



TIKA HARRISON

Festive greeters helped welcome families during Sharing Hands' Christmas celebration on Dec. 19 and 20. Volunteers — including Santa Claus and the Grinch — joined others in spreading holiday cheer as 120 local children and their families enjoyed gifts, treats, and a warm reminder of community support.

## Sharing Hands Makes Christmas Special for 120 Local Children

By Sharon K. Banks, Staff Writer

BROWNSVILLE — Sharing Hands, the local food bank, partnered with area churches, organizations, and dedicated volunteers to brighten the Christmas season for 120 children of families in need.

In November, children were invited to submit wish lists so gifts could be purchased and donated to meet their individual hopes. On December 19 and 20, the celebration came to life as volunteers — many dressed in festive Christmas costumes — welcomed families, baked fresh cookies, served hot dogs, and even hosted a special visit from Santa, who made the journey all the way from the North Pole.

The annual tradition is a powerful example of the community coming together to take care of its own. With many families struggling to make ends meet — often even while working full time — events like this offer not only material support, but reassurance that they are seen, valued, and cared for.

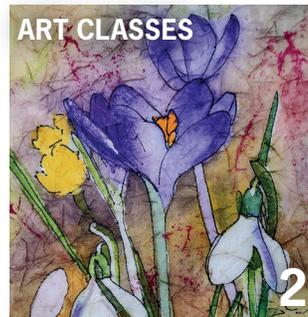
The joy, generosity, and love shared throughout the two days filled the room and touched everyone involved. It was a heartfelt reminder of what the season is truly about: neighbors helping neighbors and a community united in compassion. ☺



Kathleen Swayze, left, and Lisa Keith are longtime Sharing Hands volunteers.

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## Calapooia River Floods Pioneer Park After Storm

BROWNSVILLE — Floodwaters from the Calapooia River cover low-lying areas of Pioneer Park in Brownsville following a strong atmospheric river storm on Dec. 17. The storm brought heavy rainfall and gusty winds to the Linn County lowlands, prompting a National Weather Service flood watch as saturated ground contributed to rapid river rise and minor to moderate flooding in the area. ☺



LYNLEE BISCHOFF

#### JANUARY CLHS ATHLETE



8



Connie Scalf sings with enthusiasm during the "12 Days of Military Christmas" at the Legion Post 184 Christmas Frolic, delivering the line "five MREs" to laughter and applause from the crowd.

## Christmas Frolic Returns for Third Year at Legion Post 184

By Jeff Brown, Staff Writer

BROWNSVILLE — The Travis Moothart American Legion Post 184 hosted its third annual Christmas Dinner extravaganza Dec. 19 at the Legion Hall in Brownsville, welcoming members and guests to an evening that blended tradition, laughter, and holiday spirit.

Tables were dressed in crisp white linen tablecloths and napkins, set with fine china plates and cups, and accented with sparkling silverware. The setting gave the small-town gathering an elegant touch while still feeling warm and familiar.

A Santa Claus who bore a striking resemblance to Post Commander Norman Simms presided over the evening. Simms, with his big white beard, blue

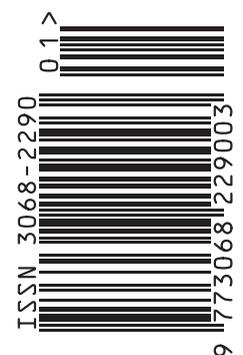
Santa hat, and all, handled most of the cooking himself, preparing a generous feast of roast beef, baked potatoes, and all the classic fixings. The American Legion Auxiliary added a sweet finish by providing two delicious cakes for dessert.

Fellow Legion members stepped in to serve, clear tables, and keep the evening running smoothly, creating a true community effort from start to finish. Throughout the night, the room filled with Christmas cheer as guests shared songs, stories, and plenty of good-natured laughter.

The celebration concluded with a lively white elephant gift exchange, leaving everyone smiling. Although there was no Rosie O'Donnell doll this year, an **FROLIC continued on page 5**

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\$2.00



## ONGOING EVENTS

**Not Your Grandma's Bingo**

Mondays, Now–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. • 10 W 1st St, 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

**Winter Whale Watch Week**

Through Wednesday, Dec. 31 • 10 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Multiple locations along the Oregon Coast

Trained Oregon State Parks volunteers will be stationed at 14 coastal sites to help visitors spot gray whales during their southbound migration. The Whale Watching Center in Depoe Bay will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

<https://stateparks.oregon.gov> for sites

**New Year's Eve Party**

Wednesday, Dec. 31 • 6 p.m. • (541) 248-3060  
Dixie Creek Saloon, 32994 Hwy 99E, Tangent

Ring in the New Year with live music by Unfamiliar Friends and \$3 specials on all canned beer.

**Ring in the New Year With First Day Hikes**

Thursday, Jan. 1 • Various times  
Oregon State Parks locations statewide

Oregon State Parks hosts free, guided First Day Hikes at 25 parks across Oregon, including locations in the Willamette Valley. Hikes range from short, accessible walks to longer treks. A day-use parking permit may be required at some parks.

<https://stateparks.oregon.gov/index.cfm?do=things-to-do.events>

**Easy Art with Diane Piro**

Saturday, January 17 • 1–4 p.m. • \$40  
Brownsville Art Center • 255 N Main St, Brownsville

A relaxed, beginner-friendly art class focused on playful creativity using color and doodling. Create multiple finished pieces in a no-pressure setting. All materials provided.

Register by January 10: <https://brownsvilleart.org>

**Murder on the Orient Express**

Friday, January 23 • 7 p.m.  
Saturday, January 24 • 2 and 7 p.m.  
Valley Life Church, 80 E. Vine St., Lebanon

East Linn Christian Theatre presents Ken Ludwig's stage adaptation of the Agatha Christie mystery. Free admission; donations welcome.

See page 9 for Brownsville Library events

STAY CONNECTED  
WITH CENTRAL LINN!

Discover upcoming events or add your own to our community calendar:

<https://brownsvilletimes.org/community-calendar>

Classic Mystery Arrives  
on Stage in Lebanon

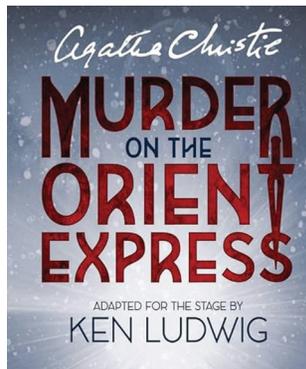
LEBANON — East Linn Christian Theatre will bring intrigue and suspense to the stage this January with Ken Ludwig's adaptation of Agatha Christie's classic mystery, "Murder on the Orient Express."

Performances will be held on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 23–24, at Valley Life Church in Lebanon. Admission is free; donations are welcome.

Set aboard the famed Orient Express, the story begins when a snowdrift halts the luxury train. By morning, one passenger — an American tycoon — is found murdered in his locked compartment. With the train stranded and the killer still among them, detective Hercule Poirot must unravel a web of secrets, alibis, and motives before the murderer strikes again.

