



# Sheriff's Mounted Posse to celebrate 75th Nov. 6

By Alex Paul

Linn County Reporter

**A**LBANY — The Linn County Sheriff's Mounted Posse has searched for lost hunters and hikers, hosted riding events for special needs children and assisted Linn County sheriffs in many ways since 1947 and November 6 the public is invited to help celebrate the all-volunteer organization's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The celebration will be held from 1-4 p.m. at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center, according to Posse Secretary Betty Allen.

Allen has been busy compiling photo collages of Posse events including photographs and numerous newspaper clippings.

There's even a photo of former President Ronald Reagan riding with the Posse in a parade when he was governor of California.

"We have about 25 active members and meet the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Sheriff's Office," Allen said. "We have ride nights from 6-9 p.m. on Wednesday at the fairgrounds." Allen said dues are \$30 per year, unless you are a Lifetime Member, someone who has been a member for 25 years or is age 65 with 10 years membership,



Linn County Sheriff's Mounted Posse Secretary Betty Allen, left, and 1st Lieutenant Marcia Melin, hold some of the many pieces of memorabilia that will be on display at a 75th anniversary celebration on Nov. 6 at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center.

who have no dues.

"We are all volunteers who just want to give back to our communities," Allen said. "And, we love horses."

Allen said the Mounted Posse was formed in 1947 by Sheriff Hillis A. "Mike" Southard, the 33<sup>rd</sup> Linn County

Sheriff.

Mounted Posse members are sworn deputies and are one of only two posses in the state authorized to carry firearms.

Allen said the Mounted Posse has evolved and provides services such as

security at area events including the Linn County Fair, the Harrisburg Harvest Festival, Scio Lamb and Wool Festival, dog shows, gun shows and working with Linn County Search and Rescue to find

**MOUNTED POSSE ... See P. 6**

# Commissioners support high-speed Internet project

**A**LBANY — Linn County residents — especially those who live in rural areas of the county — could benefit from faster Internet service, IT Director Steve Braaten told Commissioners Roger Nyquist and Sherrie Sprenger Tuesday morning.

Commissioner Will Tucker is on vacation.

Braaten asked the commissioners to approve an intergovernmental agreement with the Cascades West Council of Governments in conjunction with Lincoln and Benton counties to explore broadband options that would greatly increase Internet speeds for area residents.

Lane County had been another program partner, but has pulled out of the agreement.

Braaten said Linn County will pay \$10,000, Benton County \$16,000 and Lincoln County \$15,800. The Council of Governments will contribute \$18,200. The \$60,000 will be used toward a grant application for \$300,000.

Commissioner Nyquist said he was concerned because there has been talk about increasing faster Internet access for years, with little progress.

Braaten said the good news is that there is money available to support faster Internet services to rural areas and the installation of fiber optic data lines.

Braaten said Linn County is part of a statewide coalition encouraging rural residents to check their Internet's speed. Braaten said some communities in the county have had good participation, but others have seen only a couple residents respond.



Linn County IT Director Steve Braaten and Commissioner Sherrie Sprenger talk about high-speed Internet services and how to improve them.

The information will be used to develop overarching Internet systems. Linn County residents can participate by visiting <https://www.fasterinternetoregon.org/>.



# Pine education project comes to life at Sunnyside Park

By Larry Mauter

For the Linn County Reporter

**S**WEET HOME — A Ponderosa pine education project at Sunnyside Park featuring local history was dedicated Saturday, Oct. 15.

Double-sided interpretive panels explain the history and rebound of the Willamette Valley Ponderosa pine — a separate race of pines from those growing in Eastern Oregon or in the south. Along with the covered signs, a grove of 60 young pines was planted in March 2021.

Also featured in the panels is the story of Robert H. Mealey, a forester who was part of a pioneering Sweet Home family. Mealey established the Linn County chapter of the Oregon Small Woodlands Association. Before he died he also established an investment fund to promote forestry education on small timberlands. Mealey's son Steve and many individuals who worked with Mealey in his efforts to revitalize the native pines attended the morning gathering.

Parks Director Brian Carroll represented

Linn County at the event. Carroll coordinated the county effort in securing a suitable site at the park for the LCSWA project. He was thanked for the efforts of county park staff.

About 40 people attended. Those who spoke recalled the efforts of Mealey — then an elderly man — climbing trees to gather seeds from the few native pines still in the area in the 1980s. Among the speakers were Rick Fletcher, a former OSU Extension Service adviser who worked extensively with Mealey.

LCSWA Vice-President Mike Barsotti explained the importance of pine as climate has warmed and also noted Mealey's role in establishing the Willamette Valley Ponderosa Pine Conservation Association in 1994. Content for the signs, the locally grown and milled pine support timbers and assembling the framed cover was furnished by LCSWA volunteers.

The LCSWA also served morning pastries and coffee. A box of 50 Ponderosa pine plugs was available for people to take home and plant a tree or two. The pine grove and signs are located adjacent to a parking lot along Quartzville Road just past the main entrance to Sunnyside Park.

LCSWA is a non-profit group of about 110 families. The group's annual seedling sale earns money to provide scholarships to Oregon State forestry students living in Linn County.

*Right: At the close of the Oct. 15 dedication, donated Ponderosa pine plugs were available for those who wanted them.*

Photos courtesy Larry Mauter.



