

Community Calendar January 2026

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

Thursday, January 1, Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, 1863

Serving Prime Rib, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St (I)

Independence Downtown Association meets, 8 AM, K Insurance Group, Central Plaza (I)

Central Lions Club Free Community Breakfast, 8:30-10:30 AM, Monmouth Senior Center (M)

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

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

Family Feud, 7 PM, Rookies Sports Tap, Monmouth

Friday, January 2, National Science Fiction Day – also Isaac Asimov's birthday

Serving Tri Tip, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St (I)

The McAllister 4, 1-4 PM, Elysium Botanicals (I)

Johnny Wheels & The Swamp Donkeys, 6-9 PM, Elysium Botanicals

Saturday, January 3, Alaska became the 49th state, 1959

Friends of the Library Book Sale, 10AM –3PM, 311 Monmouth St (I)

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

Brunch served, 11 AM – 2 PM, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St, (I)

The Roundhouse Band, 6-9 PM, Elysium Botanicals (I)

Sunday, January 4, National Trivia Day

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

Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall

Brunch served, 11 AM – 2 PM, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St,(I)

The Feel Good YaYas, 1-4 PM, Elysium Botanicals (I)

Visit & Create, 4-7 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

Monday, January 5, 1972 Nixon approved \$5.5B for space shuttle

Monday BOGO 50% Burgers, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St, (I)

Tuesday, January 6, Pepe Le Pew (cartoon) debuted in 1945

Monmouth Library's "Spot the Plot Scavenger Hunt" begins today and runs through the end of the month

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)

Taco Tuesday at Rookies Sports Tap (M)

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

Happy Hour all day, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St (I)

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

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

Epoxy Resin Casting, 4-7 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

CHS Girls Basketball vs McKay, 5:30 PM, at CHS

CHS Boy's Basketball vs McKay, 7 PM, at CHS

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

Wednesday, January 7, 1782, 1st commercial bank in US opened

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

Pre-Kindergarten Wednesday Workshops, 10-11:30 AM, Ash Creek Arts Center, 311 Monmouth St (I)

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

Polk Co Master Gardeners Info Session, 12-1 PM, Online

Get Lit Book Club, 6 PM, Monmouth Library (M)

Polk Co Master Gardeners Info Session, 6-7 PM, Online

Thursday, January 8, 1964, LBJ declared the "War on Poverty"

Serving Prime Rib, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St (I)

Age Café, 10 AM, Monmouth Sr. Comm. Center, 180 Warren St (M)

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

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

Runaway Arts Art Journaling with Christy Wood, 3-6 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

Teen & Adult Paint with Jen, 4 PM, Independence Library (I)

Museum's Winter Speaker Series with Andante Vineyard, 6 PM, Valkyrie Wine Tavern (I)

WOU Women's Basketball vs Montana State University, 7 PM, WOU

Family Feud, 7 PM, Rookies Sports Tap (M)

Climate Café, 7-8:30 PM, Monmouth Senior Center (M)

Friday, January 9, The first iPhone is introduced, 2007

Last day to order hearts for the Walk of Hearts

Serving Tri Tip, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St (I)

Open Studio, 12-3 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

The EDGE Band, 6-9 PM, Elysium Botanicals (I)

Saturday, January 10, The League of Nations was formed in 1920

Saturday Youth Class, 10 AM – 12 PM, Ash Creek Arts Center, 311 Monmouth St (I)

Community Craft Day, 10 AM-4 PM, Monmouth Sr Comm Ctr (M)

Brunch served, 11 AM – 2 PM, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St (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 Women's Basketball vs Seattle Pacific University, 2 PM, WOU

SureFire, 6-9 PM, Elysium Botanicals (I)

Sunday, January 11, 1964, US Surgeon General declared cigarettes may be hazardous to health

Brunch served, 11 AM – 2 PM, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St (I)

Jon Franke, 1-4 PM, Elysium Botanicals (I)

Beginner PanPastel, 5-7 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

Monday, January 12, "Batman" debuts on TV, 1966

Applications open for City of Monmouth 2026 Spring Tree Planting Contest

Monday BOGO 50% Burgers, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St (I)

3 Session, Kathleen Flanigan Cartooning, 4-6 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

Tuesday, January 13, The National Geographic Society is founded, 1888

Happy Hour all day, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St (I)

Taco Tuesday at Rookies Sports Tap, Monmouth

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

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

Computer Basics Free Computer Class, 1-2:30, Mon. Library (M)

MiniFig Painting, 4-7 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

Independence City Council meets, 6:30 PM, 555 S Main St (I)

Wednesday, January 14, "The Simpsons" debut on TV, 1990

WOU Wednesday!

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

Chamber Greeters, 8:30 AM, Michelle Ashley Custom Cakes at Brew Coffee & Taphouse (I)

Pre-Kinder Wednesday Workshop, 10-11:30 AM, Ash Creek Arts Center, 311 Monmouth St (I)

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

CHS Boys and Girls Wrestling Dual BWR Meet, 6 PM, at CHS

Open Mic Night, 6-8 PM, Brew Coffee & Tap House (I)

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

Community Calendar January 2026

Thursday, January 15, Wikipedia was launched

Serving Prime Rib, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St (I)

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

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

3rd Thursday Book Club, 2 PM, Monmouth Public Library (M)

Family Coloring Club, 4 PM, Independence Library (I)

Thirsty Thursday, 5:30 PM, 211 Main St (I)

Thursday Adult Art Class, 6:30-8:30 PM, Ash Creek Arts Center, 311

Monmouth St (I)

WOU Men's Basketball vs Simon Fraser University, 7 PM, at WOU

Family Feud, 7 PM, Rookies Sports Tap, Monmouth

Friday, January 16, "Superman" comics debuted, 1939

Serving Tri Tip, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St (I)

CHS Girls Basketball vs Silverton, 5:30 PM, at CHS

The Blue Light, 6-9 PM, Elysium Botanicals (I)

CHS Boys Basketball vs Silverton 7 PM, at CHS

Saturday, January 17, Benjamin Franklin, Betty White, & Al Capone's Birthdays

Community Craft Day, 10 AM-4 PM, Mon. Sr. Comm. Ctr. (M)

Streamside Stewardship, 11 AM, Monmouth Library (M)

Brunch served, 11 AM – 2 PM, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St (I)

Annual Membership Meeting & Election of Officers, 1 PM, Polk County Museum, Rickreall

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

Beginner Drawing Misha Pierce, 4-8 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

Northwest Transit Band, 6-9 PM, Elysium Botanicals (I)

Nickerson-Rossi Dance, 7:30 PM, Rice Auditorium (M)

Sunday, January 18, Daniel Webster & A A Milne's birthdays

Brunch served, 11 AM – 2 PM, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C St (I)

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

Beth & Friends, 2-4 PM, Elysium Botanicals (I)

Visit & Create, 4-7 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

Monday, January 19, MLK Day

MLK Day of Service, 9 AM, gather at Monmouth Senior Ctr (M)

3 Session, Kathleen Flanigan Cartooning, 4-6 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

Tuesday, January 20, The Beatles release 1st album in US, 1964

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

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

CHS Girls Basketball vs Corvallis, 5:30 PM, at CHS

CHS Boys Basketball vs Corvallis, 7 PM, at CHS

Wednesday, January 21, 1st nuclear submarine launched, 1954

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

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

Lunch & Learn – Reset & Rebuild Your Year, 12-1 PM,

Independence Civic Center (I)

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

Thursday, January 22, 1924, First transatlantic flight, 1970

Taco Tuesday at Rookies Sports Tap, Monmouth

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

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

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

M-I Night Shift, 5:30 PM, The Sippery Coffee Co (M)

Friday, January 23, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame 1st inductions, 1986

Open Studio, 12-3 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

Rewind Band, 6-9 PM, Elysium Botanicals (I)

Saturday, January 24, California Gold Rush began, 1848

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

Zen Tangle Drawing, Misha Pierce, 4-6 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