Ludwig's stage adaptation remains faithful to Christie's tightly plotted original while adding theatrical energy. The production is presented by East Linn Christian Theatre, which offers accessible, family-friendly performances to the local community.

Shows are scheduled for Friday evening and two performances on Saturday, including a matinee. The production runs approximately 2.5 hours. 🌟

Extend the Holiday Season  
with Carousel Nights

ALBANY — The Albany Historic Carousel & Museum is giving visitors more time to ride, relax, and enjoy downtown Albany with extended weekend hours now in place every Friday and Saturday.

The carousel is open until 7 p.m. on weekends, offering families, couples, and visitors a chance to turn an evening outing into a full night out. From 4 to 7 p.m., guests can purchase Weekend Ride Bracelets for \$10 per person, providing unlimited carousel rides for the rest of the evening.

The extended hours also include café specials designed to make the experience even sweeter. Float Fridays feature \$1 off ice cream floats, while Salty Saturdays offer \$1 off cheese nachos — perfect treats to enjoy between rides or while watching the carousel in motion.

Located along the Willamette River in downtown Albany, the Historic Carousel & Museum is home to one of Oregon's most beloved hand-carved carousels, with animals created by volunteers and artists from across the region. The added evening hours make it easier to visit after work, during a weekend getaway, or as part of a night downtown.

The carousel is open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. every Friday and Saturday at 503 First Ave. W. in Albany. For more information, visit <https://albanycarousel.com/>, call 541-497-2934, or email [albanycarousel@gmail.com](mailto:albanycarousel@gmail.com). 🌟

NATHAN PENDLEY

Tim Foust & Friends  
Oregon Getaway

2026 tickets are on sale now

BROWNSVILLE — Looking for a truly memorable Christmas gift or an excuse to plan something special for yourself? Tickets are now available for the 2026 Tim Foust & Friends Oregon Getaway in Brownsville, Oregon.

Hosted by Tim Foust, this weekend-long music retreat brings together an incredible lineup, including Rob Lundquist, Adam Chance, and Adam Bastien, along with other outstanding musicians. The week leading up to the Getaway will be spent writing brand-new songs, which will then be premiered exclusively for VIP guests.

New for 2026, attendees can opt for a Thursday night check-in, extending their experience with even more time immersed in music, collaboration, and community.

Set in one of Oregon's most beautiful settings, this is an intimate, creative, and joy-filled event that goes far beyond a typical concert weekend. It is designed to be experienced in person.

Learn more and purchase tickets: <https://www.tixr.com/groups/timfoust/events/6th-annual-tim-foust-s-oregon-getaway-166977>

Watch highlights from last year: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JSZbQ\\_KYSj4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JSZbQ_KYSj4). 🌟

## BROWNSVILLE ART ASSOCIATION

January Art Classes  
Open for Registration

The Brownsville Art Association will kick off the new year with two hands-on art classes in January, offering creative opportunities for teens and adults. Both classes take place at the association's gallery at 255 N. Main St. in Brownsville and require advance registration one week before each class.

On Saturday, Jan. 17, from 1 to 4 p.m., artist Diane Piro will lead "Easy Art," an introductory class focused on creating layered abstract backgrounds. Students will produce four to six pieces using photo paper and Sharpie pens, then enhance them with guided doodling techniques. All materials are provided. The class is limited to 10 students ages 12 and up and has a \$40 class fee.



Later in the month, Saturday, Jan. 31, from 1 to 4 p.m., Mishelle Tourtillott will teach "Watercolor Batik," a class exploring wax-resist techniques to create luminous, layered watercolor artwork. Students 16 years and older should bring their own watercolor brushes and paints; the instructor will provide all other materials. Enrollment is limited to six students, and the class fee is \$45.

Registration for each class closes one week before the scheduled date. More information and registration details are available at <https://brownsvilleart.org>. 🌟



## Tangent Farmers Market Opens Vendor Applications for 2026 Season

The Tangent Farmers Market is now accepting vendor applications for its 2026 season, inviting local farmers, food producers, artisans, and community organizations to participate in a series of monthly markets in Tangent.

The market will be held on Saturdays, May 9, June 13, July 11, and Aug. 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Riverland Rentals parking lot, 33977 OR-99E. Vendor setup begins at 8 a.m. A Tangent Harvest Festival is also planned for Saturday, Sept. 12, at Tangent Elementary School, 32100 Old Oak Drive.

The Tangent Farmers Market is a seasonal, community-focused market featuring locally grown and handmade goods, including fresh produce, plants, baked goods, meats, eggs, preserved foods, confections, body-care products, and artisan crafts. Informational booths are welcome for nonprofit organizations and community resource providers.

Artisan vendor spaces are 10-by-10 feet and require a \$20 cash fee per space, collected at check-in. Informational booths are free. Vendors must provide their own canopy, tables, chairs, and required weights. Electricity and Wi-Fi are not available. Direct-sales businesses are not accepted, and alcohol- or drug-related items are prohibited.



MIKAYLE STOLE

Space is limited, and applications are reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority given to local vendors. Approved vendors will receive an email confirmation, and all participants must sign a liability waiver and comply with applicable licensing and safety regulations.

Vendors interested in participating in the 2026 season, including the September Harvest Festival, may apply online at <https://bit.ly/4pStdN7>.

Questions may be directed to the market coordinator, Leslie Harrison, at 541-270-9859 or [tangentfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:tangentfarmersmarket@gmail.com).



## LINN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Commissioners Hear Juvenile Department Statistics

By Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer

ALBANY — Work crews completed more than 600 hours of community service projects in November, Linn County Juvenile Department Director Torri Lynn told Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker at their December 23 meeting.



COURTESY OF LINN COUNTY JUVENILE DEPARTMENT

Lynn said 15 youth on the Tier 1 work crew (informal probation) completed 218.5 hours of community service over 12 project days. During November 2024, six young people completed 58.5 hours of service.

Lynn said 20 youth on the Tier 2 work crew (higher risk assessment) completed 390.25 hours of service over 15 project days. In November 2024, some 29 young people completed 637.25 hours of service.

After the meeting, Lynn said work crews do a variety of projects, working closely with the Bureau of Land Management and the Oregon Department of Forestry.

“The Juvenile Department pays particular attention to separating youth based upon their level of risk and age, making sure each youth is able to safely be supervised on any particular project,” Lynn said. “The first priority is safety of the youth and staff, followed by job skill development and project completion.”

Lynn told the commissioners, there were 47 referrals in November and referrals have not returned to pre-Covid 19 numbers.

There are 183 youth in the Probation Unit, either on probation or pending court with 32 of them assessed as high-risk.

There are 126 youth under the Community Programs Unit serving on informal probation and the Intervention Specialist is serving 194 youth. Of those, 186 youth are from the community with no involvement with law enforcement.

In November, 11 youth from Linn County — two females and nine males — were held for 69 days of care. Their average length of stay was 5.75 days.