LCSWA member Jim Merzenich, left, and Steve Mealey talk Saturday, Oct. 15. Steve's father Robert H. Mealey is featured in the pine restoration story that is part of the forestry education effort.



## Linn County Board of Commissioners

Roger Nyquist



Sherrie Sprenger



Will Tucker



Call 541-967-3825



Parks Director Brian Carroll, left, represented Linn County at the dedication. He listens as Rick Fletcher, a retired OSU Extension Service advisor, relates a Bob Mealey story.



# Thank You

# Veterans!

Especially our Linn County staff who served

**Terry Beckett**

Linn County Mental Health  
U.S. Air Force  
1982-1986  
Rank: Sergeant  
--



**Christopher Bonn**

Chief Cartographer  
Assessment & Taxation Office  
U.S. Navy, 1980-1984  
Army National Guard, 1986-1990  
Air Force Reserve, 1990-2007  
Army National Guard, 2007-2008  
Rank: Sergeant 1<sup>st</sup> Class (E-7 SFC)  
--

**Mike Brant**

Road Dept. Fleet Maintenance  
U.S. Navy Seabees  
Construction Mechanic CM2 (E5)  
1987-1993  
--



**Judy Burke**

Administrative Assistant  
Health Administration

U.S. Army

1983-1986  
Rank: Specialist 4  
--

**Mike Chiaffino**

Road Department  
US Navy  
1995-1999  
Operations Specialist  
Petty Officer 3rd Class

**Steven Church**

Senior Patrol Deputy  
Linn County Sheriff's Office  
U.S. Army Military Police  
1988-1990  
--

**Drew Crockett**

Juvenile Work Program Officer 2

U.S. Army

1993-1997  
Rank: Specialist  
--

**Ron Daniels**

Linn County Sheriff's Office  
U.S. Army infantry  
1976-1980  
Rank: Corporal  
--

**Keely Driggs**

Linn County Alcohol and Drug  
U.S. Army  
1980-1984  
Oregon Army National Guard  
2014-2018  
--

**Kyle Geraci**

Linn County Sheriff's Office  
U.S. Marine Corps  
2014-2018  
Rank: Sergeant  
--



**Rich Gilbert**

Road Dept. Bridge Crew  
U.S. Army Specialist 4  
1983-1989  
--

**Kiersten Glaeser**

Mobile Crisis Responder  
U.S. Coast Guard  
1990-1995; reserves until 1998  
Rank: Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class  
--

**Kevin Hamilton**

Road Department  
U.S. Navy  
1989-1992  
Rank: Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class  
--



**Rob Kennedy**

Road Dept. Bridge Crew  
U.S. Army Specialist 4  
1995-2001



**Darrin Lane**

Linn County Administrative Officer  
U.S. Army  
1983-1986  
Army National Guard  
1986-2018  
Rank: Sergeant First Class  
--

**Joe Larsen**

Search & Rescue Coordinator  
Marine Corps  
1988-1992  
Rank: Corporal  
--

**Dan Leard**

Road Department (Engineering)  
U.S. Army  
(Artillery Repairman - Vulcan)  
1985-1988  
Rank: Specialist  
Oregon Army National Guards  
(Combat Engineer-Light)  
1991-1993  
Rank: Specialist  
--

**Samuel Macklin**

LCSO Deputy  
U.S. Air Force  
2012-2016  
Rank: Senior Airman  
--

**Robert McKibben**

Veteran Services Officer  
U.S. Navy  
1987-1991  
Rank: E-3

# Thank You Veterans

**Especially our Linn County staff who served**

## Conor McCahill

Deputy District Attorney  
U.S. Air Force  
2011-2019  
Rank: Technical Sergeant E-6

--

## Nichole Piland

Assessment and Taxation Department  
U.S. Navy and Oregon National Guard  
1994-1999  
Rank: E-3

--

## Deputy Jon Raymond

Linn County Sheriff's Office  
U.S. Coast Guard  
1991-1995  
Rank: Third Class Petty Officer

--

## Thomas Reasons

LCSO Corrections Deputy  
Oregon Army National Guard  
1995-2021  
Rank: Master Sergeant Retired

--

## Eric Rice

Veterans Services  
Office Specialist/Event Coordinator  
U.S. Air Force  
2014-2018  
Rank: E-4

--

## Daniel Smith

Alcohol and Drug  
U.S. Army  
1983-1998

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## Rebekah Soriano

Juvenile Crime Victims' Advocate  
United States Marine Corps  
2001-2005  
Rank: E-4

--

## Killian Spicer

Detention Worker II (Linn-Benton Juvenile)  
Oregon Army National Guard  
2011-2017  
Rank: E-4

--

## Brett Tetzlaff

Linn County Parks  
U.S. Marine Corps  
1989-1992  
Rank: Lance Corporal

--

## Geoff Thoma

Mental Health Specialist  
U.S. Army  
2003-2016  
Rank: Sergeant/E-5

--

## Michael Thomas

Developmental Disability  
Services Supervisor  
US Army  
1983-1986  
Rank: E-4

--

## Will Tucker

Linn County Commissioner  
U.S. Navy & Navy Reserve  
1971-1976  
Rank: AW-4

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## Phillip Van Leuven

Deputy County Attorney  
Army National Guard  
1999-2022  
Rank: Captain

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## Jack Wagner

ITS – Application  
Systems Analyst  
U.S. Navy  
1990-1995  
Rank: FT2(SS) E-5

--

## Kathy Wynhausen

IT Database Administrator  
U.S. Air Force  
Senior Airman  
1989 – 1993  
Army National Guard  
1994 – 1995  
Rank: E-4

## Veterans Day concerts planned in Lebanon

LEBANON — The Willamette Valley Concert Band will presents its annual Veterans Day Concert twice at the Lebanon High School auditorium. 1700 S 5th St., Lebanon. The program will last about 90 minutes.

