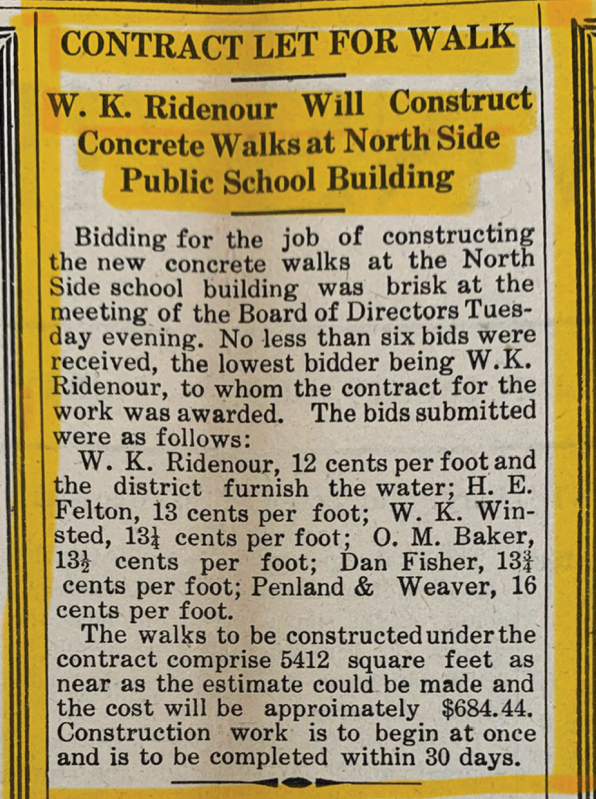


ALLEN BUZZARD

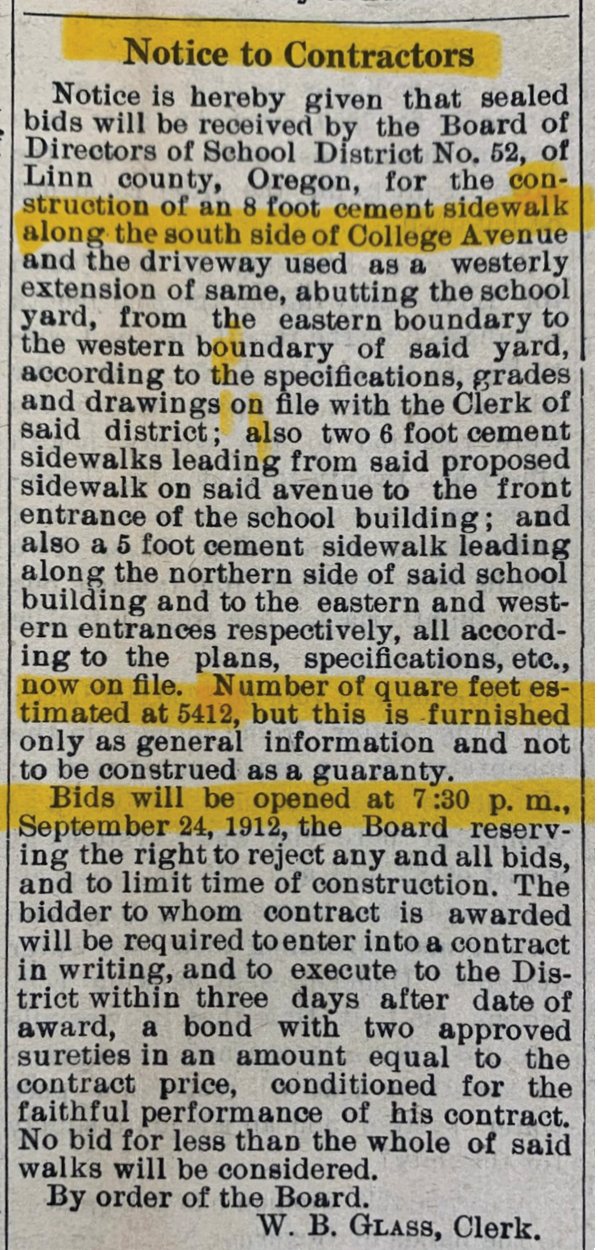
One hundred and thirteen years ago, Brownsville’s PARK AVENUE was once known as COLLEGE AVENUE. The Board of Directors of School District No. 52 solicited bids to build a sidewalk between the eastern and western borders of the school yard [roughly within the bounds of today’s Rec Center, gravel parking lots, and lawns] as well as “... along the south side of College Avenue...” including “two 6-foot cement sidewalks” that lead to the front entrance with narrower sidewalks connecting the east, west, and north perimeters. That notice was published in the Friday, September 20, 1912 edition of The Brownsville Times. The amount of flatwork was estimated at 5,412 ft² with bids to be opened at 7:30 p.m., September 24, 1912.