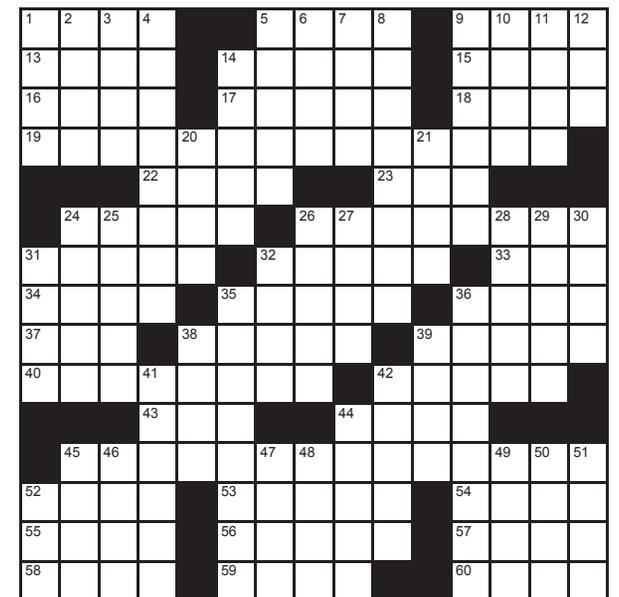
Six youth from Benton County — all males — were held for 84 total days. Their average length of stay was 14 days.

Three youth from Lincoln County — all males — were held for 46 days. Average length of stay was 15.33 days.

The average daily population was 6.63 youth and an average length of stay of 9.48 days.

Three youth completed 60.25 hours of service with the Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Program.

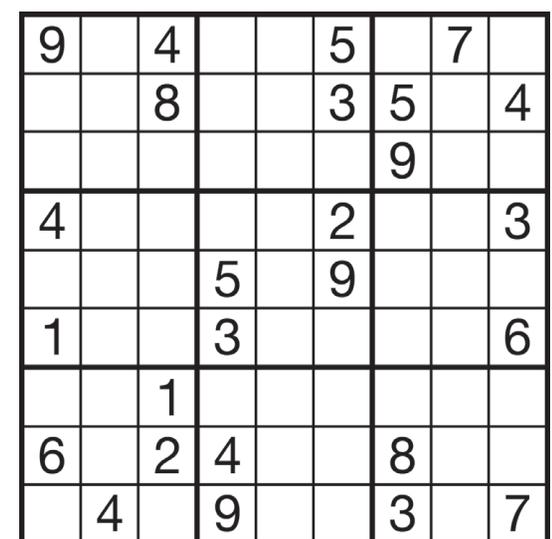
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**PUZZLE Solutions on page 8**

# Why FFA Matters to Rural Communities and to Oregon as a Whole

By Marcy Hermens, Staff Writer

In many rural Oregon towns, the blue corduroy FFA (National FFA Organization) jacket is more than a school uniform — it is a symbol of leadership, work ethic, and community pride. While FFA chapters are often rooted in small communities, their impact reaches far beyond town limits, strengthening Oregon's economy, environment, and future leadership.

FFA plays a vital role in developing young leaders who understand the realities of rural life. Through public speaking, project management, and teamwork, students gain skills that prepare them for civic involvement and leadership roles later in life. School boards, fire districts, farm organizations, and local governments across Oregon benefit from leaders who first learned how to run meetings, solve problems, and serve others through FFA.

Agriculture and natural resources remain central to Oregon's economy, supporting jobs, exports, and supply chains that serve the entire state. FFA helps prepare the workforce needed to sustain these industries by exposing students to modern agricultural careers, including precision agriculture, forestry, agribusiness, food science, and natural resource management. These skills ensure Oregon remains competitive and innovative while continuing to feed and clothe communities statewide.

The benefits of FFA extend well beyond rural areas. Urban Oregon depends on rural communities for food, fiber, and responsible land management. FFA students graduate with hands-on experience, certifications, and a strong work ethic — qualities valued by employers across

industries. When rural economies are healthy, the entire state experiences greater stability and resilience.

FFA also emphasizes stewardship of land and water, an issue that affects all Oregonians. Students learn the importance of conservation, sustainability, and science-based decision-making. In a state shaped by agriculture, forests, and waterways, this education helps protect natural resources, reduce wildfire risk, and ensure productive land for future generations.

Equally important, FFA helps young people see a future for themselves in Oregon. By connecting education to meaningful careers close to home, the program encourages students to stay, return, or invest in their communities. That stability supports local schools, businesses, and services, reducing population decline in rural areas and easing pressure on urban infrastructure.

Finally, FFA helps bridge the gap between rural and urban Oregon. Students who grow up understanding agriculture and natural resources become effective ambassadors, able to explain where food comes from and why land stewardship matters. In a state often divided by geography, that understanding fosters cooperation and respect.

FFA strengthens rural communities — but in doing so, it strengthens Oregon as a whole. By growing leaders, sustaining critical industries, and protecting natural resources, FFA invests in people who will shape the state's future.

For Oregon to thrive, it needs leaders who know the land, value community, and are ready to serve. Oregon needs FFA. 🌾

## TANGENT TOGETHER

### Building Community Through Service

The Tangent Together Volunteer Committee invites community members to get involved and make a meaningful difference in Tangent.



COURTESY OF TANGENT TOGETHER

Tangent Together is a volunteer-driven 501(c)(3) nonprofit rooted in the rural community of Tangent, Oregon. Its mission is to bring people together, strengthen community connections, and create positive, lasting change.

Volunteering is central to the organization's work. Opportunities are available for individuals who enjoy helping at events, sharing skills and experience, or simply giving their time. Every volunteer helps shape Tangent's future.

The Tangent Together Volunteer Committee meets every third Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Tangent Fire Hall on Birdfoot Drive. New volunteers are always welcome.

Volunteer efforts support local programs and help fund a new Community Endowment Fund, which will provide college tuition assistance for Tangent students.

More information about upcoming events, programs, and volunteer opportunities is available at <https://tangenttogether.org>, or by email at [tangentvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:tangentvolunteer@gmail.com). 🌾



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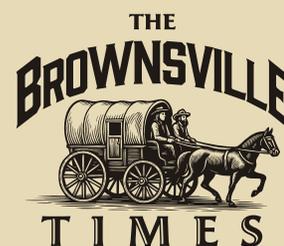
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THE BROWNSVILLE TIMES

A New Year, A Shared Commitment

By Stephen Brenner, Staff Writer

As we enter a new year, let's take time to reflect on what we accomplished last year and what we hope for in the future.

My first exposure to the project was the second writers' meeting on April 12, 2025. Like many struggling rural newspapers, the original Times had shut down at the end of December after a long run dating back to 1889. The people in that room were excited about bringing our paper back to life. Many were willing to serve as writers and to donate money for startup costs.

Restarting a newspaper in a small area is a significant challenge, but we have a history of strong community involvement. Establishing the paper as a nonprofit was innovative; where we lacked funds, we could make up for it with volunteer efforts. More importantly, it means the paper belongs to and is responsive to the region. Beyond the news, The Brownsville Times is a community-building enterprise, the thread that ties us together.