The first performance will be at 7 p.m. on Thursday, November 10 and the second will be at 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 12.

The concert is free and open to the public. Donations are gratefully accepted. The money will be used to defray costs of presenting the program and a portion will go to the Lebanon High School music program.

The band will present a wide selection of music appropriate for marking the annual Veterans Day Commemoration.

The Lebanon High School Choir, directed by Eric Zittel, will join the band and sing *The Star-Spangled Banner*, *Our America*, and *Pride of America: Armed Forces* featuring the official songs of the U.S. Armed Forces. The choir will also sing *Irving Berlin's America* with patriotic songs written by Irving Berlin and accompanied by the band.

Other selections will include *An American Spectacular*, a medley of American patriotic songs from the time of the American Revolutionary War through World War II; *Band of Brothers* featuring music from the sound track of the TV miniseries "Band of Brothers" directed by Steven Spielberg and featuring Tom Hanks as well as traditional marches *Americans We* by Henry Fillmore and *Stars and Stripes Forever* by John Philip Sousa among other songs in the program.

The Willamette Valley Concert Band, a community ensemble based in Albany, was formed in 1970. Its membership includes some 50 musicians ranging from teens to senior citizens, from Benton, Linn, Marion and Polk counties. The band director and assistant director are, respectively John Russell, a professional trombonist who has recently moved to Oregon, and Julie Buchert a long-time band member and retired middle school band and choir director.

Program Announcer will be Terry Deacon, a Lebanon resident and Vietnam veteran who served as a Gunner's Mate in the Tonkin Gulf aboard a fleet oiler.

The concert is part of the Linn County Veterans' Day Celebration. For further information go to [www.wvcband.org](http://www.wvcband.org) and on Facebook.

## Mark your calendars for Friday, November 11, 2022

**The largest Veterans Day Parade west of the Mississippi is back for 2022 with a new sponsoring organization.**

The annual parade begins its march through the streets

of Downtown Albany beginning at 11 a.m.

The parade starts on Pacific Boulevard and comes down the overpass to Downtown Albany on Lyon Street, then turns left onto Second Avenue, journeys to Ferry Street, where it turns left again and heads to the Linn County Courthouse.





**Above:** Linn County Sheriff Michelle Duncan makes a comment during an Oct. 6 debriefing concerning the September windstorm that hit much of the mid-v alley. Power companies pre-empted possible fires caused by downed lines, by turning off electricity in parts of the county.

**AAR Overview**

- When did the incident occur?
- What happened?
- What was the initial response?
- What were the challenges?
- What went well?
- Where can we improve?
- Closing comments.

**Left:** Topics covered during the Oct. 6 debriefing.

**Below:** Linn County emergency services coordinator Erik Anderson and Neva Anderson of the Oregon Health Authority.



## Linn County reviews its outreach during September wind storm

Linn County’s emergency managers had an unusual situation on their hands in early September.

A wind storm was headed toward the mid-valley according to all knowledgeable sources and the two power companies that provide electricity locally — Pacific Power and Consumers Power — planned to shut down services to portions of the county where trees most likely be blown over, perhaps igniting a major fire like that of Labor Day 2020.

And, the winds weren’t expected to arrive for about 48 hours, although the National Weather Service had issued a red flag warning on Wednesday, Sept. 7 with winds forecast for Friday afternoon or evening.

Warnings were issued for Sweet

Home to the north canyon.

Linn County began sending out warnings on the county’s emergency response system and local cities began implementing their own emergency plans.

Pacific Power contracted with private companies to set up emergency shelters in Sweet Home and Stayton and the county’s emergency response volunteers staffed a phone center.

The Sweet Home area was without power from Friday afternoon to Saturday afternoon.

October 6, county staff and a representative from Consumers Power talked about what went well and maybe not so well during a two-hour debriefing session at the Linn County Sheriff’s Office.

The process was led by Emergency Manager Ric Lentz, assisted by Emerson Marsh. Linn County Emergency Management Re-



**Above:** Undersheriff Micah Smith makes a point during the debriefing.

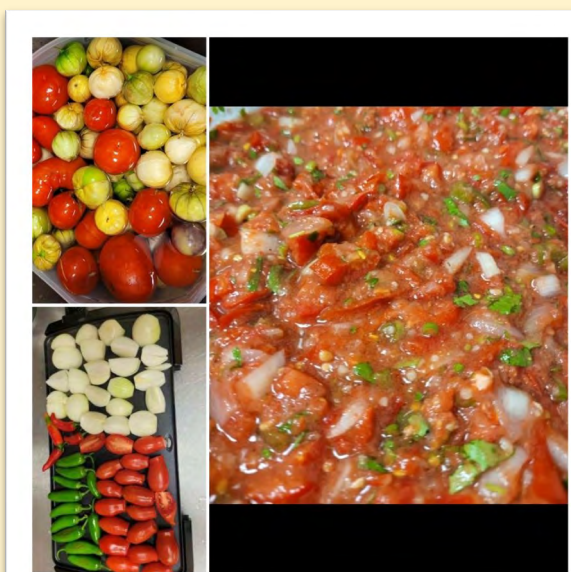
**Right:** Jeff Carlson of Consumers Power.



