



Linn County adds electric vehicles charging stations

By Alex Paul

Linn County Reporter

ALBANY — Ahead of time and under budget are words any business owner — or in this case county government official — loves hearing.

But that's exactly what happened when Linn County installed two electric vehicle charging stations — that can service two vehicles each at a time — thanks to a \$53,000 grant from Pacific Power, through the Oregon Clean Fuels Electric Mobility Grant program.

Linn County was one of 19 projects awarded in 2022.

"Pacific Power is proud to play a crucial role in helping customers and communities connect to the cost-saving benefits of clean transportation and building a safe, reliable, affordable clean energy future. The Electric Mobility Grants are an important way that we can strengthen the communities we serve and help them thrive. It is a long-term commitment to sustainable transportation to meeting the evolving needs of electric vehicle users", said Kate Hawley, electric transportation senior product manager for Pacific Power.

Michelle Markson, General Services Office Manager, said the two-year project was completed a month ahead of deadline and for \$10,000 less than projected by the team's ability to complete some of the construction work in house.

One of the charging stations, dedicated to the county fleet, is east of the county fleet maintenance building near the Courthouse Annex and the other unit is west of the building and is dedicated for



Linn County Vehicle Technician Brandon Newquist plugs in the county's new hybrid Ford Escape, using one of the new EV charging stations at the General Services fleet center next to the Courthouse Annex.

use by the general public.

Once the Board of Commissioners approve the cost per kWh, the public can use the station that is housed in the pub-

lic lot across from the Courthouse. Users will need to download the ChargePoint app in order to begin charging. The app will also notify the driver when their charge is complete.

Drivers will be limited to using the station and parking in the Electric Vehicle

EV CHARGING STATIONS ... See P. 2



Lonestar, Lead Singers of Classic Rock, Chris Lane

Lonestar to kick off Linn County Fair

ALBANY — Lone Star, the Lead Singers of Classic Rock and Chris Lane will headline the 2024 Linn County Fair Main Stage entertainment, July 18-20 at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center.

Admission is free with a paid daily admission, although premium seating is available beginning June 1 at www.linncountyfair.com/tickets/prices.

Lonestar

Lonestar is an award winning, chart topping American country music band that consists of Dean Sams (keyboards, acoustic guitar, background vocals), Micheal Britt (lead guitarist, background vocals), Keech Rainwater (drums) and Drew Womack (lead vocals, guitar).

COUNTY FAIR ... See P. 4



The Linn County Reporter is digitally published monthly by the Linn County Board of Commissioners.

Would you like to receive the newsletter?

Please send your email address to Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer, apaul@co.linn.or.us or call 541-967-3825.

Linn County Board of Commissioners



Roger Nyquist



Sherrie Sprenger



Will Tucker

The Board of Commissioners meet at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and at the same time on Wednesday if needed.

You can listen to the meetings by calling 541-704-3002 PIN 8442.

Call 541-967-3825



ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS ... From P. 1



Only spot to a maximum of four hours, all of which will be managed by General Services.

Markson said because the project came in under budget, Pacific Power allowed the county to use the \$10,000 saved to help pay for a new Ford Escape hybrid vehicle, a \$41,000 purchase. The Escape can get up to 37 miles on a battery charge.

Markson said General Services plans to buy at least one more plug-in vehicle in the coming Fiscal Year. General Services manages a fleet of about 90 vehicles.

General Services is the only department with a plug-in hybrid vehicle. The Health Department recently purchased three hybrid cars for its fleet.

It is available for use by any county employee as needed (after completing a county driver's training program.)

Markson said the concrete pad and anchor bolt installation were completed in house by General Services

Vernon Mills, General Services Facilities Coordinator managed the vendors and the construction schedules. Willamette Valley Excavating removed asphalt, dug a utility trench and backfilled the project. Double Eagle completed the paving. Brothers Concrete was hired to cut the concrete. EC Electric completed the final installation step of electrifying the station.



Look who's coming to Family Land at the **Linn County Fair**

July 18-19-20, 2024



**Megan the
Bubbleologist**



Puzzlemania



Eric Haines



**Off Axis
Stunt Show**



Slim & Curly



**Peppy's
Waterpalooza**

Learn more at <https://www.linncountyfair.com/prices/hours>

Call the Linn County Board of Commissioners at 541-967-3825.

LINN COUNTY FAIR ... From P. 1

Not many bands can say that they were able to make their chart-topping songs of the past today's greatest modern hits. This year Lonestar released the album TEN to 1 where they took their greatest hits such as "No News", "Come Cryin' To Me", "Everything's Changed", "Amazed", and turned them into modern day country hits. "We've all played these songs live so much that we've morphed them over the years and play them a little bit differently," Sams says. "In re-recording them, it was taking all the different things that we have done and harnessing it into the best direction for today. Michael's got a lot better guitar sounds than he had when we made a lot of

these hits; Keech has better drums." Hailey Verhaalen will open for Lone Star at 7 p.m.

Lead Singers of Classic Rock

The Lead Singers of Classic Rock will take the stage at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, July 19.

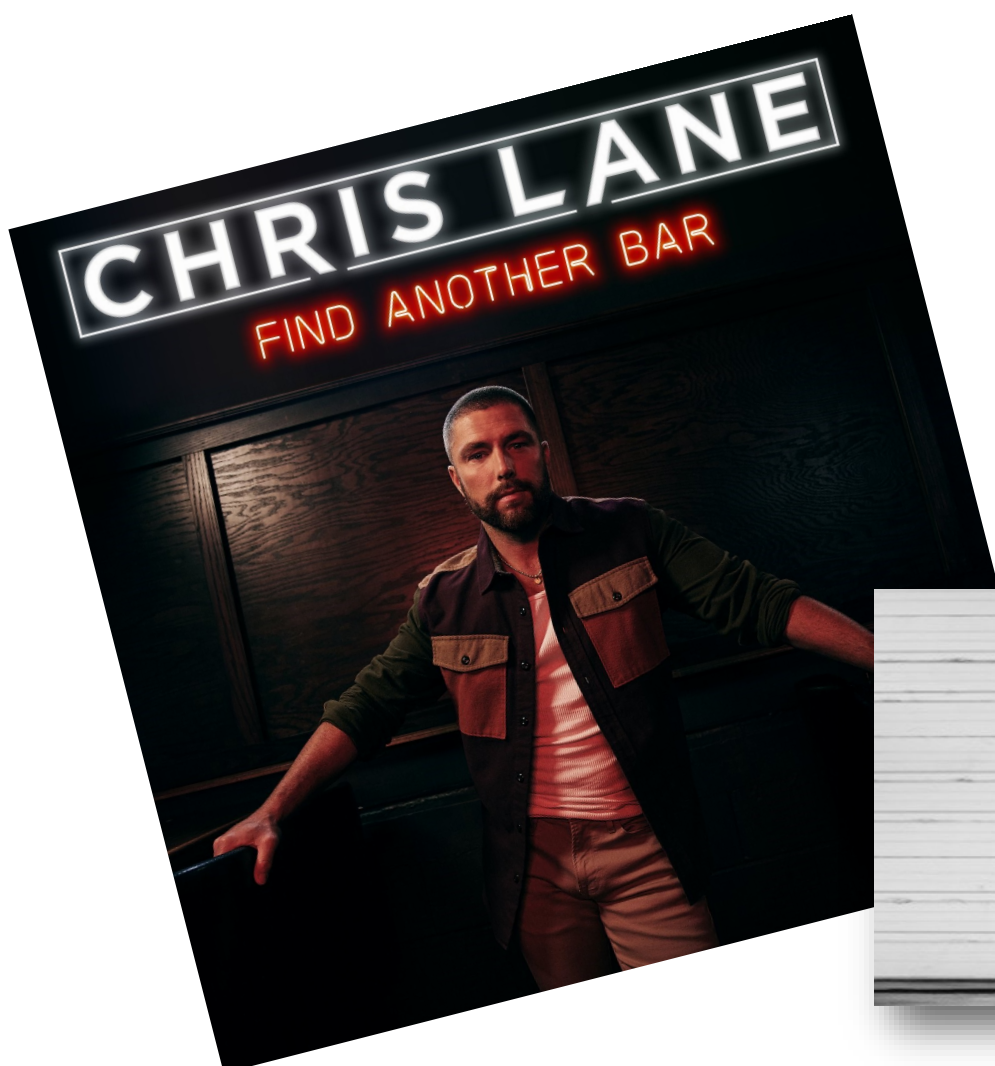
Jason Scheff, long-time lead singer of the band CHICAGO, and Tommy DeCarlo, a former lead singer of the band BOSTON, team up for a night of unforgettable classic rock music



