



THE BROWNSVILLE TIMES

VOLUME 137, NO. 26

SERVING CENTRAL LINN COUNTY, OREGON SINCE 1889

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025

Kim's Kafé Brings the Historic Tangent Store Back to Life

By Marcy Hermens, Staff Writer and Tangent Correspondent



A familiar spark of life is returning to Tangent as the historic Tangent Store, built in the 1890s, is beginning a new chapter as Kim's Kafé on Tuesday, Dec. 2.

Originally operated by A.B. Conrad, then by Charles and Hattie Jenks well over a century ago, the store was once the beating heart of a growing railroad town. The store stood on one side of the tracks, the train depot on the other — intentionally placed to serve locals and travelers alike. Through the decades, the building changed hands and purposes many times. Today, the building is still owned by Delores Moseley who ran the Tangent Market from 1977-1986.

Pieces of the building's history remain in the original wooden boardwalk, the original ceiling above the kitchen, and the walk-in freezer's thick wooden door.

A lifelong Oregonian, Kim Ellington grew up between the coast and the valley, discovering her love of the service industry early. She began working at Applebee's at just 14 and, over the next decade, worked her way up to manager, gaining experience and a deep appreciation for connecting with people.

Kim's journey took her across the country during her husband Dennis' time in the Navy, but they eventually returned to his hometown of Tangent to raise their family surrounded by the small-town values that shaped him.

Kim's dream of opening her own restaurant began taking shape in 2023. Rather than buy an existing cafe, she wanted to create something uniquely hers — something that felt like home.

KIM'S continued on page 5

Kim Ellington stands ready to welcome the community into Kim's Kafé when it opens on Dec. 2.

MARCY HERMENS



Christmas Coloring Contest

Name: _____

Age (if under 18): _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Parent or Guardian Name (for minors): _____

I grant The Brownsville Times permission to publish my or my child's first name, age, and artwork in print or online if selected as a winner.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

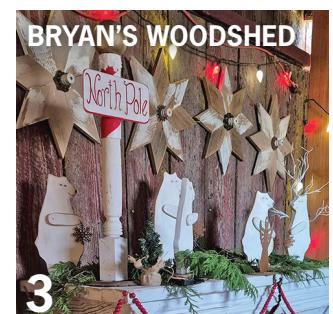
HOW TO ENTER

- Drop off your finished piece by 4 p.m., Dec. 18 at The Brownsville Times office, 343 N. Main St., Brownsville.
- Winners will be announced in the Dec. 25 issue of The Brownsville Times and online.

PRIZES

- Adult category: One free one-year subscription to The Brownsville Times.
- Child category: One child will receive a \$25 gift card.

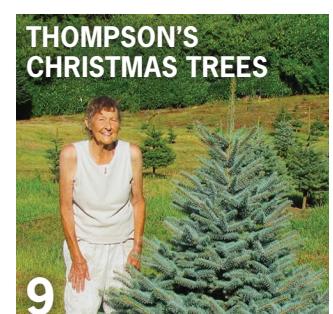
INSIDE



3



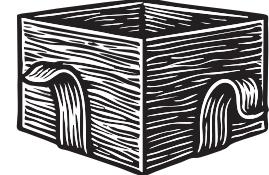
5



9



GIVE THE GIFT OF
LOCAL JOURNALISM



BROWNSVILLETIMES.ORG/
SUBSCRIBE

MAILING LABEL BELOW

\$2.00

ISSN 3068-2290 26 >
9773068229003

ONGOING EVENTS**Not Your Grandma's Bingo**

Mondays, Nov-Mar. 2, 2026 • 6:30-8 p.m.

Dixie Creek Saloon, 32994 OR-99E, Tangent

Tangent Together hosts an adults-only bingo night featuring cheeky humor, cash prizes, and \$1 game cards. Ages 21+ only.

Free Coffee, Donuts, & Fellowship

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

Not Rocket Science Trivia

Thursdays • 6:30 p.m. (ongoing) • Free

Dixie Creek Saloon, 32994 OR-99E, Tangent

Weekly pub trivia with bragging rights on the line. Bring a team and play every Thursday night.

Karaoke Saturdays at The Honey Hole

Saturdays • 7 p.m.

The Honey Hole Bar & Grill, Halsey

Sing your heart out every Saturday night! Enjoy \$3 Coors draft specials and a \$15 club wrap with fries while you take the stage.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS**All Wrapped Up — Holiday Art Show**

Through December • Various hours

Janky Bird, 134 Spaulding Ave., Brownsville

A month-long holiday exhibit featuring gift-ready art from local creators, with each artist supporting a charity through their sales. Visit the gallery during posted hours or text 571-482-8866 to confirm availability.

<https://www.jankyb.com>**Courtney Creek Artisan Market**

Nov. 28-Dec. 6 • 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily

36744 Courtney Creek Drive, Brownsville

The beloved artisan market returns with a carefully curated selection of handmade goods, antiques, fine art, gourmet foods, wreaths, and bakery treats, all set in the historic Courtney Creek Schoolhouse. Visitors can enjoy Sisters' Coffee and a festive boutique atmosphere among the evergreens.

<https://www.courtneycreek.com>**Silver Screen Cinema Classic Movie Night: 'It's a Wonderful Life'**

Friday, November 28 • 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

American Legion Travis Moothart Post 184, 339 N. Main St., Brownsville

\$2 per person. To reserve a seat, text your name to 541-915-9322 and pay at the door. Concessions available, including hot dogs, popcorn, soft drinks, candy, and ice cream.

Brownsville Holiday Lights Contest

Friday, Dec. 5 – Thursday, Dec. 25

Throughout Brownsville

Register your decorated home or business by**Monday, Dec. 1**, to be included on the 2025 Holiday Lights Map. The map will be available online beginning Dec. 5, and community voting will continue through Christmas night. Full details and the entry form are available at <https://HistoricBrownsville.com/holiday-lights-contest>.**Brownsville Library Annual Book Sale**

Dec. 4-13 • During library hours

Brownsville Community Library, Kirk Room

A room full of books for all ages, including donated titles and retired library items, with prices ranging from 50 cents to \$1. Blind-date books return this year for \$5 and up.

See what's happening in Central Linn and add your event:<https://brownsvilletimes.org/community-calendar>**Hallmark Tree Lighting Set for Nov. 28**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Following our Nov. 13 coverage of the Hallmark Christmas tree's journey through Brownsville, readers can now mark their calendars for the official lighting in Kansas City, Missouri. The Hallmark Christmas Experience starts Friday, Nov. 28, 2025, with the Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting at 6 p.m. in Crown Center Square. The free event kicks off a full weekend of holiday activities and features the illumination of one of the largest Christmas trees in the country, along with a new light show and ongoing festivities throughout the plaza.

This year's Mayor's Christmas Tree is a 100-foot-tall evergreen provided by Cascade Timber Consulting of Sweet Home, Oregon, that arrived in Kansas City on Nov. 6 after a 2,000-mile journey through six states. The massive tree will serve as the centerpiece of the Hallmark Christmas Experience and the annual lighting ceremony.

Those who want to watch from home can tune in to "A Hometown Holiday Christmas Special" on Hallmark Channel. Although the program airs after the live event, it features footage from the lighting and celebration.

- First airing: Saturday, Dec. 6, 2025, at 9 p.m. on Hallmark Channel
- Streaming: Available on Hallmark Plus starting Dec. 7

For a full schedule of events, visit <https://www.crowncenter.com/events/hallmark-christmas-experience> or see details on the lighting at <https://www.crowncenter.com/events/mayors-christmas-tree-lighting-ceremony>. 

BROWNSVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**Holiday Lights Contest Final Call to Sign Up by Dec. 1****Sponsored by Pacific Power**

There's still time to participate in Brownsville's most vibrant holiday tradition. Residents and businesses have until Monday, Dec. 1, to register their decorated homes or storefronts for the 2025 Holiday Lights Contest.



JENNA STUTSMAN
Fourth place in Brownsville's 2024 Holiday Lights Contest went to 212 School Ave.

All registered locations will be featured on this year's Holiday Lights Map, available online starting Dec. 5. From Dec. 5 through Christmas night, families can use the map to enjoy the displays and cast their votes for their favorites.

How to Enter:

- Register by Monday, Dec. 1.
- Visit <https://HistoricBrownsville.com/holiday-lights-contest> for the entry form and details.

Prizes will be awarded to the top vote-getters, and map placement provides a fun way to showcase your creativity with the community throughout the season.

Let's brighten up Brownsville together and make this year's contest the brightest yet, thanks to Pacific Power and all who participate. 

Halsey Parade of Lights & Winter Breakfast

Saturday, December 6 • Breakfast 6:30-10:30 a.m., Parade at 6 p.m. at Halsey Fire Station and Central Linn Elementary School



COURTESY OF HALSEY-SHEDD RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

Start your day at the annual Winter Breakfast hosted by Halsey Fire from 6:30 to 10:30 a.m. All proceeds benefit the local Meals on Wheels program.

Then, return in the evening for the annual Halsey Parade of Lights. Parade staging begins at 5 p.m. at Central Linn Elementary School, with the parade starting at 6 p.m. The route travels south on West 3rd Street, west on O Street, and north on West 4th Street, ending back at the school.

Everyone is welcome to participate — floats, vehicles, or walkers of all kinds. Registration forms are available at the Halsey Fire Department or City Hall and can also be submitted the night of the parade.

A chili feed will follow the parade at the Halsey Fire Station.

For more information, call 541-369-2419 or email halseyfire@rtinet.com.

Follow Halsey Fire on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/halseyfire> for updates. 

'Trees For Hope' Fundraiser Benefits Addiction Recovery and Local Families

Adult & Teen Challenge PacWest opens its annual "Trees For Hope" Christmas tree lots this Saturday and runs through Dec. 22 or until sold out. The fundraiser supports the organization's residential drug and alcohol recovery programs, and every premium, fresh-cut tree sold helps provide a tree to a local family that could not otherwise afford one.

Adult & Teen Challenge PacWest has been a nationally recognized residential recovery program for more than 40 years. The program helps individuals overcome addiction and rebuild their lives through a holistic, faith-based approach that includes evidence-based counseling, vocational training, and community outreach.

The tree lots operate across the Willamette Valley, with locations in both Lebanon and Albany. One hundred percent of the proceeds support the recovery programs.

Tree Lot Locations

- SuperThrift, 2735 S. Santiam Hwy., Lebanon
- Hope Church, 2817 Santiam Hwy., Albany
- North Albany — corner of Hickory and N. Albany Road

Hours of Operation

- Sunday-Thursday: noon to 6 p.m.
- Friday: noon to 8 p.m.
- Saturday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Community members interested in volunteering or arranging a site visit may contact Krista Cunningham at 503-302-4512. 

BROWNSVILLE WOMEN'S STUDY CLUB**Victorian Punk Tree Blends Brownsville History With Holiday Spirit**

By Mandy Cole, Staff Writer

Don't miss The Brownsville Times' "Victorian Punk" tree decorated by Anne Clarke.

The Brownsville Times office is the best spot for a spectacular Christmas tree. "With big windows facing the intersection of Main Street and Spaulding, our Victorian Punk tree will be seen by everyone," says Anne. What is Victorian Punk? Anne explains that the Victorian Age was coming to an end just as the Brownsville Times was first published in 1889, so anything Victorian is the perfect theme. She will decorate the Times' tree with historical elements such as sepia-tinted photos of Brownsvillians of the past, Victorian elements of natural materials — copper, leather, or wood — and mechanical elements of clockworks and gears. "The decorations will range from elegant to rugged. And, of course, all the garlands will be created from past issues of the Times," says Anne.



Elements of history and craft — sepia portraits, copper, leather, and gears — will adorn the Victorian Punk tree.

