



March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

Resource fair is March 19

By Alex Paul

Linn County Reporter

ALBANY — March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and Linn County will celebrate with a resource fair from 5-7 p.m. on March 19 at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center, 3700 Knox Butte Road. The program is in partnership with the Linn Benton Lincoln Education Service District.



Chrissy Cliburn

Chrissy Cliburn, director of the Linn County Developmental Disabilities Department, said this will provide an opportunity for families to gather information about how to navigate the Developmental Disabilities system and to connect with local resources and gather support. For information, call 541-990-9663.

Linn County has also sponsored three mid-valley billboards in English

and one in Spanish that proclaim, "Every Ability Counts — March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month."



Three billboards in English and one in Spanish will help promote March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in the mid-valley.

Cliburn, who has headed up Linn County's Developmental Disabilities program for two-and-a-half years, said that until relatively recently — 20 years or so — people with Developmental Disabilities were often institutionalized, housed in state facilities.

and one in Spanish that proclaim, "Every Ability Counts — March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month."

Starting in the 1980s, the state began defunding those programs," Cliburn said. "The state found those institutions did not provide a minimum level of care. They were overcrowded. There was abuse and isolation."

Cliburn said that starting in 1989, Oregon shifted to a community-based program.

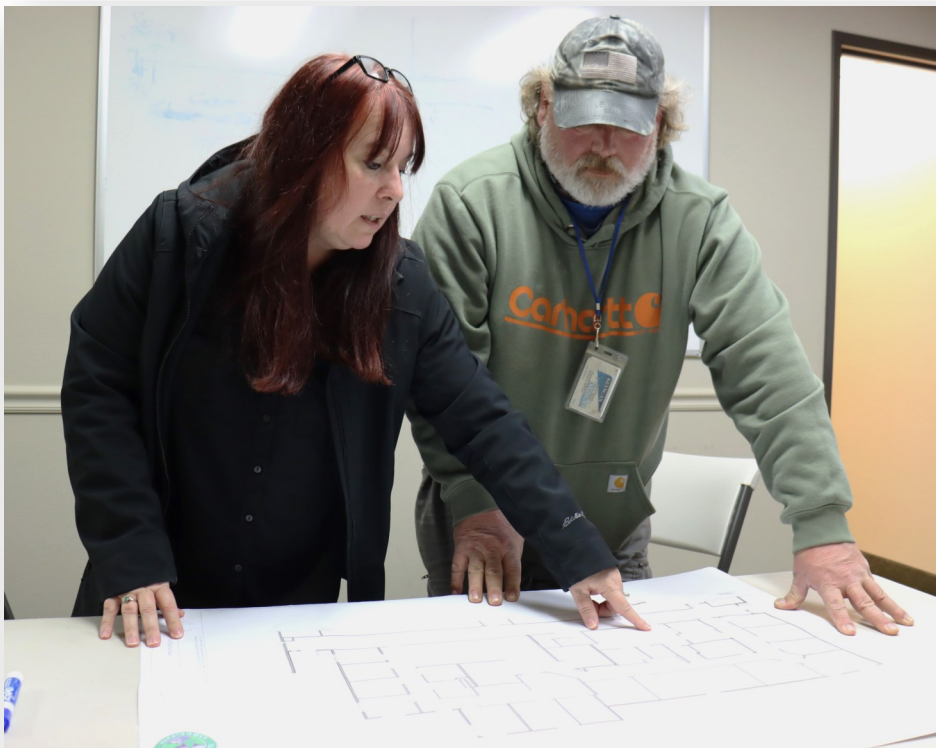
"About 950 people moved out of institutions and into community-based

housing," Cliburn said. "Most of those people were in the Willamette Valley."

Cliburn said the last two individuals moved out of the Fairview Hospital in the year 2000 and the last two individuals moved out of the eastern Oregon hospital in 2009.

DISABILITIES FAIR ... See P. 2

Collaboration key to 7th Street building remodel



Terri McQueen and Vernon Mills discuss remodeling of the 7th Street Medical Building that will house the Health Services WIC program and a new Crisis Stabilization Center.

By Alex Paul

Linn County Reporter

ALBANY — The term "collaboration" has become popular in recent years.

Putting the term into practice is much more difficult than just talking about "working with someone to produce or create something."