Sunday, January 25, 1st Transcontinental Flight (CA to NY), 1959

Last day to submit information to 2C1C for February edition

Beginner PanPastel, 5-7 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

Monday, January 26, British settled Australia, 1899, with 778 convicts

3 Session, Kathleen Flanigan Cartooning, 4-6 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

Tuesday, January 27, Birthday of Mozart (1756)

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

Snowman Crafts, 4 PM, Independence Library (I)

Epoxy Resin Casting, 4-7 PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

Independence City Council meets, 6:30 PM, 555 S Main St (I)

Wednesday, January 28, National Data Privacy Day

Greeters, 8:30 AM, The Gate Youth Association (I)

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

Pre-Kinder Wednesday Workshop, 10-11:30 AM, Ash Creek Arts Center, 311 Monmouth St (I)

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

Lego Party & Contest, 3-4:30 PM, Monmouth Library (M)

Thursday, January 29, Prohibition was made law by the 18th Amendment, 1919

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

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

WOU Women's Basketball vs Simon Fraser Univ., 5:15 PM, WOU

WOU Men's Basketball vs Seattle Pacific Univ., 7:30 PM, at WOU

Friday, January 30, The "Lone Ranger" begins a 21-year radio run in 1933

Movie "Freakier Friday", 2:00 PM, Monmouth Library (M)

CHS Girls Basketball vs Crescent Valley, 5:30 PM, at CHS

CHS Boys Basketball vs Crescent Valley, 7 PM, at CHS

"You Can't Take It With You", 7:30 PM, Pentacle Theatre, West Salem

Saturday, January 31, 1st Social Security Check issued (\$22.54) in 1940

Saturday Workshop, 10 AM-3 PM, Ash Creek Arts Center, 311

Monmouth St (I)

Runaway Arts Introduction to Gel Plating with Christy Wood, 12-3

PM, Spectrum Artworx (M)

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

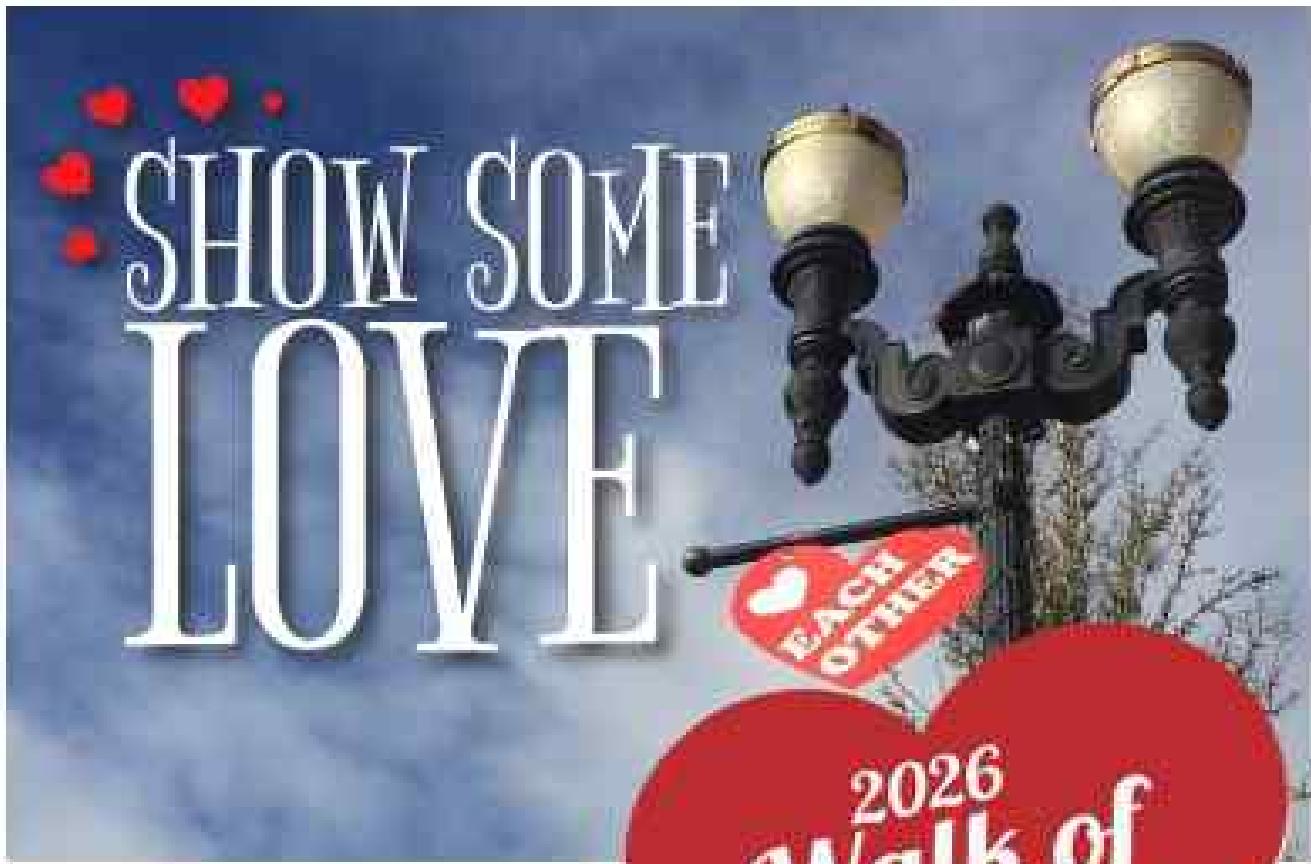
WOU Women's Basketball vs Western Washington Univ., 2 PM

WOU

"You Can't Take It With You", 7:30 PM, Pentacle Theatre, West

Salem

Love Local Scratch-It Promotion begins tomorrow!



Express your sentiment with a personal message on a bright red heart.



Your message of love will hang on a lamp post in downtown Independence during the month of February.

Scan QR to order your heart TODAY!

Order form at www.downtownindependence.com

Order DEADLINE: **January 9th, 2026**



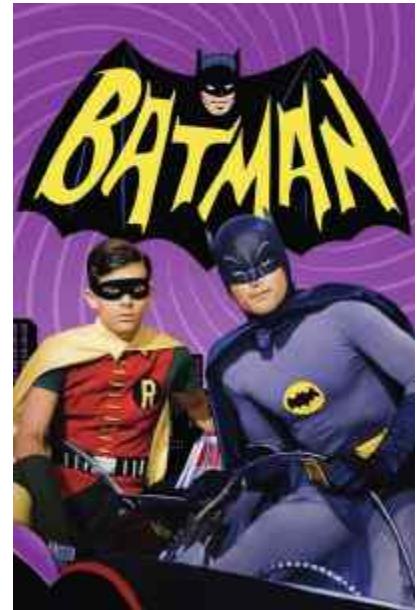


Monmouth Independence Network
THE POWER OF LOCAL
503 837-0700,
www.minetfiber.com
405 Hogan Rd N, Monmouth



Did you know...

Batman,
the TV
series,
debuted in
January of
1966.



Maganda Glassworks LLC

**599B S 3rd St, Independence, OR 97351
(503)606-6646**

We have drop in
options under \$25



Come for a class!

We teach fused glass, stained
glass & torchwork!



Perfect for date night or group event!

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

Square



MagandaGlassworks.com



PARTICIPATING BUSINESS

Make a purchase of \$5 or more and
RECEIVE A SCRATCH-IT
Winning Prize card!

PROMOTION DETAILS

While supplies last, February 1st through the 28th, 2026.
LOVE YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES by making a purchase of
\$5 or more from any of the participating vendors and
receive a Scratch-it with each purchase.

EVERYONE IS A WINNER!

Each Scratch-it is worth
\$1, \$5, \$10 or \$20 towards your next purchase at
any participating business through February 28th.



This promotion brought to you by

The City of
Independence

The Independence
Downtown Assoc. (IDA)



The Monmouth Tree Advisory Board Tree Planting Contest returns! Here is how it works: The City of Monmouth will share in the cost of a tree. The owner can select a tree and the City of Monmouth will share in the cost up to \$75. The owner may pay more depending on the total cost of the tree. The property owner will agree to pay their part for the tree as well as water and maintain the tree until it is established. Contest applications will be available on **January 12** and will end on **February 6**. Stay tuned next month for a link to the application.