A tremendous amount of gratitude goes to our talented president, Sharon Banks, and our extremely dedicated and hard-working board members for guiding us to our 31st consecutive weekly edition. Our editor, Mikayle Stole, provides the publishing expertise and organization that creates a highly engaging layout. More than 40 writers and photographers contribute rich content. Thanks also to those who have donated or placed ads. And we thank our subscribers for being a vital part of this effort.

The next six months are a critical period in our growth. While subscriber numbers have grown nicely, we are still not at a sustainable level. I encourage our readers to spread the word about how important the Brownsville Times is to Central Linn County. Maybe gift a subscription to



MIKAYLE STOLE

a family member at <https://brownsvilletimes.org/subscribe>. Of course, donations are encouraged. We are seeking grants to help us get by, so grant writers are welcome. Maybe we can organize creative fundraising events.

This evolution of the newspaper is a grand experiment in grassroots democracy. What a small community can accomplish is an example to other rural areas. In fact, we are exploring how regional rural newspapers can collaborate to share stories and technical knowledge. Another goal is to evolve toward a solutions-based approach to reporting. This involves fostering more dialogue where existing solutions to problems can be shared and consensus developed on the best way forward. As we gain experience developing the digital version of the paper, we can explore valuable services such as enhanced community calendars, volunteer databases, directories, forums, and surveys. We encourage you to be a part of this noble experiment in whatever way you can. In fact, to ensure the paper reflects your needs, we encourage you to fill out a survey at <https://brownsvilletimes.org/survey>.

FROLIC continued from cover



Jack Sayer and Jeff Brown, dressed as elves, help set the holiday tone beside the Legion's Christmas tree.



Post Commander Norm Simms dons a patriotic Santa suit (blue Santa hat).

PHOTOS: MIKAYLE STOLE

inside joke that drew knowing laughs, the spirit of fun and camaraderie remained fully intact.

Once again, Travis Moothart American Legion Post 184 delivered an evening that reminded everyone why this holiday tradition endures and continues to grow.



With a playful flourish, Turner Whitfield circles the tree and "defies" the white elephant tradition by selecting an unwrapped child's toy police car.



Terri Snedden and guest Steven



Jim and Linda Weger



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## PAST TIMES

## Brownsville's Narrow Gauge Railroad

By Allen L. Buzzard, Columnist



ALLEN L. BUZZARD

This modern view shows the approximate location of Brownsville's former narrow-gauge railroad depot. The arrival of rail service in 1880 connected Brownsville to Albany, Portland, and broader regional markets.

English immigrant George Allan Dyson, the proprietor and editor of North Brownsville, Oregon's first newspaper — The Brownsville Advertiser — published from January 31, 1878 through issue number 27, January 30, 1879, was both an entrepreneur and a futurist. In addition to time spent mining in Nevada, perfecting his trade as a tin smith in North Brownsville, and later in Eugene, Dyson foresaw wisdom in constructing a railroad between Albany and Brownsville.

During Dyson's tenure in North Brownsville, he dedicated space in his semi-monthly journal (printed every other Thursday) to articles, op-eds, and letters to the editor in support of building a railroad. He worked to convince leaders throughout greater Brownsville, Shedd, Lebanon, and Albany of the commercial benefits to be gained by replacing muddy, slow, and troublesome dirt wagon roads with smooth, efficient, and reliable iron rails between Albany and Brownsville.

By carefully skimming volume 1, number 5, page 3, columns 3 and 4 in George Allan Dyson's March 28, 1878, issue of The Brownsville Advertiser, readers can, however, see the controversy between two competing railway standards: narrow gauge (rails spaced 3 feet apart) versus standard gauge (rails spaced 4 feet and 8 1/2 inches apart). See "A. L. & B. Rail Road Meeting," and especially the letter-to-the-editor "A. L. & B. R. R.," signed only "C." To see the complete article transcribed visit <https://brownsvilletimes.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/THE-BROWNSVILLE-ADVERTISER.pdf>.

Nevertheless, George Allan Dyson's railroad advocacy efforts finally paid off when another paper — Albany Register — in its Friday, December 31, 1880 issue heralded the achievement:

**The Narrow Gauge Completed to Brownsville.**

The narrow gauge road was completed to Brownsville from Ray's landing on the Willamette, on Tuesday [December 28, 1880], the distance being seventy-two miles. The company has laid eighty-one miles of rails during the season, besides grading eight additional miles. From Ray's landing to Portland it is thirty miles, and it is understood the work of building the line this distance will be pushed as rapidly as possible. The whole distance from Brownsville to Portland will be one hundred and two miles. (col. 3, n.p.)

To be continued in a future article. ☼

English immigrant George Allan Dyson, the proprietor and editor of North Brownsville, Oregon's first newspaper — The Brownsville Advertiser — published from January 31, 1878 through issue number 27, January 30, 1879, was both an entrepreneur and a futurist. In addition to time spent mining in Nevada, perfecting his trade as a tin smith in North Brownsville, and later in Eugene, Dyson foresaw wisdom in constructing a railroad between Albany and Brownsville.



There are days that mark events of importance in the growth of towns as well as individuals. On Tuesday the 28th inst. at noon, the track of the Oregonian Railway Co., Limited, reached this city and, in spite of a drizzling rain, a large crowd of our citizens turned out to witness the arrival of the first iron horse into our city;

These clippings from the Albany Register announced the completion of the narrow-gauge railroad to Brownsville on Dec. 28, 1880, marking a major milestone in the town's development and validating years of local advocacy for rail access.

## STUDENT VOICES

## To Clone or Not to Clone? Diving into the Ethical and Ecological Impacts of Animal Cloning

Two Oregon State University students examine whether de-extinction helps conservation — or distracts from it.

By Kaelyn LaLonde and Roxanne Haney, Oregon State University students

In the 1990s, Dolly the sheep became the first successful clone of a mammal, revolutionizing the field of biogenetics. Since then, biotechnology companies have begun exploring de-extinction — a process aimed at reviving extinct animals using DNA from fossils and modern genetic engineering. Colossal Biosciences' attempt to recreate the dire wolf has captured public attention and sparked debate about the future of wildlife science.

However, animals created through these experiments face uncertain welfare, no natural habitat, and limited survival potential outside captivity. At the same time, countless living species are slipping toward extinction due to habitat loss, poaching, and climate change. We should not pursue the cloning of vanished species because the process creates animals with no rightful place in today's ecosystems and raises serious ethical concerns about their health and treatment.

Although scientists claim to be reviving extinct species like the dire wolf, these animals would have no natural role in modern ecosystems. The recreated wolves are currently kept on private land in the northern United States. Releasing them into the wild would be irresponsible, as their original habitats disappeared thousands of years ago and ecosystems have since adapted to their absence. Reintroducing large predators could destabilize food chains, out compete existing species, and threaten prey populations. Ultimately, reviving extinct animals appears less about conservation and more about curiosity and commercial gain, resulting in artificial hybrids that cannot truly belong in the modern world.