Still serviceable after more than a century of use, pedestrians can spot the contractor’s stamp and pride of workmanship in a walkway that once was freshly poured and finished.

By simply walking up the sidewalk paralleling PARK AVE, past the remodeled Central Linn Recreation Center, opposite HOLLOWAY HEIGHTS, to where the curb ends at the utility pole, one can, if they look very carefully, see the winning contractor’s handiwork signed and sealed: “W. K. RIDENOUR 1912 COLLEGE AVE.”



The Brownsville Times, Friday, September 27, 1912



The Brownsville Times, Friday, September 20, 1912

Interestingly, five other contractors bid for the same job; even competing in fractions of a penny for the right to earn the work, to wit: “W. K. Ridenour, 12 cents per foot and the district furnish the water; H. E. Felton, 13 cents per foot; W. K. Winsted, 13¼ cents per foot; O. M. Baker, 13½ cents per foot; Dan Fisher, 13¾ cents per foot; Penland & Weaver, 16 cents per foot,” in CONTRACT LET FOR WALK, The Brownsville Times, Friday, September 27, 1912.

Of course, 1912 was still early enough in the twentieth century that anyone attaining a public high school diploma in those days would’ve been considered “college-educated.” 🎓

THE LONG GRAY BRAID

Zooming

by Annie Swensen

I was raised in the '50s and '60s by parents who instilled in me the importance of being properly attired at all times. I never wore white after Labor Day, and the only time in photos I am featured in my pajamas is the Christmas morning snapshots or home movies of my childhood. Over the decades, the teachings have followed me to ensure I worked in professional suits and dressed up to dine out. I admit, now that I'm retired and single, I care less about what I wear in the confines of my own home. But when I head to town, I won't risk the disdain of the community or the fires of hell. Some lessons stick.

The advantage of this is my reassurance that if someone takes a picture of me, I will not be embarrassed by what I'm wearing. Our cameras and projectors are gathering dust in the attic, while our cell phones have taken on their job. So, on most outings with family or friends, I can count on someone raising their phone to capture the moment. No one will run across that glossy photo in a box 20 years from now, but I will be living in the Cloud forever. I want to be respectful and respectable.

Over the last several years, I have paid little attention to the phone and computer capabilities to put remote people in the same virtual room. So I was horrified, when I joined a recent "Zoom" meeting, to suddenly see my own face fill my computer screen and my hands reflecting every move I was making. When I realized that my "live" person would be in attendance, it was a "whew" moment — at least I was dressed and my hair was brushed. I wasn't any more pleased with how I looked, but at least the conventions of appropriate appearance were accidentally



followed. After we said our goodbyes, I quickly did some research on "virtual meeting" applications. I was lucky this time. I'll be prepared next time.

But has the sanctuary of our home become the new outside? Have we simply accepted a more casual standard of respectful attire because we are "seen" everywhere? Has the norm for respectful attire been changed by technology?

Not according to a District Court Judge who recently sent a notice to attorneys instructing them to be dressed appropriately when appearing in remote video court cases. Apparently, the shirtless lawyer representing his client from his living room made a poor impression on the judge. So, even if their attendance from home is required for only two minutes, the lawyers should don their suits. And if they think a shirt, tie, and jacket are enough because they'll be sitting at their computer... I hope they remember, the court always starts with an "all rise," and boxer shorts won't do. ☸

Long-time Brownsville resident, Annie Swensen is a lover of dogs and writing. Her Long Gray Braid Musings offer an elderly woman's humorous perspectives on everyday life.

MOFFIT

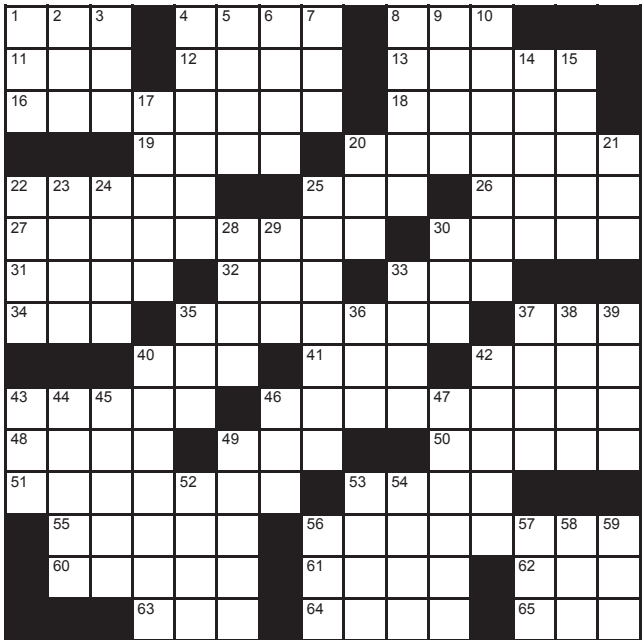
continued from page 8

ners," she said. "Having some candid advice or cracking a joke with the principal makes my job fun. It's very important for me to socialize and connect with my coworkers and partners."