spanning the 70's, 80's and 90's. This musical tribute features two great sets of classic hits with the timeless ballads of CHICAGO and the guitar-driven rock music of BOSTON. More than 15 million fans have attended a live concert featuring either Jason or Tommy's signature high-tenor lead vocals.

Jason Scheff joined CHICAGO in 1985 as lead singer/songwriter/bass player and went on to perform thousands of live concerts spanning four decades during a non-stop touring and recording career with the band. Jason contributed vocals, bass, keyboards, and songwriting, spanning 17 CHICAGO albums and 98 songs, including lead vocals on the 1986 #3 Billboard Hot 100 chart hit single "Will You Still Love Me?".

Tommy DeCarlo joined BOSTON in 2008 after the passing of Brad Delp in 2007 and performed on every tour thereafter, including 2008, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, and the latest in 2017. In 2013, Tommy sang four songs on BOSTON's sixth and latest studio album, Life, Love & Hope, including the title track.



GENERAL ADMISSION

ADULT: 13 and up \$9 Online \$10 Gate
CHILD: 12 and under Free
SENIORS: 60 and up \$7 Online or \$8 Gate
PARKING: Daily *NO RE-ENTRY \$5
CONCERT: Reserved Seating. Price of reserved seat based on location. Concert seat ticket includes fair admission. *Excludes parking. \$20 to \$30
SEASON PASSES ADULT: 13 and up \$22; **SENIORS:** 60 and up \$18
4-H / FFA Participants - Tickets must be purchased at the Expo Fair Office - Proof of 4-H participation required. \$15
PARKING: Season parking includes daily in and out privileges. \$12

ONSITE CARNIVAL RIDE TICKETS

SINGLE RIDE TICKET: \$7
5 RIDE TICKETS: - SAVE \$5 — \$30
ALL DAY RIDE WRISTBANDS: \$40
SPECIAL DISCOUNTS / PROMOTIONS
 THURSDAY - ONSITE ONLY
 SENIOR & MILITARY DAY
 FREE ADMISSION ALL DAY FOR SENIORS AGE 60+ AND ALL ACTIVE MILITARY. *ID REQUIRED

CARNIVAL BUDDY DAY BUY 1 ALL DAY RIDE WRISTBAND GET ONE HALF OFF. SAVE \$20
PICK YOUR DAY OF FUN PACK - ONLINE ONLY
PICK YOUR DAY OF FUN. INCLUDES ADULT ADMISSION AND ALL-DAY RIDE WRISTBAND. SAVE \$10 — \$40
CARNIVAL RIDE WRISTBAND - ONLINE ONLY
SAVE MONEY AND SKIP THE LINES. PURCHASE YOUR CARNIVAL RIDE WRISTBAND - FAIR ADMISSION NOT INCLUDED. SAVE \$5

Don't miss these two great lead singers along with a top band of touring professionals, which includes; Steve Ferlazzo (Avril Lavigne) keyboards/vocals/music director, August Zadra (Dennis DeYoung) lead guitar/vocals, Steve Fekete (Gwen Stefani) lead guitar/vocals, Mike Morales (Dennis DeYoung) drums, Tommy DeCarlo Jr lead guitar/vocals, Payton Velligan bass/vocals.

Chris Lane

Introducing "a decidedly more country sound" (MusicRow), Chris Lane is launching his next chapter with over 1.7 billion on-demand streams and three #1s to date – platinum "Big, Big Plans," 3X platinum "I Don't Know About You," and platinum "Fix."

After a spree of releases in 2021 and 2022, Lane's catalog has expanded with hits like latest collaboration "Dancin' In The Moonlight" with Lauren Alaina, "Howdy," "Stop Coming Over," "Summer Job Money," "Fill Them Boots," "Ain't Even Met You Yet," HIXTAPE: Vol. 2 smash "Small Town On It" with Scotty McCreery, Dustin Lynch duet, "Tequila On A Boat," and the 2X platinum "Take Back Home Girl" with Tori Kelly.

The Kernersville, N.C. native has appeared on Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, TODAY, The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, Late Night with Seth Meyers, and CONAN, and was featured in PEOPLE's 2019 Sexiest Man Alive issue.

He's scored nominations at IHeartRadio Music Awards, ACM Awards, and Radio Disney Music Awards. Lane is touring in the Spring and Summer of 2023 including dates with Kane Brown and Jordan Davis, after having previously shared the bill with A-list acts like Florida Georgia Line, Brad Paisley, and Dan + Shay.

McKayla Marie will be Saturday's opening act at 7 p.m.