The Festival of Trees, Dec 5–6, is the perfect event for The Brownsville Times to participate in. Anne says, "Festival of Trees is dedicated to and benefits the community. The Brownsville Times is dedicated to building our community and is an essential partner in connecting all of Brownsville. Did you know that the Times office is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.–noon? The welcome mat is out, and a volunteer is available to hand a visitor a cup of coffee, hear stories, get your news, and take your tips."

The Times has been at the heart of this community for 136 years. "On the days I volunteer," says Anne, "I love to sit in that big front window and watch Brownsville go by. There's so much history, so much community spirit. We want to keep this area thriving for another century."

You can bid on the Brownsville Times' Victorian Punk tree on Dec. 5 and 6 at 343 N Main Street. ☀

CONNECT LINN COUNTY**Toy and Hygiene Supply Drive**

BROWNSVILLE — This holiday season, CONNECT Linn County invites residents to help spread kindness and care throughout the community. The group is collecting new toys and essential hygiene items to help local families experience the joy and comfort of the season.

Toy ideas include books, puzzles, dolls, cars, games, and other unwrapped gifts for children of all ages. Suggested hygiene donations include toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, feminine products, and other everyday essentials. New socks and underwear are also appreciated.

Donations may be dropped off at the Brownsville Dollar General at 178 Main St. For more information, visit <https://www.connectlinncounty.net>. ☀

Christmas in the Shed Returns to Bryan's Woodshed

BROWNSVILLE — Holiday cheer returns to Bryan's Woodshed with the annual "Christmas in the Shed" event, taking place Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 4 to 6, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Visitors are welcome to browse a festive selection of handcrafted furniture, garden art, and home decor made from reclaimed barn wood and other repurposed materials. The event will include refreshments, door prizes, and plenty of gift ideas for the season.



Brownsville resident and native Oregonian Bryan Wyant, owner of Bryan's Woodshed, has been creating unique, functional art pieces since 1982. After years of building planters, benches, greenhouses, and furniture from reclaimed wood, Bryan achieved his dream of opening a public showroom in 2015.

Located at 34066 Hwy 228, just two miles east of I-5 Exit 216 and two miles west of Brownsville, Bryan's Woodshed remains a popular stop for one-of-a-kind designs.

For more information, call 541-521-2269. ☀

BROWNSVILLE ART ASSOCIATION Holiday Art Market

The Brownsville Art Association's Holiday Art Market returns for one day only on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Brownsville Art Center, 255 N. Main St. Shoppers will find two floors of locally made gifts from more than 30 artists — including art, jewelry, pottery, cards, ornaments, preserves, soaps, and more. It's an easy way to check off your list while supporting the creators who keep Brownsville's arts community thriving.



The Holiday Art Market is a standalone event, but it shares the weekend with the Festival of Trees, a separate fundraiser hosted by the Brownsville Women's Study Club on Dec. 5–6. As part of the festival, the Art Association will display its "Christmas at the Cabin" tree — an old-fashioned, hand-crafted, woodsy design adorned with natural materials, handmade ornaments, and a red silk tree skirt with twinkling lights.

Regular gallery hours continue ahead of the market: Wednesday from 1 to 4 p.m., and Thursday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For those wanting a hands-on experience, the Art Association will also host a Paint a Santa workshop with Brynn Carter on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 1 to 3 p.m. The class is open to ages 10 and older, costs \$40, includes all materials, and is limited to 10 students. Details and registration are available at <https://brownsvilleart.org>. ☀

Janky Bird Holiday Show: 'All Wrapped Up' Runs Through December

BROWNSVILLE —

Janky Bird has launched its holiday art show, "All Wrapped Up," now open through December at 134 Spaulding Ave. The exhibit is designed to help visitors wrap up their shopping lists with gift-ready, one-of-a-kind works from local artists. Each participating artist has selected a charity to benefit from their sales, creating an opportunity to support both the arts and community organizations.

Participating artists include Barbora Bakalorova, Dani Dickason, Charles Edward, Ralf Huber, Steve La Riccia, Uriah Roth, Jeff Smith, Nolan Streitberger, Lisa Taylor, Ute Vergin, Shelli Walters, and Kaitlyn Watts.



A mixed-media portrait of an Alaskan malamute by Shelli Walters, supporting the Washington Alaskan Malamute Adoption League's rescue and rehabilitation work.



A mixed-media portrait of an Alaskan malamute by Shelli Walters, supporting the Washington Alaskan Malamute Adoption League's rescue and rehabilitation work.

Gallery hours are Monday and Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.; Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Friday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, and additional hours are available by appointment. Visitors may text 571-482-8866 to confirm staff availability.

More information is available at <https://www.jankybird.com>. ☀

Beloved Holiday Market Returns to Historic Schoolhouse

BROWNSVILLE — The Courtney Creek Artisan Market returns this season with nine days of holiday shopping at the historic Courtney Creek Schoolhouse just east of Brownsville. The market runs from Nov. 28 through Dec. 6, open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 36744 Courtney Creek Drive.

Shoppers will discover a carefully curated selection of handmade goods, antiques, fine art, gourmet foods, wreaths, and bakery treats; all displayed in a festive boutique setting among the evergreens. Visitors can sip Sisters' Coffee while browsing, making it a perfect stop for gift shopping and a relaxed holiday outing in the country.

The event is free and features the work of regional artisans and small businesses. For more information, including vendor details and directions, visit <https://www.courtneycreek.com>. ☀



J & S SUPPLY

SUPPLYING YOU WITH ALL YOUR PET ESSENTIALS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

**541-466-5886 • 303 W. BISHOP WAY, BROWNSVILLE
MON-FRI: 8-6, SAT 8-5**



SHARING HANDS

A Christmas Angel Visits Sharing Hands

By Sharon K. Banks, Staff Writer

Sharing Hands has received an early Christmas blessing. A generous Brownsville resident has completed the final donation needed to purchase the long-awaited walk-in fridge and freezer. This essential upgrade will help preserve the growing volume of food donations for local families in need.

The unit has been ordered, but delivery and installation will take some time. Until then, Sharing Hands is asking the community to keep any frozen turkeys at home until the day before distribution.

Please note the holiday schedule

- Wednesday, Nov. 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 24, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 31, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Closed Fridays, Nov. 28, Dec. 26, and Jan. 1.

GROCERY LIST**Holiday Items**

- Frozen Turkeys
- Stove Top Stuffing
- Cranberries
- Sweet Potatoes or Yams (fresh or canned)
- Marshmallows
- Green Beans French Style
- Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Velveeta Cheese
- Parmesan Cheese (plastic jar)

**Canned & Jarred Goods**

- Dinty Moore Beef Stew
- Kraft Mac and Cheese (individual cups)
- Soups
- Jellies
- Syrup
- Juice



Please no expired items.

Condiments

- Salad Dressings
- Mayonnaise
- Ketchup

Breakfast

- Cereals
- Oatmeal

GROCERY DEALS

295 N. 3rd St
Harrisburg, OR 97446
(541) 995-5132
M-Sat 9am-7pm
Closed Sunday

Follow Us!

grocerydealsOR.com



1 lb. of Butter
\$2.79
with Coupon



No Limit, Expires 12/31/25

VALID 11/13-11/30 2025 ONLY

\$5 OFF
\$50

Minimum \$50 purchase.
Excludes alcohol, dairy, gift card purchases, & tax and state bottle deposits.
Valid in-store at Junction City Grocery Outlet only.
One coupon per person. Not valid with any other offer. Duplicated coupons will not be accepted.

**GROCERY
OUTLET**
bargain market



SEASONS EATINGS

Cranberries, Coconut, and Shortbread Squares for the Season

By Lisa Keith, Staff Writer

Here are a couple of absolutely fantastic treats to add to your holiday baking list. We'll start with a lovely cranberry cookie. These get "gobbled" up every single time I share. They are soft, with a delicate flavor and texture. A refreshing change from your standard holiday fare.

Cranberry-Coconut Chewies*Yields about six dozen cookies*

1 1/2 cups room temperature butter
2 cups sugar
1 Tbsp orange zest
2 tsp vanilla extract
1 egg
3 1/4 cups flour
1 tsp baking powder
1/4 tsp salt
1 1/2 cups dried or fresh cranberries
1 1/2 cups flaked coconut
1) Mix butter, sugar, orange peel, and vanilla on medium until smooth. Add egg and beat until incorporated.

2) In a medium bowl, mix flour, baking powder, and salt. Add to the butter mixture. Mix on low speed until the dough comes together. This can take about 5 minutes. Please don't stop until it comes together in a soft, homogeneous mass. Incorporate coconut and cranberries.

3) Shape dough into 1-inch balls and place about 2 inches apart on a well-greased or parchment-lined baking sheet.

4) Bake at 350°F until edges begin to tan. 11-15 min. Transfer to wire racks to cool.

The following recipe is for a wonderful favorite. We frequently dip the finished square in chocolate or sandwich it with raspberry jam or lemon curd. The silky texture and not-too-sweet flavor make these hard to resist.

Classic Shortbread

1 1/2 cups softened butter
1 cup granulated white sugar
4 cups flour
2 tsp cornstarch

Cream butter. Add sugar and cream again. Add flour and cornstarch and mix thoroughly. Press into an 11 x 15 jelly roll sheet. Bake at 325°F for 30 minutes until barely golden. Cut into squares or diamonds while warm. Let cool in the pan.

As always, please feel free to email me with ideas, questions or suggestions anytime.

Thank you for your continued support. iamcheflisa@gmail.com.



Long before she wrote *Seasons Eatings*, Lisa Keith was already at work in the kitchen. She is shown here baking as a child, circa 1975.

Lisa Keith
Cranberry-Coconut Chewies cooling on a rack.Lisa Keith
Classic Shortbread cut into diamonds.

Just around the Corner

Even big-city folks must have their "neighborhood stores"! Most of them would no more think of going down town to fight their way through the crowds in search of a roast for dinner than they would of walking to the factory to get a pair of shoes.

City women know that their neighborhood stores can supply them just what they want — and that, in most cases, the service is more alert and friendly.

The same thing is true of this "neighborhood". Our merchants—the men whose ads you read in this paper—are in position to furnish your home with the best and most popular brands of goods. Not only can they save you money, but they gladly relieve you of a lot of worry and loss of time.

Read the Ads in this Paper
and save yourself money by trading at home

Then: "Read the Ads in This Paper and Save Yourself Money by Trading at Home" — December 3, 1925.
Now: Nearly a century later, The Brownsville Times still champions the same message — support local business first!

**OVERTON VALLEY BEEF**

GRASS FED • GRASS FINISHED
USDA Certified Angus Beef • 100% Natural
No BS. Just quality beef: \$5.29/lb (includes
slaughter, cut, & wrap) custom boxes available!

Family owned and operated
Kyle Koontz • 541.990.3374

EST. 1860 OVERTONVALLEYRANCH.COM • BROWNSVILLE

KIM'S *continued from cover*

Kim and Dennis began conversations with the Moseley family and soon an agreement was reached: the Ellingtons would bring the building back to life as a cafe. Work actively began in 2024 with Kim balancing family, work, and long nights of renovation but "every step was worth it."

The cafe will offer wraps, sandwiches, salads, soups, a self-serve coffee bar, hand-scooped BJ's Ice Cream, local Blue Silo milk, and meats from Johnson Family Farms. The new cafe will also offer many of the same kitchen staples they use themselves, giving neighbors a convenient, small-town way to pick up everyday essentials.

Kim's vision is simple: a place that feels like walking into her kitchen for a home-cooked meal. "I want to see kids stop in after school for ice cream, families having lunch, neighbors catching up. That's what this is all about."

Kim's passion for her community shines through as an active member of Tangent Together, a nonprofit dedicated to connection and civic pride. Her cafe will also carry that dedication to connection: "It's more than food — it's community," she says. After more than a century as a gathering place, the historic grocery store is nearly ready to welcome friends and neighbors again — with coffee, good food, and Kim's signature smile.