## Garden to table

Food couldn’t have been any fresher for students at the Linn County Juvenile facility.

The young people have tended a garden all summer and recently used tomatoes other vegetables from it to make fresh salsa.





**Mounted Posse**

*From Page 1*

Festival, dog shows, gun shows and working with Linn County Search and Rescue to find lost hikers, hunters and travelers.

Posse members have even been called upon to carry packs filled with young fish to stock hard to get at high lakes.

Allen said the Posse members supply their own horses, transportation, tack and firearms.

“The Sheriff provides our badges,” Allen said. “We are trained and certified according to standards set by the Oregon State Sheriff’s Association.”

Posse members are trained in First Aid, CPR, GPS navigation, weapons operations, communications and survival.

“All members must maintain a yearly certification for CPR, search and rescue and weapons.

“It’s a great honor to participate in multiple parades throughout the county,” Allen said. “The majority of Linn County is a vast wilderness. The Posse is called out day and night to execute searches, rescues, recoveries and fire evacuations.”

Sheriff Michelle Duncan greatly appreciates the Posse’s dedication to the county and her office in particular.

“The posse always reminds me of the old west shows I watched as a kid, where the sheriff would ‘call up their posse’ whenever they needed help, usually with finding a bad guy or protecting the county,” Sheriff Michelle Duncan said. “Although the posse’s role has changed some, they are still a valuable resource to ‘call up’ for search and rescue, parades and other events. It always amazes me how loyal and dedicated our posse members are to their community and the Sheriff’s Office.”

Duncan added, “Anyone who is familiar with horses knows how expensive they are to maintain and transport, especially with the fuel prices we are seeing today. The Linn County Sheriff’s Office Mounted Posse incur these costs as volunteers. They never complain and always show up. Our members are such wonderful and selfless people. I feel honored to get to know and ride with all of them.”

In 2015, the Posse held a celebration of its 70<sup>th</sup> year and former Sheriff Dave Burright told Albany Democrat-Herald reporter Jennifer Moody that when he told the Posse he wasn’t a “horse guy” there was almost a revolt on his hands. He told the Posse he would drive a Jeep



Betty Allen has been gathering photos and newspaper clippings commemorating the Linn County Sheriff’s Mounted Posse’s 75th anniversary, which will be celebrated Nov. 6 at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center.



Former President Ronald Reagan rode with the Posse when he was governor of California.

in parades and that really touched off a firestorm.

“You would have thought I’d insulted everyone’s mother,” Burright said at the time.

Burright added that Posse members were adamant they weren’t going to see him in a Jeep in parade. They promised to provide him with a horse when needed and they always did.

All are invited to stop by the celebration on Nov. 6 to meet some of the Posse members and learn more about the group’s long history of service to Linn County.

**Right:** Sheriff Michelle Duncan with a new friend during a youth ride held regularly at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center.







Veterans Services director Dee Baley-Hyder tells Linn County Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker about the new federal program that will help veterans whose health has been damaged by chemicals such as Agent Orange or the toxic fires of the Gulf War.

## Veterans Services now able to assist vets harmed by chemicals

**A**LBANY — Linn County Veterans Services will soon be able to assist veterans whose health has been negatively affected by Agent Orange and by chemicals released from large fire pits during the Gulf War, Veterans Services Officer Dee Baley-Hyder told the Board of Commissioners Tuesday morning.

Baley-Hyder said Congress recently passed the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act, what Baley-Hyder

said may be the “largest health care and benefit expansion in Veteran Administration history.”

Baley-Hyder said the program will aid veterans who have been exposed to toxic chemicals as far back as the Vietnam war era.

The act adds 23 new presumptive conditions and could affect five million veterans or their survivors.

She said the program’s budget is

\$300 billion over 10 years.

Veterans Services has had 23 inquiries since September, Baley-Hyder said and the program doesn’t start until January.

Baley-Hyder also said the county has helped families recover \$831,820 in benefits since July 1, compared to \$363,328 for the same time period a year ago.

Veterans Services has also used all of the \$11,000 grant from the Oregon

Department of Veterans Affairs to provide transportation for veterans who can’t drive and need transportation to medical services.

Linn County committed up to \$20,000 to supplement the program and Baley-Hyder said she has used about \$6,617 of that allotment.

“This has been very popular,” Baley-Hyder said. “We have trips booked through mid-October already.”

She said many of the veterans are receiving cancer treatment or have diabetes and are have wound care appointments.

Do you or someone you know have health issues caused by Agent Orange or other chemicals used during wars? Contact Linn County Veterans Services by calling 541-967-3882.