New Beginnings Garden parking lot sale was a blooming success

(307 plants/baskets sold; \$2,400)

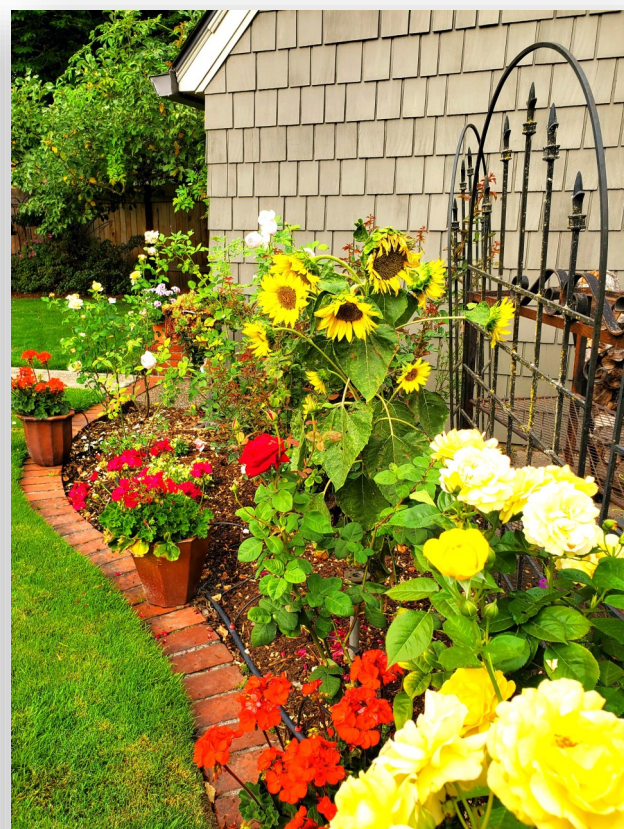


Linn Benton Juvenile Detention Center staff, Idanha Freitag, Patrick Meehan and Debbie Hernandez.





OSU Extension Service



Through the Garden Gate Garden Tour June 15

ALBANY — For 23 years OSU Linn County Master Gardeners have hosted Through the Garden Gate, a tour of selected local gardens. The tour this year features seven beautiful and varied gardens in the Albany area from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 15.

During the self-guided tour, you will be able to explore gardens overflowing with lush plantings and dozens of inspiring ideas. Master Gardener volunteers will be on hand to greet you, and you will have an opportunity to talk with the homeowners about their gardens.

Sharing their gardens is a labor of love for these gracious homeowners. Each garden is a unique expression of the gardener's personalities and garden-

TICKETS: Tickets are \$15 and are on sale at the Albany Visitors Association office, Urban Ag Supply, and Peaceful Valley Farm and Garden Supply. You may also purchase tickets online at LinnMasterGardeners.com.

DAY of EVENT: Peaceful Valley Farm and Garden Supply, 350 NW Hickory.

ing styles. Some of our gardens are well established while others are just a few years old. All have much to offer from deer fenced vegetable, fruit and rose gardens, rare and unusual plants, beautiful ornamental beds in full sun and shade and even an assortment of small, charming, and beautifully decorated garden retreat buildings. Bring your idea notebooks and your camera. Garden owners and Master Gardener

volunteers are eager to greet you and answer your questions.

Tickets are \$15 and are on sale at the Albany Visitors Association office, Urban Ag Supply, and Peaceful Valley Farm and Garden Supply. You may also purchase tickets online at LinnMasterGardeners.com. For your convenience, tickets can be purchased the day of the tour at Peaceful Valley Farm

and Garden Supply, 350 NW Hickory St. in North Albany.

You will find descriptions of each garden and driving directions in the ticket brochure. The gardens can be toured in any order you prefer although we offer a suggested order in which to visit the gardens. Proceeds from the tour support the community outreach and education work of the Linn County Master Gardeners Association and our continued educational collaboration with the Oregon State University Extension Service.

Source: Karin Magnuson, Garden Tour Committee Member
541-223-8843
knrnaem@gmail.com



Linn County Veterans Services never misses a good parade — like the Lebanon Strawberry Festival Parade on Saturday.

Linn County gets update on North Santiam Canyon sewer project

ALBANY — Linn County is committed to being a partner in the North Santiam Canyon Sewer Project, Commissioner Will Tucker emphasized during a meeting of principals Friday, May 3 at the Linn County Courthouse.

Tucker was joined by Linn County Administrative Officer Darrin Lane, Roadmaster Wayne Mink and County Engineer Daineal Malone in a meeting with Brian Nicholas of Marion County Public Works and Chris Einmo, senior project manager.

Nicholas and Einmo brought the Linn County representatives up to speed on the \$76.2 million project's timeline. Of that amount, the proposed wastewater treatment facility will cost almost \$49 million.

The majority of the project cost will be paid for through a \$50 million grant from Business Oregon.

The wastewater project is intended to address the lack of waste water services to the cities of Gates and Mill City, which is hindering rebuilding after the Labor Day 2020 fires.

The project will include:

- New domestic sewage treatment facility in Mill City and connection to the existing sewer system.
- New low-pressure sewer pipeline from Gates to Mill City.
- New sewer collection system throughout the city of Gates.
- Connect individual users to the sewer system and decommission septic tanks.

Marion County has committed \$7.5 million to the project and Linn County has committed \$3.31 million.

Once completed, Mill City will take over ownership and operation of the new facility.



Staff from Marion County and Linn County met May 3 at the Linn County Courthouse to talk about the North Santiam Canyon Sewer Project.

Meeting topics included reviewing the project components, status of property acquisition, the permitting process, financial status and project agreements. The project's completion target date is late 2026.

To learn more about the North Santiam Canyon Sewer Project, visit:

<https://www.co.marion.or.us/CS/EconomicDevelopment/Pages/North-Santiam-Joint-Wastewater-Project.aspx>



Samaritan Health, Santiam Hospital examining possible merger

CORVALLIS – Samaritan Health Services and Santiam Hospital & Clinics announced May 22 their plan to pursue formal affiliation.

The organizations have signed a non-binding letter of intent (LOI) to allow the parties to further evaluate the affiliation with the anticipated outcome of Santiam Hospital & Clinics becoming part of Samaritan Health Services.

“We are excited about working more closely with the team at Santiam Hospital & Clinics as we move into this next phase of our collaboration,” said Doug Boysen, president and chief executive officer of Samaritan Health Services. “Throughout our discussions, it has been clear that the alignment of our organizations – our missions, values and culture – positions us well to strengthen services across the region for those in our communities.”

“We are focused on serving our respective communities and learning from each other. Our shared strengths position us well for continued vitality so we both remain long-lasting institutions,” said Maggie Hudson, president and chief executive officer of Santiam Hospital & Clinics.

“Looking toward this process, I’m driven by the relationships we are forging between our organizations, leaders and clinicians in order to better serve our communities.”



Doug Boysen
CEO Samaritan Health Services

As nonprofit, community-based health systems with similar missions, visions, values and cultures, both organizations share a commitment to keeping services local. Joining together through affiliation would strengthen both organizations through increased access to services, improving health equity and enhancing services provided to communities throughout the mid-Willamette Valley and central Oregon coast regions.

“The health care industry is evolving, and we believe that this



Maggie Hudson
CEO of Santiam Hospital

affiliation will ensure that Samaritan Health Services and Santiam Hospital & Clinics both remain sustainable, strong institutions, providing access to quality health care,” Boysen said.

The organizations are committed to maintaining local governance and leadership and retaining existing staff and clinicians.