**City of Monmouth
Tree Board** **2026 Spring Tree
Planting Contest**

Application available: January 12
Deadline to enter: February 6

Win and Save!



January 2026 Classes and Events

4th, 18th	Visit and Create 4pm-7pm	\$15
6th, 27th	Epoxy Resin Casting 4pm-7pm	\$15+ Materials
8th	Runaway Arts Art Journaling with Christy Wood 3pm-6pm	\$65
9th, 23rd	Open Studio 12pm-3pm	\$8 per hour
11th, 25th	Beginner PanPastel 5pm-7pm	\$30
12th, 19th, 26th	3 Session Kathy Flanigan Cartooning 4pm-6pm	\$40
13th	MiniFig Painting 4pm-7pm	\$25
17th	Beginner Drawing Misha Pierce 4pm-6pm	\$25
20th	Runaway Arts Postcard Making with Christy Wood 11am-2pm	\$16
24th	Zen Tangle Drawing Misha Pierce 4pm-6pm	\$25
31st	Runaway Arts Introduction to Gel Plating with Christy Wood 12pm-3pm	\$65
	Private Relief Block Beginner Printmaking Class to schedule email jake@spectrumartworx.com	

Retail 140 Main Street West All required materials for events
Classroom 150 Main Street East and classes included in cost
Phone Number: (503)-837-0831 Website Spectrumartworx.com

**FRIENDS OF THE
INDEPENDENCE LIBRARY**

WINTER Book Sale

Old Library - 311 S Monmouth Street

JAN. 3RD: 10-3 PM

For more info: Call 503-838-1811

Native Plant Sale - Bareroot Trees and Shrubs

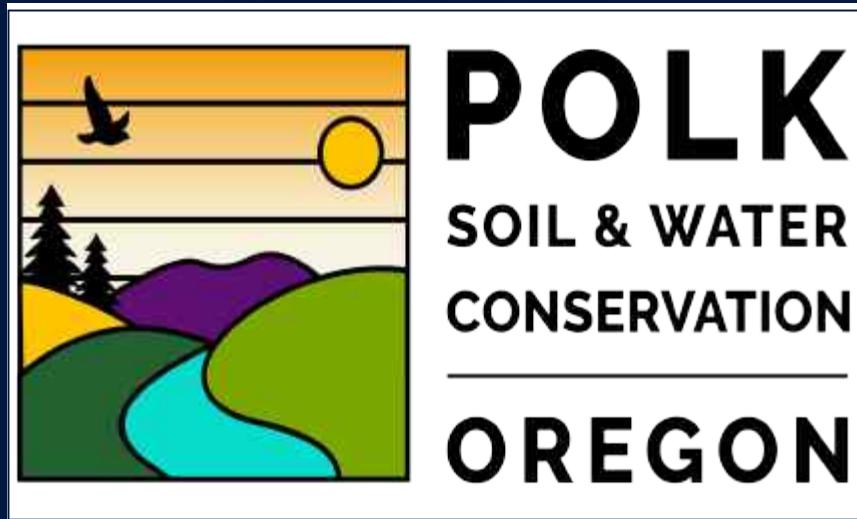
Our bareroot sale is back! We are doing a pre-orders only. Sorry, no in-person purchasing will be available. Pre-order now and pick up at the Delbert Hunter Arboretum in Dallas in February. See details below.

If you are seeking a large quantity of something that you don't see listed, please reach out. We may be able to accommodate. Contact our Outreach Coordinator, Morgan Neil at: morgan.neil@polkswcd.com.

Pick up details:

Saturday, February 21, 9am-1pm

Delbert Hunter Arboretum
631 SW Park St.
Dallas, OR 97338



Join us at “Climate Cafe” on January 8, 2026 from 7:00 - 8:30 PM

The Monmouth-Independence Climate Group will host an open exploration of personal emotions around climate anxiety in a supportive, “Cafe-Style” setting. Please join us to listen and share the often complex feelings and concerns about this pressing issue. 7:00 - 8:30 PM January 8, 2026, Monmouth Event/Senior Center, 180 Warren Street, Monmouth. People of all ages are invited to attend.

Here is a diagram of emotions frequently associated with anxiety about the climate situation. The January Climate Cafe will focus on the “Fear” quadrant. February, March and April’s Cafés will focus on Sadness, Anger and Positivity, respectively.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY



**WED
14TH**

GREETERS

Michelle Ashley Custom Cakes
@Brew - 8:30am

**WED
21ST**

LUNCH & LEARN - RESET & REBUILD YOUR YEAR

Independence Civic Center | 12PM-1PM

**THUR
22ND**

M-I NIGHT SHIFT

The Sippery Coffee Co. &
HomeSmart Sisters Reality | 5:30PM

NEW

GREETERS

The Gate Youth Association
8:30AM

**WED
28TH**

**POLK COUNTY
MUSEUM**



POLK COUNTY MUSEUM PROGRAM:
Annual Membership Meeting, Election of
Officers
January 17, 2026, 1 PM
Polk County Museum, Rickreall

Mozart's Birthday
On January 27, 1756, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in Salzburg, Austria.

He started making music at age 5, and in the next 30 years, until his very untimely death, he was incredibly creative. Mozart, the musical genius, created over 600 compositions, including operas, symphonies, piano and five violin solos, works for string quartets, masses, and more.

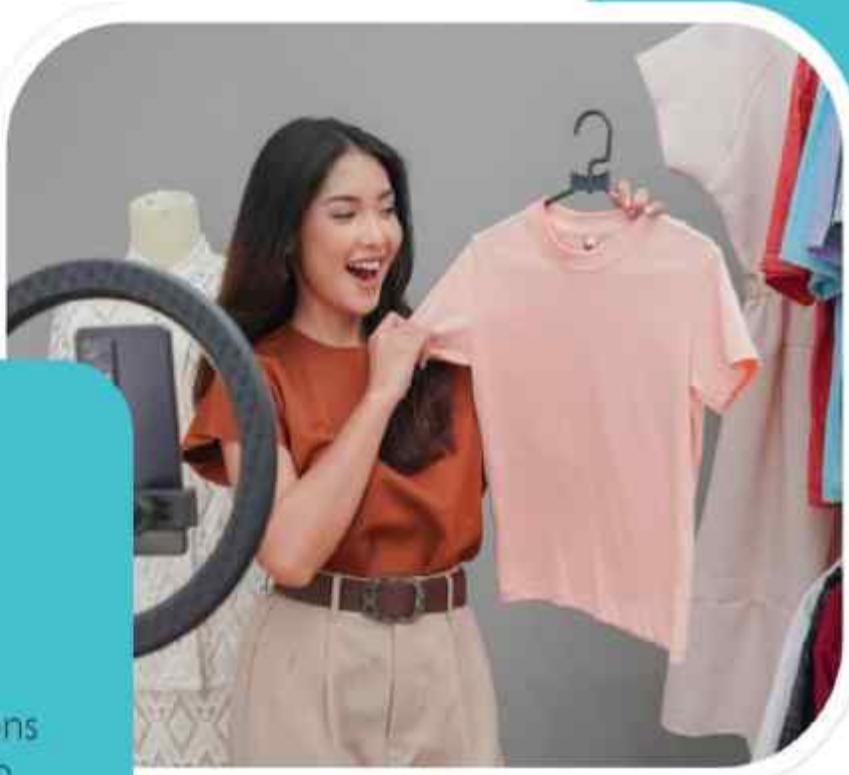


Sign up to Host 2026 Networking Calendar is OPEN!



Greeters: Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 8:30 AM

M-I Night Shift: 3rd Thursday at 5:30 PM



Enhanced Visibility
Your business fosters connections.

Meaningful Connections
People remember who hosted the room.

Community Impact
Hosting means giving back and standing out.

Attention MICC Members!
We're eager to showcase you, your business, and your organization in 2026! Sign up today to host one of our monthly networking events.



Scan the QR code and fill out the 2026 interest form!

Sign up today!