There are also serious ethical concerns surrounding animal cloning, particularly regarding the health of cloned animals. Many worry about how clones would be treated and whether they would be genetically modified to increase productivity with little regard for their well-being. Similar issues already exist in dog breeding, where appearance is often prioritized over health. If society is willing to impose such suffering on animals, what prevents us from doing the same — or worse — to cloned animals viewed primarily as scientific experiments?

While cloning animals may be scientifically possible, it often comes with significant health complications and ethical dilemmas. De-extinction projects may appear groundbreaking, but they do more harm than good. They produce genetic hybrids that cannot replace lost species and raise serious ecological questions. Thousands of endangered species that still have a place in our world struggle to survive without adequate funding. Rather than resurrecting the past, we should invest in the future by protecting endangered species through conservation and habitat restoration.

**Editor's Note:**

Kaelyn LaLonde and Roxanne Haney are students at Oregon State University. The views expressed are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of The Brownsville Times. We publish student and guest commentary to encourage thoughtful, respectful discussion on complex issues affecting science, ethics, and the environment. ☼



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

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 Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.  
 Monday Prayer 7-8 p.m.  
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27910 7 Mile Ln · 541-642-3000  
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**Halsey Mennonite Church**

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**AMERICAN LEGION**

**Christmas in the North Atlantic: Part 2 of 2**

*By an ordinary seaman*

I headed to the mess deck, leaning against the bulkhead like a man who wasn't sure what the deck was going to do next. Now there's an unwritten law in the Navy that demands Christmas cheer, even if you're floating a thousand miles from the nearest proper fireplace. And that night, the job of playing Santa had fallen to one of the younger, or maybe just the unluckiest, boson's mates. I saw the poor fellow moving along the bulkhead, looking like a man who was deeply regretting his last meal.

He had found a reddish canvas life jacket for a Santa coat. Now, it was officially red, but on him it made him look more like a slightly flattened, rectangular fruitcake than a cheerful saint. He was clutching a wad of cotton batting, probably snatched from sick bay, which he was trying to figure out how to attach to his face for a beard. He moved off muttering and grumbling, searching for boots. I knew he was destined to end up in giant, black-rubber deck boots, making him look less like a festive old elf and more like a very grumpy penguin.

I moved on, looking for a little holiday cheer. The only real sign of the season was a fake tree in the corner of the galley, a small, colorfully lit pretense that had somehow materialized from the bowels of the engine room.

I worked my way to the radio shack, drawn by the simple, sweet promise of cookies. After earning a cookie with some appropriate small talk, I went down to the Combat Information Center



The U.S. Navy radar picket destroyer escort USS Wagner (DER-539) sits laid up at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard on March 22, 1973. The author served aboard the ship during its active years. (Public domain)

(CIC), where all the radar magic happened. The fellas down there, bathed in the green glow of their screens, were in wonderfully good spirits. The great enemy, the x's and the dashes, had apparently taken the night off.

I eventually drifted back to the mess deck for the late-night comfort known as "mid rats." You won't find any charcuterie boards here. This was a feast of honest, simple pleasures: sliced bologna, cheddar, rye bread, and plenty of Ritz crackers. I built a perfect sandwich, the kind you make for yourself at home, and continued my bulkhead leaning journey to the aft crew quarters.

As I chewed, I noticed the music had shifted. Gone was the frantic energy of the modern jingles. Now, the space was filled with the timeless, deep warmth of "Oh Holy Night" and "Adeste Fidelis." That familiar, peaceful change gave this old altar boy's soul a soft, gentle tug, a reminder of things more true than radar screens or grumpy penguins.

There is a peace that comes when the world decides to give you a break, even if you're alone in the dark. That night, the loud, churning life of the ship, the ham and cheese sandwich on rye, and the distant, comforting thought that the entire, wide, troubled world had, for just a few hours, forgotten to worry, was the perfect gift.

Back in my bunk, strapped in tight, I settled down, for a rough winter's night while visions of sugar plums danced in my head. ❄️

 **Danielle M. Myers, Esq.**  
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**PUZZLE KEY**

Puzzles on page 3

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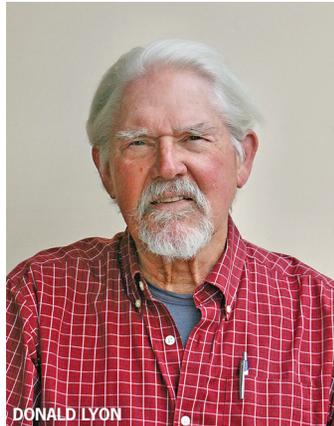
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**LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY**

**Community — at Christmas and All Year Long**

By Donald Lyon, Staff Writer

A reminder of the great value of community might have come less painfully. A few weeks ago, I called 911 after being crushed between two trees on my property.



The first responders were volunteers from the Brownsville Fire Department. They expertly checked me out and evaluated my condition. The next day, we called 911 again for an ambulance to Corvallis Hospital, where it was determined I had a fractured pelvis, bruised ribs, and other minor injuries.

After a few days in the hospital, I was taken to Corvallis Manor Rehabilitation Center because the rickety railing leading into my house was not safe for an invalid. Two friends volunteered to make the repairs that I should have made years ago.

Then came the question of how I would get around and care for myself when I came home. My partner, Connie, checked out a special four-footed cane for going up stairs and a raised toilet seat from the Brownsville Senior Center. Another friend provided a walker, which the Senior Center also has available.

Now, after some therapy and training, I'm back home, scooting around on the walker and remembering all of the people who visited, offered support, and sent good wishes. It only hurts when I laugh, but I'm very happy that I live in Brownsville, where we have such a wonderful, caring community. 🌟

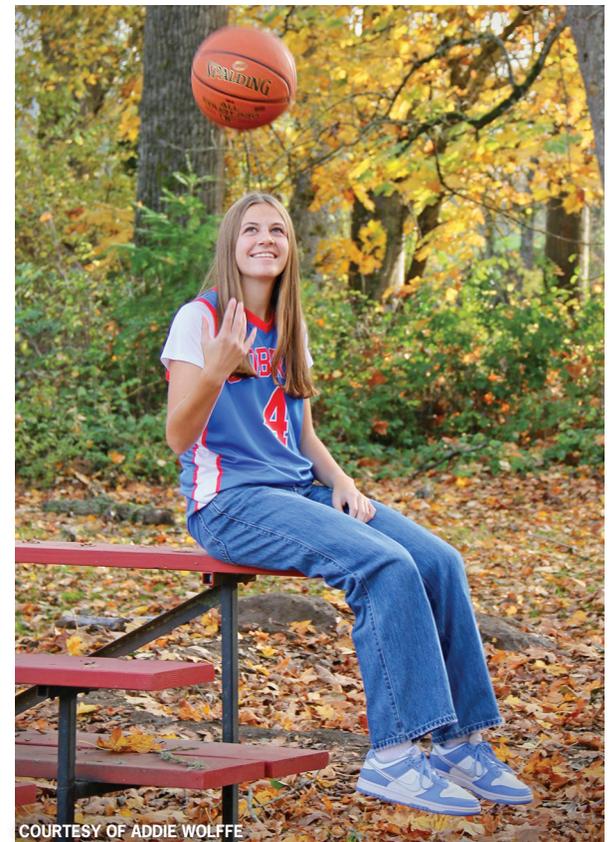
Gratefully,  
Donald Lyon

**CENTRAL LINN HIGH SCHOOL JANUARY STUDENT ATHLETE**

**Addie Wolffe, Senior Multi-Sport Standout**

Addie Wolffe is a senior at Central Linn High School and a four-year letter winner in soccer, girls' basketball, track, and cross country. In December, she reached a significant milestone by joining the exclusive 1,000-point club in basketball, scoring more than 1,000 career points.

