

# Community Calendar May 2026

Addresses for events are generally in Monmouth (M) or Independence (I)

**Friday, May 1, May Day**

**Saturday, May 2, Kentucky Derby Day**

Breakfast served, 8:30 AM, Monmouth Senior Community Center (M)

Monmouth Garden Club Annual Plant Sale, 9 AM-2 PM, Monmouth Library

Farmers Markets Open in Indy, 9 AM-2 PM. Info at waltonsgarden@yahoo.com, independenceriverviewmarket@gmail.com

Book Sale, Monmouth Friends of the Library, 10 AM-3 PM, Monmouth Library

Bingo at the Elks Lodge, 1 PM, 289 S Main St (I)

**Sunday, May 3, Margaret Thatcher becomes first female Prime Minister, 1979**

Polk County Flea Market, 6am (early bird), 9am (general admission), Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall

**Monday, May 4, Star Wars Day**

**Tuesday, May 5, 1<sup>st</sup> American, Alan Shepard, in space, suborbital flight**

Monmouth Business Assn. meets, 8 AM, Monmouth City Hall, 151 Main St W (M)

Veteran's Chat, 10-11 AM, Heron Pointe Sr. Living, 504 Gwinn St E (M)

Family Story Time, 10:30 AM, Monmouth Library (M)

Age Café, 10 AM, Monmouth Senior Community Center (M)

Lego Mania, 4 PM, Independence Library (I)

Monmouth City Council meets, 6:30 PM, 151 Main St W (M)

**Wednesday, May 6, Hindenburg disaster, New Jersey, 1937**

WOU Wednesday!

Office hours, Indep. Mayor Kate Schwarzler, 8:30-10:30 AM, 555 Main St (I)

Storytime, 10:30 AM, Independence Library (I)

Kids Coding, 4 PM, Independence Library (I)

Friends/Library bookstore open, 5-7 PM, 311 Monmouth St (I)

Music Jam Night, 6 PM, Monmouth Sr Community Center (M)

**Thursday, May 7, National Teacher Appreciation Day**

Age Café, 10 AM, Monmouth Senior Community Center (M)

Pre-K Prom, 10 AM-Noon, Monmouth Library (M)

Bounces & Rhymes, 10:30 AM, Monmouth Public Library (M)

Friends/Library bookstore open, 10AM- 2 PM, 311 Monmouth St (I)

WOU Theatre Spring Dance Concert, 7:30 PM, Rice Auditorium (M)

**Friday, May 8, World Red Cross Day**

Master Gardener Assn Plant Sale, 9 AM-4 PM, Polk County Fairgrounds

WOU Theatre Spring Dance Concert, 7:30 PM, Rice Auditorium (M)

The Lost Virginty Tour, 7:30 PM, Pentacle Theatre, West Salem

**Saturday, May 9, Int'l Migratory Bird Day**

Spring Bird Walk, 8 AM-Noon, JTE Tree Farm

Master Gardener Assn Plant Sale, 9 AM-2 PM, Polk County Fairgrounds

Touch a Truck, 9 AM-2 PM, Riverview Park (I)

Farmers Markets Open in Indy, 9 AM-2 PM. Info at waltonsgarden@yahoo.com, independenceriverviewmarket@gmail.com

Pre-K Prom, 10-11 AM, Monmouth Library (M)

Watercolor Youth Class, 10 AM-12 PM, Ash Creek Arts Center (I)

Veteran of the Month, 1 PM, Heritage Museum & Riverview Park (I), if held

Bingo at the Elks Lodge, 1 PM, 289 S Main St (I)

WOU Theatre Spring Dance Concert, 7:30 PM, Rice Auditorium (M)

The Lost Virginty Tour, 7:30 PM, Pentacle Theatre, West Salem

**Sunday, May 10, Transcontinental Railroad complete, 1869**

The Lost Virginty Tour, 2 PM, Pentacle Theatre, West Salem

**Monday, May 11, IBM's computer beat chess champ Garry Kasparov, 1997**

**Tuesday, May 12, "WannaCry" ransomware affected over 200K computers**

Family Story Time, 10:30 AM, Monmouth Library (M)

Chair Yoga with Winnie, 11 AM, Independence Library (I)

Independence City Council meets, 6:30 PM, City Hall (I)

Tuesday Night Adult Class, Soft Linoleum Linoprinting, 6:30-8:30 PM, Ash Creek Arts Center (I)

**Wednesday, May 13, Students began hunger strike in Tiananmen Square, 1989**

Office hours, Indep. Mayor Kate Schwarzler, 8:30-10:30 AM, 555 Main St (I)

PreK Art Adventures, 10-11:30 AM, Ash Creek Arts Center (I)

Storytime, 10:30 AM, Independence Library (I)

Kids Coding, 4 PM, Independence Library (I)

Friends/Library bookstore open, 5-7 PM, 311 Monmouth St (I)

Ukulele Jan Night, 6 PM, Monmouth Senior Center (M)

**Thursday, May 14, Lewis & Clark begin epic journey, 1804**

Friends/Library bookstore open, 10 AM-12 PM, 311 Monmouth St (I)

Bounces & Rhymes, 10:30 AM, Monmouth Public Library (M)

Chalk Pastels with 4-H, 3 PM, Monmouth Library (M)

Teen & Adult Bingo, 3:30 PM, Independence Library (I)

Tri-Tip Thursday at Brew Coffee & Tap House, 5:30-7:30 PM, at Brew (I)

Artist Reception (Judy Phipps), 6:30 PM, City Hall (M)

MI Story Night, Community Edition, 7 PM, Valkyrie Wine Tavern (I)

The Lost Virginty Tour, 7:30 PM, Pentacle Theatre, W. Salem

**Friday, May 15, 1935, Alcoholics Anonymous founded, Ohio**

Artfest Alley, 12-4 PM, WOU Campus

The Lost Virginty Tour, 7:30 PM, Pentacle Theatre, West Salem

# Community Calendar May 2026

**Saturday, May 16, Marie Antoinette marries Louis XVI 1770**  
– she was 14

TEDx Mt Hood, all day at Rice Auditorium at WOU (M)

First Fairy Day, Haugen's Galleri (I)

Spring Bird Walk, 8-10:30 AM, Inspiration Garden (I)

Farmers Markets Open in Indy, 9 AM-2 PM. Info at

waltonsgarden@yahoo.com,

independenceriverviewmarket@gmail.com

Sidewalk Chalk in the Park, 10 AM to Noon, Main St Park (M)

Community Craft Days, 10 AM-4 PM, Monmouth Senior

Community Center (M)

CHS Boys & Girls Track & Field John Oliver Invitational, 10:30 AM, at CHS

Bingo at the Elks Lodge, 1 PM, 289 S Main St (I)

The Lost Virginitiy Tour, 7:30 PM, Pentacle Theatre, West Salem

**Sunday, May 17, New York Stock Exchange founded, 1792**

Let's Draw @ Gallery, 1 PM, River Gallery, 184 S Main St (I)

The Lost Virginitiy Tour, 2 PM, Pentacle Theatre, West Salem

**Monday, May 18, Mt. St. Helens erupts, 1980**

**Tuesday, May 19, Ringling Brothers opened small circus in Wisconsin, 1884**

Family Story Time, 10:30 AM, Monmouth Library (M)

Little Builders with Monmouth Public Works, 10:30 AM, Monmouth Library (M)

Mystery Book Club, 4 PM, Independence Library (I)

Monmouth City Council meets, 6:30 PM, 151 Main St W (M)

**Wednesday, May 20, 1<sup>st</sup> trans-Atlantic flight, by Lindbergh, 1927**

Office hours, Indep. Mayor Kate Schwarzler, 8:30-10:30 AM, 555 Main St (I)

PreK Art Adventures, 10-11:30 AM, Ash Creek Arts Center (I)

Kids Coding, 4 PM, Independence Library (I)

Friends/Library bookstore open, 5-7 PM, 311 Monmouth St (I)

Adaptive Arts Guild, 6-7:30 PM, Ash Creek Arts Center (I)

**Thursday, May 21, Charles Lindbergh completed his transatlantic flight**

Friends/Library bookstore open, 10AM- 2 PM, 311 Monmouth St (I)

Bounces & Rhymes, 10:30 AM, Monmouth Public Library (M)

Sketching in the Park with Color, 6:30-8:30 PM, Ash Creek Arts Center (I)

The Lost Virginitiy Tour, 7:30 PM, Pentacle Theatre, W. Salem

**Friday, May 22, 1960, Most powerful earthquake ever (9.5) in Chile**

**Saturday, May 23, Lucky Penny Day**

**Last day to submit information to 2C1C for June edition**

Farmers Markets Open in Indy, 9 AM-2 PM. Info at waltonsgarden@yahoo.com,

independenceriverviewmarket@gmail.com

Saturday Adult Art Workshop, 10 AM-3 PM, Ash Creek Arts Center (I)

Bingo at the Elks Lodge, 1 PM, 289 S Main St (I)

The Lost Virginitiy Tour, 2 & 7:30 PM, Pentacle Theatre, West Salem

**Sunday, May 24, 1<sup>st</sup> Telegraph Message sent, 1844**

The Lost Virginitiy Tour, 2 PM, Pentacle Theatre, West Salem

**Monday, May 25, 1961, Kennedy announces goal of landing man on the moon**

Independence City Council meets, 6:30 PM, City Hall (I)

**Tuesday, May 26, Dracula (Bram Stoker) is published in London, 1897**

Family Story Time, 10:30 AM, Monmouth Library (M)

Chair Yoga with Winnie, 11 AM, Independence Library (I)

**Wednesday, May 27, August Piccard reached stratosphere in hot air balloon, 1931**

PreK Art Adventures, 10-11:30 AM, Ash Creek Arts Center (I)

Friends/Library bookstore open, 5-7 PM, 311 Monmouth St (I)

Faill Fest, 5:30 PM, Indy Commons, Main St, Indep. (I)

Adult Drawing Class, 6:30-8:30 PM, Ash Creek Arts Center (I)

WOU Theatre, The Language of Angel, 7:30 PM, Rice Auditorium (M)

**Thursday, May 28, The Golden Gate Bridge opened, 1937**

Wild Women Art Show begins today at River Gallery (I)

Launch Mid-Valley, 9 AM, Indy Commons (I)

Bounces & Rhymes, 10:30 AM, Monmouth Library (M)

Storytime, 10:30 AM, Independence Library (I)