Phone
503-838-4268



Website
www.micc-or.org

ABOUT 2C1C, Two Cities, One Community:

- 2C1C has a standing policy of giving free advertising to local businesses! These ads are generally sized from 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 send an email to 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



Sign up by January 12



<https://tinyurl.com/59nh8e8d>

2026 MLK DAY OF SERVICE



Help make a difference in Monmouth. Join the City of Monmouth and volunteer and give back on this national day of service. Volunteers will help do basic yard work and cleaning for community members who need assistance. We will gather at 9:00am at the Monmouth Senior Community Center at 180 Warren St. and volunteer activities will take place until 12:00pm.



If you have any questions, please reach out to Suzanne Dufner at 503-751-0147 sdufner@ci.monmouth.or.us

January 19, 2026

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 IS FEBRUARY 7TH





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

Monmouth Monthly:
ci.monmouth.or.us

River City Briefs:
ci.independence.or.us

**Subscribe
to these
monthly
newsletters**

Find out
what's going
Happening
in our
communities!

River City Briefs



WHERE GREAT THINGS GROW



INDEPENDENCE
Oregon's Story Begins Here

River Gallery

It's time to usher the New Year in! **River Gallery** is prepared to celebrate the New Year with you and about 65 local artists with Fine Art to Folk Art. Pop in to celebrate the New Year!

Window Show Artist: Gerry Brehm. We all love our animals and Gerry's animal kingdom, including his Ceramic Buffalo, will delight you! You will definitely be enchanted with his eclectic designs.

Focus Show Artist: Pam Serra-Wenz. Pam says that the results of her dreams are reflected in some of her abstract paintings.



River Gallery

184 S. Main Street, Independence
541 838-6171, rivergalleryart.com





WESTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY HOME GAMES & TOURNAMENTS

January 8: Women's basketball vs Montana State University Billings. 7 p.m.

January 10: Women's basketball vs Seattle Pacific University. 2 p.m.

January 15: Men's basketball vs Simon Fraser University. 7 p.m.

January 17: Women's basketball vs Saint Martins University. 2 p.m.

January 29: Women's basketball vs Simon Fraser University. 5:15 p.m.

January 29: Men's basketball vs Seattle Pacific University. 7:30 p.m.

January 31: Women's basketball vs Western Washington University. 2 p.m.

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL HOME GAMES & TOURNAMENTS

January 6: Girl's Basketball vs McKay, 5:30 PM

January 6: Boy's Basketball vs McKay, 7 PM

January 14: Boy's & Girl's Wrestling Dual BWR Meet, 6 PM

January 16: Girl's Basketball vs Silverton, 5:30 PM

January 16: Boy's Basketball vs Silverton, 7 PM

January 20: Girl's Basketball vs Corvallis, 5:30 PM

January 20: Boy Basketball vs Corvallis, 7 PM

January 30: Girl's Basketball vs Crescent Valley, 5:30 PM

January 30: Boy's Basketball vs Crescent Valley, 7 PM

Ask Me Anything!

MAYOR OFFICE HOURS

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



Mayor Kate Schwarzler

Smith Fine Arts Series



Nickerson-Rossi Dance, January 17, 7:30 PM, Rice Auditorium

Michael Nickerson-Rossi's choreography is filled with a complexity that takes the audience through a beautifully orchestrated mixture of artistic movement and emotional freedom. This intricate, evocative performance is sure to showcase the beauty and art of dance at its finest. The Nickerson-Rossi Dance Company has performed his innovative contemporary dance works with a balletic touch internationally and are an anchor to the Palm Springs dance community.



Polk County
COMMUNITY CARD
Dine | Drink | Discover

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.

This makes the Polk County Community Card an ideal gift for any occasion: from employee rewards to holiday surprises, the Community Card works for everyone. New businesses continue to join the **merchant** network so be sure to check back to find out about the latest small businesses you can support.

Call for Art 2026

in the Monmouth City Hall Rotating Gallery

Theme "Anything Goes"

Landscape, Still Life, Abstract, Portrait, Photos, etc



Applications and guidelines can be found on line under the Arts & Culture Commission link under City Government @ <https://www.ci.monmouth.or.us> or by scanning the QR codes below

Application
QR Code



Guidelines
QR Code



Friday, January 23 is Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Day, when new members are inducted.

The first members inducted (in 1986) were :

Little Richard
Chuck Berry
James Brown
Ray Charles
Sam Cooke
Fats Domino

The Everly Brothers
Buddy Holly
Jerry Lee Lewis
Elvis Presley

LONG LIVE ROCK 'N' ROLL!



JANUARY



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Independence Public Library 175 Monmouth Street Independence, OR 97351 503-638-1811 www.et.independence.oregon.library Open Monday - Thursday 11-6 pm			HAPPY NEW YEAR!		Friends Book Sale 10-3 pm (Old Library)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	Storytime 10:30 am	12	13
14	15	16	17	Storytime 10:30 am	18	19
21	22	23	24	Mystery Book Club 4 pm	25	26
25	26	27	28	Storytime 10:30 am	29	30
28	29	30	31	Snowman Crafts 4 pm	31	1



WEEKLY SPECIALS:

MONDAY:

BOGO 50%
BURGERS

TUESDAY:

Happy Hour ALL DAY

WEDNESDAY:

WOU
WEDNESDAYS

THURSDAY:



FRIDAY:



SAT & SUN:



SATURDAYS AT 1 PM
\$20 ENTRY CASH PRIZES

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

Specific needs

- Cereal
- Canned fruit
- Canned/boxed milk
- Canned tuna/chicken
- Corn
- Dry Beans
- Hamburger Helper
- Hearty soups
- Instant oatmeal
- Pasta and sauces
- Peanut butter
- Rice
- Rice-a-roni
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Toilet Paper
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes

Monetary donations



Ella Curran Food Bank

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.

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.

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



YOU'RE INVITED!

61st ANNUAL

MDCC

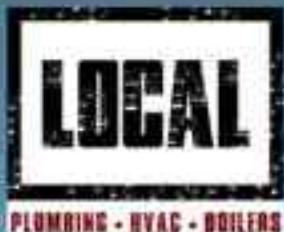
COMMUNITY AWARDS

DENIM TO DIAMONDS, CELEBRATING COMMUNITY STARS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH, 2026

WESTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY
6 O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

PRESENTED BY OUR HEADLINER SPONSOR:



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

TABLES OF 8 - \$400
INDIVIDUAL TICKETS - \$55
PAIRS - \$100

THURSDAY,
JANUARY 1, 2026,
8:30 AM-10:30 AM
Monmouth Senior
Center,
180 Warren St,
Monmouth



Did you know that
January 2 is
National Science
Fiction Day?

Oregon has made a
grand contribution
to the genre.

Here are some of
the most
recognizable names
of Oregon Sci-Fi
authors:

Ursula K. LeGuin
Frank Herbert
Ken Kesey
Jean Auel
Katherine Dunn



INDEPENDENCE DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION (IDA), PO BOX 446, INDEPENDENCE, OR 97351

The IDA Board meets monthly on the 1st Thursday, 8 AM, at K Insurance Group, Independence. All welcome!

FEBRUARY: WALK OF HEARTS

Promotion begins in December, continues through January. The hearts are \$35/side, or \$65 for both sides. If you purchase both sides you may have your heart when it comes down in early March. In 2025 IDA filled every light pole in town with hearts. People come downtown to walk to find their hearts. That's potential business going right down Main Street and beyond.

FEBRUARY: LOVE LOCAL SCRATCH-ITS

A city program being managed by IDA in 2026. Scratch off tickets reveal discounts of \$1 to \$20 usable at any participating business.

MID-MAY: FLOWER BASKETS

go up in downtown. Earnings from the Walk of Hearts goes toward purchasing the ever-growing number of downtown flower baskets.

JUNE: THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION

Happening on the last Friday of school. From 3-5 PM kids and parents come downtown to celebrate with free handouts for kids. Have a booth at the top of the park or a sale or a special happening in your shop aimed at kids and families. In 2025 over 500 kids visited downtown with their family members.