Throughout her high school career, Addie has earned numerous All-League and All-State honors across multiple sports, exemplifying dedication, leadership, and excellence as a student-athlete.



COURTESY OF ADDIE WOLFFE

Next fall, Addie will continue her academic and athletic journey at George Fox University, where she will play soccer while pursuing a degree in pediatric nursing.

Addie is the daughter of Melissa and Charlie Wolffe of Brownsville. 🌟

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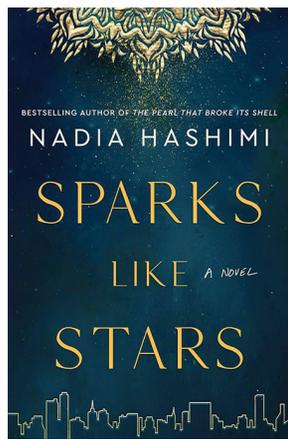
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BROWNSVILLE BOOK CLUB

For Whom the War Tolls

By Barbara DeRobertis, Staff Writer

Last month, the Brownsville Book Club read and discussed “Sparks Like Stars,” by Nadia Hashimi. It is a heart-wrenching, historical fiction tale of a ten-year-old girl, Sitara Zamani, who becomes orphaned during the bloody pro-communist coup that took place in the palace of President Daoud Khan, in Kabul, Afghanistan, in April of 1978. Sitara’s father was Daoud’s right-hand man, and her family was living in the palace at the time when the president Daoud, along with most of his family, was assassinated. Her family was also murdered that night, but Sitara managed to survive. She was rescued and smuggled out of the palace by a guard named Shair, then adopted by a female American diplomat, who took her to New York and raised her.



The first half of the book describes Sitara’s young, privileged life as a resident in the palace, the terrifying attack that fatal night, and the trauma that followed. The second half of the book takes place in New York, 30 years later, as Sitara, now known as Arayana Shepherd, an accomplished surgeon, encounters the soldier (Shair) who saved her. She has long wondered if he was the man who killed her family. She travels back to Kabul searching for answers.

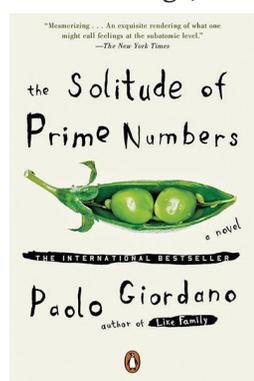
This book is a gripping, emotional read that is well-written, a page-turner that includes many twists and turns. Our discussion centered around the traumatic effects that war has on children in particular. We talked about the impact on their resilience and undoubtedly their innocence, along with the lasting psychological consequences of living through horror. Children are currently living in war-torn zones around the world. They are experiencing and somehow enduring terrors that none of us care to envision. The author mentions the Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph, “The Terror of War,” in the text of this book. This photograph, commonly known to most of us as “The Napalm Girl” (taken in Vietnam in 1972), depicts a Vietnamese girl running naked in the street after her village was bombed. The author, most likely, wants the reader to recall that image that is forever embedded in many of our minds; to remind us all of the terror of war and the toll war takes, not only on soldiers, communities, and countries but on millions of children.

The story of Sitara and her family is fictional, but the coup d’etat and assassination of President Daoud in April of 1978 is factual.

Our December book club meeting is one no one likes to miss. Our year concludes with each of us bringing a used, gift-wrapped book that we think others in the group would enjoy, and we have a book exchange, accompanied by shared goodies.

Would you like to join us? New members are always welcome. Meetings take place on the third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Kirk Room of the Brownsville Community Library.

Next month, we will be discussing “The Solitude of Prime Numbers,” by Paolo Giordano. ☺



OPINION

Entropy and Change

By Stephen A. Brenner

I had an interesting dream. There was a large body of water. A giant excavator appeared and was menacing people. I was throwing canning jars full of water at the operators in the cab far above. The scene then cut to a later time, with people trying to piece together what had happened, viewed from the air as events were explained after the fact.

The scene shifted to my home, which appeared to have sustained major damage. The house, constructed of concrete and stone, had lost a massive wall now resting at an angle. I wasn’t sure how I would repair it given the scale of the destruction. Then I went outside and saw a giant, ancient Mesoamerican colonnade made of carved stone still standing. It felt like a sacred continuity of history, and I remember thinking I could adapt it into a pleasant living space.

I woke up thinking less about the images themselves and more about what they suggested — collapse followed by adaptation.

Lately, I’ve been studying physics and trying to better understand the concept of entropy. It’s commonly described as the universe moving toward greater chaos, but a more accurate view is that unstable, high-energy states resolve into more stable configurations. In that sense, entropy is not simply decay, but transformation. In my view, the evolution of life trends toward greater knowledge and self-awareness, though the process is rarely smooth.

Human history reflects this same pattern. Next year marks the 250th anniversary of American democracy. That break from the tyranny of the British monarchy required a bloody revolution. You could argue that rule by kings was a stable state, one that had persisted for centuries, yet it was deeply flawed. Going back even further, two thousand years ago, a Jewish prophet challenged both religious orthodoxy and imperial rule. He shifted the idea of divinity away from kings, emperors, and priests and toward something internal — the notion that the Kingdom of God existed within each individual. He envisioned a more compassionate way of being.

That brings us to our own period of chaos. Prior to the Biden and Trump eras, one could say we lived under a relatively stable world order. Yet that stability carried major flaws, including extreme concentration of wealth and a materialism that erodes culture. Disruption was inevitable to move toward a healthier state.

The danger lies in mistaking chaos for progress. The destruction of democratic norms as an end goal risks restoring an old order that was never good for people or the planet. While we should embrace the opportunity to make fundamental change, we must do so thoughtfully and with compassion. ☺

BROWNSVILLE LIBRARY CALENDAR

Parents & Pals Story Time

Wednesdays • 10–10:15 a.m.

A short story time followed by free play together.

Brownsville Stitchery Group

Wednesdays • 1–3 p.m.