Kim's Kafé plans to open officially on Tuesday, December 2. Follow Kim's Kafé at <https://www.facebook.com/KimsKafe.Tangent>. ☺



A wall of black-and-white photographs celebrating rural life and local history decorates the interior of Kim's Kafé.



MARCY HERMENS

A relic from Harris Ice Machine Works, an early Oregon refrigeration manufacturer, is still part of the historic building's interior.

TABLE TALK, DINING IN AND AROUND BROWNSVILLE

A Classic Diner Experience at 99 Grill in Harrisburg

By Jeff Brown, Staff Writer

If you enjoy a touch of nostalgia with your morning coffee, 99 Grill in Harrisburg offers just that. Located at 290 North 3rd Street, this 50s- and 60s-style diner serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner all day, staying true to its motto: "We have so many choices, let us do the cooking."

When my wife and I stopped in, we were greeted right away by Kari, who told us to sit anywhere and insisted we try one of their donuts. It was a friendly, spontaneous gesture that set an easy tone for the meal. Our waitress, Selina, provided efficient service and kept things moving even though the restaurant was busy.

I ordered the Skinnie Minnie — link sausage, eggs, hash browns, and toast — while my wife chose the guacamole toast. Both dishes came out quickly and were well prepared. My breakfast was hearty and cooked just as ordered, and the guacamole toast offered a lighter option without sacrificing flavor. I noticed on the menu that almost every entree was well under \$20.

The diner itself feels like stepping into another era. The walls are filled with vintage memorabilia, and the mix of locals and travelers gives it a welcoming, lived-in atmosphere. It's the kind of place where people seem to know each other, and newcomers don't stay strangers for long.

In addition to the standard diner fare, the menu includes a few surprises, such as a featured salad of the month and several rotating meal specials. The portions are reasonable, and there's enough variety to satisfy most tastes.

Overall, the 99 Grill delivers on what a small-town diner should be: good food, friendly service, and a comfortable setting. It's not fancy or fussy, but it doesn't need to be. ☺



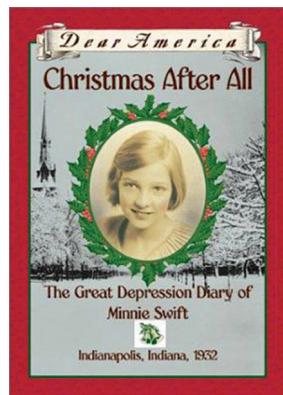
JEFF BROWN

KIDS' KORNER

'Dear America' Brings the Great Depression to Life in a Holiday Tale

By Nancy Diltz, Staff Writer

The "Dear America" book series is not to be missed. In this series of 44 books, fictionalized diaries from the perspectives of young women, children, and teens are each set during important historical times. Recommended reading for 4th grade and above, most of the stories are also enjoyable when read aloud to younger children, and even adults can appreciate learning from these books.



"Christmas After All" by Kathryn Laskey (2001) is a perfect selection for the holiday season. According to ThriftBooks.com, "History comes alive through the eyes of a young American girl. To twelve-year-old Minnie Swift, Christmas is not going to be the bounty she is used to. It is 1932, the middle of the Great Depression, and jobs are scarce. Papa seems more worried each day... Minnie's orphaned cousin comes to live with them, and Minnie is resolved to make Christmas memorable despite the hard times. Through her diary, she captures the optimism of a small Midwestern family, the fortitude of the American spirit, and the magic of Christmas."

The similar series, "Dear America: My Name is America," has an additional 20 books from the perspective of young men and boys throughout history. There are many stories from fascinating time periods, sure to please and enlighten young readers with a wide variety of interesting topics. Some of the "Dear America" and "Dear America: My Name is America" books include stories about traveling the Oregon Trail, living during the Civil War, and the adventures of a pilgrim boy.

What period in American history do you like? Perhaps there is a "Dear America" or "Dear America: My Name is America" book about your favorite events. You will feel as though you know the writers and their experiences as you enjoy these personal tales. "Christmas After All" is available at the Brownsville Library along with several others in the series. ☺

WHERE TO EAT

Mema's Country Kitchen
HAND MADE WITH LOVE

403 N Main St
Brownsville
Natoshya Moffitt
541.405.2147
memascountrykitchen@yahoo.com
Facebook: Mema's Country Kitchen
Mon-Thur (open if lights on) • Fri-Sun 9-6

122 Spaulding
11-9 • Sunday 12-8
Family Friendly

Armando's Mexican Restaurant
Phone Orders 541-466-3636
\$5 OFF
When you spend \$40+

1847
LEBANON OREGON
BAR & GRILL

Buy an entree & receive 50% off an appetizer

505 Mullins Drive, Lebanon • 541-451-1847
Tuesday-Saturday, 4-9 p.m. • Happy Hour, 4-5 p.m.

BEST BURGERS IN THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY
Highway 228 & 99, Halsey

THE HONEY HOLE
TO GO ORDERS: 541-369-2400
Smoked Meats • In-house Ground Beef

130 Spaulding Ave.
10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Brownsville
Monday - Saturday
541-466-9100

VIDEO & SPIRITS

Liquor | Wine | Soda | Smokes | DVD Rentals

PIONEER VILLA
RESTAURANT & SALOON

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner • 5 am-10 pm
33180 Hwy 228, Halsey • 541-369-2801
pioneerhilltruckplaza.com

HALSEY CITY COUNCIL

Street Vacations, Hazard Mitigation Plan Approved at November Meeting

By Mikayle Stole, Editor

The Halsey City Council held its regular monthly meeting on Nov. 18, addressing an agenda that included public safety updates, infrastructure projects, and long-term planning. The meeting started at 7 p.m. with five council members present; Mayor Jerry Lachenbruch and Councilor Stacy Strauss were absent.

Public Safety and Regional Services

A representative from the Linn County Sheriff's Office reported 62 incidents in September and October, including two arrests. A juvenile-related stolen vehicle was recovered the same day, and money was reported stolen from Diamond K. The Oregon Cascade West Council of Governments also briefed the council on its efforts supporting seniors and residents with disabilities, along with meal and transportation services and economic development assistance, such as grant writing.

City Administrator Updates

City Administrator Briana Parra reported progress on several ongoing projects, including:

- Wetlands and Housing:** A wetlands inventory draft has been completed. The city is applying for grants and preparing necessary code updates and educational materials for landowners affected.
- Economic Development:** An intern, working with REAL, is helping with business outreach, mapping commercial and industrial districts, and updating business resources on the city website.
- Well Project:** Data for the city's well rights application has been submitted, and the well house design has been updated to a more cost-effective above-ground structure.
- I & I Project:** Branch Engineering offered design options for wastewater system repairs. Since both options stayed within budget, the more thorough approach was chosen.
- Code Enforcement:** A court case involving abandoned vehicles resulted in a guilty verdict; the property owner has 30 days to clean up before abatement is initiated.
- Governor's Office Resolution Team:** City staff will meet on Dec. 2 for assistance with Main Street revitalization and water treatment control projects.

Street Vacations and Utility Easement

The council unanimously approved moving forward with a request to vacate a 170-foot section of West A Street and West B Street adjacent to tax lots 101 and 201. They also approved a utility easement for stormwater drainage infrastructure on tax lot 200, near West 1st Avenue and Crowell Street.

Adoption of Planning Documents

Two key resolutions passed without opposition:

- Resolution 2025-752:** Adoption of the Linn County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Resolution 2025-753:** Adoption of the City of Halsey Wastewater Facilities Master Plan.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. ☀

'Something Special for Christmas' Opens at Harrisburg Arts Academy

HARRISBURG — Generations Arts Academy is ushering in the holiday season with its new production, "Something Special for Christmas," on stage at the Harrisburg Arts Center. The show runs December 5-14 and features a cast of local youth and adults.

The family-friendly production blends classic

holiday music, heartfelt storytelling, and plenty of seasonal cheer. Audiences can expect a mix of familiar favorites and new surprises, all brought to life by performers from across the Tri-County area.

"Something Special for Christmas" is part of the Academy's mission to provide year-round

performing arts opportunities for the community. Tickets, showtimes, and additional details are available through Generations Theater Company's website and social media pages at <https://jctheater.com> and <https://www.facebook.com/GTCJC>. ☀

WHERE TO GET FINANCIAL HELP



TRUE LIFE
FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

VETERAN OWNED

Alex Johnson II Principal Broker
Mobile: 541-730-5064
Email: alex.truelife@gmail.com

www.TrueLifeFinancialSolutions.com

- Medicare Solutions
- Life Insurance
- Cancer Insurance



David K. Hansen
RETIREMENT & INVESTMENT SERVICES

LINCOLN
INVESTMENT

541-242-3553
dhansen@lincolninvestment.com

Securities offered through Lincoln Investment, Broker/Dealer, Member FINRA / SIPC. Advisory Services offered through Lincoln Investment or Capital Analysts, Registered Investment Advisers.



Pioneer Bookkeeping & Tax Service

202 N Main Street, Brownsville • 541-466-3144

Cindy Clark, LTC#4910
"Full Service for Small Businesses!"

Income Tax Preparations • Reasonable Rates
Evenings & Weekends by Appointments
OBTP#B00696

CENTRAL LINN ELEMENTARY

December Activities at CLES

Central Linn Elementary is embracing the holiday season with several community-focused events, many open to families, grandparents, and neighbors.

Giving Tree, Dec. 8-18

The annual Giving Tree will be displayed in the school lobby from December 8 through 18. Community members are invited to hang new socks, gloves, mittens, hats, and scarves on the tree. All items will be delivered to Sharing Hands for their Christmas Greetings event on Dec. 20.

Popcorn Fundraiser, Through Dec. 2

Students at Central Linn Elementary are selling popcorn from Hot Poppin' Hand Popped Corn, a local business. Five flavors are available. To support the school, contact your favorite Central Linn Elementary student to place an order through them. All proceeds go directly to CLES programs.

Book Fair, Dec. 8-12

The winter book fair runs from December 8 to 12 and will be open during student lunch periods and during the winter concerts on December 9 and 10. Teacher wish lists will be available for anyone wanting to gift a book to a classroom.

K-2 Winter Concert: Dec. 10

The K-2 students will perform their holiday mini musical, "Twas the Night Before Christmas," on Wednesday, December 10, at 6 p.m. in the CLES Gym. Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy an evening of music from the youngest Cobras. ☺

PIONEER CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

AgWest Grant Funds PCA Gym Sound System Upgrade

Pioneer Christian Academy received a \$2,000 Rural Community Grant from AgWest Farm Credit, supporting the school's efforts to improve its facilities.

The funds will be used to upgrade the sound system in the PCA gym, a project that school leaders say will improve events, assemblies, and community gatherings.

"We would like to thank AgWest for their support of small communities within Oregon," said Principal Chad Schrock. "It takes companies like this that care to keep our community nonprofits functioning."

AgWest's Rural Community Grant program helps nonprofit organizations across the West with projects that strengthen rural communities, including facility upgrades, equipment purchases, and capital investments.

More information about the program is available through AgWest Farm Credit's Rural Community Grants at <https://www.agwestfc.com/about/community-engagement/grants/rural-community-grants> ☺



Danielle M. Myers, Esq.
Attorney at Law, LLC

- Estate Planning/Probate
- Criminal Defense

333 N. Main St., Brownsville (541) 600-0422
danielle@dmmyerslaw.com

www.dmmyerslaw.com

CRITTER CHRONICLES

Mandy Goat

By Sharon K. Banks, Staff Writer

One summer, my Uncle Rudy's goat had triplets. I was up at his place "helping" (which mostly meant getting in the way) when we found them — healthy kids and one poor little runt who couldn't stand and was getting shoved aside. Uncle Rudy sighed and said she probably wouldn't make it, but I begged him to let me try.