SEPTEMBER 26, THE HOP & HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Since 2001 Hop & Heritage has happened in Independence. For 2026 look for a Fresh Hop Festival, wine tasting in the businesses, and buskers/music on the sidewalks. Bring potential customers in with wine offerings – IDA provides the wine. Be open and have sales. Sponsor a musical act or special vendor at your venue...many possibilities. Attend a Hop & Heritage Festival planning meeting!

OCTOBER 31: TRICK OR TREAT DOWNTOWN

Monmouth and Independence both do Trick-or-Treat at the businesses. Independence is "open" from 3-5 and Monmouth from 4-6 PM. The trolley is on hand to transport cross-community Halloween participants. Be open, give away candy from your business, or have a booth on the street. Hundreds, of all ages, will come.

NOVEMBER: WREATHS AND HOLIDAY DÉCOR DOWNTOWN

IDA provides the city with lighted wreaths for all the light poles downtown and on Osprey Lane.

DECEMBER: GLOW

The light show in the park, is being taken over by IDA in 2026. IDA appreciates any and all help businesses can give not only to promote the

event, but to enhance it with individual participation.

Other things that happen downtown that people to your street, even to your

April through October, there are

Farmers Markets at Riverview Park and the Columbia Bank parking lot. Every Saturday from 10 AM to 2 PM expect shoppers downtown.

4th of July: Independence Days will be back in 2026, but will not be city run. We can't wait to see what special things will be happening. Don't waste the opportunity of so many feet on the street.

Summer Series: The City of Independence will once again sponsor the Summer Series at Riverview Park Amphitheatre. In previous years as many as 5,000 visitors have come to town.

The Ghost Walk: On the 1st Saturday of October the fun begins with Apparition Avenue at 4-6 PM, where guests visit some of the outlying sites no longer fitting into the big Ghost Walk. Hundreds of people enjoy Apparition Avenue. Then from 7-9 expect up to 2,000 or more people to roam Main and C Streets hearing ghostly tales and historic stories.

First Saturday in December, the Santa Train rolls in with gifts for every child and visits with holiday characters. Santa Train Stations and the Independence Elks Club provide this activity happening mostly on C Street.

The Independence Downtown Association is a 501(c)(3) organization. Any donations made to IDA may be tax deductible. Please consult a tax professional



ASH CREEK ARTS CENTER

INVESTIGATE • EDUCATE • CREATE

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.**



Pre-Kindergarten
Wednesday Workshops
January 14 & 28, 2026,
10-11:30 AM

Join Tobin Roark in this fun and creative art class! Class includes art stations to encourage lots of creativity as well as a larger project students can work on together! Make sure to sign up online to ensure class is a go.

Saturday Youth Class with
Michele Haney
January 10, 2026,
10 AM—12 PM

Join Michele for this fun and creative art class!
Recommended elementary school age youth. All supplies provided by ACAC

Thursday Art Class (16+)
January 15, 2026,
6:30-8:30 PM



Saturday Workshop with
Sonia Allen
January 31, 2026,
10 AM—1 PM.

Join us for this awesome Saturday workshop

Exclusive Chamber of Commerce Membership Benefit *Access to Bend Chamber Association Health Plans*

- ✓ Association large employer group plans available to any eligible Chamber of Commerce member business with 2 or more employees
- ✓ Group health plans with rich benefits unique to large group plans
- ✓ Robust in-state PPO Network including OHSU and huge nationwide national in network access
- ✓ No charge COBRA administration
- ✓ Competitive, stable rates- currently 830 groups with 16,000 lives

To learn more, contact Karen Frascone. K Insurance Group is the exclusive authorized agent to offer the Bend Chamber Association Health Plans in Polk County. We are local active Chamber members. We meet with clients in person. We listen, we advise, we help and support our clients.



Karen Frascone
503-838-4006 or 503-838-1158
1327 Monmouth Street
Independence, OR 97351
www.kinsuregroup.com

COMPUTER BASICS

FREE COMPUTER CLASS

January 13
1:00-2:30

Learn how to log in, personalize computer settings, navigate applications, and manage files & folders. Includes hands-on practice. Build a strong foundation by learning the basics of computer use!

CareerCenter
GOODWILL FOR SOLUTIONS

The mission of Goodwill Industries of the Columbia Willamette (GICW) is to provide vocational opportunities to people with disabilities as well as others with barriers to employment. To support this mission, GICW's Career Center program provides free workshops to community partners in Oregon and Southwest Washington.



Join Aubrey Cloud from the Luckiamute Watershed Council for an informative talk on maintaining healthy streamside habitats.

January 17 @ 11:00 am

Streamside Stewardship



Best Practices for Riparian Vegetation Management



Aubrey will share guidance on identifying native and nonnative species, removing invasive trees, and applying best practices near waterways to support resilient plant and wildlife communities.



Polk Co. Master Gardeners will be available 10:30-11:00 to answer your garden questions.

Oregon Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities and materials. Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made two weeks before the program to Brooke Edmunds, 503-839-8390, edmunds@oregonstate.edu.



January 2026 Adult Programs

December 16 - February 14



Cozy Up with a Book

Winter Reading Program



Read for 30 days to enter a prize raffle for a quilt, afghan, or stuffed animal handmade by the CLT 4 Charity.

Receive a hot cocoa spoon when you turn in your bookmark, too!

All Ages!

JANUARY 2026

Monmouth Public Library Youth Events

FAMILY STORYTIME

TUESDAYS AT 10:30 AM

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

LEGO PARTY & CONTEST

JANUARY 28 FROM 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Celebrate Lego's birthday, build with our Legos, and create a spaceship to enter in our Lego contest! Lego spaceships will be displayed in the library for community voting. For ages 5 - 18.



FAMILY MOVIE: FREAKIER FRIDAY

JANUARY 30 AT 2:00 PM

As they navigate the challenges that come when two families merge, Tess and Anna discover that lightning might strike twice. Rated PG.

Pentacle Theatre

You Can't Take It with You

The Pulitzer Prize-Winning Play by George S. Kaufman & Moss Hart
Directed by Scott Ramp

SHOWTIMES for
"YOU CAN'T
TAKE IT WITH
YOU" at the
PENTACLE
THEATRE:

Friday, January

30, 7:30 PM

Saturday,

January 31, 7:30

PM

Showtimes
continue in
February



SPOT THE PLOT SCAVENGER HUNT

JANUARY 6 - 31

There are riddles scattered around the library. Find the riddles, then match the correct book to the riddle!



Tuesday-Friday

10:00 am-6:00 pm

Saturday

10:00 am-4:00 pm

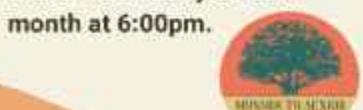
MUSIC JAM NIGHT

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



COMING SOON

ADOPT AN ARTIFACT

FUNDRAISING PROGRAM

You're invited to take part in a new initiative that supports the ongoing care of the museum's collection. By symbolically adopting an artifact for one year, you help us preserve and share the objects that tell Independence's story, so they can be enjoyed for generations to come.

Kicking off at the end of January 2026!



SPONSORED BY THE
HERITAGE MUSEUM SOCIETY



In 2026, the Heritage Museum celebrates 50 years of preserving Independence history!



Free Income Tax Preparation Services!

Both programs operate on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from February 6 through April 11.

By appointment only. Learn more at www.MITaxResources.org

AARP Tax-Aide Program

Offers free tax preparation services to low-to-moderate income taxpayers of all ages, but with a focus on those who are 60 years of age and older. You don't need to be an AARP member to take advantage of the Tax-Aide program.

Appointment requests will be accepted on or after January 15th. Visit our website or text/call 971-915-0316 to make your appointment.



WOU VITA Program

Offers free tax preparation services to:

- People who generally make \$67,000 or less
- Persons with disabilities; and
- Limited English-speaking taxpayers

Many of our tax preparers are fluent in Spanish.