“To fulfill our mission, we will need the contributions of our talented and dedicated staff and clinicians; and we know that bringing together exper-

tise from both systems will enhance our respective operations and services,” Hudson said. Samaritan Health Services and Santiam Hospital & Clinics will work toward coming to terms on a definitive agreement in the coming months. The affiliation may be subject to regulatory review.

Samaritan Health Services is a nonprofit regional health system that brings together five community hospitals, more than 100 physician clinics and multiple health insurance plans to serve more than 290,000 residents in Oregon’s Benton, Lincoln and Linn counties.

Samaritan employs more than 6,000 workers, including 620 clinicians, and is governed by a volunteer board, which includes community members, physicians and hospital leaders.

Santiam Hospital & Clinics is also a nonprofit health care organization, governed by a volunteer board of directors. Santiam Hospital & Clinics is comprised of an independent, acute-care hospital in Stayton, operating 11 clinics serving the Santiam Canyon in Marion and Linn counties.

Santiam Hospital & Clinics serves more than 40,000 residents and employs more than 600 staff, including 70 medical staff who are committed to excellence in community-based care.



It's always a good time and good eating when the Linn County Juvenile Department celebrates Cinco de Mayo in conjunction with its annual May staff meeting. Probation Officer Tencha Serna and Juvenile Director Torri Lynn whip up a grand feast. This year's event included a delicious Mihojas Cake baked by Albany's Yuly's Bakery.



Play Ball — Celebrating a few Yogi-isms!

“This is like déjà vu all over again”

“You can observe a lot just by watching.”

“He must have made that before he died.”

“I want to thank you for making this day necessary.”

“I’d find the fellow who lost it, and if he was poor, I’d return it.”

“I knew I was going to take the wrong turn, so I left early.”

“If you can’t imitate him, don’t copy him.”

“You better cut that pizza in four pieces, because I’m not hungry enough to eat six.”

“Baseball is 90% mental and the other half is physical.”

“It was impossible to get a conversation going; everybody was talking too much.”

“Slump? I aint in no slump, I just aint hitting.”

“A nickel isn’t worth a dime today.”

“I made a wrong mistake.”

“Nobody goes there anymore; it’s too crowded.”

“It gets late early out here.”

“If you come to a fork in the road, take it.”

“Thanks, you don’t look so hot yourself.”

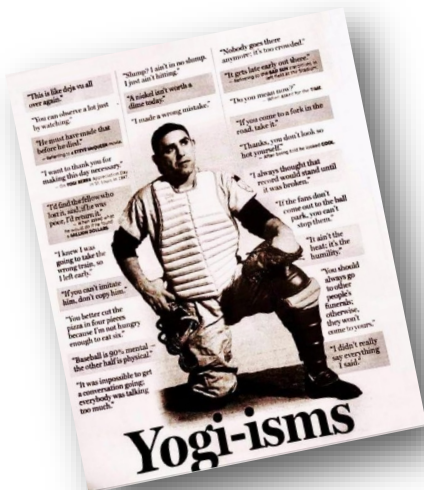
“I always thought that record would stand until it was broken.”

“If he fans don’t come out to the ball park, you can’t stop them.”

“It aint the heat, it’s the humidity.”

“You should always go to other people’s funerals, otherwise they won’t come to yours.”

“I didn’t really say everything I said.”



By Alex Paul
Linn County Reporter

ALBANY — It’s baseball season, the weather is warming up, farm crops smell terrific and life is good in the mid-valley.

I’ve been a New York Yankees baseball fan since I was seven years old. I can still remember the day I saw a photo of baseball legends Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris on the cover of a sports magazine at our little Iowa town’s grocery store. I was hooked.

I know there are Yankees haters everywhere, but no boos please. I actually like all Major League teams, especially the Kansas City Royals, my “hometown” team. Shoot, I used to also root for the Boston Red Sox — supposedly the Yankees’ arch enemies — because I admired the hitting power of Carl Carl Yastrzemski.

Although the Yankees have had many world-class players, my favorite is catcher Yogi Berra. First of all, he was Italian. Second of all, he was a superb player both behind the plate, which is the same position as I played in Little League, Babe Ruth and high school and at bat.

Try catching a double-header in 90-degree heat with Midwest humidity and you will understand why I admire a guy like Yogi.

People remember him for his funny sayings — called Yogi-isms — but Yogi was first and foremost a tremendous player. He appeared in 14 World Series — including 10 championships. He held numerous World Series records and was an All-Star 15 seasons. He was selected as the American League MVP three times and he caught Don Larsen’s perfect game in the 1956 World Series.

He was an outstanding hitter at the plate, striking out only 12 times in 597 at-bats in 1950.

Behind the plate, he played 88 errorless games in 1958 and in 1962 at age 37, he caught a 22-inning, seven-hour game against the Detroit Tigers. In today’s game, he would be a multi-million dollar player.

So, with all that said, I thought folks might enjoy a few “Yogi-isms”.

You have to admit they are funny, even if you don’t bleed New York Yankees blue.

And, as always, Go Yankees!



Spreading the word about First-Time Youth Wage Grants

Courtney Leland spent some time working with radio personality Scott Schuler at KRKT radio May 8. The two talked about Linn County's First-Time Youth Wage Grant program, now in its 18th year. The Board of Commissioners dedicate Video Lottery funds to provide a \$3 per hour subsidy to area businesses that give youth, ages 14-19, summer jobs.



WANTED

JOBS

\$3 per hour subsidy
First-Time Youth Wage Grant

Linn County
Board of Commissioners
Call 541-967-3825 or visit:
[www.linncountyor.gov/businessdevelopment/
page/youth-wage-grant](http://www.linncountyor.gov/businessdevelopment/page/youth-wage-grant)

Call the Linn County Board of Commissioners at 541-967-3825.



Young students get their day in court



Students from North Albany Elementary School got a hands-on opportunity to learn how the judicial system works on May 10 by portraying parties in a mock trial in Judge Keith Stein's court. The young folks acted as lawyers, jury members, judge, bailiff and more in a dog napping case. The tour included three groups of students and was set up by County Treasurer Michelle Hawkins.



Above: New Linn County Budget Committee member Rex Watson asks a question during public hearings in early May. The approved budget of about \$240 million must be "adopted" by the Board of Commissioners at its June 25 meeting to become official.

Right: Public Health Director Todd Noble outlines his proposed \$62 million 2024-25 budget.



Linn Budget Committee OKs \$240 million budget

ALBANY — The Linn County Budget Committee wrapped up three days of budget hearing deliberations, Thursday, May 2, approving a budget of \$240,931,151 for FY 2024-25.

The budget does not become official until it is "adopted" by the Board of Commissioners at its June 25 meeting. Members of the Budget Committee are chair, Jennifer Stanaway; vice-chair, Kerry Johnson; Rex Watson and Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker.