But all of the people who have been working together to transform the 7th Street Medical Building the have been laser-focused on being collaborative in every step of the process.

And it shows in the nearly finished 11,000-square-foot building that will house the Public Health WIC offices and a 24/7 Crisis Stabilization Center

Public Health staff have had a lot of input about their needs, from which offices need windows and those that don't — lactation rooms — as well as areas that need sound deadening for greater privacy.

Terri McQueen, Health Services

Contract and Procurements Manager, and Vernon Mills of General Services have worked closely together since August on the building's remodeling and are looking forward to a March move-in for the WIC program, Maternal Child Health Nurses, Immunizations, and Communicable Disease program

Once that is celebrated, the team will shift its focus to the new Crisis Stabilization Center.

Although the building has been remodeled over the years, the base structure was constructed in 1961. Its location across the street from Albany Samaritan Hospital is ideal, especially for the Crisis Stabilization Center.

General Services intern Melissa Bledsoe developed the overall design for the Public Health portion and Pinnacle Architecture has been awarded the contract for the Crisis Stabilization Center.

7th STREET ... See P. 5



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Disabilities Awareness Month ... From P. 1

Cliburn stated that today's philosophy is, "every individual has the right, the potential to participate in their community."

"The home and community-based model has been hugely successful," Cliburn said. "Linn County's first group home housed 10 people. Now, the optimum number of residents is about five individuals per home."

There are now 80 residential homes in Linn County, Cliburn said.

"They are primarily in Albany, Lebanon and Sweet Home," she noted.

The State of Oregon provides funds to operate the homes, Cliburn said.

"Institutional costs were very expensive," Cliburn said. "The home and community-based models are more humane, more dignified and more cost-effective as well."

Linn County has 45 staff members in its

Developmental Disabilities department, and they serve about 1,200 clients, Cliburn said. Our entire program functions as a team with every position working to support our community members. From our front office staff to eligibility and assessment, to coordinating referrals and services, every role is crucial.

Most of the staff are service coordinators, who gather information, make referrals, complete assessments, individual support plans, and monitor services.

Cliburn calls them the "jacks of all trade" because they are the point people, who are skilled in accessing a variety of different resources and know what's available locally to assist families.

Service Coordinators also monitor the local group home and foster homes to ensure individuals are receiving proper care that is person-centered.

Linn County also has two protective service investigators, who investigate all potential abuse claims for adults in the program.

"We like to think that we add value to our communities and help improve people's lives," Cliburn said. "We believe in equity; we ensure access for community members with disabilities — so they can live lives that are as productive, integrated and inclusive as possible."

Cliburn encourages people to get involved by learning more about the Americans With Disabilities Act and watching the Oregon Public Broadcasting documentary, "In the Shadows of Fairview."

Local resources include the Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities, the ARC and Linn County Special Olympics.



Planning for the summer parks guide has begun

Miriam and Scott Swanson of The New Era and Lebanon Local newspapers, recently began planning the 2025 Linn County Summer Parks & Recreation Guide with Parks Director Stacey Whaley. The colorful and fact-filled magazine will be available in hard copy and on-line in May. It will be filled with information about Linn County and U.S. Forest Service parks, camping rules, fees, campsite amenities and maps.



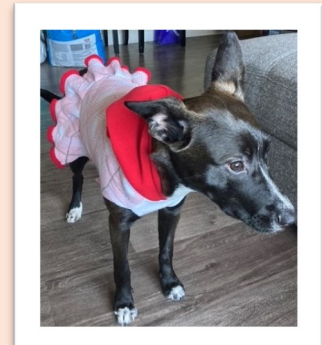
A Valentine's Day to remember!

Valentine's Day 2025 will be one to remember for Robin Beechert, retired from the Linn County District Attorney's Office. Her son-in-law Connor Zetsche, bought flowers for her daughter, Alyssa, granddaughter Bailey and Robin. Next year, he is going to have buy another bouquet, with the Feb. 17 birth of Miss Adelyn Merrie, 10.3 pounds, 21.5 inches long and blessed with a "strong voice" according to her grandmother. She joins Bailey, 3 1/2 and brother Callen, 18 months. Robin says helping with the older grandkids is a "grandma's dream."