He handed her over, and I marched home like a nurse on a mission. I found a bottle, filled it with calf formula, and started feeding her around the clock. That first night I slept on the floor beside her, and every time she or I moved, I stuck that bottle right back in her mouth. By morning, she was wobbling around. By afternoon, she was following me through the house, bleating happily and decorating the floor with tiny goat pellets.

From then on, she was my shadow. I named her Mandy, and she decided she wasn't a goat at all — she was a dog. She followed me everywhere, rode in the back of the pickup, and came along to the swimming hole. You should've seen people's faces when our group showed up and the first one down the trail was a white goat.



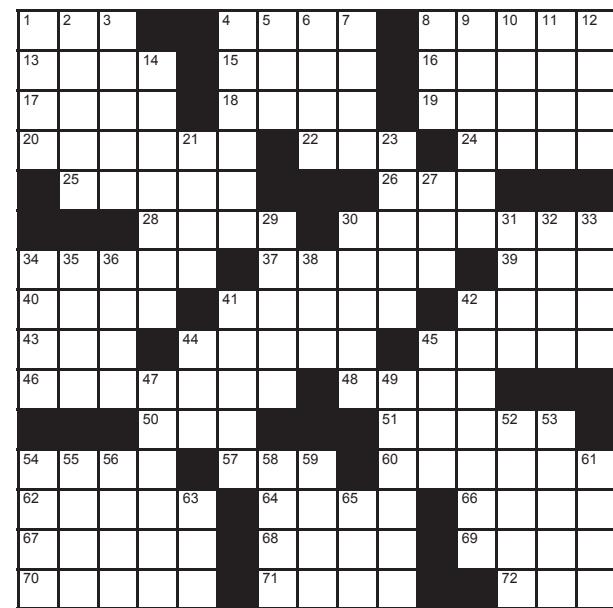
AI-GENERATED IMAGE BY SHARON K. BANKS

When I left for college, Mandy stayed home. She slept on top of her doghouse like Snoopy, and if it rained, she'd try to sneak into the house when no one was looking. My folks once tried to breed her with a borrowed Billy, but Mandy beat him up so badly they sent him home early. She never did have babies — she didn't think she was that kind of goat.

Mandy lived ten years, queen of the yard and boss of the dogs. I still smile every time I think about that stubborn little runt who refused to be a goat. ☺



CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Copyright ©2025 PuzzleJunction.com

ACROSS

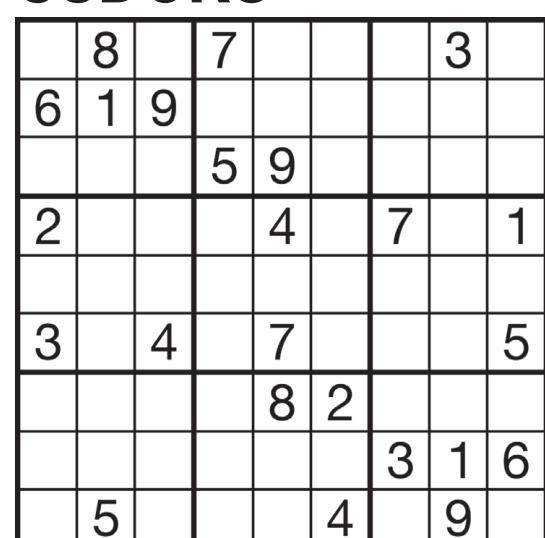
1 Day times (Abbr.)	50 Past	23 Delete
4 Imbibes, slowly	51 Saintly toppers	27 Hockey foundation
8 Effect's partner	54 Coiffure	29 Alas and —
13 Hen house sound	57 Doleful	30 Canters
15 Forest member	60 Fiats	31 Close
16 Ohio city	62 Clay	32 Sword lily
17 Great Lakes lake	64 Start of an idea	33 Concern
18 Garner	66 Exploit	34 Those for
19 Buffalo	67 Tiny arachnids	35 Dressing gown
20 Meal	68 ___ vera	36 Exclude
22 Fr. season	69 Roof overhang	38 Pers. pronoun
24 Spouse	70 Headliners	41 Mex. dish
25 Mortise joint	71 Cleanses	42 Despicable person
26 Tease	72 Fish catcher	44 Hen-peck
28 Dwarf buffalo		45 Body part
30 Terse		47 Hairstylist
34 School dances		49 Motifs
37 Without restraint		52 Body of water
39 Period of time		53 Barrel part
40 Italian capital		54 Some actors
41 Grayish brown		55 Mine passage
42 Den		56 Tiny amount
43 Oriental sash		58 Gelling agent
44 Mother-of-pearl		59 Food shop
45 Palomino		61 Printing direction
46 Reversal of fortune		63 Sharp curve
48 Goulash		65 Fishing pole

DOWN

1 Mocked	2 Deserve	3 Fr. river
4 Camp cooker	5 A Gershwin	6 Fr. pop
7 Mailed	8 Hack	9 Splayed
10 Bear dipper	11 Lampblack	12 Fem. suffix
11 Lampblack	12 Fem. suffix	14 Pseudonym
12 Fem. suffix	15 Two or more of	21 Across
13	16	39 Across

SUDOKU

FIENDISH



SUDOKU PUZZLE PROVIDED BY WWW.SUDOKUOFTHEDAY.COM
VISIT THEM AND GET A NEW SUDOKU EVERY DAY!

WORD JUMBLE

RYVAG	_____
AUFLGETR	_____
YIFLAM	_____
NIDERN	_____
CNOIRACPUO	_____

PUZZLE Solutions on page 13

BROWNSVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Tree Lighting Ceremony

By Mikayle Stole, Editor

Brownsville Welcomes the Season with Community Tradition

Brownsville will welcome the Christmas season with its annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, Dec. 5, from 6 to 7 p.m. on Spaulding Avenue between Main and Averill Streets.



A special guest will light the community tree, which will be revealed during the event.

Live entertainment will feature performances by the Central Linn Blue Notes, helping set a festive mood for the evening. Candles will be provided to everyone during the community's traditional candle lighting ceremony.

Spaulding Avenue will be closed to traffic during the ceremony to allow families and neighbors to gather safely.

The Tree Lighting creates a festive atmosphere as Brownsville enters a month of holiday celebrations, community gatherings, and decorated storefronts across town. ☺

Friendly, Prompt, Hometown Service!

411 North Main St
Historic Downtown Brownsville
541-466-5112 ☺ M-F 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

Red Raspberry Christmas

By Patricia Hainline, revised and edited by Daniel R. Murphy, Staff Writer

Can this be December? The sun shines brightly in a deep blue sky. Here and there is a white cloud. The grass on the flatlands is green and growing. Red raspberry bushes are heavy with the second crop of ripe berries. Animals stay in the fields with no reason for shelter.

It is Christmastime, 1912.

Everyone is coming for a big dinner at noon, so there will be time later for the football game. For generations, Oregonians have been taught to expect and even look forward to the annual fall and winter rains. So, when a winter such as 1912 comes along, it is something to talk about.

During the weeks before Christmas in 1912, Brownsville was busy with parties and socials. The churches were presenting their annual Christmas programs, and The Brownsville Times was filled with ads and Christmas greetings from the merchants.

However, on another page of The Brownsville Times, a writer lamented the increasing trend of commercialism at Christmastime, urging, "This year let us have a real old-fashioned Christmas".

The weather was beautiful, chortled The Times. "What more can we say for the climate of this section than that ripe raspberries are being picked from bushes growing in our gardens at Christmastime.

Holiday activities were similar to those today, with some exceptions. Instead of watching a musical program on TV, people in 1912 attended a street concert on the afternoon of Christmas Day. The band was to appear in full uniform. After the concert, the Brownsville Athletic Club football team met the Independence Athletic Club. A lively contest ensued, witnessed by a good-sized crowd. Brownsville won 18-0.

The week after Christmas was the quietest on record. Earlier Christmas celebrations sometimes had mild weather, such as in 1912. But the pioneers had to make their own Christmas literally.

Pioneer Christmastime

At first, the nearest store was in Oregon City, when even staples were a luxury. The commercialism of later days did not intrude upon the frontier.

The winter of 1845-46, when settlers first started to scatter across the valley, was a mild winter too. After a hard six-month journey across the plains, followed by the trip down the Columbia River or around Mt. Hood on the Barlow Road, weary pioneers could be glad they did not have to face one of Oregon's "regular" winters as did most of those who would come in later years.

One early settler was Richard C. Finley, who built the first grist mill south of Oregon City, where McKercher Park is now located. They



arrived in 1846. With his wife, Polly Kirk-Finley, and two small daughters, Finley had been in the wagon train of Jonathan Keeney. Other members of that train included Hugh L. Brown, James Blakely, Alexander Kirk, William Kirk, and Elias Keeney, some of Brownsville's founders.

Finley's daughter, Eliza Finley Brandon, recalled an early Christmas with her family: "The very first feast day which I remember was when Mother made the apple cobbler for Christmas. That was the first Christmas holiday after they had cultivated fruit of their own. It was very wonderful. We children all stood about and ate the apple peelings."

But more important to the pioneers than elaborate gifts and celebrations was the Christmas spirit, which was often demonstrated year-round.

When William Templeton came to Oregon in 1847, it was late in the fall, and the rains were starting. Instead of coming down the Columbia, they took the Barlow Road route. By the time they had come as far as Molalla, their half-starved oxen were too weak to go further, and they were short of supplies.

Jonathan Keeney heard of their troubles. He traveled from his place near Brownsville with two yokes of strong, fat oxen to bring the Templetons to the Brownsville area.

Keeney also helped the McHargue family. They had no flour left and no money to buy any. When McHargue asked to borrow wheat flour, Keeney obliged, and other pioneer families gave potatoes and other foodstuffs.

It may be hard for us to relate to the meager Christmases of the early pioneers or the more sociable and TV-less world of 1912, but we can well understand their enthusiasm for a mild, rainless autumn. ☺



COURTESY OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND OLD OREGON

This picturesque gristmill was built by Richard Finley on the falls below present-day McKercher Park on the Calapooia River, east of Brownsville, in Linn County. Finley eventually sold the mill to John McKercher, whose faded name and the date 1848 are still visible on the side of the building in this photo taken by Ralph Eddy in 1934. While it still looks pretty sturdy, it collapsed in 1948.

WHERE TO STAY

Solar Powered Farmhouse with EV Charger

Available on Airbnb
541-915-9322

SHORT TERM RENTAL

Available on Airbnb
925-289-9119



TheAverillHouse@gmail.com

Thompson's Christmas Trees: A Family Tradition Built on Hard Work and Sustainability

By Jeff Brown, Staff Writer

For more than 42 years, Thompson's Christmas Trees has been part of local holiday traditions. Lucy Thompson and her late husband Claude, known to many as Junior, began planting trees in the late seventies after trying cattle. As Lucy recalls, cows tended to get out. Trees, she said, do not need to be chased. What started as a new direction on the farm soon became a lifelong passion. Their son Chris grew up in the business, learning every step of the work that goes into raising a healthy Christmas tree.

The farm sits at 37320 Mountain Home Drive outside Brownsville, where the Thompsons grow several varieties, including Nordmann, Noble, Turkish Fir, and Blue Spruce. The Nordmann is their most popular tree, known for its strong branches. Blue Spruce also has loyal fans since deer tend to leave it alone.

According to Lucy, there is always something to do on the farm. Each tree requires years of weeding, irrigating, fertilizing, and careful shaping. She and Claude handled much of the work themselves for decades. Today, Chris, a Marine veteran, is preparing to take over the operation as Lucy moves into retirement.

Sustainability has always been part of their approach. Lucy describes real Christmas trees as a crop, simply one that takes a long time to grow. Each acre of trees provides enough daily oxygen for eighteen people. A single tree can absorb more than one ton of carbon dioxide in its lifetime. For every tree harvested, a new one is planted. After the holidays, most real trees are recycled into mulch, playground material, trail covering, or used for shoreline and habitat restoration. Artificial trees, by contrast, are made from PVC and are neither biodegradable nor recyclable.