As she embarks on her teaching journey,

Moffitt is eager to learn, grow, and inspire. With her energy, compassion, and commitment, Central Linn Elementary's newest first-grade teacher is ready to make her mark — one student at a time. ☸

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



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ACROSS

- 1 Adder
- 4 At what time
- 8 Crow noise
- 11 Hawaiian dish
- 12 Grade
- 13 Higher up
- 16 Courtliness
- 18 Danger
- 19 Just about
- 20 War and Peace author
- 22 Acclamation
- 25 Alder tree
- 26 Record
- 27 Where overspending will land you
- 30 Twister actress Hunt
- 31 Opaque gem
- 32 Title of respect
- 33 Secreted
- 34 Japanese coin
- 35 Jackals
- 37 Note taker
- 40 Sunburned
- 41 Paycheck (Abbr.)
- 42 Talipot palm leaf
- 43 Daisylike flower
- 46 Word study
- 48 Utter discomfort
- 49 Existed
- 50 Greedy king

DOWN

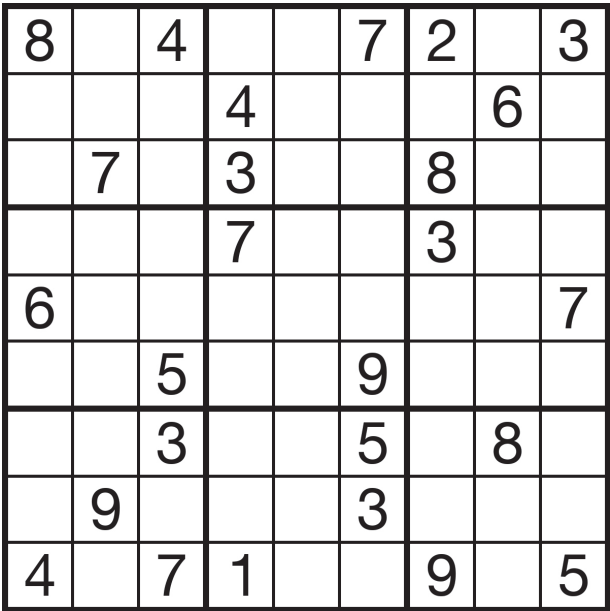
- 51 Quest
- 53 Biscuit
- 55 Aim at
- 56 Photo covering
- 60 Unemotional
- 61 Aspect
- 62 Deuce
- 63 Greatest degree
- 64 Let it stand!
- 65 Congeal
- 1 Emulator
- 2 Sun god
- 3 Pastry
- 4 Phantom
- 5 Suspend
- 6 Engrave
- 7 Maiden name
- 8 Chicken
- 9 Eve's son
- 10 Twisted woolen yarn
- 14 Critical
- 15 Run off
- 17 Twist
- 20 Three (It.)
- 21 Hankering
- 22 Aeneid
- 23 Make do
- 24 Borrowed money
- 25 Helps out
- 28 Persian Gulf peninsula

- 29 Vase
- 30 Not hers
- 33 Steering system
- 35 Convertible
- 36 Vote type
- 37 Trudge
- 38 Seaweed
- 39 Time periods
- 40 Stress
- 42 Medlies
- 43 Unit of elec. current
- 44 Entree forerunners
- 45 Fortune teller's aid
- 46 Consume
- 47 Egg dish
- 49 Crone
- 52 Building block
- 53 Leave out
- 54 Impolite
- 56 Sharp curve
- 57 Common contraction
- 58 Be obliged
- 59 Negation

PUZZLE Solutions on page 15

SUDOKU

TRICKY



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THE BROWNSVILLE TIMES

Periodical postage paid at Brownsville, OR (USPS 0680-000). Published every Thursday by The Brownsville Times, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to The Brownsville Times, PO Box 278, Brownsville OR 97327

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

PRINT & DIGITAL	yearly \$96	monthly \$8
DIGITAL ONLY	yearly \$36	monthly \$3

Editor/Publisher: Mikayle Stole | editor@brownsvilletimes.org

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Deadline for Advertising: Thursday at 5 p.m. | **Deadline for Submissions:** Friday at Noon.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: <https://brownsvilletimes.org/contact>

EDITORIAL GUIDELINES: <https://brownsvilletimes.org/editorial-policy>

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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.

Wednesday Community Coffee & Donuts 9:30 a.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://harvestrbcc.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.