## Coffee with a Cop

Linn County Sheriff Michelle Duncan talks with Lebanon residents Nancy Annerneau, back, and Diana Katona, right, Oct. 5 during the annual Coffee With a Cop at Hazella Bakery in Lebanon. LCVO staff, including Jail Commander Ted Langley, shown at Sugar Vibes in Sweet Home, shared coffee and treats with Linn County residents at local gathering spots from Mill City to Harrisburg.



## Welcome Courtney Leland

By Alex Paul  
Linn County Reporter

ALBANY — Although she has only been on the job as an Office Specialist III for the Linn County Board of Commissioners for about a month, Courtney Leland says she already “loves it.”

Courtney, 33, is a Linn County native who grew up in Lebanon and graduated from LHS in 2007. She also completed an office specialist’s program at Linn-Benton Community College.

Before coming to Linn County, she spent seven years at Pat O’Hare’s Dermatology office, where she was most recently the office manager.

Courtney has two children, Jax, 10, who enjoys martial arts and wrestling, and Lainey, 8, who enjoys gymnastics. They both like to keep their mother hopping.

Courtney enjoys riding bicycles, reading, singing, writing (including music) and is learning to play the guitar. She and her children attend the HOPE Church in Albany.



Courtney Leland

“I feel like this job is my calling,” Courtney said. “I was looking for something with purpose and this fills that niche. I am happy it also comes with excellent benefits.”





## Linn County assists with FFA Soils Judging Contest

**S**CIO — More than 170 FFA members from Sweet Home, Marcola, Scio, Central Linn, Lebanon, Pleasant Hill and Harrisburg participated October 5 in the annual Linn Soil and Water Conservation District soil judging contest at Linn County's Roaring River Campground. The event is hosted by the Scio FFA.

Tristan Davis of the Linn County Parks staff helped dig one practice pit and three live pits that were evaluated by soil scientists from the USDA and NRCS.

Linn Council Soil Conservation District Administrator Debbie Paul said Scio was the host school and provided lunch, which was greatly appreciated.

### Individual winners were:

**First place:** Novice Category- Taryn Cornell from Lebanon; Advanced Category – Katelyn Hacker from Lebanon.

**Second place:** Novice- Teagan Cornell from Lebanon; Advanced - Brooke Glaser from Central Linn.

**Third place:** Novice- Klair Graves from Lebanon; Advanced - Ava Glaser from Central Linn.

### Team winners were:

**First place:** Advanced – Lebanon; Novice- Lebanon.

**Second place:** Advanced - Central Linn; Novice - Central Linn.

**Third place:** Advanced – Harrisburg; Novice- Mohawk.

“The site was perfect,” Paul said. “Kevin Seifert, Linn SWCD Watershed Tech, started the day providing explanations for the practice pit. The students then evaluated three additional pits. A big thank you to Linn County

Parks for providing the site and digging the pits and to the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) soil scientists who spent a day judging the pits prior to the contest.”



### Thank you Fair Board

Linn County Fair Board members were treated to homemade cookies Monday afternoon. The treats were a thank you from Scio High School junior Marissa Donner, 16. The Fair Board purchased her steer at the Linn County Youth Livestock Auction in July. Marissa is a member of the Lacombe Livestock 4-H Club and has used some of the proceeds from her livestock project to buy another steer, Larry, for next year's fair. Fair Board member Steve Mote had the honor of accepting on behalf of his fellow board members.





## Linn County assists with free water donation

From our friends at the Albany Fire Department

September 28

One person's trash is another's treasure.

A trailer full of water is our kind of treasure. We got a call from Cheema Freightlines LLC which offered 45,000 pounds of water to us.

This is a gift to share with friends.

Water is essential to do our work. Yearly, the fire service must purchase water to use during respite on a fire. The extreme heat of structure fires and wildland fires means dehydration.

The following Linn and Benton County agencies benefitted: Monroe Fire, Sweet Home Fire, Scio Fire, Jefferson Fire, Harrisburg Fire, Tangent Fire, Philomath Fire, Lebanon Fire, Albany Fire, Halsey Fire, ODF Sweet Home, Brownsville Fire, Adair Fire, Albany Police and Corvallis Police.

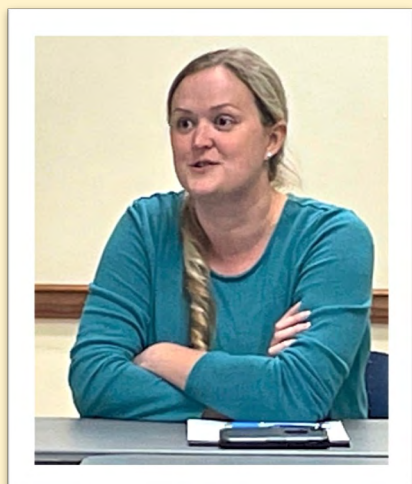
A big thank you to Linn County Fair & Expo for your logistics and storage support. We couldn't have done it without you.



Thank you for making the Linn County Reporter happen.



## Cookies & Conversation



No two days are alike, Ashley Scott of the Linn County District Attorney's Office told fellow Linn County employees Oct. 4 during the monthly Cookies & Conversation program sponsored by Commissioner Sherrie Sprenger. Scott is the public face of the office, welcoming people from her work area at the office entrance. Scott said she deals with a broad range of people — many of whom are not having their best day — as well as acting as the general information center for people needing to visit other offices in the courthouse. Scott said that despite dealing with some of the more serious life issues people can face day in and day out, the District Attorney's Office staff are like family, with many eating lunch together every day.