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

Songs, Rhymes & More Story Time

Fridays • 11 a.m.

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

Library Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, Jan. 8 • 4:30–5:30 p.m. • Kirk Room

Monthly meeting of the Brownsville Community Library Advisory Board. Open to the public.

Estate Planning: Wills

Thursday, Jan. 15 • 7–8 p.m. • Kirk Room

Learn the basics of estate planning with a focus on creating a will.

Brownsville Book Club

Thursday, Jan. 21 • 7 p.m. • Kirk Room

A friendly, informal discussion of the month’s selected book. New readers are always welcome.

Estate Planning: Advance Directives

Thursday, Jan. 22 • Noon–1 p.m. • Kirk Room

An informational program on advance directives and planning for future health care decisions.

OSU EXTENSION SERVICE

Become a Master Gardener Volunteer

OSU Extension Service in Linn and Benton counties is now recruiting volunteers for its Master Gardener training program. Master Gardener volunteers are community members who provide science-based, locally relevant gardening advice while supporting education and volunteer service throughout the region.

Paula Lupcho says of the program, “being a part of the gardening community was like finding my way home. I have loved every minute of being a Master Gardener volunteer. Giving back to the community through public service is the core of the program and is personally rewarding.”

Learn more about the Master Gardener program, training requirements and how to apply at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/linn-benton> or call 541-967-3871. ☺

WHERE TO STAY

## Linn County SNAP Recipients Get More Time to Replace Storm-Damaged Food

Linn County residents who receive SNAP benefits now have additional time to request replacement food assistance after recent winter storms and power outages.

The Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) has extended the reporting deadline to 30 days for households that lost food purchased with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits due to power outages on Dec. 17, 2025. The extended deadline for Linn County SNAP recipients is Jan. 16, 2026.

Households in counties included in the extension have more time than usual to report food losses. SNAP recipients living outside the affected counties must still report losses within 10 days of the incident and may be asked to provide documentation.

### How to request replacement benefits

Linn County residents can request replacement SNAP benefits in several ways:

- Call 800-699-9075 (relay calls welcome)
- Email a completed form to [oregon.benefits@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:oregon.benefits@odhsoha.oregon.gov)
- Visit a local ODHS office
- Mail a request to the ONE Customer Service Center, PO Box 14015, Salem, OR 97309 (must arrive by Jan. 16)
- Log in to a ONE Online account at <https://benefits.oregon.gov>

Approved replacement benefits are added to the household's existing EBT card, up to the amount of food lost or the household's normal monthly benefit.

For food pantries and additional assistance, residents can dial 211 or visit <https://www.211info.org>.

## Utility Assistance Available in Central Linn County

As winter energy costs rise, residents in Central Linn County — including Brownsville, Halsey, Harrisburg, Shedd, Tangent, and Crawfordsville — have access to several programs designed to help keep essential utilities connected during times of financial strain.

One of the best places to start is Community Services Consortium, which operates the 211 information line in Oregon. By dialing 211 or visiting <https://www.communityservices.us>, residents can be connected to local resources for utility assistance, housing support, food programs, and emergency aid throughout Linn County. Specialists can help determine eligibility and direct callers to the appropriate agencies.

Help with heating and electric bills may be available through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Oregon Energy Assistance Program (OEAP). These programs provide payments that are applied directly to a household's utility bill. Residents should also contact their utility provider, such as Pacific Power or Consumers Power Inc., to ask about payment plans, bill assistance programs, or emergency relief options that may help prevent disconnection.

Assistance is also available for phone and internet service. Oregon Lifeline offers monthly discounts to qualifying low-income households through participating service providers.

For additional guidance on utility services or consumer protections, residents can contact the Oregon Public Utility Commission, which provides information on assistance programs and utility regulations.

Residents experiencing financial hardship are encouraged to seek help early, as many assistance programs are seasonal or limited in funding.

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## Samaritan Lebanon to Temporarily Pause Labor and Delivery Services Beginning Jan. 15

Labor and delivery services at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital will be temporarily paused beginning Jan. 15, 2026, due to a regional shortage of OB-GYN physicians that has made continuous inpatient coverage unavailable, hospital officials announced last week.

The pause follows a series of unexpected OB-GYN physician departures across the Willamette Valley, including resignations at Samaritan Lebanon and the discontinuation of OB-GYN services at another regional practice. Together, those changes have created a significant staffing gap that has proven difficult to fill, even with expanded national recruitment efforts and outreach to staffing agencies and independent clinicians.

Hospital leaders emphasized that the decision is based solely on patient safety. Labor and delivery services require continuous, predictable, around-the-clock physician coverage to operate safely. Without that level of staffing, officials said that intermittent operations or repeated diversions would create confusion and pose potential risks to families seeking care.

"This pause is temporary, and we remain fully committed to restoring labor and delivery services in Lebanon as quickly and safely as possible," said Jennifer Kimberlain, vice president of patient care services at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital.

Outpatient OB-GYN services will continue on a limited basis at the Lebanon Health Center on Fifth Street. Additional outpatient care remains available at Samaritan locations in Sweet Home, Albany, and Corvallis. Hospital officials are hopeful that labor and delivery services, could resume as early as April 2026, depending on securing appropriate, continuous clinician coverage.

During the temporary pause, expectant parents who anticipate delivery after mid-January are encouraged to work with their providers to transition care to Samaritan Albany General Hospital or Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Corvallis. Both facilities are preparing for increased patient volume.

To support patients and staff, Samaritan has implemented individualized outreach to help families transition care, established safe transfer protocols for urgent and emergent situations, and will keep highly trained labor and delivery nurses onsite to assist the emergency department with obstetric emergencies. Samaritan is also partnering with the Oregon Nurses Association to support nursing staff during the pause, and officials confirmed that no layoffs will occur.

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**SHERIFF'S REPORT**

Information in the Sheriff's Report is provided by The Linn County Sheriff's Daily Media Log of Dispatched Calls and Cases. Incident details may be limited or delayed depending on agency availability prior to our weekly publication deadline. Addresses typically reflect the location of the incident or arrest, though in some cases they may indicate the origin of the call.

An individual's arrest or citation reported here does not imply guilt. Guilt or innocence is determined only through the judicial process.

The 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, December 21**

1:18 p.m. — Sherry Charlene Chase, 52, of Sheridan was issued a citation for 61 in a posted 45mph zone and driving uninsured at W Bishop Way/Pearl St, Brownsville.

4:11 p.m. — Brian Paul Gardner, 52, of Harrisburg was taken to Lebanon Community Hospital on a Police Officer Hold in the 100 block of N 7th St, Harrisburg. Report taken.

11:00 p.m. — Deputy documented ongoing civil issue between spouses that may also have some mental health issues in the 32900 block of Diamond Hill Dr, Harrisburg.

**Monday, December 22**

7:47 a.m. — Tabitha Ealy, 27, of Sweet Home was issued a citation for speeding at N Coburg Rd/Diamond Hill Dr, Harrisburg.