Celebrating Heart Month

Above: Serena Stearns-Garland (WIC Dietitian) and Brandy Tarr (WIC Nutrition educator) bringing awareness that February is American Heart Health month. **Below:** "Pi" wearing her best Valentine's Day outfit. She is Serena's grand-puppy.



Planning & Building antics

The good folks in the Planning & Building Department are always up for some fun. This was their Valentine's Day artwork. We think it was spot on.

Community gathers to remember one of Brownsville's best

By Sarah Brown

The New Era

February 18, 2025

A woman described as “the heart and soul” of Brownsville was remembered during a memorial service on Sunday, Feb. 16.

Editor's Note: Joni Nelson was a dedicated volunteer for decades at the Linn County Museum and Historical Moyer House.



Wearing a Carriage Me Back costume.

Hundreds turned out to celebrate the life of Marilyn “Joni” Nelson at Central Linn Rec Center, and share stories of how she touched their lives.

“Today we’re going to celebrate as a community,” said Pastor Warren Light. “We are going to remember that love reigns, because Joni was full of love – and also full of real, good mischief.”

Coming out of Laguna Beach, Nelson, along with her husband William “Ace” Nelson, planted their roots in Brownsville some time in the late 1970s and began building a legacy that would affect many.

Linda McCormick and Tishana “Tika” Harrison completed each other’s sentences as they tried to explain what made Joni Nelson so special to the community.

“The heart and soul of Brownsville is right here,” McCormick said about Nelson. “There was something about Joni that made all of us feel like we were –”

“– a big part of the town without being a big part of the town,” Harrison finished.

“– that we could do things,” McCormick added. “She made us all feel like we could do anything.”

“She just created so much for Brownsville and had her foothold in building what this town is today,” Harrison said.

During the memorial service, Nelson was described as a feisty woman filled with vibrancy and warmth. Friends said she always had an open door, always made people feel included and always made sure her neighbors were volunteering.

One story revealed one of Nelson’s forthright tactics. When she realized there was a new resident in Brownsville, Nelson approached her and said, “All of us vol-



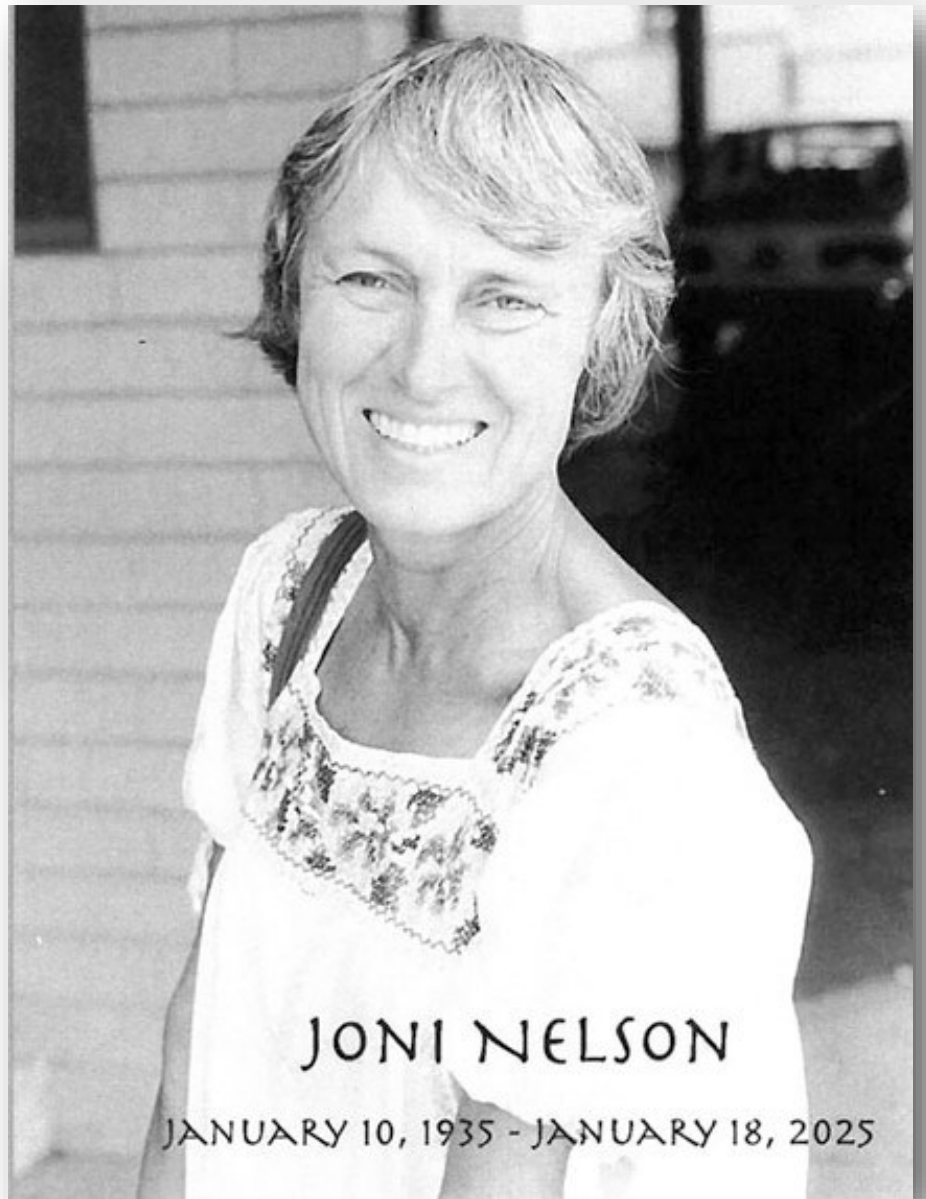
Above left: Nelson had three children and three step-children. **Above:** Nelson was always willing to volunteer if it was good for the community. **Left:** Nelson with surfing partner, Walter Hoffman, left, and Hawaiian surfing icon Duke Kahanamoku.