**Linn County Juvenile Department  
3rd Annual Quilt Raffle**

This stunning quilt measures 86" w x 96" h" and is created in shades of greens, grays, oranges, and white. It was handmade with fabric with a camping & state park theme and quilted in a tree pattern.

Tickets are \$5.00 each. All proceeds go to purchase food items for baskets that we will put together & deliver during the month of December.

**Tickets are \$5.00 each and can be purchased from October 31st - December 9th @ 11:30am at the Linn County Juvenile Department during normal business hours.**

**Sponsors:**  
Rhonda Nicholas  
Finally Together Quilt Shop  
in Lebanon, Oregon



OSU Extension — Linn County

Linn County Extension and 4-H host popular open house

By Michele Webster

For the Linn County Reporter

**T**ANGENT — The OSU Extension Service hosted an open house October 17 at our office in Tangent.

It was open to the public and was an educational time to meet with staff and learn about their programs. It was good to see more faces in the office and each faculty member enjoyed sharing their programs and activities with others that may not have been aware of them.

4-H staff, youth, and volunteers were available to answer questions for those interested in enrolling for the new 4-H year. Master Gardener faculty and volunteers responded to questions related to gardening, bugs and how to become a Master Gardener volunteer.

Our Family Community Health faculty offered a taste of healthy Food Hero (<https://foodhero.org/>) recipes including pumpkin cookies, creamy fruit salad and veggies with garbanzo bean dip. The blender bike was popular and provided a little exercise while blending a healthy smoothie.

Faculty member Tina Dodge uses this tool at community events to educate people about the importance of nutrition and physical activity. Those interested in fermenting were able to sample sauerkraut and kimchi provided by Jared Hibbard-Swanson, Food Security and Safety Program Manager.

The large conference room offered a wealth of information including “water sticks”, presented by Natural Resource staff that displayed annual rainfall in various regions of the area.

Forestry had tree samples and an educational display. Small Farming,



Commercial Horticulture, and Well Water faculty were popular responding to questions from the community.

Our new Fire Resiliency staff member Kayla Bordelon, discussed fire wise strategies with home owners. This was her first Open House and she was excited to meet with the public.

To learn about OSU Extension-Linn County and our 4-H programs, visit <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/linn>.

**Above right:** Visitors played a game of good bug versus bad bug assisted by Elizabeth Records, community horticulture faculty.

**Left:** 4-H youth, Gabriel and Andrew with Entomology and Lego displays.

**Insert above:** Ozobots are a fun tool 4-H faculty member Abby Johnson uses to get young people like Cassidy, Wes and Brady Goff interested in coding.

**Right:** the “udder model” was popular and is used as an educational tool by Jennifer Cruikshank,







# Halloween Fun!



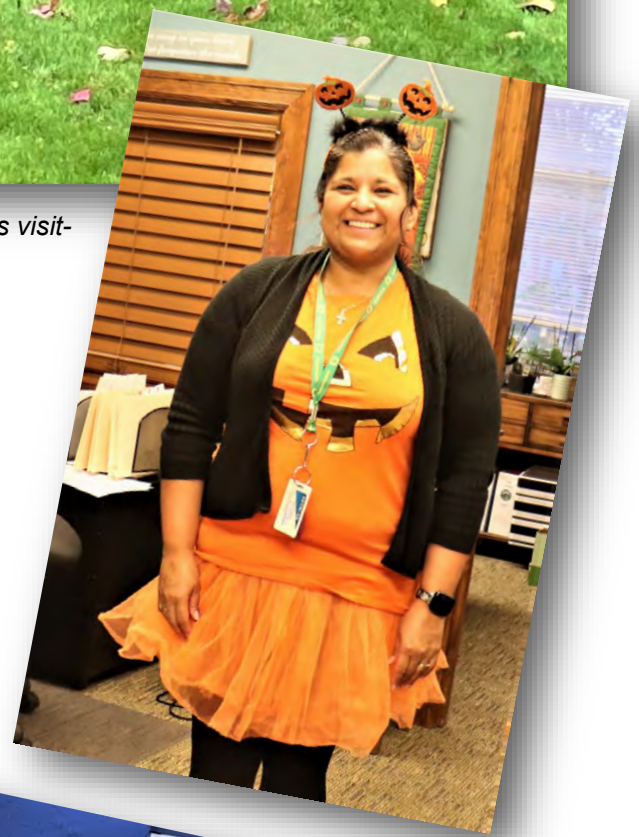
Above: GIS Director Steve Barnett took time out from drawing maps to pass out candy when local pre-schoolers visited the Linn County Courthouse Monday morning.



Above: It is said that imitation is the most sincere form of flattery. Well, Planning & Building Director Steve Wills must have been extremely flattered Monday, when staffers dressed up as "Steve Wills" and wore outfits depicting his life: from inspecting houses to attending a Board of Commissioners meeting to fishing. Front row: Ashley Heyberger, Kate Bentz, Lexi Mitchell, Jaci Cumpiano, Suzanne Hunt, Megan Sharp. Row two: Alyssa Boles and Carol Gordon. They all had cups that read, "World's Okayest Boss."