Families often visit the farm year after year, and Lucy has seen as many as five generations return to choose a tree. Some customers even come early to tag a tree and return later to harvest it. What Lucy enjoys most is meeting the people who come through the farm. As she says, it is a special thing to share the joy.

Thompson's Christmas Trees will be open daily from daylight to dark beginning Thanksgiving weekend. Trees are priced at \$16 per foot. 



LUCY THOMPSON
Reaching above his head, Chris Thompson shows the towering size of a mature Christmas tree.

TAKING ROOT

More Native Plants For Your Garden

By Donald Lyon, Staff Writer

Last week, we talked about the benefits of planting Willamette Valley natives. This week, we'll look at some inexpensive ways to obtain native plants. My favorite is the Annual Winter Native Plant Sale organized by the Benton Soil and Water Conservation District. Search for their website, and you'll see we just missed their Fall Bulb and Seed sale, but the Winter Plant Sale is going on now. You place your order online, prepay, then pick up your plants at the Benton County Fairgrounds on February 28. Even if you don't plan to buy anything, the Online Shop at <https://bswcd.square.site> is worth a look for the beautiful images of perennials, trees, shrubs, evergreen plants, ground covers, and bare root items. Besides the illustration and price, you can check the plant's mature size, preferred habitat, soil type, and a great deal more.

A few of the perennials that caught my eye are Shooting Stars (\$4.50) and Showy Milkweed (\$4.50) — the host plant for Monarch butterflies. I bought a Douglas Aster (\$4.50) many years ago, and it continues to thrive and spread, as do most of these perennials. In the Ground Covers section, I was drawn to the green leaves and red berries of Kinnickinnick (\$4). I bought several of their Oregon Grapes more than ten years ago, not realizing they were the tall variety that grows to 10 feet with sharp, holly-like leaves — great for a security hedge under the windows, as long as you keep it pruned. It is Oregon's state flower and is only \$1.75. They also have Dwarf Oregon Grapes in one-gallon containers for \$11. These spread out to 3-4 feet in diameter and don't grow more than two feet tall. Some of the other large shrubs that will endear you to our feathered friends are the Red Elderberry, Ninebark, Red Flowering Currant, Snowberry, and Western Serviceberry — all priced at \$3-4. The Linn County Small Woodlands Association's Annual Seedling Sale is February 14, 2026. Preorder online beginning December 1 at <https://linncountyswa.com/shop>.

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



DONALD LYON
Oregon Grape features attractive, spiny leaves and tart, edible berries.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

Name _____

Address 1 _____

Address 2 (suite, apt) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone number _____

\$8 month by Credit Card-OR- \$96 year

Mail your annual payment check (or a voided check for monthly ACH payments) to
The Brownsville Times

PO Box 278, Brownsville OR 97327

brownsvilletimes.org/subscribe

 (458) 266-0511



NORTHERN ROCK SUPPLY LLC

ALL YOUR ROCKING NEEDS: drain rock
crushed rock • rip rap • pit run • loam sand
bark dust • old chips • cat work • backhoe work

FREE ESTIMATES

No job is too big or too small!

Larry 541-979-8241 • Cody 541-974-3277

CCB #124385

INSTALL • RESURFACE • REPAIR

CCB#225744



Full-service Chip Seal Paving

- Residential Driveways
- Commercial Parking Lots
- Pavement Maintenance

503-673-3399

WeGotAsphalt.com

Paving the Willamette Valley Since 1998

WHERE TO MANAGE YOUR TREES



Land Management Services, Logging,
& Road/Driveway Maintenance.
541-367-2111 • www.cascadetimber.com
PO Box 446 • 3210 Highway 20 • Sweet Home, OR



Tree Fix
TREE PROBLEMS SOLVED

Scott Schones • Cell: 541-961-9699
34265 Powell Hills Loop, Shedd, Oregon 97377
treetfixmail@gmail.com • www.treetfix.net

LICENSED, BONDED, INSURED

A FULL SERVICE TIMBER COMPANY



KYLE TURNER
PROJECT MANAGER
541-393-7424
neworegonforestry.com
neworegonforestry@gmail.com

Specializing in purchasing timber and land, offering a seamless process that ensures fair and competitive evaluations

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

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

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
104 W Blakely Ave • Brownsville • 541-367-2530
holymtrinitybrownsvilleor@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
29360 Abraham Dr • Shedd (Peoria) • 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.

MOUNTAINTOP REFLECTIONS

Giving Thanks in Every Circumstance

By Jacquie Hoekstra, Staff Writer

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours. May your heart, home, and table be filled with the goodness of God, the joy of family and friends, and a bounty of harvest. As we pause to give thanks, I pray our eyes will fall only on all the benefits we enjoy.

I cannot write about the joys without acknowledging the sorrows made more intense during the Holiday Season. Some will spend their first Thanksgiving without a loved one, and some have struggled to put a meal on the table. Others will have an empty seat at their table due to a myriad of unfortunate realities. Yet, we gather with those who are able and celebrate a day of giving thanks.

We give thanks to God. We pause and pay attention. We set aside our frustration and sorrow, and we discern the goodness of God in our lives. Some days, I thank God that I was born at this time in history as I press a button to warm my home, or turn on a tap and enjoy hot water. There have been times when I thanked him for all of the bills being paid and food on the table, though it was not much. Other times, I have thanked him for extravagant and unexpected blessings.

I have considered the Apostle Paul in my reflections on gratitude. He wrote to Timothy, whom he called a spiritual son, "Godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Timothy 1:2; 6:6 WEB). In his letter to the Philippian church, he said, "I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content in it. I know how to be humbled, and I also know how to abound. In everything and in all things I have learned the secret both to be filled and to be hungry, both to abound and to be in need. I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:11-13 WEB).

Paul becomes abundantly more impressive when we learn about the trials he experienced while choosing contentment. "Five times from the Jews I received forty stripes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I suffered shipwreck. I have been a night and a day in the deep. I have been in travels often, perils of rivers, perils of robbers, perils from my countrymen, perils from the Gentiles, perils in the city, perils in the wilderness, perils in the sea, perils among false brothers; in labor and travail, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, and in cold and nakedness" (2 Corinthians 11:24-27). Yet he wrote Timothy's letter after these experiences when he penned, "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we certainly can't carry anything out. But having food and clothing, we will be content with that" (1 Timothy 6:6-8).

According to Paul, we have so much to be thankful for this year. Let us count our blessings with abundant gratitude and celebrate! ☺

REAL ESTATE LINE

Good News for Buyers as Price-Per-Square-Foot Drops

By Jenna Stutsman, licensed Real Estate Principal Broker in Oregon

Last month's real estate statistics show some optimistic news for home buyers. The median price per square foot of homes sold last month took a dive to \$268. The median hadn't been that low since last March. While that may not be great news for a seller thinking of listing their house soon, that is awesome for buyers who feel they are getting priced out of the market. Sellers have been more willing to negotiate on price to make a deal work for an interested buyer. I see that every day. That doesn't mean sellers are suddenly willing to accept insanely low offers, but if a buyer needs a small tweak here and there, a seller is more inclined to work with them.

If you have been thinking of buying, your first step is to contact a mortgage lender and get pre-approved. It never hurts to find out your buying power. You may get a nice surprise!



JENNA STUTSMAN
New on the Market — 1119 Ash St., Brownsville. Offered at \$420,000.

I'm currently working with a client who is moving from out of state to Oregon and has needed extra clarification in the transaction around verbiage. Every state has different real estate practices, timelines, laws, and words. It can be quite confusing! Their latest question was about "Agent," "Broker," and "Principal Broker." In their current state, when someone gets their real estate license, they become an "Agent." Then, if they decide to take extra classes and a big test, they can become a "Broker." That Broker can then create their own brokerage if they like, or just continue working under another brokerage with a higher accreditation. It's essentially the same thing here, but our words are different. In Oregon, when you first get licensed, you become a "Broker." And words "Agent" and "Broker" are often used interchangeably. Then, after a few years, if a Broker wants to get a higher accreditation, they take the classes and a big (and hard!) test to become a "Principal Broker." A Principal Broker is more educated in real estate than a Broker, plus they can start their own brokerage if they wish. So the next time you see a Realtor's business card, look for "Broker" vs. "Principal Broker." You will now understand the difference! ☺

WHERE TO BUY & SELL



Jenna Stutsman

- ◆ OR Real Estate Principal Broker
- ◆ Brownsville Local
- ◆ Trusted and Involved in the Brownsville Community

128 Spaulding Ave, Brownsville
(541) 556-7521
www.StutsmanHomes.com



Eva Atchley

541.409.1425
EVAJAG@YAHOO.COM

Sheila Ridinger

541.570.5698
SHERIDINGER@GMAIL.COM



OREGON
Real Estate
Professionals
LLC
2345 S Santiam Hwy
Lebanon, OR 97355

AMERICAN LEGION

The Legion's Part in Operation Evergreen

By an ordinary seaman

Folks around Brownsville often talk about the Christmas season appearing suddenly, like a flash of tinsel in the night. But for those of us with a keen eye for local tradition — and perhaps a lingering smell of pine resin on our hands — we know the true beginning of the holidays starts precisely when Home for the Holidays and the Festival of Trees commence.

This is no haphazard affair. Festival of Trees is a meticulous, almost military-level endeavor, cooked up and flawlessly executed by the dedicated ladies of the Brownsville Women's Study Club. It's a truly grand, organized machine, and we Legionnaires over at Travis Moothart Post 184 are proud, if slightly grumbling, cogs in its workings — a role we embrace with great good humor and maybe a little coffee-fueled defiance.

The real work starts early on Tuesday, before the first Saturday in December. The notorious Brownsville fog hangs low this time of year, thick and quiet, when the first pickup truck, dragging a trailer heavy with fragrant, fresh-cut evergreens, snuggles up to a parking space next to Library Park.

This is the call to action for the men of the Legion. Our section of "Operation Evergreen" is purely practical: a matter of grunt work and power-tool finesse. We're the boys who carefully unload those trees, heavy with the weight of the forest and the promise of future twinkling lights.

Our first order of business is the military haircut. We chainsaw an inch or two off the base — just to give the trees a fighting chance at a fresh drink — and then we trim the lower branches. Finally, in a whirlwind of expelled air that feels



Left to Right: Jeff Brown, Dan George, Norm Simms, John Morrison, and John Lee

decidedly manly, we bring out the power blowers to clear off any stray debris. It's a loud, rough, and thoroughly satisfying task.

A few years back, our duties were even more Herculean. In addition to the cutting and blowing, the Legion had the weighty task of hauling those twenty-five green giants all over downtown. That duty has since been quietly handed off to another capable group. Now, the ladies of the Study Club vehemently deny that this transition is due to our "accumulating years," but a fellow can connect the dots. Frankly, though, a man can only argue so much when the alternative to lugging trees across town is more time spent with a steaming cup of coffee and the Women's Study Club's magnificent, glorious baked goods. Some battles, you see, are best left unfought. ☀

Brownsville Crew Joins Symphony Outreach at the Hult Center

By Barbara Andersen, Staff Writer

EUGENE — A contingent of Brownsville folks traveled south recently to offer their services as volunteer ushers at the Hult Center in Eugene. The occasion was a special concert by the Eugene



COURTESY OF BARBARA ANDERSEN
Paul and Diane Baxter along with Mary Brown came for the second program, appropriately attired in their Usher caps.

Symphony Orchestra, designed for the over 3,000 students who attended. This was one of the Symphony's major educational outreach programs. Symphony Volunteer Coordinator and Brownsville resident, Sandra Weingarten, wrangled us all into service for a fun day. ☀



COURTESY OF BARBARA ANDERSEN
Ushering involves funny hats and school name signs to lead the kids to their seats. This group was ushering for the first concert. From left: Anne Clarke, Mandy Cole, Bonnie Romane, Mary Brown, Sandra Weingarten, Clive Clarke, and Barbara Andersen.