Oakville Presbyterian Church

29970 Church Dr · Shedd · 541-758-0647

<https://oakvillechurch.org>

Sunday Service 10 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.

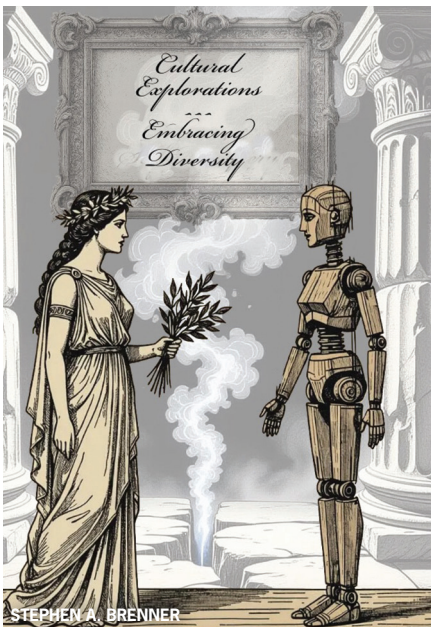
CULTURAL EXPLORATIONS

Embracing Diversity

by Staff Writer, Stephen A. Brenner

In the “Parable of the Good Samaritan”, Jesus tells of a traveler attacked by robbers and left half-dead. A priest and a Levite both pass without helping [contact with the dead was a defilement of ritual purity], but a Samaritan stops and cares for the man’s wounds,

The Samaritans: When Assyria conquered Israel in 722 BCE, many Israelites were exiled, and foreigners resettled the land. Those who remained intermarried and worshipped Yahweh and other gods. In 586 BCE, Babylon conquered Judah and exiled its elite. After Persia’s conquest in 536 BCE, the Judeans returned to rebuild the Temple, seeing themselves as true believers while disdaining Samaritans.



Jesus pondered what good was preserving our faith if it was hindering us from being caring individuals. It gets down to self-righteousness and the inability to see the divine in others. The Old Testament is full of the concept of having God on your side. Famously, a priest reprimands King Saul for not completely killing every living creature from a nearby Canaanite city. Still today, the orthodox government of Israel conducts genocide on the Gazans. Just like in biblical times, there are bad actors in charge, but mostly, there are just everyday people living their lives. The vindictive crackdown on immigrants in this country is also showing that dangerous self-righteousness. It paints a monolithic picture of these people as being the “cultural polluters.” It’s only natural to resist being overwhelmed by foreign influences, but maybe a few “Samaritans” could teach us a thing or two while we hold onto cherished core values. Most religions ultimately boil down to the golden rule.

Belief systems deeply shape our worldviews. Hinduism and Buddhism teach about reincarnation: an eternal series of opportunities to develop one’s humanity. The indigenous cultures have strong connections with nature, honoring all life forms. The Taoists see life as an interplay of opposites vs. a cosmic battle between good and evil. There’s also a healthy skepticism regarding authorities: Sun Tzu said, “A corrupt man will burn his own nation to the ground to rule over the ashes.” A great lesson for today’s mad world.

The more I learn, the more I realize how much I don’t know; I can hold strong convictions yet remain humble, knowing that I don’t have all the answers. And I have more of an affinity with those who are seeking answers, over those who are trying to force doctrine on others. The evolution of life is a work in progress, so should be our lives — lives of self-discovery and developing our own values based on our experiences. It’s kind of like getting in tune with our natural selves.

BTW, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI) is really about having an open mind. Up until 1920, women lacked suffrage. Healthy cultures evolve and diversity enriches the journey. The Times covers the news, but we could also be a forum where we listen to each other and build a sense of inclusion and the shared vision of a healthy, united community. ☺

KIDS’ KORNER

Take Me Out to the Ballgame!

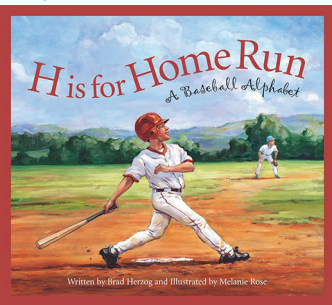
by Staff Writer, Nancy Diltz

America’s National Pastime! Baseball! If you already love baseball, you’re hooked for life like me! But if you don’t really care much about baseball, I’m here to show you why it’s the second most popular sport in America. Although football has been around since 1869 and has been the most popular American sport for decades, baseball began in the early 1800s and remains strong as the runner-up.

After you learn the basic rules of the game, you can appreciate watching or playing it more. You will find that there are new rules and regulations to learn about all the time, keeping the game challenging over the years. Baseball players are superb athletes, requiring strength, agility, and speed day after day during the season, which lasts seven months or longer if a team advances to the World Series. This championship series determines the very best team every year. Many players have inspired fans and teammates.