Individual funds approved Thursday included: **General Fund**, \$51,921,913; **Road Fund**, \$34,287,711; **Fair Fund**, \$705,100; **Law Library**, \$346,075; **General Grants Fund**, \$19,998,569; **Bicycle and Pedestrian Fund**, \$563,853; **Corner Preservation Fund**, \$371,213; **Law Enforcement Levy Fund**, \$49,973,268; **Historical Fund**, \$49,326; **County Forest Park**

Fund, \$1,359,279; **Health Fund**, \$76,753,694; **County School Fund**, \$1,966,100; **Federal Forest Title III/Restricted Fund**, \$420,000; **Initial Service Fund**, \$2,215,050; **Total**: \$240,931,050.

The current operating budget for FY 2023-24 is **General Fund**, \$52,054,069; **Road Fund**, \$31,814,204; **Fair Fund**, \$686,600; **Law Library**, \$360,651; **General Grants Fund**, \$31,515,265; **Bicycle and Pedestrian Fund**, \$408,468; **Corner Preservation Fund**, \$413,645; **Law Enforcement Levy**, \$44,140,211; **Historical Fund**, \$37,497; **County Forest Park Fund**, \$923,500; **Health Fund**, \$62,315,292; **County School Fund**, \$1,966,100; **Federal Forest Title III/Restricted Fund**, \$420,000; **Internal Service Fund**, \$2,215,050. **Total**: \$229,270,552.

The permanent tax rate per \$1,000 of property valuation was approved at \$1.2736 and the Law Enforcement Levy of \$2.98 was also approved. Both are status quo.



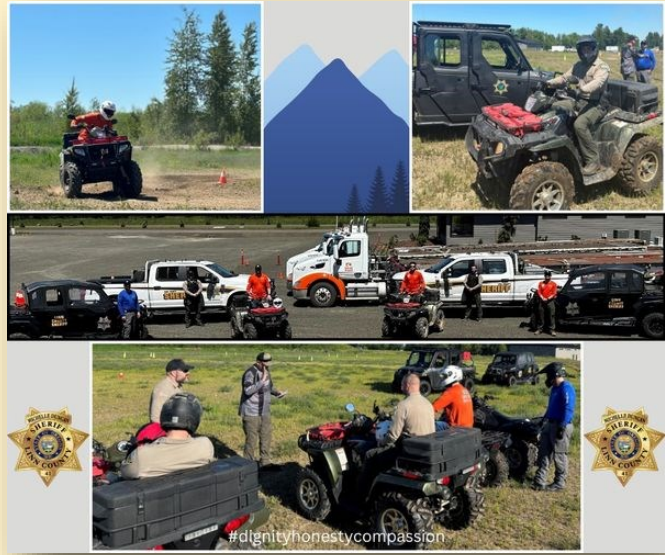
Happy birthday, Michelle!

Look who had a birthday May 20 -- Linn County Treasurer Michelle Hawkins. How many? Double 6s and she's proud of it.



4-H Fair weigh-ins

It looks like it's going to be a busy Linn County 4-H fair after livestock weigh-ins ended up with the following tallies: 64 exhibitors with 77 goats; 118 exhibitors with 146 lambs; 143 exhibitors with 202 hogs; 56 exhibitors with 62 steers; and 45 exhibitors with small animals.



ATV training for LCSO mountain patrols

May 11, members of the Linn County Sheriff's Office Mountain Patrol team and the Linn County Sheriff's Search and Rescue team conducted Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) training! OHV encompasses 4-wheelers, side-by-sides and several other types of all-terrain vehicles.

The LCSO uses 4-wheelers and side-by-sides to help on search and rescue missions, as well as conducting OHV enforcement patrols on the beautiful forest lands of Linn County.

As the summer recreation season begins, Sheriff Michelle Duncan reminds all Linn County OHV riders, and visitors traveling to Linn County to recreate, to carry their ATV Safety Card and make sure your ATV Operating Permit is valid for 2024 (if riding in public lands). The dollars collected from the sale of the ATV Operating Permits are used by Oregon State Parks to fund OHV education programs and improvements to OHV riding areas.

An appropriately fitting motorcycle helmet should be worn anytime you're riding, and is required for anyone under 18 years of age operating or riding an ATV in Oregon.

Also, just like a car, drugs and alcohol never mix with OHVs (yes, you can get a DUI on a 4-wheeler)!

You can learn more about Oregon's OHV rules and regulations at <https://buff.ly/3WM9DXi>.

Big thanks to our friends at the Benton County Sheriff's Office for helping instruct the training, and the Knife River Training Center for allowing us to use their facility.

Linn County Veterans Services has partnered with Quality Medical Transportation. They are offering Linn County Veterans free transportation to any VA or Non-VA medical facilities within Oregon. This Funding for transportation was received through grants, which were awarded from ODVA and ODOT. Transportation may be limited due to the amount of funds Linn County Veterans Services receives each month and the availability of Quality Medical. Please call to schedule your ride, and allow a minimum of 72 hours' notice prior to your appointment.

FREE VETERANS MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION



TRANSPORTATION FOR LINN COUNTY VETERANS

TRANSPORTATION IS AVAILABLE FOR ANY VA OR NON-VA MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

PLEASE CALL LINN COUNTY VETERANS SERVICES NOW TO SCHEDULE YOUR RIDE.

Call our office at 541-967-3882

PO BOX 100, ALBANY OR 97321

IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW, WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE SERVICE TO ANYONE



Carriage Me Back to 1894

Visitors took a ride back in time May 4-5 during the annual Carriage Me Back weekend in Brownsville. This year's theme was 1894, as the community was welcoming new businesses. There are two new hotels and train is coming round twice a day.

The annual event is a fund raiser for the Albany Historical Museum and the Moyer House, both of which are operated by the Linn County Parks & Recreation Department.



County appoints Veterans Remains Coordinator

ALBANY — Linn County Veterans Services Officer Dee Baley-Hyder will now also serve as the county's Veterans Remains Coordinator, Commissioners Roger Nyquist and Sherrie Sprenger agreed Tuesday morning.

Commissioner Tucker was not present.

The action was taken to comply with state law requiring each county to designate a Veterans Remains Coordinator whose duties include identifying unclaimed cremated remains in consultation with the local veterans services officer, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, a national cemetery administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Social Security Administration.

Baley-Hyder will be responsible for ensuring the veteran is eligible and assist in seeing that person's remains are interned at a national cemetery administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Nationally, there are an estimated 11,000 to as many as 50,000 unclaimed veterans remains annually.



Happy birthday, Lynne!

Linn County Public Health Communicable Disease Nursing Supervisor Lynne Rogers celebrated her 50th birthday on May 22, 2024. The CD team, including Cassie Aquilar, along with Maternal Child Health, WIC, and the Health Promotions teams surprised Lynne on Wednesday, May 29th, with a potluck lunch. (Photo by Dani Crab-



Above: Tobacco Prevention Coordinator Dani Crabtree (bottom left) provides tobacco education materials to the Junior Strawberry Princesses at the Lebanon Sources of Strength Resource Fair. (Photo by Anita de Anda/Health Promotions Supervisor)

Linn County staff participate in Sources of Strength Resource Fair

On Wednesday, May 15, the Boys and Girls Club of Lebanon hosted the third annual Sources of Strength Resource Fair.