unteer in this town, so what are you going to do?”

Friends shared stories about Nelson encouraging them to join her in group-meets for meditation, coffee dates, “goat time” and art, or howling at the moon during New Year, among other gatherings. She regularly welcomed people into her home, and regularly mingled with friends out in nature.

“She was our warm blanket when we needed it and always the gregarious glue that connected so many of us to each other and to our very special community,” said Kathleen Swayze.

Nelson was described as a connector, a leader, a tree-planter, a cheerleader, an artist, a friend. She was always welcoming, and pulled people into her adventures, her town projects and her silliness. According to Amanda Hayworth, she was “an example of how to live your life



and care for people.”

The mother of three (and step-mother to another three) had a background in English, fine art, set and costume design, and grant writing and research, which proved useful for her work as a founding board member of numerous organizations, including the Linn County Historical Museum, Carriage Me Back and restoration of the Moyer House.

“She organized all of us,” Pastor Light said. “If we were sheep, she was the sheep dog. She worked tirelessly to improve and enhance Brownsville, but she also did that for our families and our relationships.”

Nelson enjoyed camping, skiing, surfing and backpacking.

She notably was among the first females allowed to surf in tandem during the First International Tandem Surfing Contest in 1954, earning first place with her partner Walter Hoffman.

Nelson valued community, nature, activism, sustainability and the welfare of families, and she would talk with her pastor about how she could help people get along.

“How do I get these two people to like each other?” Nelson would ask Pastor Light. “How do I get these two people to not confront each other and be cruel to each other? How do I tell somebody that they need to do something to make space for somebody that doesn’t feel comfortable in my community?”

Winnie Barron recalled the time she first laid eyes on Nelson shortly after moving to Brownsville some 40-plus years ago. Barron made a trip to the local hardware store where she encountered a man (Ace) with a large goat that had tennis balls on its horns.

A little later, Barron witnessed a petite woman enter, give Ace a loving look, then pick up a pot and proceed to scoop goat pellets – which had made their way onto the floor – into the pot. The woman (Joni) then gave the pot to the store owner and planted a kiss on Ace’s cheek.

Upon seeing this, Barron told herself, “I’ve got to know these people.”

It became clear during the memorial service that stories of Nelson’s presence in the community are just glimpses or snapshots, remaining bits and pieces of the vastness of Nelson’s influence over so many lives in a small town. It became clear that the memories won’t ever do justice to the reality of her true work, but they linger on like seeds planted in beings who continue walking forward in this world.

Nelson passed away just eight days after celebrating her 90th birthday with more than 100 friends and family members.

According to Pastor Light, Nelson said she wanted her memory to live on by others valuing and caring for each other because she wanted everyone to have a place in the world.

“Please take that feisty peace-making, that heart full of love, and give your best to each other in Joni’s name,” Pastor Light said.