Above: Funny folks at Alcohol & Drug. Left to right: Alex Keys, Jamie Huebner, Lora Sease (giraffe behind partition), Justin Thomas and Kiela Hubler.



Right: Any day Michelle Valenzuela of the Treasurer's Office can be found wearing orange and black is a good day. She is die-hard Oregon Ducks fan.



Above: Fun-loving staff from General Services and Veterans Services: Emma Bagozzi, James Teal-Reed, Russ Williams, Dee Baley-Hyder and Josh Leahy.





# Halloween Fun!



Left: Julie Severance and Julie Ganta kept things lively in the Clerk's Office.



Above: Lily Daudert of the IT Department wasn't scaring anyone with her witch outfit Monday — her smile belied the costume.



Above: East Linn Health Department folks Dana Wikner as Batman, Michelle Shannon as a hippie extraordinaire and Kori Newport as a harvest gal.



Above: The good folks at WIC and the Health Department got into the Halloween spirit. Front row: Megan Dunn, Rebecca Torres, Shelby Sayer-Cameron, Janie Tebeau. Top row: Serena Stearns-Garland, Monica Boylan, Nate Tisdell, Derrick Koppuzha, Shane Sanderson



Left: Staff from Linn County Developmental Disabilities including Joanna Means, Amber Houghton, Tom Hussong-Christian and Laurel Williams.





## Welcome to your new job, Kris Barnes

Kris Barnes gave his first monthly report to Linn County Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker as the new Linn County Fair & Expo Center Director on Oct. 25.

Barnes spent several years as the Expo Center's facilities manager and succeeds Randy Porter who recently retired after 24 years with the county.

# Parents, beware of teen prescription drug use

Courtesy Linn Together

**A**LBANY — According to surveys from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, 20 percent of teens say they have taken a prescription drug without having a prescription for it themselves, and 3 percent report abusing over the counter cough medicine to get high. Teens report getting many of these medicines from home medicine cabinets and mistakenly believe that abusing them is "safer" than other drugs.

### What types of medicines do teens abuse?

**Rx Drugs:** While prescription medicines benefit many when used appropriately, they are being increasingly misused and abused. The most commonly abused prescription medications are listed below, and all can be dangerous or deadly when abused:

- Opioids and pain relievers: examples include hydrocodone



- (Vicodin®), oxycodone (OxyContin®)
- Barbiturates and benzodiazepines: examples include diazepam (Valium®), alprazolam (Xanax®)
- Stimulants: examples include dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine® or Adderall®), methylphenidate (Ritalin® or Concerta®)

**OTC Cough/Cold Medicine:** While millions of Americans safely rely on OTC cough medicine to temporarily relieve their cough, some teens intentionally take large amounts – sometimes more than 25 times the recommended dose of these medicines – to get high. This means some teens ingest multiple packages or bottles of OTC cough medicines that contain dextromethorphan (DXM).

- DXM is the active ingredient in most OTC cough medicines. Approved by the FDA in the 1950s, DXM is the most widely used cough suppressant ingredient in the United States.

- When taken in excessive amounts, DXM can cause serious side effects including rapid heartbeat, high blood pressure, memory problems, nausea and vomiting.
- More than 100 OTC medicines containing DXM are on the market today. These medicines come in the form of liquids, capsules, gels, lozenges, and tablets. Common DXM- containing medicines include many forms of Coricidin™, Delsym™, Dimetapp™, Mucinex DM™, Robitussin™, Triaminic™, Tylenol Cough & Cold™, Vicks DayQuil™/NyQuil™, Vicks Formula 44™ and more.

### Help prevent medicine abuse:

**TALK** to your teen about prescription and OTC cough medicine abuse. Teens listen, even if they act like they don't. In fact, teens who learn about the risks of drugs from their parents are 50 percent

less likely to use drugs.

**SAFEGUARD** your medicine cabinets. Take steps to protect your teens by safeguarding all the medicines you have in your home. Know what you have and how much, so you will know if anything is missing. Discard any medicines you no longer need.

### Learn more at:

[www.PreventRxAbuse.org](http://www.PreventRxAbuse.org)  
[www.StopMedicineAbuse.org](http://www.StopMedicineAbuse.org)

### From CADCA Teen Medicine Abuse Fact Sheet

This message brought to you by Linn Together. Linn Together is a community coalition that equips partner organizations, parents, and educators throughout Linn County with information and tools to guide positive youth choices around substance use and other behavioral health issues.



## Model T fans tour Quartzville Corridor fall foliage Oct. 14

The Madras Model "T" Bums Fall Foliage Tour of Quartzville Corridor Oct. 14.

The group stayed at Sunnyside County Park and drove up Quartzville Road about 40 miles on a "Fall Colors Tour".

They ate lunch on the edges of the road and a couple of the members in the group had to pull over to the shoulder of the road to let other vehicles pass by.