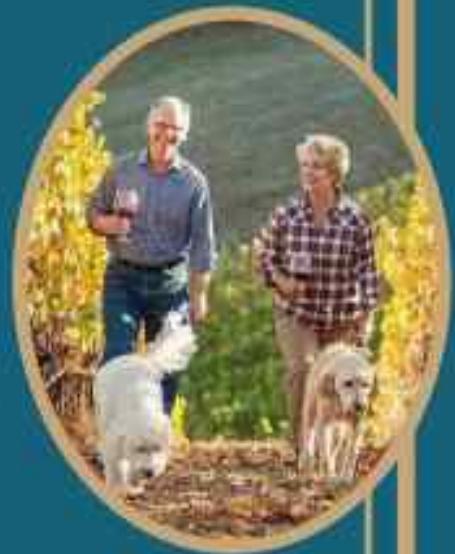
Appointment requests will be accepted on or after January 15th. Visit our website or text/call 503-751-4132 to make your appointment.



HERITAGE MUSEUM PRESENTS WINTER SPEAKER SERIES

JANUARY FEATURED SPEAKER

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 8TH AT 6:00 PM
@ THE VALKYRIE WINE TAVERN**



ANDANTE VINEYARD

**THE STORY OF ANDANTE VINEYARD AND
THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY WINE INDUSTRY**

Join us for an evening with Andante Vineyard as owners Joe Allan and Karen Saul share the story of their vineyard's beginnings and its place in the history of wine-making in Oregon's Willamette Valley.

SUGGESTED DONATION AT THE DOOR

Drinks are not included in your donation

All proceeds support the Heritage Museum Society

JOIN US MONTHLY THROUGH MARCH FOR MORE
ENGAGING SPEAKERS AT THE VALKYRIE WINE TAVERN

301 S MAIN ST, INDEPENDENCE

-No minors or outside drinks permitted-



Wine Tasting: \$20 for 5 pours.

Tasting Room Hours of Operation:

Thursdays 12pm - 8pm; Fridays & Saturdays 12pm - 9pm; Sundays 12pm - 5pm.

Botanicals Plant Store, Wednesday to Sunday, 12-5 PM

**8175 Buena Vista Rd
Independence, Oregon 97351**

Phone: (971)-465-7394

Email: Hospitality@Elysiumbotanicals.com



VETERAN'S CHAT FIRST TUESDAY EVERY MONTH 10-11 AM

MAKE NEW FRIENDS!

ENJOY COFFEE & DONUTS

OPEN TO PUBLIC
JOIN US IN OUR DINING ROOM

503-831-8879 OR
SAYHELLO@HERONPOINTESL.COM

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SENIOR LIVING

GUIDED BY GOODNESS, LOYALTY, FAITH, AND FUN

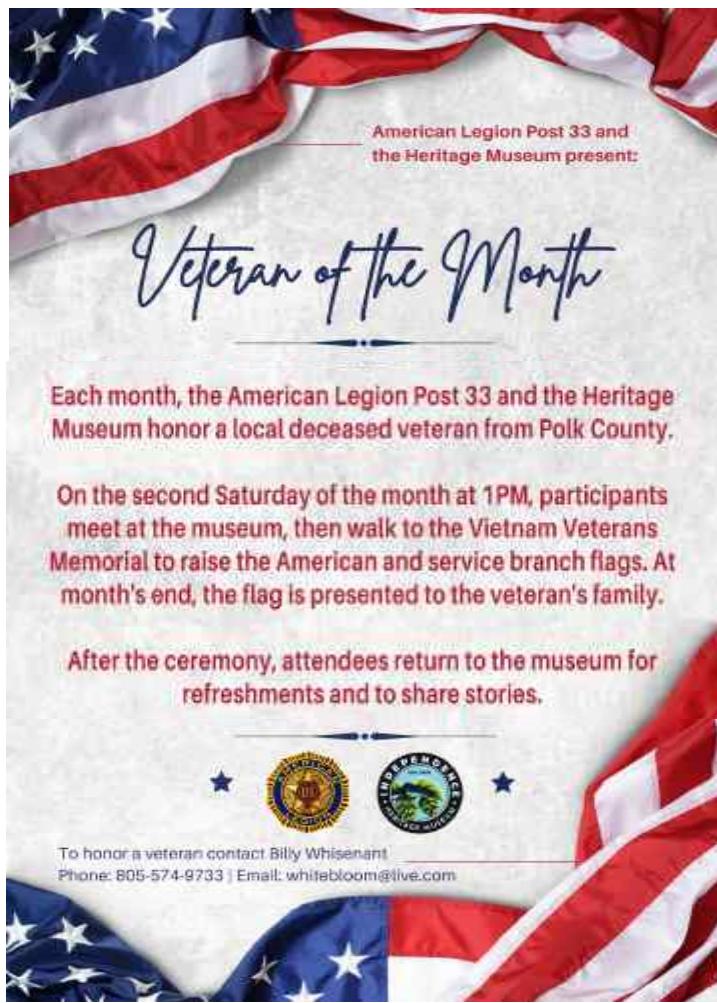
heronpointesl.com
504 Gwinn St. E
Monmouth, OR 97361

A Compan Senior Living community

MUSIC & ACTIVITY SCHEDULE AT ELYSIUM BOTANICALS WINES & VINEYARD

- Friday, January 2, 1-4 PM, The McAllister 4
- Friday, January 2, 6-9 PM, Johnny Wheels & The Swamp Donkeys
- Saturday, January 3, 6-9 PM, The Roundhouse Band
- Sunday, January 4, 1-4 PM, The Feel Good YaYas
- Friday, January 9, 6-9 PM, The EDGE Band
- Saturday, January 10, 6-9 PM, SureFire
- Sunday, January 11, 1-4 PM, Jon Franke
- Friday, January 16, 6-9 PM, The Blue Light
- Saturday, January 17, 6-9 PM, Northwest Transit Band
- Sunday, January 18, 2-4 PM, Beth & Friends
- Friday, January 23, 6-9 PM, Rewind Band



American Legion Post 33 and the Heritage Museum present:

Veteran of the Month

Each month, the American Legion Post 33 and the Heritage Museum honor a local deceased veteran from Polk County.

On the second Saturday of the month at 1PM, participants meet at the museum, then walk to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to raise the American and service branch flags. At month's end, the flag is presented to the veteran's family.

After the ceremony, attendees return to the museum for refreshments and to share stories.

To honor a veteran contact Billy Whisenant
Phone: 805-574-9733 | Email: whitebloom@live.com



Oregon State University Extension Service

ONLINE UPCOMING EVENTS FOR POLK COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS:

Jan 7

Info Session: Polk Co. Master Gardener Program

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm PST Online

Jan 7

Info Session: Polk Co. Master Gardener Program

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm PST Online

Jan 17

Streamside Stewardship - Best Practices for Riparian Vegetation Management

11:00 am - 12:00 pm Monmouth Library



Register by visiting <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/program/mg/polk/events>

Other information and training opportunities available!



**Monmouth Business Association meets Monthly
at Monmouth City Hall**

The next meeting is Tuesday, January 6, 8 AM.
Regular meetings are held on the first Tuesday of
each month



Monthly
Every 4th Thursday
at 9am!

Join Launch Mid-Valley
and 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, January 22,
2026

INDEPENDENCE



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!

River Gallery
184 S. Main Street
Independence,
Oregon 97351
503/838-6171
rivergalleyart.com



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.



A PLACE FOR ALL AGES, ROOTED IN COMMUNITY



The third Saturday of each month in 2025.
All ages and crafters of all kinds welcome!
Bring your own hobbies and food/snacks for the day.

10:00am to 4:00pm

Community Craft Days

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

KEEP WARMTH IN AND COLD OUT.

Add insulation now for year-round comfort and lower energy bills. Upgrading attic or wall insulation can significantly reduce your heating and cooling needs. It's one of the most cost-effective ways to improve comfort.



Claim your rebate for upgrading



Monmouth WORKS

A newsletter business update from your friends at the Monmouth Business Association

President's Message

As the year winds down (and our calendars somehow get fuller), I want to take a moment to say how grateful I am for this incredible business community. Monmouth businesses continue to show up with creativity, collaboration, and heart—and that's what makes this town such a special place to do business.

The holidays are a time for reflection, and for me, they also mark a transition. As I wrap up my time as President of the Monmouth Business Association, I want to say thank you for trusting me with this role. Serving alongside such a dedicated board and membership has been an honor—and yes, I promise I'm not disappearing, just changing seats.