Finnegan the Dragon Kids' Literacy, 11:30, Ind. Library

Kids Coding, 4 PM, Independence Library (I)

Tri-Tip Thursday at Brew Coffee & Tap House, 5:30-7:30 PM, at Brew (I)

Japanese American in Oregon, 6 PM, Monmouth Library (M)

WOU Theatre, The Language of Angel, 7:30 PM, Rice Auditorium (M)

The Lost Virginitiy Tour, 7:30 PM, Pentacle Theatre, W. Salem

**Friday, May 29, International Space Day**

Independence House Concert, CelloBop, 7 PM, 166 S 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Independence (I)

WOU Theatre, The Language of Angel, 7:30 PM, Rice Auditorium (M)

The Lost Virginitiy Tour, 7:30 PM, Pentacle Theatre, West Salem

**Saturday, May 30, Memorial Day**

Last day to return your Quilt Square to Heritage Museum (I)

Relay for Life, 10 AM start, Riverview Park (I)

40<sup>th</sup> Annual WOU Athletic Auction, 6 PM, WOU Athletic Center (M)

WOU Theatre, The Language of Angel, 7:30 PM, Rice Auditorium (M)

The Lost Virginitiy Tour, 7:30 PM, Pentacle Theatre, W. Salem

**Sunday, May 31, US Supreme Court orders school integration "with all deliberate speed", 1955**

Relay for Life, 10 AM finish, Riverview Park (I)

WOU Theatre, The Language of Angel, 2 PM, Rice Aud. (M)



The City of Monmouth & the  
Monmouth Arts & Culture Commission Present

# Judy Phipps *A Memory in Time* April - June 2026

Artist Reception May 14th 5- 6:30 pm @ City Hall

What I choose to paint are things I know and love - the moist green forests and gorgeous ferns, mysterious paths, fresh veggies and colorful flowers from the garden.... all nature's miraculous wonders.

All simple things, but they evoke home and the memories we've stored over a lifetime.

I paint to preserve what I never want to forget, a memory in time.



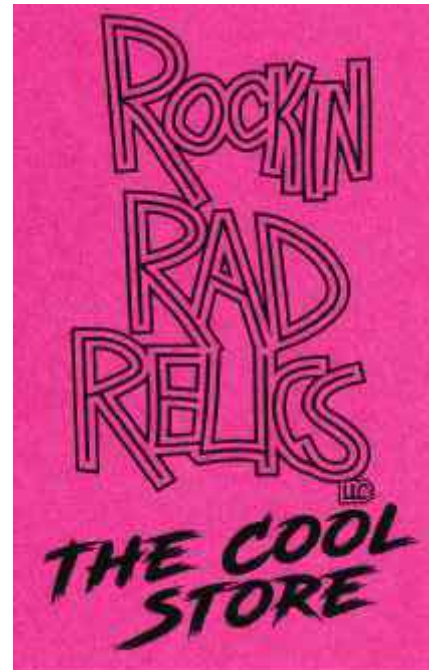
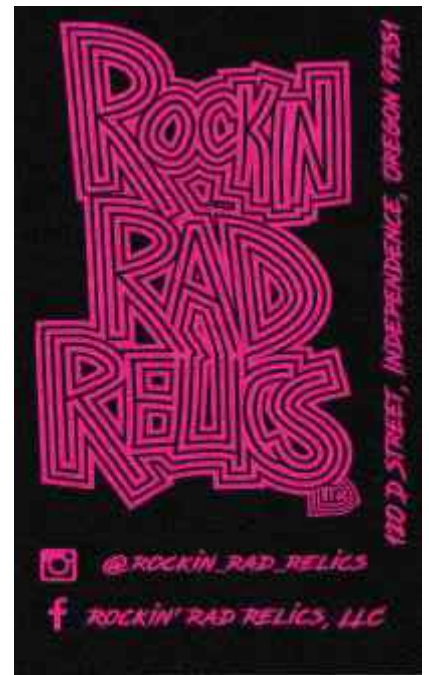
Having been a pastellist for many years, Judy discovered sculpting while living in Colorado and found it to be thrilling. She kept at that for several years and was honored to sculpt seven monuments. Back home here in Oregon she mainly is an oil painter, painting primarily on steel and loving every minute.

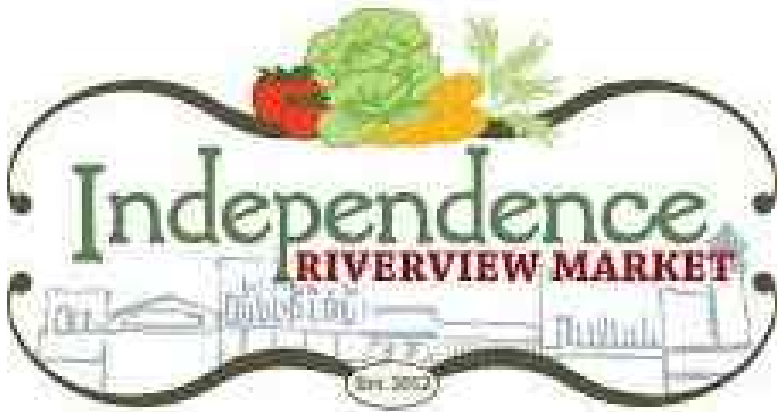


The sculpture of Dan Weaver & dog on Main Street, Indy, is often festively attired.



The first Fairy Day at Haugen's Galleri will be May 16th. To contact them:  
503 838-5416,  
haugensgalleri.com, or  
haugensgalleri@gmail.com





Saturdays, 9 AM to 2 PM, May through September at the Top of Riverview Park

You can use your **Polk County Community E-Gift Card** at a **variety of retail, restaurant, service, and entertainment locations**, making it easy and convenient to use the same gift card at multiple locations.



Bistro Bocado is open! We are a new location at 283 Main Street in Monmouth. We will be serving small bites of food, including pastries, desserts, sandwiches empanadas and other delicious items. We have espresso drinks, blended drinks, teas and much more. We have just opened so our menu selections are in development, however there is still plenty to chose from. We are open from 7:30 am - 4:00 pm everyday.

Our signage is coming, so please find us! We are next door to the Tan Republic in the black brick building across from US Bank.

The space and food is themed from Argentinian cafeterias. This is the first stage of the Ross Theater Collective project. We look forward to continuing the rehabilitation of this amazing historic building. We have lots of fun things coming!



**Monmouth Independence Network**  
**THE POWER OF LOCAL**  
 503 837-0700,  
[www.minetfiber.com](http://www.minetfiber.com)  
 405 Hogan Rd N, Monmouth



Bring your friends and family to

# Sidewalk Chalk in the Park

Saturday, May 16th  
from 10am to Noon

in Main Street City Park  
in Monmouth

The Monmouth Arts & Culture Commission  
will provide the chalk.

YOU provide the art!

**THEME:**

**"What I love about  
Monmouth!"**





Spring has officially arrived in Monmouth—longer days, a little more sunshine, and a lot more happening. It's a season of fresh starts, and our local business community is already making the most of it.

The goal with **Monmouth Works** is to keep businesses informed, celebrate the good work happening in our community, and highlight the people and organizations that make this place special.

So grab a cup of coffee, take a few minutes to catch up on what's happening around town, and let's see what's new in Monmouth this month.

## MONMOUTH BUSINESS HIGHLIGHT

**MUNGO DESIGN, 303 MAIN ST E, MONMOUTH**  
**503 838-1518, [mungosign.com](http://mungosign.com)**

It is our pleasure to highlight MBA member Mungo Designs! Located in beautiful Monmouth Oregon, Mungo Design has been providing customers with quality graphic design, print services and apparel with an emphasis on service and complete satisfaction. As a full-service advertising firm, Mungo Design offers affordable excellence... whether working locally with a small business, or creating a national campaign for a Fortune 500 company. Working for you, Mungo's can help get the very most out of your advertising budget. Mungo Design offers inspired creativity and more importantly, an understanding of your needs. From concept to completion, they make sure each design they create informs, inspires and motivates. The result is a design and layout that is nothing short of powerful, taking your business to an exciting new level.



Mungo Design storefront, Mike Irons, Owner



Monmouth Business Association  
Member Business

## LATEST UPDATE: INDEPENDENCE DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION

### LAST DAY OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION | JUNE 16TH

IDA's Last Day of School Celebration is back for its third year, and it keeps getting bigger.

This isn't just a party. It's a chance for families to connect with community resources heading into summer, celebrate the end of the school year, and kick off the break surrounded by the people and organizations that support them.

It's also one of the biggest foot traffic days of the spring for downtown Independence.



**When:** June 16th, 3 to 5 PM

**Where:** Riverview Park

**Cost:** Free for everyone

**What's happening at the event:**

Kona Ice. Elsa and Spider-Man. A fire truck from the Independence Fire Department. Summer reading sign-ups with the library. And 20+ community organizations with giveaways and activities for kids and families.

**Want to help?** Email [info@downtownindependence.com](mailto:info@downtownindependence.com).

### WALK OF HEARTS 2027 | PRE-SALE IS LIVE

If you purchased a Walk of Hearts heart in 2026, check your email!

We're running a limited pre-sale window where 2026 purchasers can lock in their 2027 heart at this year's prices before they go up.

Right now, this pre-sale is exclusively for people who bought in 2026. It's our way of saying thank you for being part of what made this year's Walk of Hearts the best one yet.

### QUARTERLY MEETING RECAP | MOMENTUM IS BUILDING

Thank you to everyone who came out to our April quarterly meeting. We had **four times the attendance from last quarter**, and the energy was great.

Here's what that tells us: people are invested in our downtown. They're invested in this community. And that momentum is real.

Our first newsletter had a **40%+ open rate**, well above the nonprofit average of 25 to 29%. You're showing up, you're paying attention, and it's making a difference.

We also want to thank everyone who participated in the first year of being able to keep your Walk of Hearts hearts. The response was fantastic, and we're building on it for 2027.

### INDEPENDENCE FARMERS MARKETS ARE OPEN

Our two Saturday markets are officially open for season!

**The Original Independence Farmers Market**  
Saturdays, 9 AM to 2 PM | Columbia Bank Parking Lot  
**Riverview Saturday Market**

Saturdays, 9 AM to 3 PM | Riverview Park

Get out there, support local vendors, and enjoy the start of market season.

### CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT UPDATE

Central School District joined our April Board meeting to

share updates on student attendance, career pathways for high schoolers, and ways the community can partner with local schools.