WHERE TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

GENERAL DENTIST
COSMETIC • FAMILY

Kirt M. Glenn DMD PC
102 E. Bishop Way Brownsville
www.dentistinbrownsville.com

541-466-5171
ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

Legally Blonde Salon
Jenna Graham
Hair Stylist

• (541) 619-6057
• legallyblondesalon.glossgenius.com
• Legallyblonde_Salon
• Brownsville, OR

DON'T AGONIZE, ORGANIZE

Episode Five:
Inheriting 'Stuff'

By Sandra Beckwith, Staff Writer

Have you heard of the Great Wealth Transfer? Baby Boomers are set to begin an estimated \$90 trillion transfer of assets, but along with that is also the stuff of their lives. There's no judgment in that, especially as I'm a Boomer, too!

The digital world happened well into our lives, and we inherited the belongings of folks who saw a significant shift in longevity. Most of us have boxes of photos, family china, and the silver from earlier generations. There's been an enormous change in family dinners, how we entertain, and what we give as wedding presents.

Yet, let's look a little deeper. As the middle class developed during the Industrial Revolution, we began to see mass-produced goods. We also shifted predominantly from rural life to urban life. What we owned, how it was stored, and how long it lasted have gone through many permutations.

Look with compassionate eyes; Boomers also inherited the fears and unresolved trauma of WWII and the Great Depression. Rationing. Going without. "I might need that." "I can reuse that." "It just needs to be fixed." Those thoughts echo for many of us born out of deprivation and uncertainty. Is it any wonder that we often have a lot of stuff?



Heirloom china like this once topped every wedding registry. Today, many younger generations are saying "no thanks" to formal place settings and other family collectibles.

What are we going to do with it? Who are we going to give it to? Are you going to deal with it while you're able, or dump it on the next generation? It can feel like dealing with a great deal of loss in either the belongings of loved ones no longer with us or ways of life that are shifting.

When we understand the why behind our habits and idiosyncrasies, then we have a better capacity to face them and move forward. Heirs, be kind and know there are very good reasons for the accumulation.

Help is available to you to make the process go much faster and more efficiently. Shall we begin? Contact me with any questions or ideas at sbeckwith1@icloud.com. ☀

LIFETIME VISION SOURCE OF LEBANON

MEMBER *Vision Source* NETWORK

ROGER MUNK, OD • BRANDYN WYATT, OD
LUKE BORAN, OD

www.lifetimevisionsource.com

90 MARKET ST, STE 20
LEBANON, OR 97355

T: 541-451-2020
F: 541-451-1785

BROWNSVILLE LIBRARY

A Full Slate of Holiday Events

By Sherri Lemhouse, Brownsville Librarian

Santa Visits Story Time — Friday, Dec. 5



COURTESY OF SHERRI LEMHOUSE

We have invited Santa to Story Time! Join us on Friday, December 5, at 11 a.m. for a special visit. Ms. Thea will have a holiday craft for children to enjoy. This is Santa's third year joining us for this festive tradition.

Annual Book Sale — Dec. 4–13

Our annual book sale fills the Kirk Room with titles for all ages and interests. Books include fiction and non-fiction for adults, juniors, and children. Many are donated by the community; others are retired from the library's collection.

- Paperbacks: \$0.50
- Hardbacks, audio, and video: \$1

We will also offer a limited selection of beautifully wrapped blind-date books starting at \$5 each, with a brief description tucked inside. The sale runs Thursday, December 4, through Saturday, December 13, during regular library hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday 1–7 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Festival of Trees — Dec. 5–6

The library will host two decorated trees as part of the Chamber's Home for the Holidays weekend. A total of 25 trees will be displayed at 17 downtown businesses. Bidding opens Friday, December 5, at the start of business and closes Saturday, December 6, at 4 p.m. Proceeds support Sharing Hands and the library's eBook service (Libby by Overdrive), through the Brownsville Women's Study Club.

Painted Rock Workshop — Thursday, Dec. 19

Join librarian Sherri for a relaxed evening of rock painting on Thursday, December 19, from 5 to 7 p.m. Bring your own ideas or try using a simple kids' tattoo as a transfer. This free workshop is open to adults and teens.

Holiday Hours

Plan ahead for your holiday reading. The library will be closed Thanksgiving weekend, Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 27–29, reopening on Tuesday, Dec. 2. Additional closures include Christmas, Dec. 24–25, and New Year's Eve and Day, Dec. 31 and January 1. ☀



MIKAYLE STOLE



MIKAYLE STOLE

Take a chance on a mystery read. Blind Date books are wrapped, labeled with just a few clues, and ready to surprise you.

YOUR LOCAL
**ASPHALT
PAVING**
**EXCAVATION
SERVICE**
**SITE PREP
& MORE**
**CALL FOR
FREE
ESTIMATE!**

BLACK STONE

CALL: 541-936-0886

1412 AIRPORT RD, LEBANON, OR 97355

CENTRAL LINN WRESTLING

Twentieth Year Celebration for the Central Linn Veterans Day Wrestling Tournament

By Tony Koontz, Sports Editor

As a former college athlete and longtime high school coach, I've been fortunate to experience some unforgettable sports moments. I've stood in Fenway Park, taken the field in front of 100,000 fans at Ohio State, and played on Central Linn's own 1970 state championship baseball team. All were remarkable in their own way.



But nothing matches the energy and heart of a youth wrestling tournament on a Saturday in Oregon. And few are better than the 20th annual Central Linn Veterans Day Wrestling Tournament, held Saturday, Nov. 15.

Inside the Cobra Dome, three mats — each divided in half — ran six matches simultaneously from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. More than 400 wrestlers competed across the 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U divisions, supported by a small army of officials, table workers, coaches, parents, grandparents, and friends. It was controlled chaos of the best kind and a sight worth putting on your bucket list.

What sets this tournament apart is its purpose: honoring veterans. Over nearly three decades, many Central Linn wrestlers and coaches have gone on to serve in the United States military. The traits built on the mat — discipline, teamwork, resilience, shared commitment — are the same traits that prepare young men and women for military service.

This year's tournament honored the following veterans connected to Central Linn wrestling:

U.S. Air Force

Mike Day
Cody Best
Adom Boeder
LaDonna Ryan
Kyle Simms
Dakota Jeppsen
Amanda Kallai

U.S. Army

Rich Gilbert
Dave Hughes
Cliff McClure
Jon Luther
Travis Moothart, KIA Jan. 2004
Bruce Webb
Dale "Doc" Jones
Ben Moothart
Devin Hanft
Rip Logan
Devin Welch
Travis Stutz
Robert Killinger
Hunter Thornton
Mike Rauscher
KC Stokes
Josue Avilez
Tyson Burchfield
Alex Durheim
Tyler Sloan

U.S. Marines

Zac Wolfe
Kenneth Bagg
John Metcalf
Justin Barrett
Josh Jones
Felix Cruz
Mason Sloan

U.S. Navy

Art Kallai
Bob Day
Chris Archer
David Spencer
Paul Nibler
TJ Wolfe
Casey Kazmerick

Coach Mike Day offered his appreciation to the volunteers who made the tournament possible. He also extended special thanks to D.J. Nealon of Brownsville Body Shop and Owen at Dollar General for their generous donations that kept the concession stand running throughout the day.

Two decades in, the Central Linn Veterans Day Wrestling Tournament remains a celebration of wrestling, community, and the men and women who have served our country. ☀

Lebanon Hospital Expands Food Backpack Program

LEBANON — The Lebanon Community Hospital Foundation is helping vulnerable patients meet their immediate nutrition needs through its expanding Food Backpack Program.

Since launching in May 2023, the program has distributed more than 150 backpacks to Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital patients facing food insecurity, especially those who are unhoused, living without electricity, or unable to cook due to disability or limited mobility.

A grant initially funded the program and is now supported through donations to the Lebanon

Community Hospital Foundation. It is managed by Registered Dietitian Alix Slayter and operated through the hospital's Nutrition Services department.

For years, the hospital has partnered with Linn Benton Food Share to provide emergency food boxes to patients upon discharge. However, those boxes require access to safe cooking equipment — something not every patient has. The Food Backpack Program fills that gap by offering nutrient-dense, ready-to-eat items that require little or no preparation.

Each backpack includes ready-to-eat meals, freeze-dried entrees, tuna or chicken salad kits, cereal, peanut butter, trail mix, shelf-stable milk, and oral nutrition supplements. Backpacks also contain reusable silverware, bottled water, and information on community resources. Each pack provides about 6,300 calories and 275 grams of protein — enough nutrition for roughly three days.

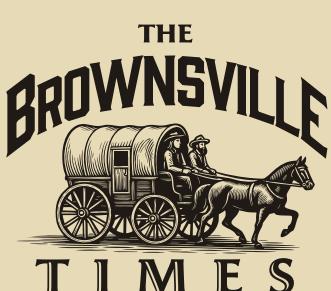
The initiative began in the Inpatient, Emergency, Wound Care, and Hematology/Oncology departments. It has since expanded to Outpatient Nutrition Services, Samaritan Treatment and Recovery Services, and Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehab.

"The Food Backpack Program directly supports health and healing in some of our most vulnerable patients," Slayter said. "We are grateful to the Lebanon Community Hospital Foundation for making this resource possible."

Those interested in supporting the program may contact Foundation Executive Director Brandy O'Bannon at bobannon@samhealth.org or donate online at <https://www.samhealth.org/GiveLCHF>. ●



COURTESY OF SAMARITAN LEBANON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
Registered Dietitian Alix Slayter with one of the food backpacks.



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

Monthly subscriptions must be paid by credit card or ACH transfer. For ACH payments, please include a voided check.

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

Board of Directors:

Sharon Banks, Chair | thebrownsvilletimes@gmail.com

Don Andrews, Vice Chair

Dan Murphy, Secretary

Caroline Pearce, Treasurer

Jeff Brown, Anne Clarke, and Donald Lyon, Members at Large

Advertising: Jeff Brown 541-657-8148 | advertise@brownsvilletimes.org

Volunteer Coordinator: Nancy Diltz | misscabc@yahoo.com

Deadline for Advertising: Thursday at 5 p.m. (for the following week's issue)

Deadline for Article Submissions: Friday at Noon. (for the following week's issue)

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

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

458-266-0511

343 N Main St (PO Box 278)

Brownsville OR 97327

<https://brownsvilletimes.org/subscribe>



LINN COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Museum Seeks History-Loving Tour Guides in Brownsville

The Linn County Historical Museum is seeking volunteers passionate about local history and interested in becoming tour guides.

The museum, located in Brownsville, offers a fun way to learn about local history and provides volunteers the chance to meet visitors from all over the world.

The museum, housed in a historic building, is seeking people to give tours. While there is no monetary compensation, the museum promises that volunteers will "be paid in gratitude and appreciation."

How to Start Your Tour-Guide Journey

Interested residents can get involved by calling the museum at 541-466-3390, emailing the team at lchm@co.linn.or.us, or simply sending the museum a direct message. ●

PUZZLE KEY

Puzzles on page 7

A	M	S		S	I	P	S		C	A	U	S	E
P	E	P		T	R	E	E		A	K	R	O	N
E	R	I		E	A	R	N		B	I	S	O	N
D	I	N	N	E	E	T	E		M	A	T	E	
T	E	N	O	N		R	I	B					
					A	N	O	A	L	A	C	O	N
P	R	O	M	S	L	O	O	S	E	R	A		
R	O	M	E		T	A	U	P	E	L	A	I	R
O	B	I		N	A	C	R	E	H	O	R	S	E
S	E	T	B	A	C	K	S	T	E	W			
H	A	I	R	S	A	D		E	H	A	L	O	S
A	D	O	B	E	G	E	R	M	F	E	A	T	
M	I	T	E	S	A	L	O	E	E	A	V	E	
S	T	A	R	S	R	I	D	S		N	E	T	

GRAVY
GRATEFUL
FAMILY
DINNER
CORNUCOPIA

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

SERVING THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY

Is your Medicare Advantage plan ready for 2026?