Tandem surfing champions Walter Hoffman and Joni Nelson in 1954.

7th Street Medical Building upgrades ... From P. 1

“This has been the most fulfilling project I have ever been a part of,” Mills said. “That’s because everyone has worked together so well on it.”

And the task has been massive.

The project started with a “gutting” of interior walls in August. Since then, there has been installation of a new roof, new heating and air conditioning unit, new electrical service, Americans With Disabilities Act upgrades, new fire alarms, a back-up power supply, energy efficient lighting and insulation and much more.

The target move-in date for the Public Health offices is March 17 and there is a first-quarter 2026 goal to open the Crisis Stabilization Center.

The Public Health area will include space for the communicable diseases staff, three immunization rooms, a conference room and a lactation room.

Staff of the Maternal Child Health program will have office space. Nurses will be able to visit new parents and assist them with early childhood questions.

“It has been a challenge at times,” Mills said. “But everyone has come together, everyone has had lots of input and we tried to take suggestions and make them happen as much as possible.”

Mills praised McQueen.

“She did an amazing job listening and then putting people’s ideas into action,” Mills said. “She didn’t say ‘this is what we are going to do’ but ‘what do we need to do?’”

McQueen said a key goal was to make the new offices nice, but to do so cost-effectively.

And, Mills added to the commentary, “We want to make sure we can accommodate the public. We think the new remodel and the furniture will be very comfortable for staff and the public.”

Mills and McQueen agree that feedback from county staff has been “amazing.”

Staff also appreciate the “little things” such as water fountains that allow them to fill their own water bottles, an ice maker in the new refrigerator and dimmable lights. All cost very little to implement, but are positive amenities, appreciated by those who will work there.

An added touch is “noise machines” that will help maintain privacy of conversations within the building.

McQueen said she is “excited” to show the finished product to the public and Mills said he is proud that so many people have taken ownership in this project.

Linn County made an offer of \$2.5 million for the building in June 2024, culminating a two-year search for much needed additional space for Public Health offices and a need for a Crisis Stabilization Center.

When the building was purchased, Health Administrator Todd Noble said the proximity to the hospital is very positive because often people come to the hospital’s Emergency Department in crisis. Now they can walk across the street to get help quickly.

Eventually the Crisis Stabilization Center will be open 24/7. The county already has a mobile crisis van that it can take virtually anywhere in Linn County as needed.

Much of the renovation costs for the Public Health portion of the building is being paid for through funds from the American Rescue Plan Act.



Work crews are making progress on the WIC Health Services portion of the 7th Street Medical Building. Once completed, they will turn their attention to the other half of the building, creating a Crisis Stabilization Center. Terri McQueen and Vern Mills show off the newly painted building.



Craftsman John Lapuste at work.

How well do you know St. Patrick's Day trivia?

Question: Of which country is Saint Patrick the patron saint?

Answer: Ireland.

Question: Why is St. Patrick's Day celebrated on March 17?

Answer: It's the day Saint Patrick died in 461 CE.

Question: Where and when was the first St. Patrick's Day parade ever recorded?

Answer: St. Augustine, Florida, in 1601. The area was then a Spanish colony, but it had an Irish vicar.

Question: What's the oldest and largest St. Patrick's Day Parade in the world?

Answer: The New York City Saint Patrick's Day Parade, first held in 1762.

Question: Where and when was the first St. Patrick's Day parade in Ireland?

Answer: 1903 in the Irish town of Waterford. (Dublin followed in 1931.)

Question: What do the three leaves of a shamrock symbolize on St. Patrick's Day?

Answer: The Holy Trinity the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Question: What's the highest number of leaves ever recorded on a single clover stem?

Answer: 56, according to the Guinness Book of World Records. That's a lot of luck!



Our favorite leprechaun, Paul Hermens, all dressed up for St. Patrick's Day a couple years ago. Please remember to send photos of yourself, staff or office in costumes/decorated to Alex Paul at apaul@co.linn.or.us.

Question: What does the circle at the very center of a Celtic cross represent?

Answer: The sun.

Question: What is a boxty?

Answer: An Irish potato cake.

Question: Where was the real Saint Patrick born?

Answer: Britain.

Question: What does "Erin go bragh" mean?

Answer: Ireland forever.