Superintendent Jen Kavista presented on the real challenges facing our district, including declining enrollment and the importance of getting kids to school every day. If you're a parent, grandparent, or just care about the kids in our community, the biggest thing you can do is help reinforce that showing up to school matters.

Reach out to them at [info@central.k12.or.us](mailto:info@central.k12.or.us) or look for their sign-up QR code at upcoming community events.

### HOP AND HERITAGE FESTIVAL | SEPTEMBER 26TH

The Hop and Heritage Festival is taking it to the next level this year with the brand-new **Fresh Hop Fiesta**, a farm-to-pint craft beer festival hosted at Parallel 45 Brewing.

For a short window each fall, brewers use hops straight from the farm instead of dried ones, creating bright, fresh flavors you can only taste during harvest season. We're bringing 20 of these limited-edition beers together with food, live music, and hands-on experiences right here in the historic hop-growing capital of the world.

**The details:**

The festival runs 12 to 6 PM and alongside the Fresh Hop Fiesta there will be live music throughout downtown, a vendor marketplace, a Downtown Passport experience, and a cornhole competition. This is a full day out in Independence.

**Ways to get involved:**

**Volunteer.** We need people for setup, pouring, roaming, and teardown. It's a blast and volunteers get a festival tasting package.

**Sponsor.** Want to support the event? Sponsorships help cover musicians, supplies, and everything that makes this thing run. Reply to this email to learn more.

**Spread the word.** Follow along at [@hopandheritagefestival on Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/hopandheritagefestival) and share it with anyone who loves craft beer, local food, or a great day out.

**Want to help make it happen?** Our planning meetings are the 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 PM at Parallel 45 Brewing. All are welcome.

### IDA NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

IDA is 100% volunteer-run. Every event. Every heart on a lamp post. Every email you're reading.

We need more people. Not just for event days (although we do need that too), but for ongoing work like outreach, organizing, communications, and planning. Even a few hours a month makes a real difference in what we can do for our community.

**Interested?** [\[Sign up here\]](#)

**Know someone who'd be great?** Send them our way.

Please forward this update to a neighbor, friend, or anyone who cares about what's happening in Independence. The more people in the loop, the stronger our downtown gets.

**Questions? Ideas?** Just reply to this email. We check this inbox. If something's on your mind, we want to hear it.

# MI Story Night at Valkyrie



THURSDAY, May 14  
7:00 PM



VALKYRIE WINE TAVERN  
INDEPENDENCE, OREGON



Join the Heritage Museum Society for a cozy evening of stories, as local writers and storytellers share original works drawn from their life and experiences right here at home.



PARTICIPATION IS BY INVITATION.

To learn more, contact HMS President Marilyn Morton  
[marilyn97351@gmail.com](mailto:marilyn97351@gmail.com)

or the Heritage Museum  
[orheritage@ci.independence.or.us](mailto:orheritage@ci.independence.or.us)

## ARE YOU A WRITER??

Would you like to contribute a story for this event and read it or have it read aloud to an audience?

Please contact [marilyn97351@gmail.com](mailto:marilyn97351@gmail.com), or [orheritage@ci.independence.or.us](mailto:orheritage@ci.independence.or.us) to participate.

Story length is limited to 800 words.

All stories matching criteria will be published in a commemorative booklet, whether or not read at the event. Copies of the booklets will go to each contributor, each city, each library, and to Heritage Museum.

# MAY 2026

## Monmouth Public Library Youth Events

### FAMILY STORYTIME TUESDAYS AT 10:30 AM

Join Librarian Hilary for our spring series full of stories, songs, and fun, followed by a craft! Ideal for ages 3 - 5.

### BOUNCES & RHYMES THURSDAYS AT 10:30 AM

Join Librarian Hilary for our spring series full of bounces, rhymes, and songs, followed by a stay-and-play. Ideal for babies through age 2.



### PRE-K PROM MAY 7 FROM 10:00 AM - NOON MAY 9 FROM 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Two opportunities to visit our PreK Prom. Enjoy music, bubbles, and scarves, and explore our other sensory play areas! For ages 0 - 5.

### CHALK PASTELS WITH 4-H MAY 14 AT 3:00 PM

Learn beginning art techniques using chalk pastels. Materials and instruction provided by Polk County 4-H. For ages 5 - 18.



### BUTTON BOOKMARKS WITH 4-H MAY 26 AT 3:00 PM

With some simple sewing, ribbon, and a button, make a your very own bookmark. Materials and instruction provided by Polk County 4-H. For ages 5 - 18.



### LITTLE BUILDERS WITH MONMOUTH PUBLIC WORKS

MAY 19 AT 10:30 AM

Celebrate Monmouth Public Works, see their working trucks, and have fun with building blocks, play tools, and more!



MONMOUTH PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

(503) 838-1932

168 Ecols St S

Tuesday-Friday

10:00 am-6:00 pm

Saturday

10:00 am-4:00 pm

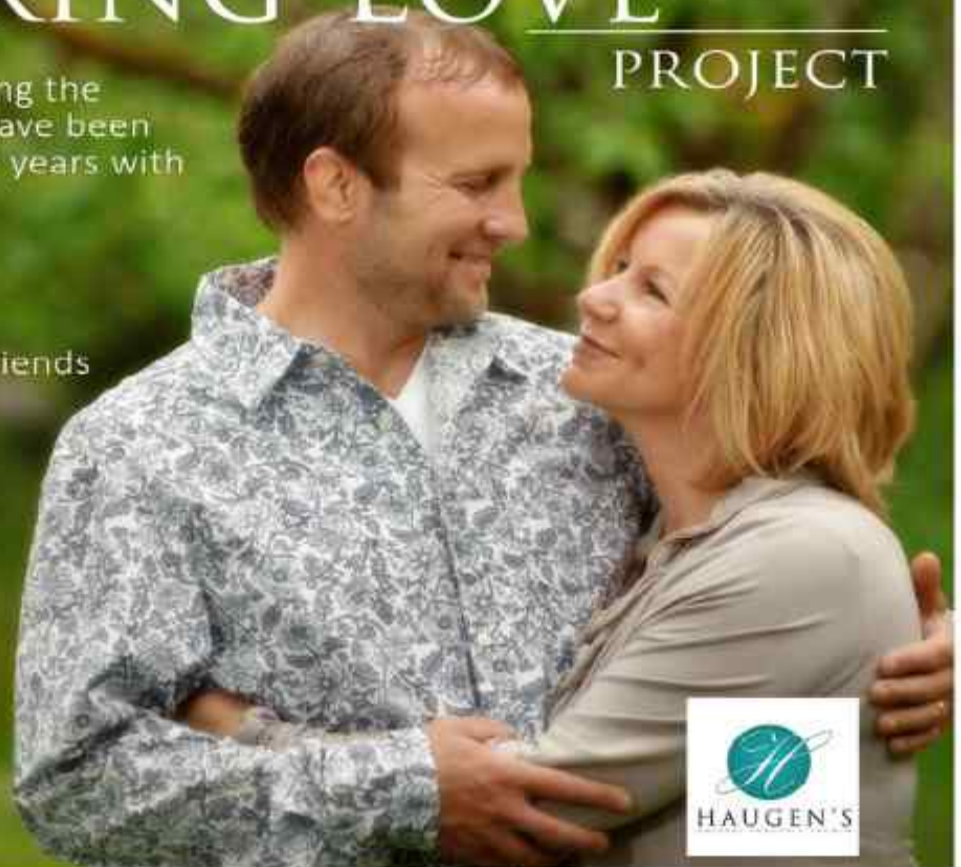
# THE ENDURING LOVE PROJECT

In 2026 we are celebrating the stories of couples who have been together for 10, 20, 30+ years with a portrait exhibition.

We are looking for:

- \*Power couples
- \*Partners and Best Friends
- \*World Travelers
- \*Inspirational stories

APPLY TODAY



HAUGENSGALLERI.COM 9140 HOFFMAN RD. INDEPENDENCE 503.838.5416

# ALL ABOARD

*Stories from the Rails*

A new exhibit exploring railroad history  
in Independence and Monmouth



*Opening April 27<sup>th</sup> in the  
Independence Public Library Lobby*

*In Memory of Ken Fetters*

whose craftsmanship, friendship, and generous spirit helped  
bring this exhibit and many others to life

## Gideon Freudmann CelloBop

**Independence  
House Concert**

**Friday May 29  
7:00**

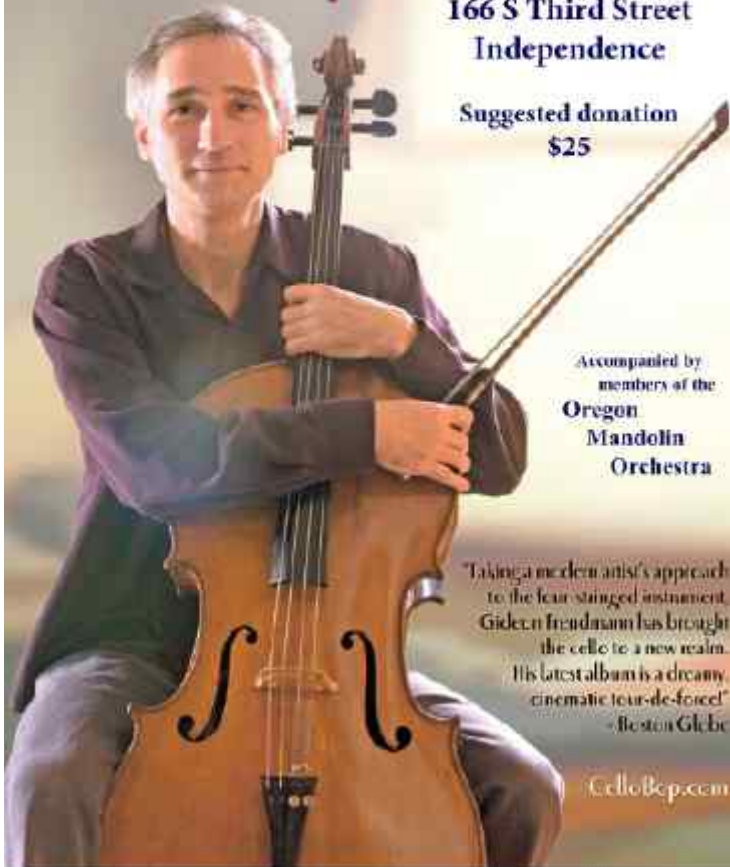
**166 S Third Street  
Independence**

**Suggested donation  
\$25**

Accompanied by  
members of the  
**Oregon  
Mandolin  
Orchestra**

“Taking a modern artist’s approach  
to the four-stringed instrument,  
Gideon Freudmann has brought  
the cello to a new realm.  
His latest album is a dreamy,  
cinematic tour-de-force!”  
- Boston Globe

CelloBop.com



Listen to Corvallis resident Russell  
Yamada’s family experience of  
WWII, incarceration, and rebuilding  
their lives after the war.