Lou Gehrig, nicknamed “The Iron Horse” because he played in 2,130 consecutive games, is known as one of baseball’s all-time greatest players. He developed a disease that robbed him of his strength and playing ability, and he died at only 37 years old. The disease is now called Lou Gehrig’s Disease. Another inspirational baseball player is Jim Abbott. He was born without a right hand. While this is a severe disability and would stop most kids from throwing a baseball, Abbott loved to play ball, and he never gave up. He became a big-league professional pitcher, and in 1993, he did the nearly impossible — he pitched a no-hitter for the New York Yankees. A no-hitter is a whole game pitched where the other team does not get any hits at all, and it is very rare for a pitcher to accomplish this.

If these players are interesting to you, there are many books about baseball and baseball players that you can read. There are community teams for kids and for adults to play on. There are high school, college, and professional games to attend in person and to watch on TV. You can even listen to games on the radio! A few good books about baseball include “Tales From the Dugout, The Greatest True Stories Ever Told” by



Mike Shannon, “H is for Home Run”, a fun alphabet book for younger kids by Brad Herzog, “Berenstain Bears Go Out For the Team” for young readers by Stan and Jan Berenstain and

“Everything I Know I Learned From Baseball, 99 Life Lessons From the Ball Field” by Philip Theibert for older readers. ☺

FAMOUS BASEBALL QUOTES:

- “Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game” –Babe Ruth
- “You may not think you’re going to make it. You may want to quit. But if you keep your eye on the ball, you can accomplish anything.” –Hank Aaron
- “The difference between the impossible and the possible lies in a person’s determination” –Tommy LaSorda

CRITTER CHRONICLES

Buckwheat: The Casanova Who Didn't Get the Memo

by Staff Writer, Sharon Banks

Buckwheat was a golden retriever of truly heroic proportions — not just big, but magnificently big. He strutted around like the mayor of Dog Town, chest out, tail high, and eyes always scanning the horizon for eligible lady friends.



He had one hobby, one mission, one glorious purpose in life: the adoration and undivided attention of every female dog within a five-mile radius. His testosterone-fueled swagger was the stuff of legend. Neighborhood pups swooned. Owners rolled their eyes.

Eventually, we decided maybe — just maybe — a little intervention was in order. The vet nodded knowingly. “It’ll calm him down,” they said.

Surgery day came and went, and Buckwheat came home with a cone on his head and a look that said, I’ve been through something unspeakable, but I will survive.

Only... we forgot one tiny, crucial detail.

We never told Buckwheat.

To Buckwheat, life was business as usual. The ladies still needed his charm. The world still needed his confident gallop, his signature wink (yes, he winked), and his elaborate tail flourishes.

Post-surgery Buckwheat was exactly the same as pre-surgery Buckwheat — just minus the actual... capabilities. He was convinced he was still the Top Dog of Romance, the Canine Cary Grant.

The only difference? Now when the neighbors asked, “Didn’t you have him fixed?” we just shrugged and said, “We did. But apparently, no one told him.”

Some dogs lose their drive after the big snip. Buckwheat? He kept right on running for office in the Ministry of Love. 🌀

AMERICAN LEGION

Fishing: The Place Where the Line Holds

by An Ordinary Seaman

Some men, they’ll tell you the end of all things is knowledge, or maybe a good woman, or maybe just enough money to get by without having to think too much about it. But I’ll tell you what I saw last week down by the pond, and it wasn’t any of those things. It was just a bunch of men, old and maybe a little beat up by life’s long road, getting some fishing done. And when the line snaps taut and the pole bends, well, a man learns something about himself he can’t learn anywhere else.

It was a day like a painting you’d hang in your parlor — a soft, gray light filtering through the oaks and Douglas firs. A little slice of wilderness tucked away just past the end of a gravel road. Serenaded by the quiet rustle of the leaves and the bright, persistent chatter of wild birds. There was a sweet scent of damp earth and blooming blackberry thickets hanging in the air. The kind of day where the heat hasn’t yet had a chance to get mean.

Some of the boys call themselves Vietnam Veterans, Local 864. I don’t know what they do with the dues, but I can tell you what they do with their time. They took a beat-up old floating dock, the kind of thing most people would see and just scratch their heads, wondering what to do with it. But they turned it into a palace for fishermen. They fixed it up, anchored it down deep in the pond, built a ramp so smooth you could roll a wheelchair right onto it... and that’s just what they did.

A small bus — Ed’s Coach, they called it — pulled up, the lift humming like a sleepy bumblebee, and a couple of young women, quick and gentle as forest fairies, helped the veterans out. The guys were in wheelchairs, some of them, and one fellow was a former Marine who couldn’t see the water. They all had one thing in common: the quiet kind of determination you only find in men who’ve been around the world a few times and have stories they don’t always tell.