Donald Lakeberg

LICENSED INDEPENDENT AGENT

- ✓ Advantage Plans
- ✓ Supplement Plans
- ✓ Prescription Drug Plans

PHONE: 503-737-4081



A Trusted Local Agency in Albany, Oregon

Email: DONALD@LAKEBERGGROUP.COM • WWW.LAKEBERGGROUP.COM

BOOK REVIEW

Escape with a 'Cli-Fi'

By Nancy Diltz, Staff Writer

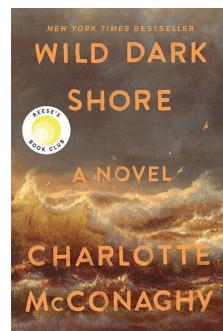
As the Thanksgiving bustle subsides, you might be ready for a gripping story — and "Wild Dark Shore" (2025) by New York Times bestselling author Charlotte McConaghay delivers. This novel blends the author's real-life experiences with mystery, suspense, and climate fiction, or "cli-fi," a genre that explores how a changing climate affects life on earth. While cli-fi often paints a grim picture, it offers a powerful way to examine issues shaping our world now and in the future. The New York Public Library notes that this genre continues to grow as authors use climate shifts as the lens for storytelling.

The novel is set on a tiny, remote island called Shearwater near Antarctica. The island hosts a seed vault modeled on the real Svalbard Global Seed Vault in Norway, which stores millions of seeds at subzero temperatures to safeguard global food supplies in the event of a crisis. In McConaghay's fictional version, rising sea levels, melting permafrost, and severe flooding threaten the research station and the island's massive populations of seals, penguins, and seabirds.

As the situation worsens, researchers evacuate, leaving one caretaker and his three children to maintain the seed bank. When communication systems mysteriously fail, the small family becomes stranded. Their fight for survival intensifies when a near-drowned woman washes ashore after a shipwreck. As she recovers, the group must work together to protect the seeds and escape before the island disappears.

I found this story thoroughly engaging, especially in how McConaghay draws on her time at the Macquarie Island Research Station. To learn more about the real location, visit <https://www.antarctica.gov.au/macquarie-island-research-station>. You can also explore the Svalbard Global Seed Vault at <https://seedvaultvirtualtour.com>.

"Wild Dark Shore" is available at the Brownsville Library on Libby as an e-book or audiobook. ☀



NEW ENERGY

V2H – A New Way to Power Your Home

By Kayl Enders

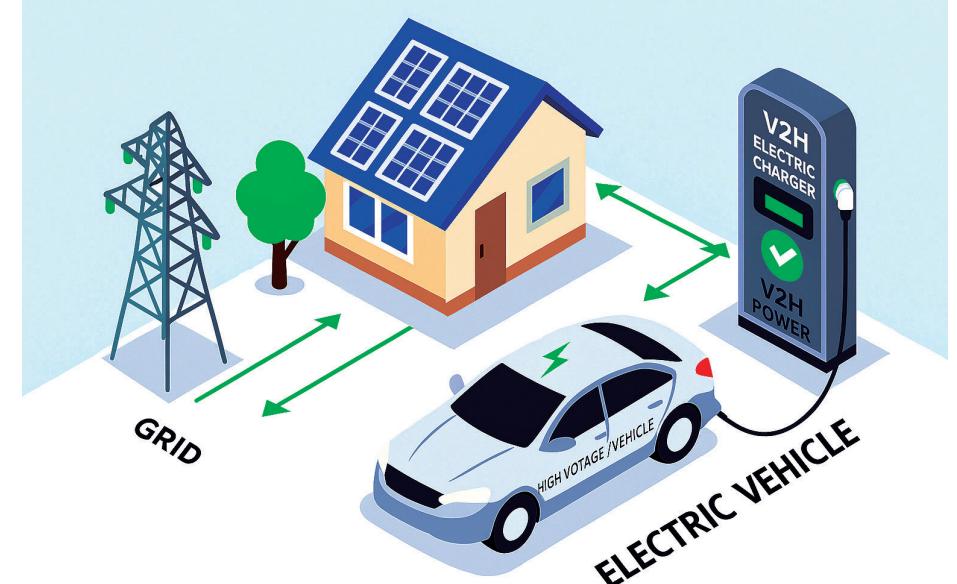
New vehicle-to-home (V2H) technology lets an electric vehicle act as a large, mobile battery for your house when paired with a two-way (bidirectional charger) and a code-compliant transfer/backup system. In practical terms, a typical EV battery can power the average home for five days. With a vehicle-to-home system, you can run your home off-grid during power outages, keeping and using the power you generate on-site. If the outage lasts longer than five days, you can drive to an area with power and recharge your car battery to keep your home running for a while longer.

Local Brownsville resident Randy Enders is exploring this setup with his 12-kW solar array, a bidirectional charger, and a critical-load sub panel. His project concept may use a Ford F-150 Lightning or Silverado EV with bidirectional charging. Not all electric cars come equipped with bidirectional-ready chargers. That will likely change as technology evolves.

The Case for Electric Vehicles

If a household replaces a 20-mpg gasoline vehicle driving 12,000 miles/year, that's 600 gallons of gasoline avoided. At \$4/gal, that's \$2,400/year in fuel cost avoided. An efficient electric vehicle charging on grid power would use about 4,200 kWh/year. At \$0.14/kWh retail, charging at home costs \$588/year, yielding \$1,812/year net savings before maintenance differences. The maintenance costs of an electric car are lower. Routine maintenance involves tire rotation and topping up the windshield wiper fluid. Oil changes are avoided altogether.

If paired with a solar system that generates enough energy to power the home and the electric vehicle, a homeowner may not have to pay for power again and can avoid fuel costs. A homeowner would have to factor in the cost of the solar upgrade and, if any, the incremental cost of the electric vehicle to determine the payback period for their situation. To calculate the solar payback period, divide the net system cost by the annual savings.



AI-GENERATED IMAGE BY SHARON K. BANKS

A typical bidirectional charger and installation (excluding the EV) costs about \$6,000–\$8,500; payback time may vary depending on the system and options you select, as well as what, if any, incentives are available at the time. Even without incentives, these systems may make economic sense. The cost of this system may be less than the cost of a whole house generator and does not make noise or produce noxious fumes. It gives you the ability to maintain power during extended outages.

To calculate the system's payback, divide the system's cost by its annual savings. The example above is $\$8,500/\$1,812 = 4.69$ years. If incentives ever exist again, the payback is even shorter. If gas prices change, you will need to recalculate.

Electric cars, depending on the make and model, can cost more or less than gas-powered vehicles. Typical new base model electric vehicles cost \$30–73K, which is very close to and sometimes less than gas-powered alternatives. As electric cars become more common and time passes, used electric cars will be readily available at lower prices on the open market.

Why this matters in Oregon

With increasing outage risks and grid-induced wildfires, which pose a growing threat to homeowners, and with evolving net-metering programs that may pay less than retail for excess power you generate, keeping solar energy stored in a home battery or an EV can give you the ability to have your own energy supply. This can help you meet your energy needs and prevent losing heat, cooling, or the food in your freezer during extended outages. ☀



The Hottest thing in town... Besides you.

Gas Fireplace or electric, new install or service, we've got the spark you've been waiting for. Find your new flame!

CCB #33426

Stephens HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, INC.

541-754-1681 www.stephensheating.com

ALYRICA
INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER

Local | Transparent Pricing | 30-Day Satisfaction Guarantee | Community Focused

541-929-3330 541-368-2425 alyrica.net

Go Solar with a Local Company You Can Trust
Serving the Willamette Valley

Free, No-Pressure Quotes
Top-Rated Customer Service
Real Renewable Energy Solutions that Work

YOUR LOCAL SOLAR SOLUTION

PURE ENERGY GROUP

MILES HENDERSON
541-730 9899 miles@pureenergygroup.com

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 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, November 16

1:21 a.m. — Caller reported a suicidal subject in the 500 block of S 6th St, Harrisburg. Deputy responded and transported the individual to the hospital for care. Report pending.

11:48 a.m. — Caller reported a missing person in the 29100 block of Peoria Rd, Halsey. Deputy responded. Report pending.

2:38 p.m. — Caller reported a dog was found outside of Harrisburg and is suspected of being abandoned from a vehicle. The dog was taken to Linn County Animal Control.

4:23 p.m. — Caller reported custodial interference in the 300 block of S 3rd St, Harrisburg. Male and female were able to resolve issue prior to law enforcement intervention.

5:19 p.m. — Multiple callers reported a driving com-

plaint Forry Dr/Brownsville Rd, Brownsville. Deputy located the vehicle parked in the driveway of the registered owner and attempted contact at the door, but nobody answered.

5:25 p.m. — Caller reported a found dog in the 31100 block of Hwy 34, Tangent. Deputy lodged the dog with Linn County Animal Control.

5:38 p.m. — Caller reported a domestic disturbance in the 25000 block of Hwy 99E, Halsey. A person who was intoxicated and a threat to themselves, as well as others, was placed in custody and transported to a local hospital for evaluation. Report pending.

6:09 p.m. — Deputy investigated a suspicious circumstance at Abraham Dr/Potter Rd, Halsey.

Monday, November 17

9:16 a.m. — Caller reported a possible tax scam in the 29700 block of Nixon Dr, Halsey. Report Pending.

10:03 a.m. — A deputy conducted warrant service based on a tip in the 600 block of Territorial St, Harrisburg. Jessica Carter, 37, from Harrisburg was arrested for failure to appear on Lane County warrants.

12:04 p.m. — Caller reported a roommate went missing in the 39200 block of Crawfordsville Dr. on Nov. 16. Deputies were unable to locate elderly female. Deputies sent out a Willamette Valley-wide "Be on the lookout." Report pending.

2:18 p.m. — Charles Cooley, 55, of Brownsville was cited on a warrant in the 500 block of Ash St, Brownsville. Report pending.

8:51 p.m. — Caller reported a domestic disturbance in the 31900 block of North Lake Creek Dr, Tangent. No

crimes were disclosed.

9:38 p.m. — Caller reported his stolen bike was located in the 33200 block of Priceboro Dr, Harrisburg. Deputy spoke with the homeowner who retrieved bike and it was returned to the registered owner. No further action.

Tuesday, November 18

8:12 a.m. — Caller reported a trespassing in the 300 block of Spaulding Ave, Brownsville. Deputy documented a citizen reporting an ongoing issue with a neighbor in Brownsville over trees and trespassing. Non-Criminal.

11:38 a.m. — Caller reported harassment in the 1100 block of Oak St, Brownsville. Deputies contacted a male wanting to report a female that might trespass on his property in the future.

9:58 p.m. — Extra patrol requested in the 39600 block of Crawfordsville Dr, Sweet Home due to an unwanted subject walking the public road.

11:05 p.m. — Caller reported criminal mischief at Pioneer Park, Brownsville. Deputies investigated damage. Report pending.

Wednesday, Nov. 19

10:42 a.m. — Deputy cited four separate vehicles for parking in a clearly marked no parking zone in the 600 block of LaSalle St, Harrisburg.

11:32 a.m. — Caller reported a parking complaint in the 600 block of Dempsey St, Harrisburg. Deputy spoke with residents about parking a travel trailer on the roadway for an extended period of time.

11:38 a.m. — Caller reported a parking complaint in the 700 block of Burton St, Harrisburg. Deputy had

a conversation with household regarding long-term parked vehicle.