**May 28  
6:00 pm**

## Japanese American in Oregon

*A personal account of the  
Japanese American community  
in Oregon spanning five generations  
told through family history, stories,  
and photographs.*

Russell is a third-generation Japanese American  
who grew up in Oregon and volunteers for the  
Japanese American Museum of Oregon.



**Celebrate Asian American  
Pacific Islander Heritage Month!**

168 Ecols St. S.  
Monmouth, OR  
503-838-1932



34TH ANNUAL POLK COUNTY  
MASTER GARDENER™ ASSOCIATION

# PLANT SALE

Mother's Day Weekend 2026



Polk County  
Fairgrounds  
RICKREALL, OR

**Friday, May 8:**  
9 AM - 4 PM  
**Sat., May 9:**  
9 AM - 2 PM



**MONMOUTH GARDEN CLUB**  
**ANNUAL PLANT SALE**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026**  
**9:00am - 2:00pm**  
**MONMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**(No Early Sales)**

Perennials, Annuals, Bulbs, Vegetable Plants, Trees,  
 Shrubs, Herbs, Sedum Gardens, New to You garden  
 related items and Decorative House Plants

"From our gardens to yours."  
 (Great gifts for Mother's Day!)

For further information contact:  
 Sharon Lofton at (503) 586-6746

**BINGO**  
**AT THE ELKS LODGE**

N  
 1 9 50

**SATURDAYS AT 1 PM**  
**\$20 ENTRY CASH PRIZES**

**INDEPENDENCE ELKS LODGE #1550**  
 289 S. MAIN STREET INDEPENDENCE, OREGON



Saturday  
 May 30, 10 AM  
 To  
 Sunday  
 May 31, 10 AM  
 Riverview Park  
 Independence  
 Follow us on  
 Facebook



Rev up your engines, Touch-a-Truck is rolling back into River-view Park on Saturday, May 9, 2026, from 9 AM-2 PM for a day packed with family fun and excitement. Get up close and personal with all your favorite vehicles, from construction behemoths to emergency service transports. As part of the festivities, a helicopter will land in Riverview Park—stay tuned for the timing! We'll be offering a quiet hour sensory (no horns or sirens) from 1-2 PM for anyone with sensory sensitivities. **The Monmouth Independence Family YMCA** is also returning with

their free Mother's Day card making station!

Admission is FREE, but we encourage you to bring food donations for the **Ella Curran Food Bank**.



## May 2026 Classes and Events

SUNDAY 1PM-7PM	MONDAY 11AM-7PM	TUESDAY 11AM-7PM	WEDNESDAY 11AM-7PM	THURSDAY CLOSED	FRIDAY 11AM-7PM	SATURDAY 11AM-7PM
					1	2 Drop In Resin Casting Workshop 2pm-6pm \$15+ materials
3	4 Beginner PanPastel 11am-1pm \$30	5 Watercolor with Christy Wood 1pm-4pm \$30	6 WOU Wednesday Beginner Panpastel 1pm-3pm \$30	7 Closed	8 Gel Plate Class Thoughts and Gifts Reserved Private Event.	9
10	11	12 Polymer Clay Night 4pm-7pm \$25	13 WOU Wednesday Epoxy Resin Casting 4pm-7pm \$15+ Materials	14 Closed	15	16
17 Beginner PanPastel 3pm-5pm \$30	18	19 Polymer Clay Night 4pm-7pm \$25	20 WOU Wednesday Adult D&D Group 5pm-8pm Suggested \$10	21 Closed	22 Visit and Create Stations Pay What you can	23 Beginner PanPastel 4pm-6pm \$30
24 15+ Dungeons and Dragons 2pm-5pm Suggested \$5	25	26	27 WOU Wednesday Epoxy Resin Casting 4pm-7pm \$15+ Materials	28 Closed	29	30
31						

Retail 140 Main Street West Monmouth Oregon

Phone # (503)-837-0931

Classroom 150 Main Street East Monmouth Oregon

Website: [Spectrumartworx.com](http://Spectrumartworx.com)

**Monmouth Monthly:**  
ci.monmouth.or.us



**Subscribe  
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monthly  
newsletters**

Find out  
what's  
Happening  
in our communities!

**River City Briefs:**  
ci.independence.or.us

*River City Briefs*



**INDEPENDENCE**  
*Oregon's Story Begins Here*



**May 30, 2026 • 6 p.m.  
Wolves Athletic Center**

**ABOUT 2C1C, Two Cities, One Community:**

- 2C1C has a standing policy of giving free advertising to local businesses! These ads are generally sized from to 1/3 to 1/4 page. Smaller print will be accommodated or edited for space and clarity.
- Deadline for submissions is the 25th of the month.
- This online magazine is ready to publish by the 1st of each month.
- If you have questions, please let us know by texting 2C1C at 503 580-8525, or email marilyn97351@gmail.com

If you have an **event** or **advertisement** to be featured in a future edition of 2C1C, please send your information to the one of the contacts shown above. As noted, information and/or ad copy is needed by or before the 25th of the month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

*2C1C, Two Cities, One Community, has been a regular monthly publication since May, 2012. Editor: Marilyn Morton*



# Our Community Story

## STITCHED TOGETHER

A Community Quilt Project to Celebrate America 250

### WHAT IS IT?

Create one 8" x 8" quilt square that reflects who you are or what it means to you to call Independence or Monmouth home. Your square will become part of a community quilt installation displayed across Independence and Monmouth.

*Tell your story with stitching, collage, fabric markers, photo transfers... Be creative!*

### WHERE DO I GET A QUILT BLOCK?

Starting March 16 you can pick up a quilt block kit at:

- Independence Heritage Museum
- Independence Public Library
- Monmouth Public Library
- Ash Creek Art Center

### WHEN ARE BLOCKS DUE?

Return your block, along with the information sheet included in the kit, to the location where you picked it up by: **MAY 30**

### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Quilt panels will be created and displayed Summer 2026 at:

- Civic Centers
- WOU's Campus
- Public Libraries
- Independence Heritage Museum

**Finished quilt panels will become a part of the Heritage Museum collection.**

### QUESTIONS?

Contact the Heritage Museum  
[orheritage@ci.independence.or.us](mailto:orheritage@ci.independence.or.us)  
503.838.4989



## Spring Dance Concert

Rice Auditorium

Featuring choreography by Dance Faculty and Guest Artists *Performances: May 7, 8, 9, 2026 at 7:30 pm*

**The Language of Angel**, by Naomi Iizuka, Directed by Raissa Fleming

Math and Nursing Building (Black Box Theatre). *Performances May 27, 28, 29, 30 2026 @ 7:30pm, May 31 @ 2pm*



**May 16-June 5: Juried Student Art Exhibition.** Cannon Gallery in Campbell Hall and Flux Space in the ITC Building. All day.

Student Recital, May 26, 11 AM, Smith Recital Hall

## May 28, WOU invites you to Academic Excellence Showcase activities

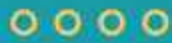
The Academic Excellence Showcase (AES) on the WOU campus is free and open to the public. AES is Western Oregon University's premier event for showcasing student excellence in research, scholarship and performance. Visitors of all ages are invited to attend presentations, poster sessions and the Presidential Plenary to learn more about the interesting and transformative research our undergraduates pursue each year.



### Volcanic Eruption!

Long-term Oregonians remember the eruption of Mt. St. Helens in the early morning hours of May 18, 1980. Preceded by earthquakes, rumblings, and bulging mountainsides, the eruption on the 18th is seared into the memories of those who witnessed the massive eruption. The ash cloud that traveled east maintained its own lightning storm for some time. Ash eruptions followed the for several weeks after the main event.

(memories from a direct observer)



# FAIL FEST

*Every failure is a step toward success.*

## MAY 27, 2026

**Real** Stories  
**Honest** Failures  
**Lessons** Learned  
**Paths** to Thriving

Join Indy Idea Hub for an honest and inspiring event where entrepreneurs come together to share their failures and what they've learned along the way.

Gain practical insights, and explore new ways to move forward after setbacks.



 **Indy Commons**  
154 S Main St  
Independence

 **5:30 PM Doors Open**  
**6:00 PM Presentation**

*Snacks & drinks provided!*

### FEATURED PANEL

Local business leaders sharing their stories



**Joseph Allen & Karen Saul**  
with Andante Vineyard



**Eden Olsen**  
with Lucky Crow Farm



**John Bracken**  
with Crush Wine Tours



Scan here to reserve your seat!



# STAY IN THE LOOP WITH DOWNTOWN INDEPENDENCE



## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Get updates on events, local news, and ways to support our downtown community. We promise to keep it short, useful, and worth your time.

[downtownindependence.com/contact](http://downtownindependence.com/contact)



### Roots

286 S Main St,  
Independence

@rootsindependence



### The Roots menu includes:

- Toasts
- Salad Bowls
- Smoothies
- Acai Bowls
- Sandwiches
- Slow Pressed Juices

“We use organic ingredients whenever possible. House-made sourdough. No artificial dyes. No seed oils.”

**Book Sale**

Books of all Genres  
Audio Books,  
CDs, DVDs, & More!

**SATURDAY MAY 2**

**10am - 3pm**

**Monmouth Public Library**  
168 Ecols St S, Monmouth, OR

[f](#) [i](#) @MonmouthLibraryFriends

FRIENDS of the  
Monmouth Library

Join Lions Club  
We Serve  
Lions District 36-H

Serve Your Community  
Through a Lions Club

Lions District 36-H  
has over 38 clubs  
serving from the  
Coast to the Cascades  
Woodburn to Lakeview  
Visit Us! - Join Us!  
[www.Lions36.org](http://www.Lions36.org)

Central Lions Club—serving  
Monmouth and Independence  
since 1938





**TIME TRAVEL  
THROUGH  
PLAY!**

Built from the toys and games in our own collection, *Time Travel through Play* asks us to consider why the things we play with matter.