The fishing was the heart of it, of course. Lines were cast, hooks were baited, and every once in



JOHN MORRISON

a while, there’d be a commotion. A respectable trout, or maybe a perch the size of your hand, would come thrashing out of the water. There was a whole lot of good-natured trash talk, too. One fellow would holler about the “lunker” he just lost, and another would just laugh, a laugh that was a revelation, and tell him he’d never even seen a fish that big in a picture

The American Legion, the great big organization of us veterans, has a lot of big programs. They’ve got their national conventions and their fundraisers and their high-minded projects, and all of that is good and necessary. But on a quiet day on a quiet pond, a small group of men showed me what it is really all about. It’s about a man helping another man into a wheelchair, then helping him bait a hook, and then just sitting there in the peace of the morning while the line sings a little tune and the fish bite. It’s about how the story is never over, not as long as there’s a buddy to share it with. 🌀

How to Help Wildlife During Wildfires

Oregon’s wildlife has long adapted to fire as a natural part of the landscape, but the increasing intensity and frequency of wildfires are creating new challenges for animals and their habitats. The Oregon Wildlife Foundation (OWF) is reminding Oregonians that wildfire season is here, and our native species are feeling the impact.

The Effects of Fire

Wildfires bring immediate habitat loss, forcing animals to flee. Some species depend on mature forests and suffer when their homes are destroyed. Others, such as certain birds and mammals, may benefit from the new growth that springs up in younger forests after a fire.

As wild resources dwindle, displaced animals sometimes wander into towns seeking food and water, resulting in more frequent human-wildlife interactions. Aquatic ecosystems are also at risk. Runoff from burned areas can murky rivers and alter water chemistry, sometimes causing fish die-offs and long-term disturbances in aquatic balance.

How You Can Help

If you find wildlife that seems displaced by fire, OWF provides these guidelines:

- **Don’t feed them.** Feeding creates dependency and can cause conflicts.
- **Provide fresh water.** Set it out away from



your home to avoid attracting multiple animals at once.

- **Open gates or fences.** This allows wildlife to pass through more safely.
- **Report sick or dead animals.** Call your local Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) office or the Wildlife Health Lab at 866-968-2600. You can also reach out to a local wildlife rehabilitation center (a complete list is available through ODFW).

Looking Ahead

While wildfires are a natural part of Oregon’s ecosystems, their changing patterns pose new challenges. With awareness and small actions, Oregonians can help protect the state’s diverse species during and after fire season.

For more details, visit <https://myowf.org>. 🌀



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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.

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

Sunday, August 24

8:40 a.m. — A suspicious circumstance was reported at 27700 block of Ogle Rd, Halsey. Ongoing issue with the same individuals. They will be relocating to Lane County.

9:06 a.m. — Caller reported a trespasser at 32100 block of Tangent Dr, Tangent. The individual was provided a ride home.

9:19 a.m. — Burglary reported at 32200 block of Old Oak Dr, Tangent. The caller's home was broken into while they were camping, and items were searched through, but nothing was found to be stolen.

12:47 p.m. — Welfare check was performed at the 700 block of N Main St,

Brownsville. The caller believed their family member was at a county address and was requesting a welfare check. The deputy checked the address, but nobody was home.

4:43 p.m. — Disturbance reported at 34000 block of Priceboro Dr, Harrisburg. LCSO was called to a domestic situation. The victim and suspect fled the scene and refused to cooperate.

5:27 p.m. — Verbal disturbance between partners reported at Gap Rd/Holmes Dr, Brownsville. Deputies contacted everyone involved and they were separated. Non-criminal.

6:47 p.m. — Suspicious circumstance reported at 33100 block of Hwy 228, Halsey. An individual wanted to know if a bicycle was stolen. The deputy could not find any record to indicate it had been stolen.

Monday, August 25

7:26 a.m. — Parking complaint reported at 400 block of N Main St, Brownsville. Deputies checked on an improperly parked vehicle.

8:20 a.m. — Single-vehicle non-injury crash reported at 30100 block of Green Valley Rd/Fayetteville Dr, Shedd.

12:58 p.m. — Trammel Pablo Scott, 65, of Cheshire, was issued a citation for speeding 44 in a posted 25 mph zone at N Main St/Walnut Ave, Brownsville..

1:12 p.m. — Civil dispute reported at 300 block of Spaulding Ave, Brownsville. Deputy documented the caller's statements involving a dispute with a neighbor.

1:24 p.m. — Caller reported a civil dispute at 32100 block of Griffith Dr, Tangent. Information documented regarding matter.