The event is organized by the Lebanon School District Welcome Center to bring community services together for students, families, and community members. This year's event was promoted as tobacco and vape-free to help raise awareness of the impacts that harmful tobacco continues to have on residents of Linn County.

The Linn County Alcohol & Drug Program Youth Treatment/Early Intervention and Linn Together, WIC program, and Communicable Disease teams also provided information on prevention and local programs that support Linn County residents.



Public Health Nurse Cassie Aquilar flexes for the ice cream provided to attendees at the Lebanon Sources of Strength Health Fair. (Photo by Anita de Anda/Health Promotions Supervisor)



Tobacco Prevention Coordinator Dani Crabtree shares posters, stickers, and information from the Imagine Oregon campaign, which encourages Oregonians to envision a state without the harmful impacts of tobacco. (Photo by Serena Stearns-Garland/WIC Dietitian)



From left to right, Cassie Aquilar, public health nurse; Mandi Funk, nutrition educator; Lynne Rogers, Communicable Disease team supervisor; and Serena Stearns-Garland, WIC Dietitian, engage youth with the spinning wheel featuring healthy food choices. Aquilar and Rogers, who are on the Communicable Disease team, also provided information to parents on childhood vaccinations (Photo by Anita de Anda/Health Promotions Supervisor)

May is Historic Preservation Month ...

Julia Fox crafts Linn County history story map

By Alex Paul
Linn County Reporter

ALBANY — If dozens of Linn County residents from Mill City to Albany to Sweet Home hadn't banded together in the 1980s and 1990s to save old homes, churches, business buildings and covered bridges, the county's rich list of historic places may not exist today, Associate Planner Julia Fox learned as she pored over reams of records kept by the Historic Resource Commission.



lot of archival material that was compiled by the Historic Resource Commission," Fox said. "We met in April, including a representative from the city of Albany's Historic Resource Commission and we wanted to do something to celebrate Historic Preservation Month, which is May."

Fox said the group decided a fitting theme would be celebrating the history of historic

preservation itself.

"The people from the 1980s and 90s kept really good notes and there was a lot going on," Fox said.

Fox said a pleasant event for her here was finding a photograph of Mary Gallagher, a member of the Historic Resource Commission in the 1990s, who was her supervisor when she worked as a student intern at the Benton County Museum.

"It's amazing how much could have been lost 40 years ago if people hadn't stepped up to save things," Fox said. "Communities rallied together."

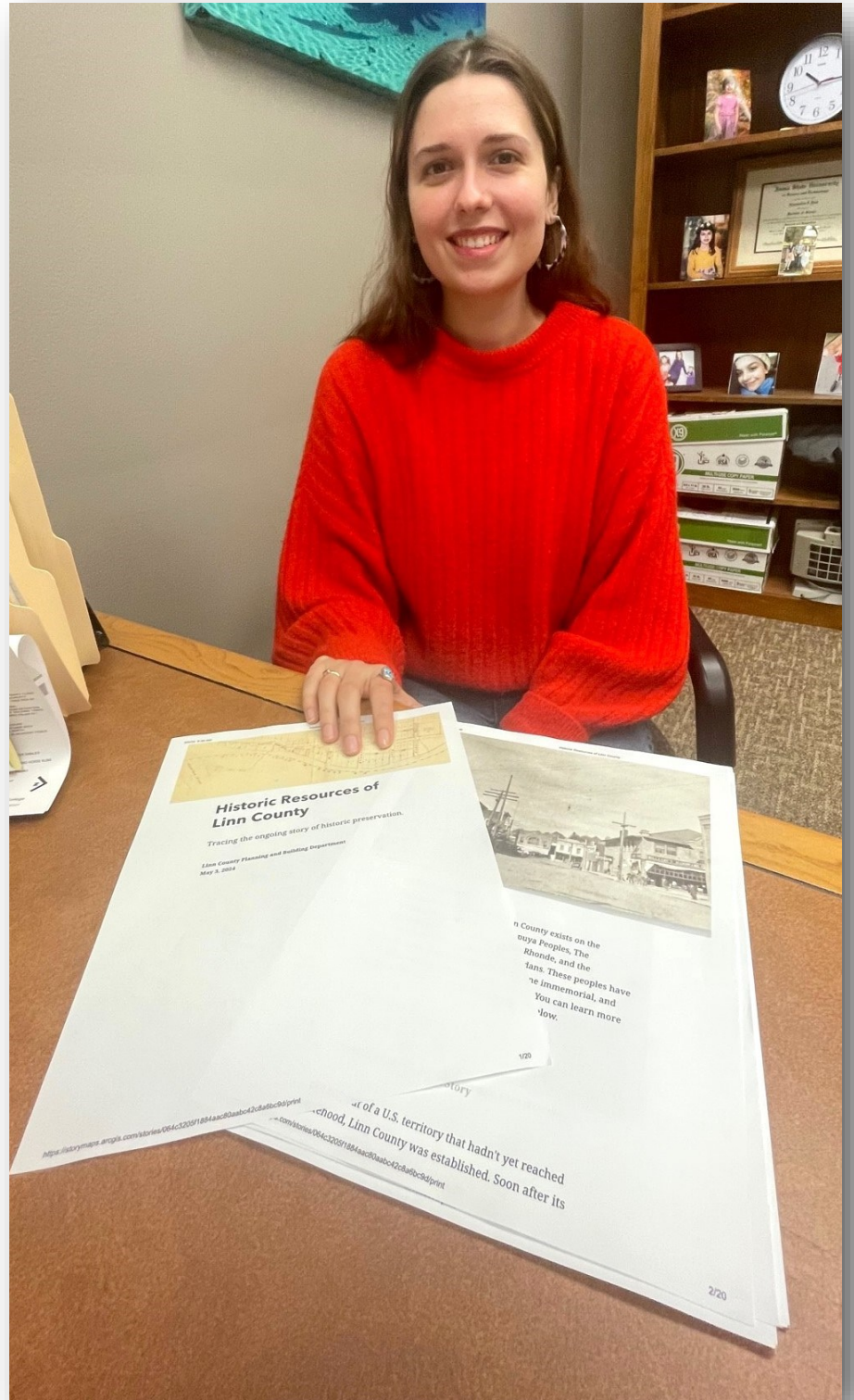
Fox's work starts with an acknowledgement that Linn County was once the homeland of the Kalapuya Peoples and it has grown from the county's founding in 1847.

Fox has compiled a history of that group and of the many people who have helped save local landmarks and architectural treasures into a story map program available at the Linn County Planning & Building page on the Linn County website at:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/064c3205f1884aac80aac42c8a6bc9d>.