**HERITAGE MUSEUM**




# Newsletter

Supporting our public library 2nd QTR 2026  
April 2026

**Follow the Friends on Facebook:**  
[Independence Oregon Friends of the Library](#)

**Bookstore hours:** Wed 5 - 7 PM and Thurs 10 - 12. Subject to change. [Confirm hours on FB](#) (pinned post).

## Independence Public Library

**Hours:** Monday - Thursday 11 AM - 6 PM

**Follow the library on Facebook:**  
[Independence Public Library \(OR\)](#)

[vicepresident@independencelibraryfriends.org](mailto:vicepresident@independencelibraryfriends.org)

### WHAT'S NEW

**Library Advocates Needed**

The library budget is uncertain after June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026. We need advocates to speak on behalf of the library at the first city budget committee meeting on 4/22/26. Contact us for info on how to make public comment.

### DONATE TO THE FOTL

**Donate through PayPal**

"Friends of the Independence Public Library" or use the QR code.



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Bookstore Volunteers**

We need volunteers to staff our bookstore. Flexible hours. Volunteering requires submitting a [volunteer waiver](#) and a [background check request](#). Contact us for more info.



# PRESS RELEASE

RELEASE DATE: 4/14/2026

## Monmouth-Independence Community Foundation Awards Winter Community Grants

The Monmouth-Independence Community Foundation (MICF) is proud to announce the recipients of its Community Grant Awards for Winter 2026, continuing its commitment to programs that enrich and strengthen the local community.

Thanks to the generosity of donors and community partners, MICF supports organizations that enhance education, promote inclusion, and build meaningful connections across the Monmouth-Independence area.

We are pleased to announce the following recipients:

- **Bambinos Oregon** – Bambinos Baby Essential Bus Project, supporting families with young children.
- **Chess in the Park** – Community Chess Set Initiative Project, expanding access to free outdoor recreation and learning.
- **Independence Heritage Museum** – Fiesta Legacy Project, celebrating and preserving local cultural traditions.
- **Monmouth-Independence YMCA** – Inclusive Bungee Fitness Initiative Project, promoting accessible health and wellness opportunities for all.

"These projects represent the very best of our community," said a MICF representative. "We are honored to support their work and help create opportunities that make a lasting impact."

Community Grants are one of MICF's four key focus areas, alongside scholarships, classroom enrichment, and partnerships—all working together to build a stronger, more connected community.

As MICF celebrates more than 25 years of service, the Foundation remains dedicated to supporting local organizations and improving quality of life for all residents.

### About MICF

Established in 2000, the Monmouth-Independence Community Foundation is committed to enriching and empowering the community through scholarships, grants, and partnerships that create lasting impact. For more information, visit [www.mifoundation.net](http://www.mifoundation.net).

[www.mifoundation.net](http://www.mifoundation.net)

## Hello Central School District and Community,

With Spring being in the air and the sunshine being out, we have already seen an increase in our students that are walking, riding bikes and skateboarding.

Please be **SAFE** and **COURTEOUS** when driving or parking near the school zones and cross walks, especially during Drop-Off and Pick-Up times.

Below are a few safety strategies for parents/guardians during Drop-off & Pick-up time.

Always be extra cautious to watch for **students, staff** and **crossing guards**.

Use cross walks to keep yourself and your child safe as you cross the street.

Please do not park on crosswalks.

Be timely with drop-off, do not leave your car unattended in drop-off or pick-up zones.

Drop-off or Pick-up students in designated areas only (no quick drops in the road).

Slow down, please obey the school zone speed limit.

Please be courteous to other drivers, our neighbors and private property around the schools.

*Thank you for your diligence in keeping safety a priority for the Central School District 13J.*



**AZUCENA'S CLEANING, LLC**

One time cleaning or regularly scheduled visits: biweekly, weekly, or monthly.

- Free Estimates
- Professional Carpet Cleaning
- Window / Screen Cleaning - In & Out
- Residential / Commercial
- Office/Home Maintenance
- Move In / Move Out Cleaning
- Spring Cleaning • Pre-Listing Cleaning
- Stairs • Power Washing • Air Duct Cleaning

**\$100 OFF CLEANING!**

Receive \$100 Off your third completed service!  
Offer ends 12/31/2025

**AZUCENA'S CLEANING, LLC**

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED BILINGUAL

503.779.5906 [azucenascleaning@gmail.com](mailto:azucenascleaning@gmail.com)  
www.azucenascleaning.com

LIMITED OFFER

EASTER IS APRIL 5TH

\$10 per egg or 3 for \$25



MOTHER'S DAY IS MAY 10TH

\$20 per mini painting



Monday	1:00pm - 8:30pm
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	10:00am - 4:30pm
Thursday	10:00am - 8:30pm
Friday	9:00am - 8:30pm
Saturday	9:00am - 6:00pm
Sunday	Closed

See our class schedule on our website or by clicking "Book Me" on Facebook



Heads up!

We will be closed April 15 - 20th

for our trip to learn more cool skills @ America's Largest Glass Craft & Bead Expo!



Lewis and Clark began their westward journey on May 14, 1804, 222 years ago this month. Their original mission was to explore the 1803 Louisiana Purchase, but they pressed on to the Pacific Ocean, arriving there in September 1806. One aspect of their mission was to find a practical travel route across the land, avoiding desert areas. They were also to explore biodiversity, topography, and geography, and to bring back scientific, economical and humanitarian knowledge.

Map source: knowitall.org



TEDxMtHood is coming to **Western Oregon University** on **Saturday, May 16**

and will bring hundreds of visitors to Monmouth for a full day of talks, performances, and community connection. (WOU will be encouraging attendees to grab lunch downtown and explore local shops.) TEDxMtHood 2026 flier

**What this means for downtown:**

Increased visitor traffic throughout the day  
Attendees actively encouraged to eat, shop, and explore locally  
A great opportunity to showcase what makes Monmouth special

**Bonus:**

In addition to TEDxMtHood, **there will also be a dance showcase and a gaming event happening on campus the same day**, adding even more energy and visitors to town.

**Sponsorship opportunity:**

Event organizers are still welcoming sponsors if any businesses are interested—but even if not, this should be a **busier-than-usual Saturday** worth being ready for.

Feel free to share this with your teams, adjust hours if you can, or think about a small promotion or welcome for visitors. It's a great moment to put our best local foot forward.

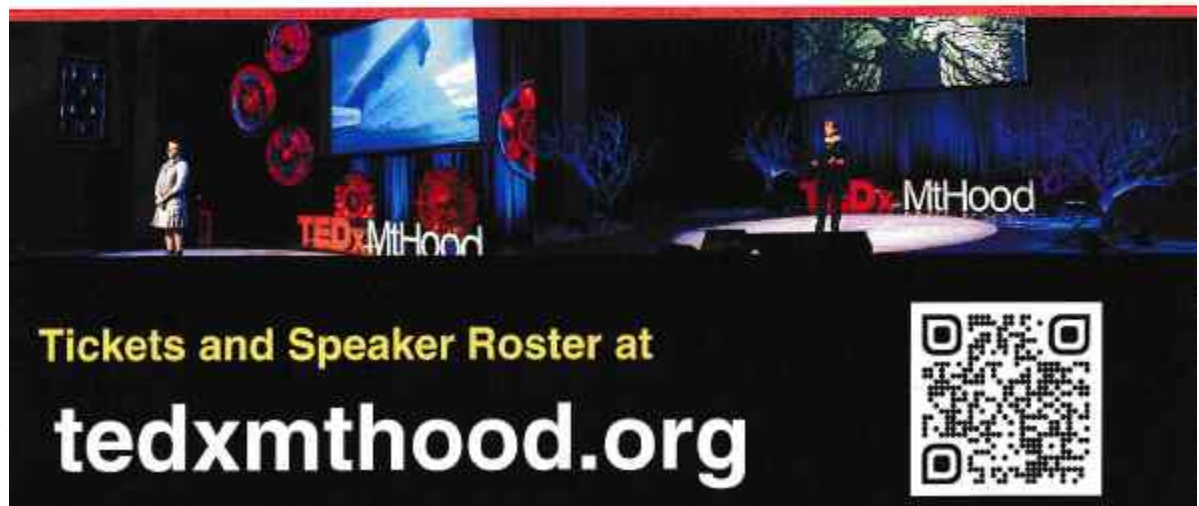


*Celebrating our 10th TEDxMtHood event!  
A full day of ideas, performances, and community connection.*

- ✓ 12 Speakers, 3 Performances, & Interactive Sessions
- ✓ Breakfast, Lunch & Reception Included
- ✓ 3 Main Stage Sessions
- ✓ Interactive Action Breaks

**Saturday, May 16, 2026**

**Rice Auditorium at Western Oregon University  
Monmouth, OR**





# ASH CREEK ARTS CENTER

INVESTIGATE • EDUCATE • CREATE



Watercolor Youth Class with  
Maia Jones  
May 9, 10 AM-12 All  
materials provided by ACAC



Tuesday Night Adult Class:  
Soft Linoleum Linoprinting  
with Ash Carls  
May 12, 6:30-8:30 PM  
All supplies provided by



PreK Art Adventures with Toben  
Roark  
May 13, 10 –11:30 AM  
& May 20, 10 AM-11:30 AM  
& May 27, 10-11:30 AM  
All supplies provided by ACAC.



Adaptive arts Guild (ages 9-  
15) with Ash Carls  
May 20, 6-7:30 PM  
All materials provided by  
ACAC



Sketching in the Park with  
Color Adult Art Class with  
Sonia Allen  
May 21, 6:30-8:30 PM  
All materials provided by  
ACAC

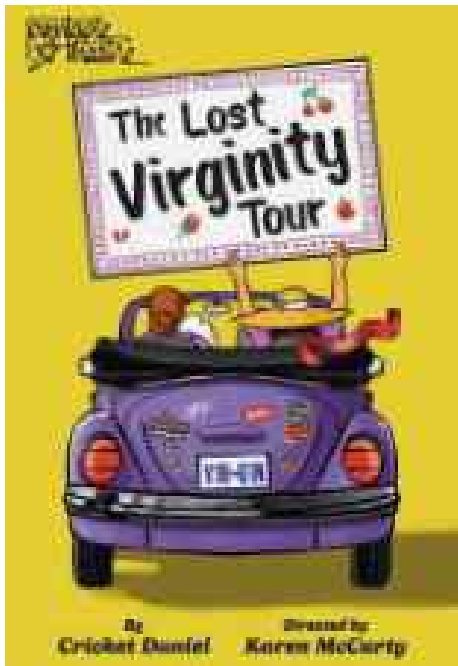


Saturday Adult Art  
Workshop (16+)  
May 23, 10 AM-3 PM  
All materials provided by  
ACAC



Adult (15+) Drawing Class  
with Jessica Rehfield  
May 27, 6:30-8:30 PM  
All supplies provided by  
ACAC.