It was a great day for the Model "T" Bums

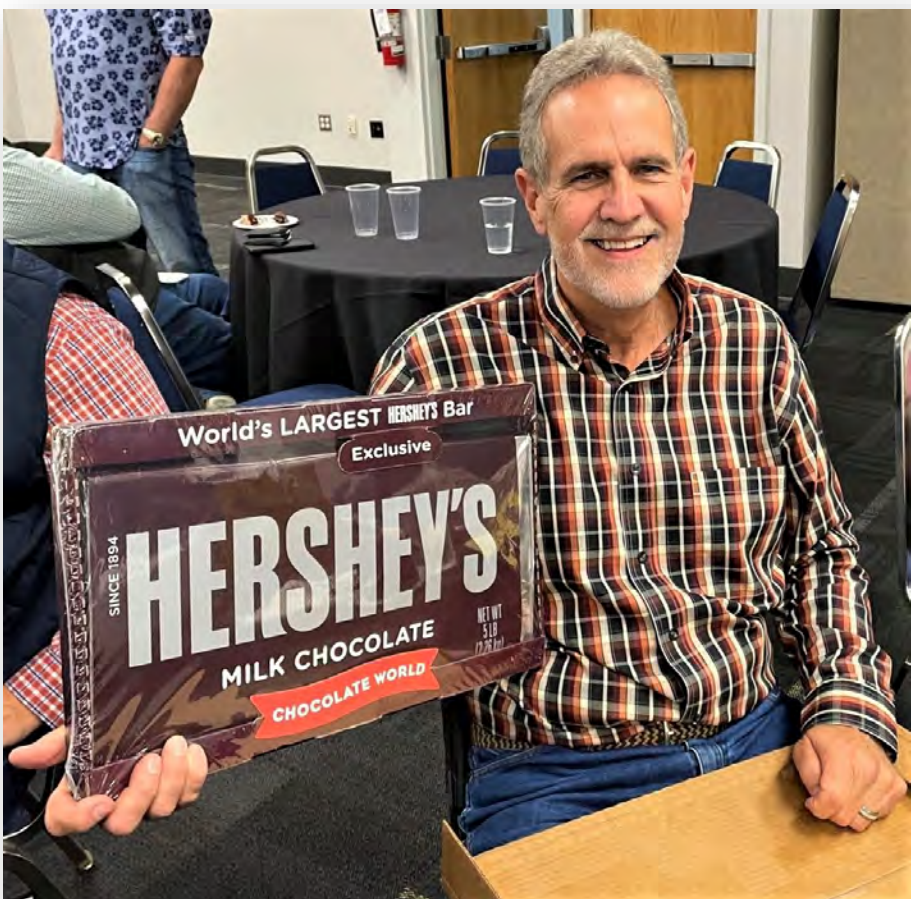






## Thank you Randy Porter!

Randy Porter took some good-natured ribbing Friday afternoon as friends, family and co-workers celebrated his retirement after 24 years heading up the Linn County Fair & Expo Center. Linn County Commissioner Roger Nyquist praised Randy for his cool and calm demeanor, even when things were hectic. Nyquist said Porter took over at a time when there were numerous complaints about the way the Fair & Expo Center was operating. Porter quickly smoothed out those ruffles and has continued to do so for more than two decades. Others said Porter has an excellent sense of humor, is extremely honest and has integrity at all times. Kris Barnes will succeed Porter at the Fair & Expo helm. Porter received several gifts including a giant Hershey's candy bar and a pair of "chicken leg" socks from rodeo promoter and announcer Wayne White.



Remember, ballots due by 8 p.m. Nov. 8 at the Linn County Clerk's Office or drop boxes.

## Law Library grant approved

**A**LBANY — The Linn County Law Library has received a \$5,000 small ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) grant, according to librarian Amber Boedigheimer.

The funds will be used to purchase USB thumb drives, a cell phone, a cell phone sanitizer and phone minute cards to support phone usage.

"These items support the law library's mission in encouraging the dissemination of information, enhancing communication services, and sharing of knowledge," Boedigheimer said.

The project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the State Library of Oregon.

The Linn County Law Library is dedicated to providing legal research material to members of the bar and the community at large. The Law Library delivers provides books, online access and other resources for legal needs of



**Amber Boedigheimer**  
Law Librarian

Linn County residents.

The Linn County Law Library is at 300 Broadalbin St. SW. It is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and every other Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Burn ban lifted in the mid-valley

Are you wanting to burn at home? Take the time to ask the right questions:

- When can I burn?
- What can I burn?

Backyard burning is open until December 15. It will open again March 1. ONLY yard debris can be burned.

### MATERIALS THAT CANNOT BE BURNED AT ANY TIME

DEQ regulations prohibit open burning of the following materials at any time, anywhere in the state of Oregon:

- Rubber products, including tires
- Asbestos products
- Animal remains
- Plastic
- Wet garbage

- Petroleum and petroleum-treated debris
- Asphalt or industrial waste
- Any material that creates dense smoke or noxious odors

Auto parts and wire insulation This means the use of a tire, gasoline, diesel and other like products to ignite a fire is also prohibited. To ignite, we recommend covering the pile (or part of it if it's large) to keep it dry, then starting with paper and a match.

Lebanon Fire District, Halsey Fire, Harrisburg Fire & Rescue, Albany Fire Department, Scio Fire District, Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon Department of Forestry Fire Prevention, Brownsville Rural Fire District, Sweet Home Fire District, Jefferson Fire District, Tangent Fire District

## TOWN & COUNTRY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



Linn County Expo Center  
3700 Knox Butte Rd E  
Albany Oregon  
December 2 - 4, 2022

Kids Free  
Adults \$2

Call 541-704-1182 to reserve a table  
Email: ralytle@co.linn.or.us