Fox said that in addition to the interesting stories she found, she hopes the document acts as a recruiting tool to help fill three open positions on the county's Historic Resource Commission that is charged with maintaining an inventory of historic resources, reviewing applications for alterations to historic structures, increasing public awareness of historic resources and coordinating historic preservation activities with public agencies and citizen groups.

"We are fortunate that there is a



Julia Fox said previous members of the Historic Resource Commission aided her work in developing the Linn County History story map.

She weaves maps and old photographs into her written history

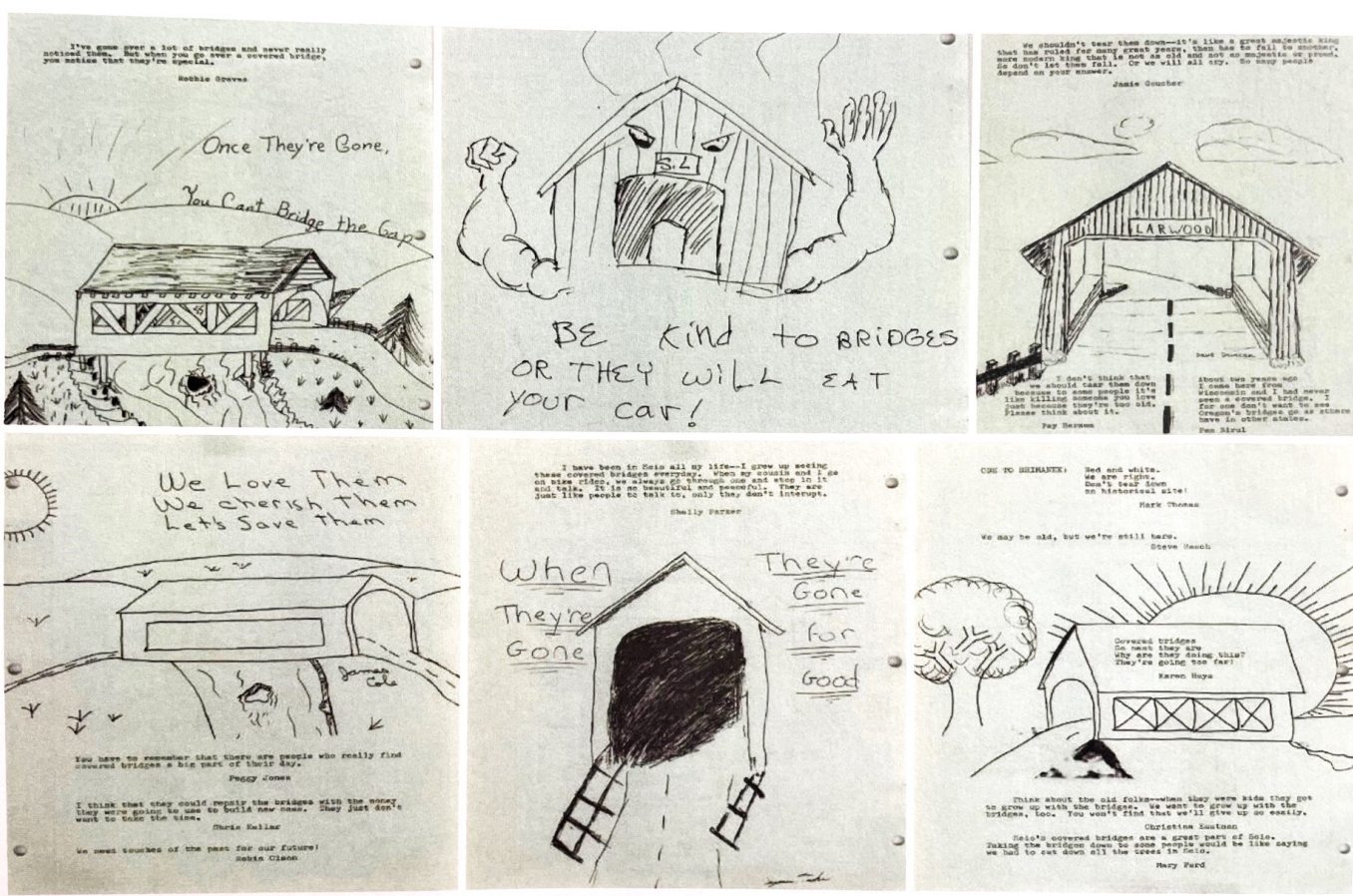
of the county, including information about settlements that no longer exist, such as the town of Orleans south of Albany, that was washed away by flooding in 1862, just 12 years after its formation.

There was much growth in the 1870s to 1890s, Fox noted and the invention of the automobile and creation of Highway 20 were major events leading to growth of the valley.

Preservation of local buildings actually began in the 1950s, Fox noted, Congress passed the National Historic Preservation Act in 1966 and Oregon took preservation a step further in the 1970s with adoption of Statewide Planning Goals.

Fox said one of her favorite anecdotes in the document includes copies of drawings by Scio school children as the county began its efforts to save its many covered bridges.

A booklet of their drawings was compiled in 1980 by a group called the Scio Bridge Brigade.



SATURDAY

Today, as before, we start with a prayer at sunrise; camp opens at 10 a.m. and the Meet & Greet will be from 10-10:30 a.m.

Craft Class from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Native American Traditional Dancing Demonstration and Information 1-3 p.m.
Beautiful bright colors moving in the breeze, feather flowing in the air, the heartbeat of Mother Earth, voices singing a song for everyone to dance to and prayers in each step.

Evening Prayer
Please join us in prayer after we have finished daily presentation.

Sunday

Morning Prayer: We start the day at 6 a.m. with a prayer at sunrise. You may join us if you wish. Camp will open with a meet and greet from 10 -10:30 a.m.

Native American Traditional Dancing Demonstration & Information 1-3 p.m.
Dance demonstration and information about our dance regalia and meaning of the dancing. We will also answer questions and are happy to share our dancing traditions with you.



JOHN LAVERTY

August 3, 1958 to August 14, 2023

Thank You Feast 5-7 p.m.

We welcome all of our new friends with a feast to thank everyone for coming and sharing our culture and traditions. We thank all those who helped us with everything. We hope you enjoyed yourselves. Hiya Masi (Thank You)

Ending Prayer
We thank the Creator for everything and everyone who has come to share with us and all those who have helped us. Blessing to all.

Hiya Masi — Thank You
We wish to thank our friends at Linn County Parks & Recreation for bringing us back this year, the Park Rangers for everything they have done for us and all of the help needed to bring these encampments together.

Contact Information
You can reach Deitz Peters/Cultural Encampment Director/Cultural instructor at: petersdeitz@gmail.com and at naculturalencampment.org and the Linn County Parks web page.

Also: Kathy Keating-Peters Non-Profit information Liaison.