ASH CREEK ARTS CENTER  
(ACAC), is a 501(c)(3)  
organization, funded since  
2010 by donations and  
grants. At 311 Monmouth  
St, Independence. ***Your  
donations are always  
welcome.***



- Friday, May 8, 7:30 PM
- Saturday, May 9, 7:30 PM
- Sunday, May 10, 2 PM
- Thursday, May 14, 7:30 PM
- Friday, May 15, 7:30 PM
- Saturday, May 16, 7:30 PM
- Sunday, May 17, 2 PM
- Thursday, May 21, 7:30 PM
- Friday, May 22, 7:30 PM
- Saturday, May 23, 2 PM
- Saturday, May 23, 7:30 PM
- Sunday, May 24, 2 PM
- Thursday, May 28, 7:30 PM
- Friday, May 29, 7:30 PM
- Saturday, May 30, 7:30 PM

### COMMUNITY CRAFT DAYS

Third Saturday of the month, 10 AM-4 PM. **Monmouth Senior Community Center, 180 Warren St S, Monmouth**  
All ages & crafters of all kind welcome. Bring your own hobbies and food/snacks for the day.



**AGE CAFE**  
MONTHLY SOCIAL GATHERINGS  
AT 10:00AM



*Aging: Everybody's Doing It!*

Age Café meets at 10 AM on the 2nd Thursday of each month

**MONMOUTH SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**180 WARREN ST. S, MONMOUTH, OR**  
**503-838-5678**

### SPRING BIRD WALK at JTE TREE FARM Saturday, May 9 at 8 AM

Join us on this morning excursion through the different habitats found at J26 Tree Farm in search of our feathered friends. Expert birders from Salem Audobon, OSU Extension and the local community will lead two groups through the beautiful property, helping participants identify birds by sight and sound. All experience levels welcome. This event is free, thanks to the support from Benton SWCD!



Sign up here: [luckiamute.org/spring-bird-walk-j2e.html?mc\\_cid=94ba7782f7&mc\\_eid=4b007f076c](https://luckiamute.org/spring-bird-walk-j2e.html?mc_cid=94ba7782f7&mc_eid=4b007f076c)

### SPRING BIRD WALK at INSPIRATION GARDEN Saturday, May 16. 8-10:30 AM

Explore the habitats of the beautiful Inspiration Garden in Independence, from cultivated plots to the riparian trail along South Fork Ash Creek. Led in partnership with Salem Audobon and Polk Master Gardeners, this walk is great for beginners and experienced birders alike. The event is free to all attending, thanks to support from Ash Creek Water Control District.



Sign up here: [luckiamute.org/spring-bird-walk-j2e.html?mc\\_cid=94ba7782f7&mc\\_eid=4b007f076c](https://luckiamute.org/spring-bird-walk-j2e.html?mc_cid=94ba7782f7&mc_eid=4b007f076c)



### WESTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY HOME GAMES & TOURNAMENTS

- May 1:** Softball vs Western Washington University, 1 & 3 PM
- May 2:** Softball vs Western Washington University, 12 & 2 PM
- May 9:** Women's Soccer vs Alumni Game

### CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL HOME GAMES & TOURNAMENTS

- May 1:** Softball vs Dallas, 4 PM
- May 1:** Baseball vs McKay, 5 PM
- May 5:** Tennis, Central Dual BTN Meet, 4 PM
- May 6:** Baseball vs West Albany, 5 PM
- May 8:** Baseball vs Corvallis, 5 PM
- May 13:** Baseball vs Dallas, 5 PM
- May 15:** Softball vs West Albany, 4 PM
- May 18:** Baseball vs South Albany, 5 PM
- May 20:** Softball vs Silverton, 4 PM

**May is peak spring migration season for many birds that migrate over and through Polk County.** We are considered a "major corridor" for birds this month, including these birds:

- American White Pelicans
- American Wigeons
- Black-necked Stilt
- Canada Geese
- Canvasback
- Cinnamon Teal
- Dunlins
- Greater Scaup
- Hermit Warbler
- Lesser Yellowlegs
- Lincoln's Sparrow

- Nashville Warblers
- Northern Pintails
- Plovers
- Red Tailed Hawks
- Rufous Hummingbirds
- Savannah Sparrows
- Snow Goose
- Swainson's Hawks
- Townsend's Warblers
- Tundra Swans
- Vireos
- Western Sandpipers
- Whimbrels
- Willio flycatchers
- Wilson's Warbler
- Yellow Warbler
- Yellow-rumped warblers



### Ask Me Anything! MAYOR OFFICE HOURS

Every Wednesday morning, 8:30 - 10:30 AM |  
Ash Creek Conference Room, Independence Civic Center



Mayor Kate Schwarzler

### Friends of the Monmouth Senior Center Pancake Breakfast

First Saturday of every month, 8:30 AM, Monmouth Senior Center, 180 S Warren St, Monmouth. Join us the first Saturday of every month: for \$10 all-you-can-eat pancakes, eggs, sausage, biscuits & gravy, juice, and coffee.

We'll save a seat for you!

**NEXT PANCAKE BREAKFAST: MAY 2nd**



Thank you, MINET, for free wi-fi on the trolley!

The Wild Women Show will begin Thursday, May 28! The theme for this year's exhibition is "Transitions". Be ready to enjoy the fun and lively show that area artists and River Gallery will display. Mark your calendar for the reception — Saturday, June 13, 2026 from 4:00pm-8:00pm. We will see you there! Our "Call for Artists" is below and on our website. Below left: Women in Gas Masks.



### Drawing with Ink

River Gallery invites artists of all skill levels interested in learning, sharing and exploring the art of drawing with ink.

Discover the wide variety of pens used for ink drawing from ballpoint pens and dip pens, to fountain pens and brushes; along with the wide variety of paper, sketchbooks that work well for working with ink.

If you love to draw, and ink runs in your

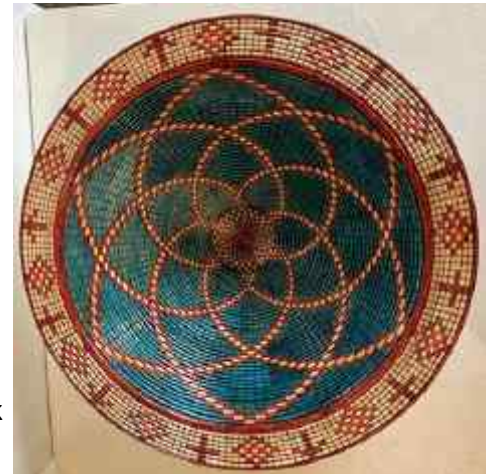
veins, or if you're just ink curious...come draw with us for an afternoon of ink, art and discovery.

**Join Richard and Carol on Saturday, June 6th, 2026 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm.**

**Window Show: Wood and Glass - There will be several featured artists in our window who work with the warmth of wood and the transparency of glass. Stroll by our window show to observe the eclectic wonders created by artists at River Gallery!**

*Bowl created by Kip Allen*

*Drawing with Ink: Presented by Richard Bunse and Carol*



River Gallery  
184 S. Main Street  
Independence, OR. 97351  
503/838-6171

Email: [rivergallery97351@gmail.com](mailto:rivergallery97351@gmail.com)

Website: <https://www.rivergalleryart.com>

Open: Thursdays - Sundays from 11:00am - 4:00pm

### CALL TO ARTISTS: "Wild Women Show". Theme: "Transitions"

- Art drop off dates are Thursday, 5/21/2026 through Sunday, 5/24/2026 from 11:00am - 4:00pm.
- Art exhibit runs through Thursday, 5/28/2026 through Saturday, 6/28/2026 from 11:00am - 4:00pm.
- Art pick up dates are Saturday, 6/27/2026 through Sunday, 6/28/2026 from 11:00am - 4:00pm.
- The reception is on Saturday, 6/13/2026 at River Gallery from 4:00pm - 8:00pm. You don't want to miss this exhibit!
- This is a non-juried exhibit.
- The hanging fee is \$30 and limited to one art piece per artist. All artwork must be for sale.
- So put it on your calendar! If you are an artist, this is the time to prepare for the "Wild Women Show"!
- Check our website for updates and/or additional information.

Did You Know...?

Wandering In Time Holdings LLC, the company that produces the Oregon Renaissance Faire, purchased the 100-year-old Oak Knoll Golf Course near Salem, Oregon, for \$6.2 million in April 2026. The 58-acre property, located near Independence, has closed as a golf course, with future plans by the new owners likely involving the Renaissance Faire.



(Sources: Information, Google Photo, Oregon Renaissance Faire)



# TRI-TIP

## Thursday

**WHISKEY SMOKED TRI-TIP**  
OR  
**MARRY ME CHICKEN**  
(SUN DRIED TOMATOES W/CREAM SAUCE)  
**SMOKED MAC & CHEESE**  
**BABY REDS**  
**GARDEN SALAD**  
**ROLLS WITH BUTTER**  
**ONLY \$18 PER PERSON!**

**THURSDAY**  
**May 14 & 28**  
**5:30-7:30**

➤ **JOIN US** ➤

Location:  
**Brew Coffee & Tap House**  
**211 S. Main Street, Independence**






# May 2026

## Independence Public Library



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>Lego Mania</b> 4 pm	Storytime 10:30 am ----- Kid's Coding 4 pm		<b>Independence Public Library</b> 175 Monmouth Street Independence, OR 97351 503-838-1811 <a href="http://www.ci.independence.or.us/library">www.ci.independence.or.us/library</a> Open Monday-Thursday 11-6 pm	
		<b>Chair Yoga with Winnie</b> 11 am	Storytime 10:30 am ----- Kid's Coding 4 pm	<b>Teen &amp; Adult BINGO</b> 3:30 pm		
		<b>Mystery Book Club</b> 4 pm	No Storytime New Session begins June 17th	<div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px; border-radius: 10px;"> <b>Summer Reading 2026:</b>  <b>"Plant a Seed, Read"</b>  <b>is coming June 15th!</b> </div>		
		<b>Chair Yoga with Winnie</b> 11 am		<b>Finnegan the Dragon</b> Early Literacy 11:30 am		

## DRY TOWN TAP STATION

- Food Trucks
- Music Bingo
- Live Music
- Trivia Tuesday
- AND MORE!