11:59 a.m. — Caller reported a trespass in the 38700 block of Crawfordsville Dr. Report taken, investigation ongoing.

11:30 p.m. — Caller reported theft of a wallet in the 35600 block of Courtney Creek Dr near Hwy 228. Information documented. Report pending.

Thursday, Nov. 20

7:43 a.m. — Caller reported a non-injury motor vehicle crash in the 23000 block of Brush Creek Rd, Sweet Home. Female stated her phone with her directions fell while she was driving. She reached for the phone and veered off the road.

8:41 a.m. — LCSO Civil Division conducted an eviction lockout in the 34000 block of Priceboro Dr, Harrisburg. The property was posted and turned over to the lawful representatives.

2:18 p.m. — Bob Davis, 63, of Sweet Home was cited for towing a trailer with no trailer lights and given several other warnings at W Bishop Way/S Main St, Brownsville.

2:44 p.m. — A landscaper reported they had located a heart at a residence in the 700 block of Westview St, Brownsville. Deputy located what appeared to be an elk heart. Deputy consulted with a medical examiner who confirmed it was non-human.

3:41 p.m. — Deputies assisted another agency in the 1000 block of Pine St, Brownsville. A 42-year-old male was shot with a BB gun. Male was transported to the Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Corvallis for medical attention. Investigation ongoing, report pending.

3:47 p.m. — Anna House, 41, of Brownsville was arrested for an outstanding warrant while at her residence in the 1000 block of Pine St, Brownsville. Report pending.

4:23 p.m. — Caller had questions about evicting squatters from their property in the 22400 block of N Coburg Rd, Harrisburg.

6:25 p.m. — Deputy investigated a dog bite incident in the 32900 block of Diamond Hill Dr, Harrisburg.

Friday, November 21

11:24 a.m. — Mountain deputies conducted ATV patrol of the Shotgun Creek OHV area in the 25000 block of West Brush Creek, Rd, Sweet Home. Deputies issued citations to Dustin Garrish, 28, Thomas Garrish, 25, and Riley Clark, 23 all of Albany for riding without an ATV Safety Education Card.

12:26 p.m. — Caller reported a trespass in Pioneer Park, Brownsville. Deputy responded to a camp fire.

7:35 p.m. — Deputy attempted a traffic stop on a speeding vehicle in the 200 block of N Main St, Brownsville. Vehicle eluded deputy.

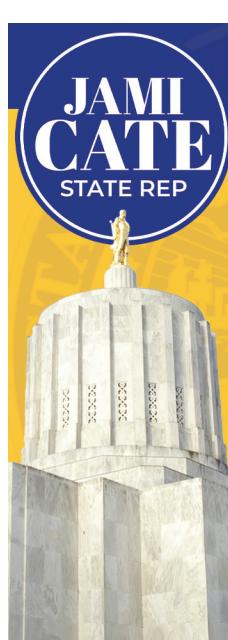
9:05 p.m. — Deputy cited a driver for 37 in a 25 mph zone in the 600 block of N Main St, Brownsville.

9:49 p.m. — Deputy responded to a single vehicle non-injury motor crash in the 31100 block of Priceboro Dr, Harrisburg.

10:13 p.m. — Driver was cited for 41 in a 25 mph zone in the 500 block of N Main St, Brownsville.

Saturday, Nov. 22

3:35 a.m. — T. Overlin, 62, of Albany received a traffic citation for failing to obey a traffic control device at W 2nd St/W H St, Halsey. ☺



JAMI CATE
STATE REP

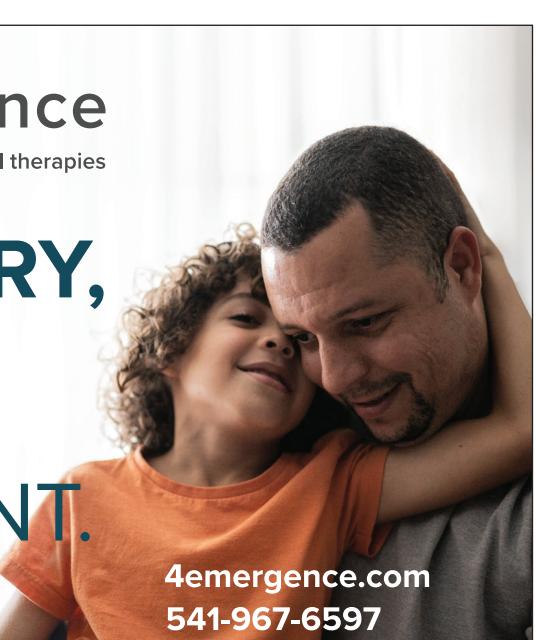
REP.JAMICATE@OREGONLEGISLATURE.GOV 503-986-1411

I'm here to serve you!

Never hesitate to reach out to my office for help with government agencies, concerns over legislation, or to get clarity on things happening in Salem!

Get my emails!

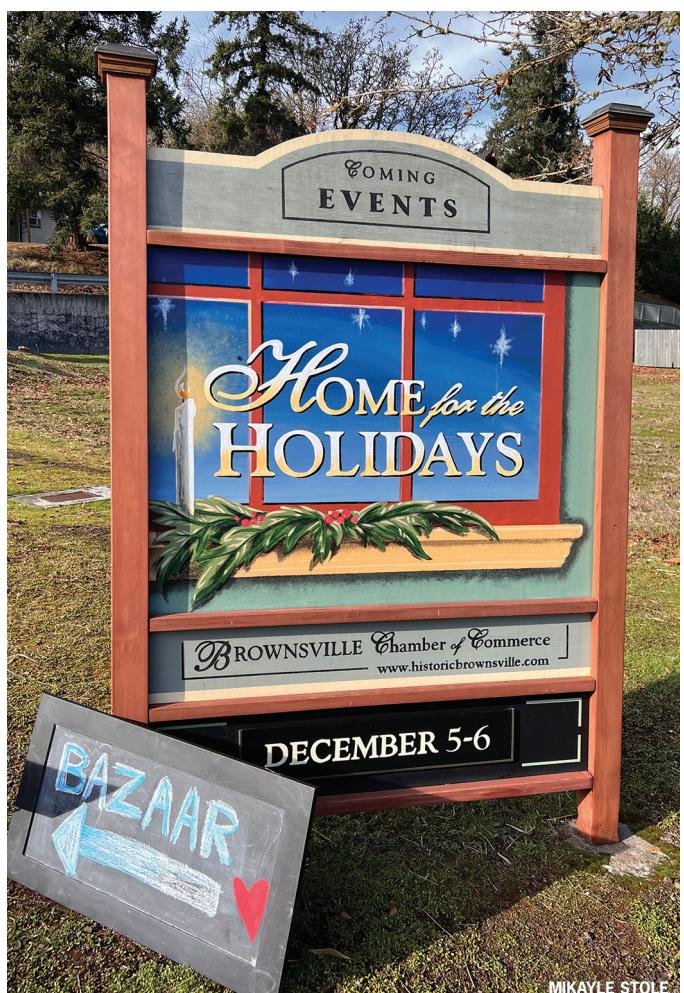
Subscribe at OREGONLEGISLATURE.GOV/CATE



emergence
addiction and behavioral therapies

**RECOVERY,
FOR THE
FUTURE
YOU WANT.**

4emergence.com
541-967-6597



BROWNSVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Home for the Holidays

Brownsville Prepares for a Full Weekend of Christmas Festivities

Brownsville is getting ready to welcome the Christmas season with a packed lineup of holiday events during the first week of December. From twinkling lights and carols to craft markets and decorated storefronts, the community will offer something for all ages as residents and visitors gather to celebrate together.

The annual Tree Lighting will take place on Friday evening, Dec. 5, on Spaulding Avenue, bringing neighbors downtown for music, candles, and the ceremonial lighting. A special guest will light the community tree, which will be revealed during the event.

Throughout Friday and Saturday, holiday markets and craft bazaars will be held across town, including the American Legion Craft Bazaar, the Rec Center Holiday Bazaar, the Assembly of God Holiday Bazaar, and the Art Center's Holiday Art Market. Local vendors, artists, and makers will showcase handmade gifts, decor, and seasonal goods.

The Brownsville Women's Study Club will once again host the Festival of Trees, with decorated trees displayed in local businesses and community locations. Children can visit Santa

at 128 Spaulding Ave. on both days from noon to 2 p.m., and the Brownsville Library's annual book sale begins Dec. 4 and continues to Dec. 13.

Residents are also encouraged to participate in the 2025



MIKAYLE STOLE

Holiday Lights Contest, sponsored by Pacific Power. Homes and businesses can register to be included on this year's Holiday Lights Map, which will be available online Dec. 5 for community voting. Sign up by Dec. 1 to be included at <https://www.historicbrownsville.com/holiday-lights-contest>.

With familiar traditions and new touches throughout town, Brownsville's Home for the Holidays weekend promises a warm start to the season. Full details and updates will be published in our the Dec. 4 issue. 

WHERE TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR HOME & PROPERTY

From your home to your land, these businesses work hard to keep our community looking its best — and they help keep The Brownsville Times going strong.

UniversalGeneralConstruction3@gmail.com
541-981-9144
CEO: Bulmaro R.
CCB: 250302
Free Estimates!
New Construction • Remodeling • Patios
Siding • Windows/Doors • Flooring • Fences
Painting • Flat Concrete • Porch Cover Remodel



Fernando Ledesma
General Contractor L&F LLC
Lawn Service
Free Estimates • Mulch • Mow • Weeding
• Clean-UPS • Pruning
• Pressure Washing
541-730-0037

Mitch Carter,
Owner
541-367-5655
100 Main St
Sweet Home

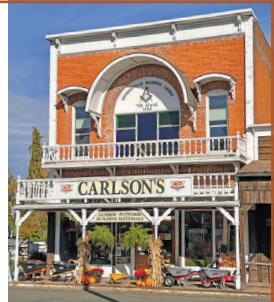


H & A Sisters CLEANING COMPANY LLC
Regular House Cleaning, Deep Cleaning
Bi-weekly, Monthly or one time
541-513-1929
sisterscleaning79@gmail.com
"Thank you for letting us give
your home some love"



NORM'S ELECTRIC INC.
Electric Contractors Since 1971
279 Templeton Ave • PO Box 28
Brownsville, OR 97327
Electrical Material Available
• Residential • Commercial • Agricultural
541-466-5328 • CCB #55960

Carlson Hardware & Lumber Yard
111 Stanard Ave.
Brownsville
(541) 466-5108
Monday-Saturday 8-5
ACE
The helpful place.
Family owned & operated
since 1942



D & D STORAGE
Storage Units, Inside and Outside
RV/Boat Storage
Located in Brownsville
(541) 990-1992

– Free Estimates –
DTR Painting
Call Damian Torres 503-551-2837 CCB#254413
dtrpaintingllc13@gmail.com

Nicholson Construction & Remodel LLC
Affordable Home Upgrades:
Exterior: Siding - Paint - Doors - Windows - Decks - Patio Covers
Interior: Drywall - Paint - Trim - Cabinet Install - Kitchen & Bath Remodels
Real Estate Repair Addendums
CCB# 213147
Bonded & Insured
Call Jason: 541-401-1355

RESTCO SERVICE
PRESIDENT • CCB: 203129
VETERAN-OWNED COMPANY ★
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED
HVAC SERVICE
Cell: 541.214.1131
Fax: 541.466.5807
carl202@centurytel.net
P.O. Box 455 • Brownsville, OR 97327

JC JIMENEZ QUALITY HOMES
NEW BUILDS • REMODELS
GENERAL CONTRACTOR • J. Carlos Jimenez
541-224-1195 • jucaji_22@MSN.com
CCB #235048

DAVIS GLASS
Est. 1975
► RESIDENTIAL
► COMMERCIAL
info@davisglass.net | davisglass.net
230 2nd Ave SE | Albany, OR 97321
Phone: [541] 926-1962