Native + American + Cultural + Encampments



Brought to you by Linn County Parks & Recreation
Open to the public

Hello everyone, we invite you to our home away from home and hope you will have a great time learning about our culture, heritage and traditions and to share with you our native ways. We always end our weekend with a feast on Sunday afternoon. We hope you will enjoy your time with us.
Hiya Masi (Thank You)

Cultural Encampments 2024

June 28-30: Roaring River County Park
July 19-21: Waterloo County Park
August 23-25: Cascadia County Park

naculturalencampment.org/

What is a cultural encampment?
Cultural encampment is a group of Native Americans from different parts of the United States coming together, making village-type settings with tipis and tents. We share our individual cultures and traditional information with the community. Many moons ago, traveling through an area, you might see groups of tipis or tents for a short time in each area. They were there to gather together, trade or meet family members and to celebrate life by having a big feast and sharing food with one another as they traveled from one area to another. Come see what we have to offer.

A little bit about us.
We are a group of Native Americans with different backgrounds from different tribes in the U.S. We have come here to share with you our culture and traditions. We are working to enlarge our group and add more interested tribal people so we are always reaching out to many different indigenous groups around the U.S. to bring more information about native culture from all over the U.S. to share with the community. You can ask questions about us and we will answer the best way we can with the knowledge that has been passed down to us. We have brought to you



some of our history of our people and their journey through this area they traveled many years ago — trading, gathering, fishing and hunting.

At each encampment, there will be an agenda posted at the entryway to our village. There you will find dates and time of each event happening Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Please come in and visit and talk with us.

FRIDAY

Morning Prayer
We always start each day with a morning prayer. If you are up before the sun you may join us at our camp. A prayer is a good way to greet the day and make sure that the day goes smoothly and to ask our Creator/Great Spirit to

bless the grounds we are on and everyone who may visit and thank him for our blessings. Usually, we start at sunrise with the prayer and to catch the first rays of the sun when it touches our camp area about 5:30 or 6 a.m. When the prayer is finished we usually start a campfire and cook breakfast.

We will open the village at 10 a.m. Friday through Sunday

Meet & Greet 10-10:30 a.m.
It is important for us to introduce ourselves and welcome you to our camp, answer questions that you might have. We will do this every day of the encampment. We will have things on display and items for sale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Please come and see what there is for offer. Each encampment will have its own craft class you can participate in. Instructors will help you complete your craft item before you leave each day. Class times are from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Storytelling & Flute Music: 4-6 p.m.
We start with a flute song, then storytelling and we combine the two as we go along. We also answer questions about stories and our music at this time. When the last story is told, we thank you for coming to listen to us.

Evening Prayer
After we are finished with the stories and music, we finish with a prayer to end the day. We thank everyone for coming and remind them of the next day's events.

naculturalencampment.org/

District Attorney's Office receives military support award

By Alex Paul

Linn County Reporter

ALBANY — Linn County District Attorney Doug Marteeny knows when he hires someone with a military background, they bring with them a unique set of talents that reach beyond being a good attorney.

Marteeny said they know how to work as a team and are committed to completing their assignments.

Thursday, Marteeny and Senior Deputy District Attorney Richard Wijers received a Patriot's Award from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve program, Oregon Army National Guard.

The awards were presented by Greg Malkasian, ESGR Volunteer Management Coordinator and Craig Frangente, ESGR Employer Outreach Coordinator.

The award stems from Marteeny and Wijers' support for Deputy District Attorney Jace Cook, who also serves as a captain in the Oregon National Guard and will soon deploy for several months of training and then a nine-month tour of duty at Camp Bondsteel, a NATO base in Kosovo, Serbia.

Cook said Marteeny has been extremely supportive of his role in the National Guard and with his upcoming service overseas. Marteeny has assured Cook his job will be waiting for him when he returns stateside.

"More than 40% of today's military is composed of members of the Guard and Reserve," Malkasian said. "It is a cost-effective way to protect our country."

But, Malkasian added, such service requires the support of employers. He added that although it is the law that employers accommodate military personnel, not everyone is as supportive as others.

"Captain Cook is confident he will have a job when he gets back and that allows him to be more effective in his mission," Malkasian said.

Cook thanked Marteeny and Wijers and said it is an honor to work in an office that is committed to excellence. He said he definitely plans to return to his old job after his deployment.

(A story about Cook will appear in the July Linn County Reporter.)

"Employees with military experience are job ready," Marteeny said.

ESGR is a Department of Defense office that was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component Service members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment.



Pictured left to right: Craig Frangente, ESGR Employer Outreach Coordinator; Amanda Cook, Jace Cook, District Attorney Doug Marteeny, Deputy District Attorney Richard Wijers and Greg Malkasian, ESGR Volunteer Management Coordinator.

Right: DA Marteeny signs pledge supporting the ESGR program.



ESGR is supported by a network of nearly 2,300 volunteers in 54 committees located across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam-CNMI (Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Volunteers, hailing from small business and industry, government, education, and prior military service bring a vast wealth of experience to assist in serving employers, Service members, and their families. Together with Headquarters ESGR staff and a small cadre of support staff for each State Committee, volunteers work to promote and enhance employer support for military service in the Guard and Reserve.

ESGR has served our country for more than 50 years, fostering a culture in which all employers support and value the employment and military service of members of the National Guard and Reserve in the United

States. These citizen warriors could not defend and protect us at home and abroad without the continued promise of meaningful civilian employment for themselves and their families. ESGR has continued to adapt to meet the needs of Reserve Component members, their families, and America's employers by joining

forces with a network of other national, state, and local government and professional trade organizations. Together, We All Serve!

Learn more about us here: <https://www.dvidshub.net/video/766889/esgr-mission-video>

Preparing now for summer wildfire season

As we enter the beginning of wildfire season it's crucial to be prepared, says Ric Lentz, Emergency Manager/SAR Coordinator with the Linn County Sheriff's Office.

Here are a few key steps you can take to prepare for wildfires:

- **Develop an Emergency Plan:** Make sure everyone in your household knows what to do in case of a wildfire. Establish evacuation routes and designate meeting points.
- **Assemble a Disaster Kit:** Pack essential items such as water, non-perishable food, medications, important documents, and first aid supplies. Keep this kit in an easily accessible location.
- **Create Defensible Space:** Clear away dry leaves, branches, and other flammable materials from around your home. Maintain a buffer zone of at least 30 feet around structures.
- **Support your local Fire Safe Council and Firewise Community:** Get involved in wildfire preparedness initiatives, such as neighborhood clean-up events or fire safety workshops.



Thursday morning three members with Servpro of Linn County loaded three shelving trailers to be permanently placed in Mill City, Sweet Home and Harrisburg. Pictured from left to right: Gregg Phillipsen, Corey Perrigan and Kevin Fandrem.

"By taking these proactive measures, you can help protect yourself, your family, and your community from the devastating impacts of wildfires," Lentz said. "Remember, preparedness is key to resilience. Let's work together to ensure that we are all ready to face the challenges of wildfire season."

For more info visit: <https://www.linnsheriff.org/community-resources/emergency-preparedness/>