Follow @drytowntapstation to stay up to date on all the great things coming up!



**POLK FLEA MARKET:**  
**1ST SUNDAY OF EVERY**  
**MONTH EXCEPT AUGUST.**  
**POLK COUNTY**  
**FAIRGROUNDS ON HWY**  
**99. OVER 100 VENDORS,**  
**3 BUILDINGS, VINTAGE**  
**GOODS, COLLECTIBLES,**  
**ANTIQUES, WEIRD**  
**WONDERFUL UNIQUE**  
**FINDS.**

Early Bird Shoppers \$5, 6-9am. General admission \$1, 9am-3pm. Free Parking. Follow us on Facebook.



**KAREN FRASCONE**  
 Owner  
 karen@kinsuregroup.com

Let's Talk  
 Health Insurance!

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 Marketplace,  
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 Representing all  
 major carriers

**503.838.1158**  
 kinsuregroup.com

1327 Monmouth St.  
 Independence, OR



**River Gallery**  
 184 S. Main Street,  
 Independence  
 503/838-6171,  
 rivergalleyart.com

Drawing with Carol Chapel is every third Sunday of the month from 1:00pm-2:00pm at River Gallery.

Supplies and materials will be provided. Bring your smile and join in on the fun!





# ARTIST ALLEY AT ARTFEST

**Come and support WOU Students selling their art!**

May 15th  
12pm-4pm

WOU Campus  
Infront of ITC



Questions? Email Aspen Petersen  
[gpetersen22@mail.wou.edu](mailto:gpetersen22@mail.wou.edu)



If you would like to request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in a WOU activity or event, complete the online request form at least three (3) business days in advance. If you are faculty or staff and have questions, please contact Human Resources at 503-838-8490 or email [hr@wou.edu](mailto:hr@wou.edu). If you are a student or community member and have questions, please contact Disability Access Services (DAS) at 503-838-8250 or [das@wou.edu](mailto:das@wou.edu).



**MUSIC**  
**JAM NIGHT**  
 Second Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm.



**UKULELE**  
**JAM NIGHT**  
 Third Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm.



Monmouth Senior Community Center  
 180 Warren Street South  
 Monmouth, OR 97361  
 503-838-4874



**SUPPORT WHAT YOU LOVE ABOUT INDEPENDENCE**





You now have the option to financially support the Independence Public Library, Museum, and Parks Center with a one-time donation or by becoming a monthly supporter.



**INDEPENDENCE**  
 Progress. Every Step. Starts Here.

**Y 175**



**THE**  
 Play With  
*Purpose*  
**PLACE**

Looking for a youth sports program that goes beyond the game? At the Y, every pass, shot, and point builds skills that last long after the final whistle.

**Youth Sports Programs at the Y Offer:**

- Skill Development
- Teams For All
- Coaches Who Care
- A Safe & Fun Environment

**Register Today For Spring Sports:**

- Volleyball: 3rd-6th
- Soccer: 3 yr.'s-6th
- Flag Football: 1st-6th

The Monmouth Independence YMCA  
 503.838.4042 | TheYofore.org

**SIGN UP TODAY**




**LAUNCH**  
 Marion | Polk | Yamhill  
**Mid-Valley**  
 Regional Innovation Hub  
**COFFEE CLUB**

INDEPENDENCE

Monthly  
 Every 4th Thursday  
 at 9am!

Join Launch Mid-Valley at Indy Commons at this monthly coffee club for business owners, entrepreneurs, and start-ups to connect and learn from one another. The next meeting is Thursday, May 28, 2026, at Indy Commons on Main Street, Independence

WISH LIST FROM  
ELLA CURRAN

FOOD BANK

SOUP  
HAMBURGER  
HELPER  
RICE A RONI  
SPAGHETTI SAUCE  
CHILI  
CANNED FRUIT  
CANNED CORN

CANNED CHICKEN  
DICED TOMATOES  
CEREAL  
JELLY  
TOILET PAPER  
TOOTHBRUSHES  
MONETARY  
DONATIONS



# Ella Curran Food Bank

## How to help

- **Drop off donations:** Deliver food or monetary donations to 865 N Main St, Independence, during operating hours.
- **Volunteer:** Fill out a volunteer interest form on their website.
- **Donate online or by check:** Send monetary donations via their website or mail a check to the address on their website.

## Watch us Grow:

The new Ella Curran Food Bank building is going up on Hoffman Road. So far franchise utilities & irrigation sleeves are installed, curbs and paving are in, and the bio-swale is under construction.

The Ella Curran Food Bank  
is a 501(c)3 organization  
**870 N. Main St., PO Box 547**  
**Independence**  
**Mondays 4-6 PM**  
**Tuesdays 9-11:30 AM, 4-6 PM**  
**Thursdays 9-11:30 AM. 4-6 PM**

THE POWER OF  
**ONE GREEN BAG**

BUILDING COMMUNITY.  
SHARING FOOD.

ONEGREENBAG.ORG  
#ShareMore



THE ELLA CURRAN FOOD BANK  
870 N. Main St., Independence, OR 97351  
EllaCurranFoodBank@gmail.com, ellacurranfoodbank.org

# 100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

Each month a few national and local news snippets will be shared, along with local advertising from 100 years ago this month.

This month we are focusing on prices, then and now. It's an interesting comparison!

\$1 in May of 1926 would be the equivalent of \$18.46 today, May 2026.

Here are the prices of clothing, commodities, cars and appliances that could be purchased 100 years ago.

In 1926 the average household income in Polk County was \$2,010.

In 2026, with more specific measurements available, the average household income of in Monmouth & Independence is \$79,012.



Harley Davidson, 1926, 2026  
\$315 vs \$10,000+

FOOD	May 1926	May 2026
Ground Beef, 1 lb	\$ 0.15	\$ 6.50
Milk, 1 gallon	\$ 0.56	\$ 3.56
Cheese, 1 lb	\$ 0.43	\$ 3.58
Flour, 10 lbs	\$ 0.35	\$ 7.47
Sugar, 10 lbs	\$ 0.52	\$ 10.99
Butter, 1 lb	\$ 0.53	\$ 3.06
Bread, 1 loaf	\$ 0.08	\$ 1.95
Oranges, 1 lb	\$ 0.08	\$ 1.40
Bananas, 1 lb	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.65
Apples, 1 lb	\$ 0.05	\$ 1.30
Chocolate, 1 lb	\$ 0.25	\$ 12.00
Oatmeal, 1 lb	\$ 0.06	\$ 4.25
Eggs, 1 dozen	\$ 0.44	\$ 1.75

CLOTHING	May 1926	May 2026
Denim Jeans, 1 pair	\$ 4.50	\$ 30.00
Work Shirt, Men's	\$ 1.50	\$ 18.00
Cashmere Sweater,	\$ 2.25	\$ 25.00
Winter Coat, Men's	\$ 26.50	\$ 45.00
Man's Work Boots,	\$ 4.50	\$ 50.00
Woman's Dress	\$ 3.50	\$ 40.00

LEISURE	May 1926	May 2026
Hardcover fiction	\$ 0.95	\$ 30.00
Movie, 1 seat	\$ 0.25	\$ 13.00
Record, 78 rpm	\$ 0.75	\$ 30.00
Radio	\$ 75.00	\$ 20.00

AUTO & HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES	May 1926	May 2026
Gas, 1 gallon	\$ 0.26	\$ 4.75
Home Electricity, 1	\$ 3.50	\$ 151.50

LARGE PURCHASES	May 1926	May 2026
Harley Davidson	\$235 to \$315	\$10,000 and up
5-passenger Sedan	\$ 525.00	\$27,000-\$29,000
Model T	\$ 360.00	N/A
Washer/Dryer pair	\$ 50.00	\$ 1,200.00
Average Moderate	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 450,000.00
Average Small Home	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 350,000.00

# WOU<sup>TM</sup> WEDNESDAY



Receive discounts when you wear your WOU gear on Wednesday visiting these local businesses



More discounts are available in Dallas!

# COMING EVENTS AND ATTRACTIONS

## Looking Forward to What's Next

2C1C reserves an area in this online magazine to preview activities that are coming in the next month (and sometimes beyond). Your event can be previewed in this section. Recurring local ads are also featured here!



# Happy

# LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

## Let's Celebrate!

Hosted by: Independence Downtown Association

- KONA ICE
- ACTIVITIES + GAMES
- SPIDERMAN & ELSA
- FREE EVENT ALL ARE WELCOME

**JUNE 16 • 3-5PM**  
Riverview Park Independence, Oregon  
*Thank you to our sponsors*



# Feliz

# ¡ÚLTIMO DÍA DE CLASES!

## ¡Vamos a celebrar!

Presentado por: Independence Downtown Association

- RASPADOS
- ACTIVIDADES + JUEGOS
- SPIDERMAN & ELSA
- EVENTO GRATIS TODOS BIENVENIDOS

**JUNIO 16 • 3-5PM**  
Riverview Park Independence, Oregon  
*Gracias a nuestros patrocinadores*



## Home & Office Cleaning You Can Trust!

Get a Free estimate at:  
503-580-6632  
Licensed & Insured



Out with the dust, in with the fresh

**\$100 OFF** a Deep Clean  
when you start recurring  
service this spring

# MAIN STREET ICE CREAM PARLOR

109 MAIN ST E,  
MONMOUTH  
503 838-1485





Oregon State University  
Precollege Programs

# iINVENT

2026 Summer  
Camps



This summer, take advantage of FREE invention summer camps for youth in your community. Camps will be led by a team of OSU students in your community!