I'm proud of what we've built together and excited to see MBA continue to grow under new leadership. I'll still be cheering you on, shopping local, and showing up whenever I can (old habits die hard).

Wishing you a joyful holiday season, strong year-end sales, and a 2026 that's even better than the last.

Warmly,
Roxanne Beltz
President, Monmouth Business Association

GET MORE HOT WATER FOR LESS.

Heat pump water heaters move heat instead of generating it, so they use up to 70% less energy than standard electric water heaters. Meaning lower bills for you and more hot water for your busy household, all year long.



Claim your
\$1,800
rebate for upgrading



OPEN TO SAVINGS. CLOSED TO DRAFTS.

Old windows can be a major source of heat loss. Upgrading to energy-efficient windows helps keep your home more comfortable while your energy bills lower throughout the year. They also enhance curb appeal and long-term energy savings.



Claim your rebate for upgrading





December 2025

As the year comes to an end, Ella Curran Community Food Bank thanks to the MonIndy Green Bag Team! **Thank you** for your commitment to end hunger in our community!

The MonIndy Green bags are a source of generous food donations and symbol of teamwork as we all work together to help our neighbors!

Total statistics for October and November 2025:

<u>Number of Family visits</u>	<u>Number of individuals served</u>
2381 visits	11,166 individuals

2025 Thanksgiving Dinner Supplies Giveaway

This year's Thanksgiving dinner supplies giveaway was the largest ever. 552 families/ 2404 people received all the supplies to cook a dinner at home: a whole turkey or a whole chicken, a bag of groceries, and bags of potatoes, onions, and carrots. Riverview Park was the location for the drive-through giveaway from 9:00AM-6:00PM on November 25th. More than 50 volunteers helped throughout the day. The day was filled with so much appreciation, generosity, and thankfulness!

Total Number of People Served through November 2025

Total number of people served in 2024: 52,517

Total number of people served through November 2025: 53,385.

Ella Curran Food Bank expands hours of service

Ella Curran Food Bank now has an additional pantry time on Thursdays from 4:00-6:00PM. Weekly hours are now: Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays: 4:00PM-6:00PM; Tuesdays and Thursdays: 9:00-11:30AM.

Our New Building project news!

In November, the new building site completed Phase Two of the building project. Onsite franchise utilities & irrigation sleeves were installed. Curbs are formed and poured, and the excavation of the Bio Swale, wall, and fencing is complete and asphalt is poured. This is a very exciting time! We are now continuing to fundraise for the final phase of the new building project! For more information call Patty: 503-917-1681

THANK YOU FROM ELLA CURRAN FOOD BANK

VOLUNTEER WITH A PURPOSE!



BE PART OF A COMMUNITY THAT DELIVERS NUTRITIOUS MEALS AND JOYFUL SMILES TO SENIORS RIGHT IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

MONMOUTH COMMUNITY CENTER
180 WARREN ST. S
MONMOUTH OR 97361

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS



Volunteers enjoy flexible scheduling and receive mileage reimbursement for their deliveries.

503-967-1849



volunteer@nwsds.org

SUPPORT WHAT YOU LOVE ABOUT INDEPENDENCE

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



INDEPENDENCE

Oregon's Best. Oregon's Best.

Support the Independence Public Library, Museum, and Parks with either with a one-time donation or by becoming a monthly supporter.

Your contribution provides dedicated funding that will be used solely to support these services, helping maintain Library programs, preserve local history at the Museum, and enhance our Parks and public spaces.

Every dollar makes a difference. Join us in keeping Independence a vibrant and livable community.

To make a donation, visit:

<HTTPS://checkout.square.site/merchant/ML546C923CKBC/checkout/HXNOHT5CGP5LNYFJVF3DMERD>



2000 - 2025

Two Cities, One Legacy

Did you know...

Since its beginning in 2000, the Monmouth-Independence Community Foundation has given away over \$1,000,000 to our two communities?

Did you know...

Monmouth-Independence Community Foundation holds and grows funds for over 20 local non-profits and agencies?

Local supporting local!





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

Happening in the World

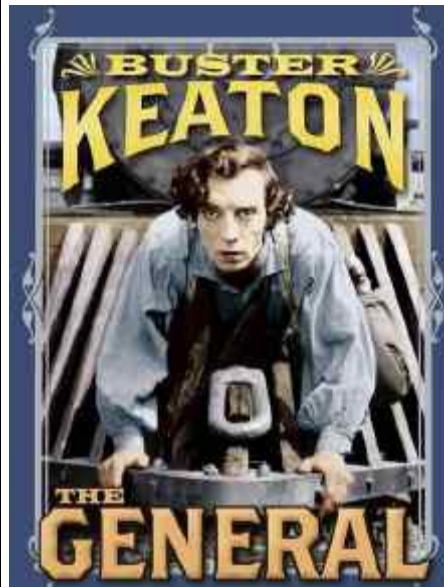
At the end of January, 1926, Benito Mussolini comes into power in Italy.

The German airline, Deutsche Luft Hansa, was founded

Happening in the Country

Prohibition was failing in many parts of the US

The comedy radio show, "Sam 'n' Henry", debuted in Chicago. The show's name was later changed to "Amos 'n' Andy". Also in January, 1926, Burns & Allen debuted as a vaudeville act.



There was a lot of local buzz in January, 1926, about Buster Keaton filming "The General" in Cottage Grove.

Happening Locally

Sousa and his Band play at the Salem Armory. Called "The World's Greatest Musical Organization", the show prices, which include War Tax, range from \$.85 (unreserved bleachers) to \$2.50 for lower floor and center balcony.

Translated into 2026 dollars, the range would be from \$15 to \$45.

Oregon's discriminatory Black Exclusion Laws were repealed, but would continue to be a major topic of discussion.

Work began on the construction of the (now historic) Ritner Creek Covered Bridge.

The public schools of Monmouth and Independence are used as training schools for the student-teachers of the Normal. Independence is a flourishing town about 3 miles from Monmouth. These two schools are under strict supervision of critic teachers, eight at Independence and four at Monmouth.

Independence, Ideal Home City, Grows and Prospers. Fine farming sections, excellent schools, streets, lighting makes residential features exceptional

Fight Card at the (Salem) Armory Tonight

The third main event features Eddie Fox of Independence and Kid McCormick of Oregon City. They are good, scrappy, and well-trained youngsters.

TRAVEL in the Willamette Valley

Safely, Swiftly, and Comfortably in buses of the Parker Stage Lines

Stages leave for...

Silverton, 7 AM, 1 AM, 5 PM

Mt Angel, 11 AM, 5 PM

Dallas, 7 AM, 9 AM, 11:23 AM, 2 PM, 5:15 PM

Falls City, 7 AM, 2:10 PM, 5:15 PM

Independence, 7 AM, 9 AM, 11:15 AM, 3:10

PM, 5:15 AM, and Sunday only, 8:30 PM

Monmouth, 7 AM, 11:15 AM, 3:10 PM, 5:15

PM, and Sunday only, 7:10 PM, 8:30 PM

McMinnville, 8:30 AM, 2:10 PM, 5:15 PM

Newberg, 8:30 AM, 2:10 PM, 5:15 PM

Tillamook, 8:30 AM, 2:10 PM

Call 222 or 696 for information

WOU WEDNESDAY

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



M A N A

Curves



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!



Accessibility Workshop

FEBRUARY 23rd | 10am



Learn more at:
sparkletdesigns.com/accessibility



BREW COFFEE & TAP HOUSE PRESENTS

OPEN MIC



BREW
COFFEE & TAP HOUSE

MUSIC & MAGIC

EVERY 1ST & 3RD
WEDNESDAY 6-8PM

HOSTED BY FINN THE MAGICIAN

211 S. Main St., Independence



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CLEANING SERVICES**

Services Offered:

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- One-time Deep Cleans
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- New Construction/Post Renovation Cleaning
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or
503.580.6632



MAIN STREET ICE CREAM PARLOR

109 MAIN ST E,
MONMOUTH
503 838-1485



Smith Fine Arts Series



Western Oregon
UNIVERSITY

SAT
3/14
2026

**RODNEY
MARSALIS
PHILADELPHIA
BIG BRASS**

Breaking barriers between genres—
and creating a connection between the
audience and performers



smithfinearts@
wou.edu

smithfinearts.org

FRI
4/10
2026

**DE TIERRA
CALIENTE**

Latin, Caribbean, Brazilian and American fusion ignites
the air with vibrant colors and irresistible rhythms



SAT
6/6
2026

TAIMANE

Combining fierce rock, dance and ukulele—genres morph
from classical to rock to flamenco



\$30 adults
\$10 Non-WOU
students

WOU STUDENTS
FREE!