1:37 p.m. — Neighborhood dispute reported at 1000

block of Pine St, Brownsville. Deputy responded to a civil matter.

4:02 p.m. — Quinton Lamar Baker, 21, of Fife, WA, was issued a citation for speeding and driving without a license at 32400 block of Hwy 228, Halsey.

5:07 p.m. — Caller reported a suspicious vehicle parked on private property at 34200 block of Looney Ln, Tangent. The male occupant moved along without incident.

Tuesday, August 26

8:52 a.m. — Kathleen Marie Martinez, 57, of Sweet Home, was issued a citation for speeding 44 in a posted 25 mph zone at 600 block of N Main St, Brownsville.

12:15 p.m. — Single vehicle crash injury at Hwy 228/Fisher Rd, Halsey. Deputies assisted OSP.

2:14 p.m. — Steven Frields, 63, of Sacramento, was issued a citation for failure to obey a traffic control device at 700 block of N Main St, Brownsville.

3:05 p.m. — Caller reported a suspicious vehicle at Pioneer Park, Brownsville. Deputies located a vehicle parked in the grass where vehicles are not allowed. The vehicle was moved before deputies left the area.

3:42 p.m. — Dawn Adele Madsen, 58, of Lebanon, was issued a citation for speeding 44 in a posted 25 mph zone at 1000 block of N Main St, Brownsville.

6:49 p.m. — Bradley Wright, 53, of Sweet Home, was taken into custody for outstanding warrants and possession of methamphetamine at 40800 block of Hwy 228, Sweet Home.

Wednesday, August 27

1:41 a.m. — Deputy responded to a report of a stolen vehicle at 1200 block of W

2nd St, Halsey. Investigation ongoing.

3:22 a.m. — Deputy responded to a noise complaint at the 29900 block of Hwy 99E, Shedd, and educated and warned a citizen for making loud noise during evening hours.

11:01 a.m. — City ordinance violation reported at 700 block of W 3rd St, Halsey. Citation issued to residents for having unkept property.

11:32 a.m. — Caller reported a suspicious circumstance between two juveniles at 200 block of W 2nd St, Halsey.

1:09 p.m. — Caller requested a welfare check after concerning messages were received at 39700 block of Hwy 228, Sweet Home. The deputy contacted the subject of the welfare check and found them to be alive and well. The deputy spoke with them about getting a restraining order.

2:17 p.m. — Suspicious circumstance reported at Central Linn Jr High and High School, Halsey. School staff needed help identifying an item found in the bathroom. The item was used for head congestion.

3:57 p.m. — Animal complaint reported at 100 block of North Ave, Brownsville. The reporting person wanted documentation of the ongoing behavior with the neighbors and their animals.

5:55 p.m. — Dog complaint reported at 500 block of Kay Ave, Brownsville. Dogs fighting each other, non-criminal.

10:55 p.m. — Caller had questions regarding a trailer left on his property by a previous tenant at 33300 block of McFarland Rd, Tangent. Deputy answered his questions.

11:47 p.m. — Deputies respond to a harassment call

at 700 block of N Main St, Brownsville. Information documented for now.

Thursday, August 28

7:52 a.m. — Deputy assisted with a runaway child at 36100 block of Northern Dr, Brownsville. All was safely resolved.

3:59 p.m. — Disorderly conduct reported at 1000 block of Pine St, Brownsville. Civil issue regarding family members in a home.

4:07 p.m. — Silas Wildung, 51, of Sweet Home, was arrested for Trespass II at 33800 block of Linn West Dr, Shedd.

4:42 p.m. — DHS 307 Referral reported at 27800 block of Seven Mile Ln, Brownsville. Investigation ongoing.

Friday, August 29

1:54 a.m. — Caller reported a suspicious vehicle at 32600 block of McLagan Rd, Tangent. Checked on two suspicious vehicles. A couple came to the location to argue. They did not need any assistance.

12:48 p.m. — Caller concerned about a person causing a disturbance in Brownsville City Hall.

6:12 p.m. — Deputy responded to civil issues between mother and son at 29900 block of Lake Creek Dr, Halsey.

10:47 p.m. — Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance at 600 block of W 3rd St, Halsey. Non-criminal.

11:07 p.m. — Deputies responded to a reported domestic disturbance at 400 block of Depot Ave, Brownsville.

11:20 p.m. — Traffic hazard reported at Boston Mill Dr/Seven Mile Ln, Shedd. Deputy was unable to locate loose cows.

continued on page 15

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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:

Staying Prepared: Building Confidence in Ourselves and Our Community

by Staff Writer, Jeff Brown

As we wrap up our series on emergency preparedness, it's time to reflect on what we've learned and the steps we can take to keep our families and community ready for anything. We've covered various aspects of preparedness, from evacuation plans to sheltering in place.