**FOR:** Rising 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

**WHEN:** July 20-24

**WHERE:** Indy Commons  
154 S Main Street, Independence

**REGISTER:** <https://beav.es/x6C>



Sign Up Now

To Learn More Contact:

Kate Schwarzler ([kate@indycommons.com](mailto:kate@indycommons.com))



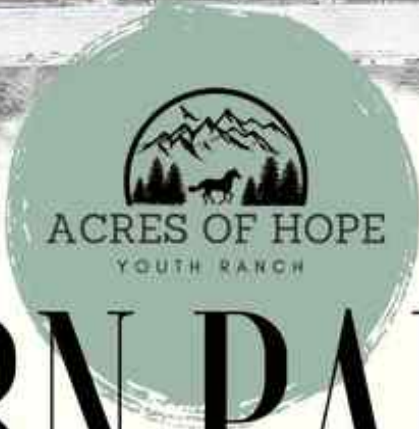
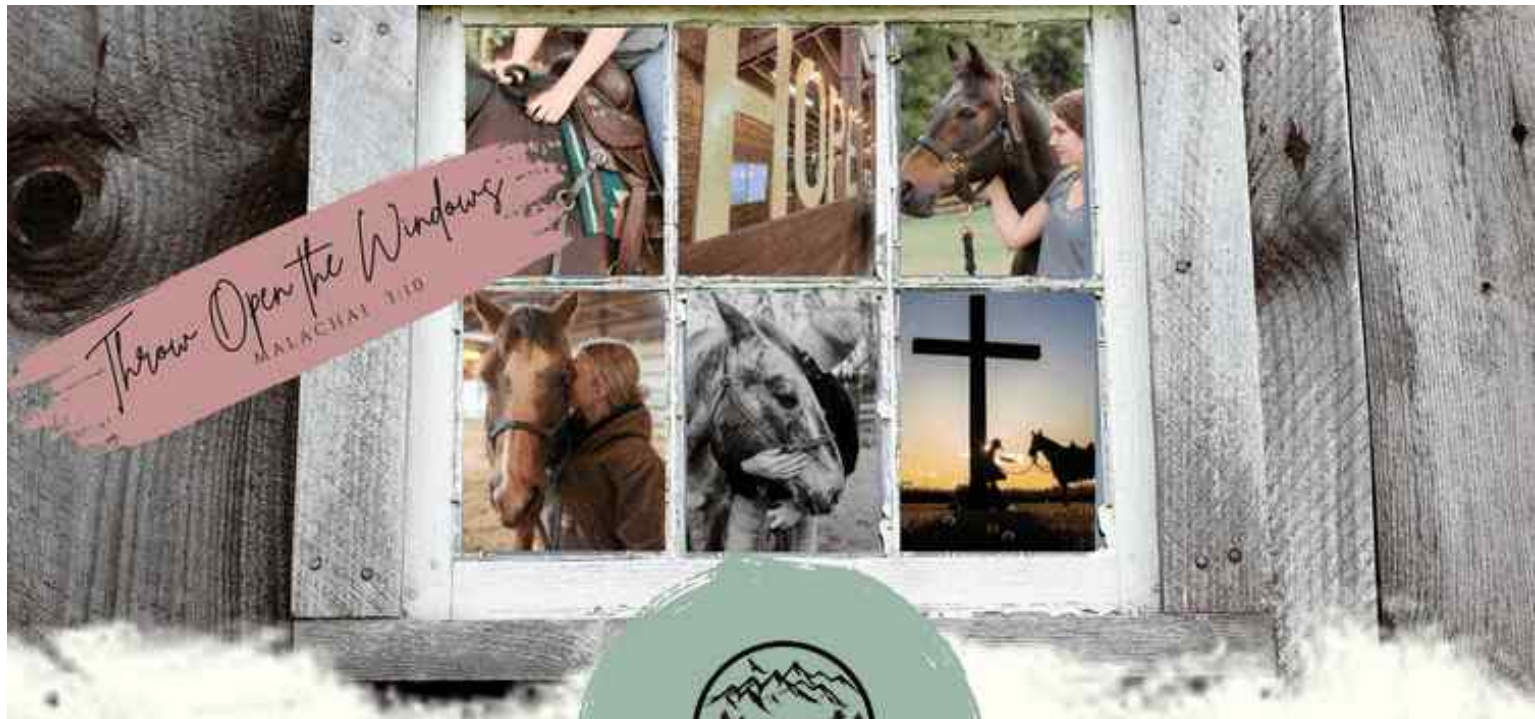
Learn about STEM, related careers, and college life



Apply STEM concepts to solve real-world problems



Develop core skills like teamwork, empathy, and leadership



# BARN PARTY

## Fundraiser

JUNE

SATURDAY 6 AT 6 PM OPEN HOUSE 5:00PM

2026

LIVE MUSIC\* AUTHENTIC BBQ  
DESSERT\* LIVE AUCTION  
SILENT AUCTION



SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

Helping teens live like they belong & love others like they belong

## POLK COUNTY MUSEUM AT RICKREALL



*Two of the Best Museums in the Willamette Valley*

June 20, 2026

1:00 PM

### **BRIDGING THE WILLAMETTE**

Presenter: Kylie Pine, Curator & Collections Manager, Willamette Heritage Center  
Light refreshments served

At the museum, 560 Pacific Hwy in Rickreall  
(south side of fairgrounds)

SAT  
6/6  
2026

## TAIMANE

Combing fierce rock, dance and ukelele—genres morph from classical to rock to flamenco



Scan here to order tickets



# SAVE THE DATE

06/20/2026

Save the date for Partnerships in Community Living's Annual Summer Solstice Benefit Auction. Because everyone deserves a home, a life, and a place to belong.

Eola Hills Wine Cellars  
Rickreall, OR  
The evening of June 20, 2026



Famous TV Mothers  
Source: Facebook

## FROM REPRESENTATIVE PAUL EVANS:

Even though the 2026 Legislative Session ended nearly two months ago, the work is still underway. Governor Kotek has now signed most of the bills, and agencies are beginning to shape the rules and protocols required to put those laws into practice. Passing legislation is rarely the end of the process—it is often just the end of the beginning.

My focus now is on implementation. I am working closely with agency leaders and stakeholders to ensure effective rollout of three key measures: House Bill 4121 (statewide emergency resilience), House Bill 4132 (veterans care and services), and House Bill 4124 (higher education systems review). These efforts will guide much of my policy work through the remainder of the year.

Alongside these priorities, I continue advancing proposals tied to regional infrastructure sustainability, public safety recruitment and retention, and targeted support for small businesses and working families. I also remain engaged through service on the Oregon Homeland Security Council, as a non-voting member of the Oregon Public Defense Commission, and on several advisory bodies.

At the same time, Oregon is navigating a difficult moment. Federal decisions are reshaping the relationship between states and Washington, D.C., often by shifting costs downward. The ongoing war with Iran has increased federal spending pressures, raising the likelihood of deeper cuts to critical programs such as Medicaid, Medicare, and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance. Childcare support may also be at risk—an outcome that would further strain working families and push more Oregonians out of the middle class.

During the session, we worked to soften these impacts. Through a combination of adjustments and one-time solutions, we limited cuts to approximately 1.2% of the 2025 Legislatively Adopted Budget. These reductions are real and meaningful, and they were made with care. However, if federal funding declines further, future cuts will be more severe—and they will fall hardest on those already struggling.

We will continue to steward state resources responsibly, but we must be clear-eyed about what may lie ahead.

What we cannot control in Washington, we must confront here at home. Oregon cannot dictate federal policy, but we can shape our own future. That means rebuilding an economy that works—for our people and our place. It means developing a shared vision and committing to it together. That work will require creativity, innovation, and a willingness to take thoughtful risks.

In the coming months, I invite you to be part of that effort. Please join us at our upcoming town halls and in a series of facilitated conversations later this summer focused on jobs, economic growth, and support for small businesses.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our community.

### Paul L. Evans

State Representative, House District 20

You are invited to contact Representative Evans at his office anytime if you have questions or need assistance with state services. (503) 986-1420, [Rep.PaulEvans@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Rep.PaulEvans@oregonlegislature.gov).



## SENATOR PATTERSON

Senator Patterson's article is on hiatus and will resume in June. However, if you have questions for Senator Patterson, you may contact her office at (503) 986-1710 or [Sen.DebPatterson@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Sen.DebPatterson@oregonlegislature.gov).



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**Partners Featured, May 2026**

Acres of Hope  
 Ash Creek Arts Center  
 Brew Coffee & Tap House  
 Casa Burrito  
 Central High School Sports  
 Central Lions Club  
 City of Independence  
 City of Monmouth  
 Curves  
 Dry Town Tap Station  
 Dutch Bros  
 Ella Curran Food Bank  
 FireHouse Crossfit  
 Friends of Monmouth Senior Center  
 Friends of the Independence Library  
 Friends of the Monmouth Library  
 Grain Station Brew Works  
 Greece Lightning Express  
 Habanero’s  
 Habebah Coffee & Cuisine  
 Haugen’s Galleri  
 Hazel’s on Main  
 Heritage Museum  
 Heritage Museum Society  
 Independence Downtown Association  
 Independence Elks Lodge  
 Independence Library  
 Independence Riverview Market  
 Indy Commons  
 Inspiration Garden  
 Invent Summer Camps  
 J2E Tree Farm  
 K Insurance Group  
 Koyotes Tacos  
 La Uvita Feliz  
 Luckiamute Watershed Council  
 Maganda Glassworks  
 Main Street Ice Cream Parlor  
 MaMere’s Guest House  
 Mana  
 Maui Melts  
 M-I Green Bag Project  
 MI Trolley  
 Minet Fiber  
 Momiji  
 Monmouth Arts & Culture Commission

Monmouth Business Association  
 Monmouth Garden Club  
 Monmouth Independence Community Foundation  
 Monmouth Independence YMCA  
 Monmouth Monthly  
 Monmouth Public Library  
 Monmouth Senior Community Center  
 Original Independence Farmers Market  
 Partnerships in Community Living  
 Pentacle Theatre  
 Polk Community Card  
 Polk County Historical Society  
 Polk County Master Gardener Assn  
 Polk Flea Market  
 Relay for Life  
 Representation Paul Evans  
 River City Briefs  
 River Gallery  
 Rockin Rad Relics  
 Rookies Sports Tap  
 Roots  
 Senator Deb Patterson  
 Shine & Sparkle Cleaning Services  
 Sing Fay  
 Smith Fine Arts Series  
 Spectrum Artworx  
 Subway  
 Sushi Roll ‘n  
 Tan Republic Monmouth  
 TEDx Mt Hood  
 The Find  
 The Sippery Coffee Co  
 Touch a Truck  
 Valkyrie Wine Tavern  
 Vibe & Thrive Esthetics  
 Wandering Time Holdings, LLC  
 Western Oregon University  
 Western Oregon University Sports  
 Western Oregon University Theatre Department  
 Yang’s Teriyaki  
 Yeasty Beasty



*In future issues watch for summer entertainment schedules*