8:32 a.m. — Tisa Cupp, 53, of Eugene, was cited for speeding 79 in a 55mph zone in the 23500 block of Hwy 99E, Harrisburg.

9:04 a.m. — Deputy responded to a call of vandalized farm equipment in the 29100 block of Seven Mile Ln, Shedd. Report taken.

**Tuesday, December 23**

1:09 p.m. — Robert Byers, 57, of Corvallis, cited for failure to carry proof of insurance. Mr. Byers was warned for additional violations at S Main St/Vroman Ave, Brownsville.

1:52 p.m. — Sarah Austin, 41, of Harrisburg was issued a citation for failure to carry proof of insurance in the 400 block of Territorial St, Harrisburg.

3p.m. — Cody Frye, 33, of Junction City was cited for expired tags and warned for other violations at Washburn St/W Cooley Ave, Brownsville.

4:22 p.m. — Deputy addressed juveniles quarreling over a romantic issue in the 32300 block of Old Oak Dr, Tangent.

7:46 p.m. — Lamont Lawrence, 44, of Woodburn was arrested for outstanding warrants in the 28500 block of Ogle Rd, Shedd. Lamont was lodged at the Linn County Jail.

**Wednesday, Dec. 24**

9:30 a.m. — Chelsie Lyn Jasper, 35, of Brownsville was issued a citation for fail-

ure to obey a traffic control device at W Bishop Way/Loucks Way, Brownsville.

3:22 p.m. — Deputies responded to a reported DUI. A black Chevy pickup with a wooden trailer was reportedly swerving all over the road and exited at Hwy 34 at Columbus, Tangent. Deputies were unable to locate. Albany Police Department was notified.

4:24 p.m. — Hector Paz Leon, 19, of Springfield, was observed doing cookies in a church parking lot at 31800 Diamond Hill Dr, Harrisburg. He was cited for careless driving and driving with a suspended driver's license.

10:28 p.m. — Deputy conducted an extra patrol at Eagle Park in Harrisburg and located an unoccupied camp northwest of the dog park.

**Friday, December 26**

1:07 p.m. — Civil dispute with water lines was reported in the 500 block of Kay Ave, Brownsville.

4:42 p.m. — Deputy performed a welfare check in the 33100 block of Fuchsia Ln, Tangent.

8:47 p.m. — Cory Evans, 46, of Florence was issued a citation for driving while suspended in the 22100 block of N Coburg Rd, Harrisburg.

**Saturday, Dec. 27**

6:38 a.m. — Harold Becker, 54, of Brownsville, was issued a citation for failure to obey a traffic control device at Washburn St/W Cooley Ave, Brownsville.

7:17 a.m. — Brittany Wilfong, 35, of Brownsville, was issued a citation for fail-

ure to obey a traffic control device in the 100 block of E Bishop Way, Brownsville.

8:08 a.m. — John Goodmansen, 51, of Brownsville, was issued a citation for failure to obey a traffic control device in the 100 block of E Bishop Way, Brownsville.

8:27 a.m. — Roger Geeting, 72, of Brownsville, was issued a citation for failure to obey a traffic control device in the 500 block of E Bishop Way, Brownsville.

9:43 a.m. — Lucas Riley, 47, of Sweet Home, was issued citations for driving while suspended, driving uninsured, and failure to register his vehicle. Lucas' vehicle was also towed as a nuisance at N Main/Spaulding Ave, Brownsville.

11:16 a.m. — Madison Stewart, 33 of Eugene, was issued a citation for failure to obey a traffic control device in the 300 block of Templeton St, Brownsville.

11:32 a.m. — Charles Nixon, 57, of Sweet Home was issued citations for driving uninsured, and driving without an ignition interlock device in the 200 block of S Main St, Brownsville.

1:40 p.m. — Ximena Martinez, 60, of Springfield was issued a citation for speeding in the 30600 block of Diamond Hill Dr, Harrisburg.

2:06 p.m. — William Pitts, 47, of Brownsville, was issued a citation for failure to renew vehicle registration at Enos Dr/Hwy 228, Brownsville.

2:44 p.m. — Seth Ferrell, 21, of Brownsville, was issued a citation for driving uninsured at Washburn St/W

Bishop Way, Brownsville.

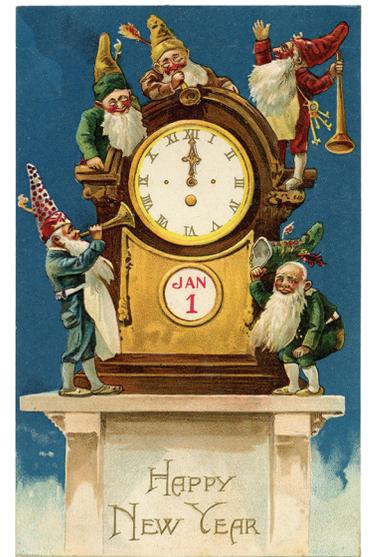
3:03 p.m. — Philip Bumgardner, 37, of Harrisburg, was issued a citation for failure to obey a traffic control device in the 300 block of Templeton St, Brownsville.

3:25 p.m. — Ricardo Jimenez, 40, of Eugene, was issued a citation for failure to obey a traffic control device in the 34300 block of Hwy 228, Brownsville.

3:25 p.m. — Deputies responded to a dog owner complaining their dog was attacked. Christina Osborne, 51, of Albany, and Olivia Deleon, 41, of Tangent, was issued a citation for dog as a public nuisance in the 32100 block of Old Oak Dr, Tangent.

**Sunday, December 28**

6:34 p.m. — Deputies respond to a trespass in Tangent that had occurred earlier in the night. Jessica Henderson, 37, of Tangent, was cited in lieu of custody for an unrelated outstanding warrant in the 32300 block of Old Oak Dr, Tangent. ☼



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**BROWNSVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**2025 Holiday Lights Contest Winners**

The Brownsville Chamber of Commerce announced the top four winners of their annual Holiday Lights Contest, selected from 14 decorated homes and businesses throughout Brownsville.

The event ran from Dec. 5 to 25 with a map and voting available at <https://www.historicbrownsville.com/holiday-lights-contest>.

Winners received gift certificates from Brownsville Chamber members. The Chamber wishes congratulations to the winners, and thanks the businesses and residents who supported this community tradition by decorating, viewing, and voting. 🌟



1st Place — 518 Kirk Ave. received gift certificates for Joe Glow, Carlson Hardware & Lumber Yard, The Brownsville Times, and Janky Bird.

PHOTOS: JENNA STUTSMAN



2nd Place – 600 Washburn St. received gift certificates for Bryan's Woodshed, Sharing Hands Thrift Store, NAPA Auto Parts, and Belle Àme Cosmetics.



3rd Place – 849 Northpoint Loop received gift certificates for Randy's Main Street Coffee, Brownsville Art Association Center, and Mema's Country Kitchen.



4th Place – 212 School Ave. received gift certificates for J & S Supply and Brownsville Pharmacy & Gifts.

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