Scan here to
order tickets

If you would like to request disability-related accommodation(s)
to participate in a WOU activity or event, please complete the online Request Form at least three (3) business
days in advance. If you have questions, contact Disability Access Services at 503-838-8250 or dds@wou.edu.

POLK COUNTY MUSEUM PROGRAMS: OREGON ROCKS!

February 21, 2028, 1 PM at the Museum

Hang on to your seats as you learn about the incredible forces that have shaped the ground we live on in Polk County and why it's so special today. Presenters: William N Orr, Professor Emeritus of Geology, University of Oregon, and Sheila Alfsen, Program Director and Past President of the Geological Society of Oregon.

FAMILY DAY, March 21, 2025, 1-3:30 PM at the Museum
Crafts, Demonstrations, Fun for All Ages
Free Admission to this program

Delicious
TACO TUESDAY

ROOKIESTAP.COM



FAMILY FEUD

**every thursday
at 7pm**

Free for all ages

WIN ROOKIES CASH

\$50 FOR 1ST

\$20 FOR 2ND

\$10 FOR 3RD

**AZUCENA'S
CLEANING, LLC**

One time cleaning or regularly scheduled visits.
bi-weekly, weekly, or monthly.

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- Professional Carpet Cleaning
- Window / Screen Cleaning - In & Out
- Residential / Commercial
- Office/Home Maintenance
- Move In / Move Out Cleaning
- Spring Cleaning + Pre-Listing Cleaning
- Blinds + Power Washing + Air BBG Cleaning

**\$100
OFF
CLEANING!**

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

**AZUCENA'S
CLEANING, LLC**

503.779.5906 azucenascleaning@gmail.com
BONDED & INSURED www.azucenascleaning.com



KAREN FRASCOME

Owner
karen@kinsuregroup.com

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Health Insurance!**

NO COST HELP

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Representing all
major carriers

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kinsuregroup.com

Western Oregon University

2025-2026 Events

MONDAY
2/16/26

Admitted Student Day

Must be admitted for Fall 2026 to attend

WEDNESDAY
3/4/26

Criminal Justice Career Day

Hosted by the Criminal Justice Sciences Division

FRIDAY
3/6/26

Celebrate Your True Self (GSA) Day

Hosted by WOU Safe Zone & the Office of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

FRIDAY
4/10/26

Spring Preview Day

Admitted & prospective students welcome

FRIDAY
5/8/26

César E. Chávez Leadership Conference

Hosted by the Office of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Save the Date!

Questions? Contact Admissions
Email: admissions@wou.edu
Phone: 503-838-8211

1327 Monmouth St.
Independence, OR

FROM SENATOR DEB PATTERSON:

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I hope you all had a joyful holiday season and are enjoying a good start to the New Year. As you may know, this December saw the return of holiday festivities at the Oregon State Capitol, including the Christmas tree lighting and choir performances in the Rotunda. It was wonderful to connect with constituents during their visits to the Capitol, and at other celebrations last month throughout our communities.

The 2026 Legislative Session will begin soon on February 2, and it will last until March 8. All the committee meetings and floor proceedings are open to the public, and you can also track bills online through the Oregon Legislative Information System.

I am introducing two bills this session, which together form the Protecting Dignity Package. The first bill in this package is the Protecting the Dying Act, which aims to ensure high-quality, compassionate care for hospice patients. There have been reports from other states about investors taking over local community hospices and gaming the system to extract more profits. States like Nevada, Washington, and California have passed laws to protect vulnerable patients, and Oregon should, too. The Protecting the Dying Act will add safeguards to Oregon's licensing process, such as background checks and minimum qualifications for hospice operators.



The second part of this package is the Housing Accessibility Act. This bill will increase the production of accessible housing for people with disabilities and older adults. Accessible housing provides dignity and autonomy for those who need it. If your home does not meet your basic accessibility needs, even basic tasks become much harder. The need for accessible housing is also growing as our population ages. As we look to the future, it's clear that while we may not all need accessible housing yet, many of us will need it down the road, and thousands of Oregonians need it right now.

If you have questions about these bills or other issues the Legislature is considering, please feel free to reach out. You can contact my office at (503) 986-1710 or Sen.DebPatterson@oregonlegislature.gov. I look forward to hearing from you.

Deb Patterson



From Representative Paul Evans

I hope this finds you and your family in a festive spirit.

The last few weeks have been a whirlwind of early holiday activity. Elementary school choirs have filled the Capitol with song, community tree-lighting ceremonies have brought neighbors together for shared traditions, and students across Oregon are wrapping up their work ahead of a well-earned break.

The air is brisk, sweetened by seasonal coffee flavors and old-fashioned hot chocolate. It is a special time of year—one that invites reflection as much as celebration. At the Capitol, however, our work has been anything but quiet. We are determining the most responsible strategies for addressing budget reductions driven by lower-than-anticipated revenues, weighing proposals to stabilize and accelerate economic development, and reassessing how we prioritize transportation investments in light of the likely repeal of 2025 Transportation Package revenues.

There is no way around it: 2025 has been challenging, and 2026 promises to be even more difficult to navigate. While this may not be a majority view, I believe the year ahead will demand something both rare and essential—the courage to make hard choices, and the willingness to sacrifice in the present to secure our shared future.

We cannot continue operating government at the same level of service we have enjoyed in recent years. Federal changes have altered the budget landscape, and the cost of doing business has outpaced our ability to cover expenses through existing revenues. These realities require honesty, discipline, and thoughtful prioritization.

Unfortunately, some have chosen to make government “the enemy” for political gain, spreading misinformation and undermining public trust. Government is never perfect, but demonizing public servants who work every day on behalf of

Oregonians only makes the task of governing harder—and less effective.

We are living through a period of structural economic change. Meeting this moment will require creativity, innovation, and a renewed commitment to work together in common cause for the common good. We cannot tax our way into prosperity, nor can we cut our way to a dynamic economy. We must find balance. We must become better stewards of both our people and our place.

This holiday season, I hope you take time to gather with family, friends, and neighbors—to find joy, rest, and peace. After the New Year, I will be hosting a series of town halls to hear your ideas, perspectives, and suggestions for the path forward. We will need all hands on deck, and I want your personal involvement as we plan the work ahead.

Thank you for all that you do for our community.
Happy Holidays,



Respectfully,



Paul



Representative Paul L Evans, District 20,
Oregon Capitol
Phone: 503-986-1420,
Capitol Address: 900 Court St. NE, H-471,
Salem, Oregon 97301
Email: Rep.PaulEvans@oregonlegislature.gov,
Website: <https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/evans>

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	Monmouth Public Works
	Monmouth Senior
	Community Center
	Monmouth-Independence Climate Group
	Oregon Lions
	Oregon State Extension Service
	Pentacle Theatre
	Polk County Community Card
	Polk County Master Gardener Association
	Polk County Museum
	Polk Flea Market
	Polk Soil & Water Conservation District
	Representative Paul Evans
	River City Briefs
	River Gallery
	Rookies Sports Tap
	Senator Deb Patterson
	Shine & Sparkle Cleaning Services
	Sing Fay
	Smith Fine Arts Series
	Spectrum Artworx
	Subway
	Sushi Roll 'n Tan Republic Monmouth
	The Find
	The Gate Youth Association
	The Sippery Coffee Co
	Transparent Auto Repair
	Valkyrie Wine Tavern
	Vibe & Thrive Esthetics
	Walk of Hearts
	Western Oregon University
	WOU Sports
	Yang's Teriyaki
	Yeasty Beasty