Being prepared means having a plan and resources in place. This approach not only helps reduce fear of the unknown but also gives us a sense of control during uncertain times.

Being physically prepared involves practical steps:

- **Create Emergency Go Kits:** Assemble kits with essentials like food, water, first aid supplies, flashlights, and medications. Check these kits regularly to keep them up to date.
- **Develop Evacuation Routes:** Know the safest routes out of town and share these plans with your family.
- **Build up our emergency supplies** for a Shelter-In-Place emergency.
- **Stay Informed:** Keep up with local emergency protocols and weather alerts. Sign up for community notifications and/or use reliable weather apps.
- **Check out all the Emergency Preparedness articles** our City, State and County Websites have to offer. <https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us/administration/page/emergency-preparedness-committee>

Physical preparation alone isn't enough; we also need to be mentally prepared. Here are some strategies for mental preparedness:

- **Training and Drills:** Participate in or schedule your own emergency drills so you know what actions to take when an emergency occurs. Familiarity helps reduce panic.
- **Community Engagement:** Connect with neighbors. Discuss your emergency plans and practice drills together to build a supportive network.



While it's important to stay vigilant about potential threats, we must balance being informed and avoiding unnecessary fear. Concentrating on our preparedness can help turn anxiety into proactive steps.

In our rural towns, we have a strong sense of community that has always seen us through tough times. Let's channel that strength into being well-prepared. Together, we can face any challenge with confidence, knowing we have the support of one another.

Let's commit to staying prepared, staying aware, and supporting our community. By taking these steps, we can build resilience and peace of mind for whatever may come our way. National Preparedness Month starts in September. We welcome your stories of either preparing for emergencies or facing an emergency in the past, whether prepared or not. Let us know what you are doing to prepare your family, home, neighborhood, and/or community for the next emergency. ☀

BOARD

continued from page 9

kindergarten during COVID, and she could not read or write until second grade. My son now knows his ABCs; he is going in great for first grade. The reading curriculum that they have now, that is implemented, I think it's pretty good from everything that I've seen so far. But that's my experience. I'm hoping that what they'll do is they'll expand upon it. I will say that my oldest daughter is 19. She switched math programs in second or third grade when they did the switch-over to the Common Core. There was a massive switch in thinking from regular math to the Common Core, Singapore math. I'm not saying it's a correlation, but you can almost think that the same thing has happened, in the way that our kids are learning is being switched. You're taught one way for however many years, and then you can't just go around and expect to be a huge success when you're learning and you're teaching [and switching to another way.] It's going to take a while for the results to get back to where they need to be, for accurate data. There is always room for improvement. The lack of numbers in the school, as far as enrollment at the high school and junior high, especially at the high school, limits the availability of math and science courses. They basically have to rotate the courses like you would see in college, where one course is only offered in the first semester, and then it switches to another thing the next semester. In a perfect world, you would have course offerings every year. ☀

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SHERIFF'S REPORT

continued from page 14

Saturday, August 30

2:47 a.m. — Olivia Bushor, 29, of Springfield, was issued citations for driving while suspended and driving uninsured after crashing her vehicle at the 24000 block of Brush Creek Rd, Sweet Home. Report Pending

9:32 a.m. — Caller reports lost wallet at 29900 block of Peoria Rd, Shedd.

11:04 a.m. — Civil dispute reported at 600 block of W 3rd St, Halsey. The caller informed that the matter involving the

property is civil.

Sunday, August 31

1:03 p.m. — Caller reported illegal camping at 23000 block of Brush Creek Rd, Sweet Home. Two males were told they were on Campbell Global private property and couldn't stay there. They were both understanding and cooperative.

6:22 p.m. — Deputy responded to a traffic complaint at 300 block of E Washington Ave, Brownsville. Individuals

were issued warnings for their actions.

8:17 p.m. — Caller reported a theft at 25900 block of Center School Rd, Halsey. The deputy took a report of a stolen firearm.

8:36 p.m. — Suspicious circumstance reported at Pioneer Park, Brownsville. Deputy investigated reported adults dressed as "furries" luring minors to cars, but found it was just children playing in furry fox outfits. ☀

Drop Us a Tip

Have news to share? We'd love to hear from you! Call 458-266-0511 or email us at editor@brownsvilletimes.org with your story leads. ☎



PUZZLE KEY

Puzzles on page 11

8	1	4	5	6	7	2	9	3
3	5	2	4	9	8	7	6	1
9	7	6	3	2	1	8	5	4
2	8	1	7	5	6	3	4	9
6	3	9	8	1	4	5	2	7
7	4	5	2	3	9	6	1	8
1	2	3	9	7	5	4	8	6
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