Question: About how many Americans claim to have some Irish ancestry?

Answer: 31.5 million.

Question: What American city has dyed its river green every St. Patrick's Day since 1962?

Answer: Chicago

Question: How many pounds of green vegetable dye are now used to turn the Chicago River green?

Answer: 40 pounds.

Question: What is another name for Ireland?

Answer: "The Emerald Isle."

Question: How many days does Dublin's annual St. Patrick's Day festival last?

Answer: Four. (Some years, it has expanded to five!)

Question: What is the national flower/emblem of Ireland?

Answer: The Shamrock.

Question: What is the traditional main dish served at many St. Patrick's Day celebrations in America?

Answer: Corned beef and cabbage.

Question: What was St. Patrick's name when he was born?

Answer: Maewyn Succat.

Question: Name a historic site that has been lit up in green on St. Patrick's Day in recent years.

Answer: The Roman Colosseum, Leaning Tower of Pisa, Sydney Opera House, and the Empire State Building among others.

Corned Beef and Cabbage recipe

What's more Irish than a traditional recipe for corned beef and cabbage? Serve with mustard or horseradish if desired.

Tested by Allrecipes Test Kitchen

If you're looking for the best corned beef and cabbage recipe on the internet, you've come to the right place. You won't believe how simple it is to make this top-rated recipe. It's perfect for St. Patrick's Day, but you'll want to make it all year long.

What Is Corned Beef?

Corned beef is salt-cured beef. Before electricity paved the way for refrigeration, meat was preserved in salt. Brisket (the tender meat from the lower breast) is traditionally used to make corned beef in the United States.

Corned Beef and Cabbage Origins

So how did corned beef and cabbage become such a dynamic duo? It's actually an American invention. Historically, cabbage was paired with pork bacon in Ireland. Irish immigrants in 19th-century New York City, who often lived in the same neighborhood as

Jewish butchers, noticed flavor similarities between the corned beef of NYC delicatessens and the pork bacon of their homeland. Thus, corned beef and cabbage was born. These days, it's commonly associated with St. Patrick's Day.

Corned Beef vs. Pastrami

Corned beef and pastrami are both deli staples, but they're not the same thing. Corned beef is salt-cured beef that is cooked by boiling, while pastrami is seasoned and smoked beef.

How to Make Corned Beef and Cabbage

- Boil the corned beef, then simmer until the meat is tender.
- Meanwhile, cut potatoes in half, cut the cabbage into wedges, and peel and cut the carrots.
- Add the potatoes and carrots to the Dutch oven and cook until tender.
- Add the cabbage and cook for about 15 more minutes.
- Remove the meat from the Dutch oven, let rest, and slice across the grain.



- Serve with vegetables and broth.

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



OSU Extension Service



Look who showed up ...
We fell in love with our chicks that hatched in the office. These little chirpers went home to Andrea Leao's farm.



62 steers for beef weigh-ins

July may seem like a long way off, but not for our 4-H kids. Some 62 steers were recently weighed in as young folks get their projects ready for the Linn County 4-H Fair in July. Working the squeeze are Ava Glaser, foreground, and Sela Wright, youth members of the annual auction committee.

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*As tracked and documented by The Oregon Bee Project - oregonbeeproject.org
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Future Engineers?

The recent Linn County 4-H LEGO workshop had our 4-H members planning their projects for fair. LEGO displays are part of the STEM project area and challenge kids to create using engineering skills and design.



This is why the maple trees were removed from Courthouse lawn

If you were wondering what happened to the maple trees on the east side of the Courthouse, arborist James Reed explains:

The silver maples have had verticillium wilt for many years, and we did everything we could to preserve them with the help of arborists. However, this year, they finally succumbed to the disease. The main trunks began splitting, creating a public safety risk, so we had to take swift action to remove them. Unfortunately, we cannot replant immediately due to the remaining roots of the original trees. Additionally, if we replant another maple, it would likely be re-infected with verticillium. The plan is to allow the grass, which had been struggling due to competition from the trees, to recover over the next year. We also intend to plant deciduous conifers in the area that are resistant to verticillium wilt.



ALBANY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

5K iRUN FOR KIDS 10 MILE
LITTLE LEPRECHAUN DASH

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WEST ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL TRACK

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- Direct runners on the course
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- At the venue
- With cleanup
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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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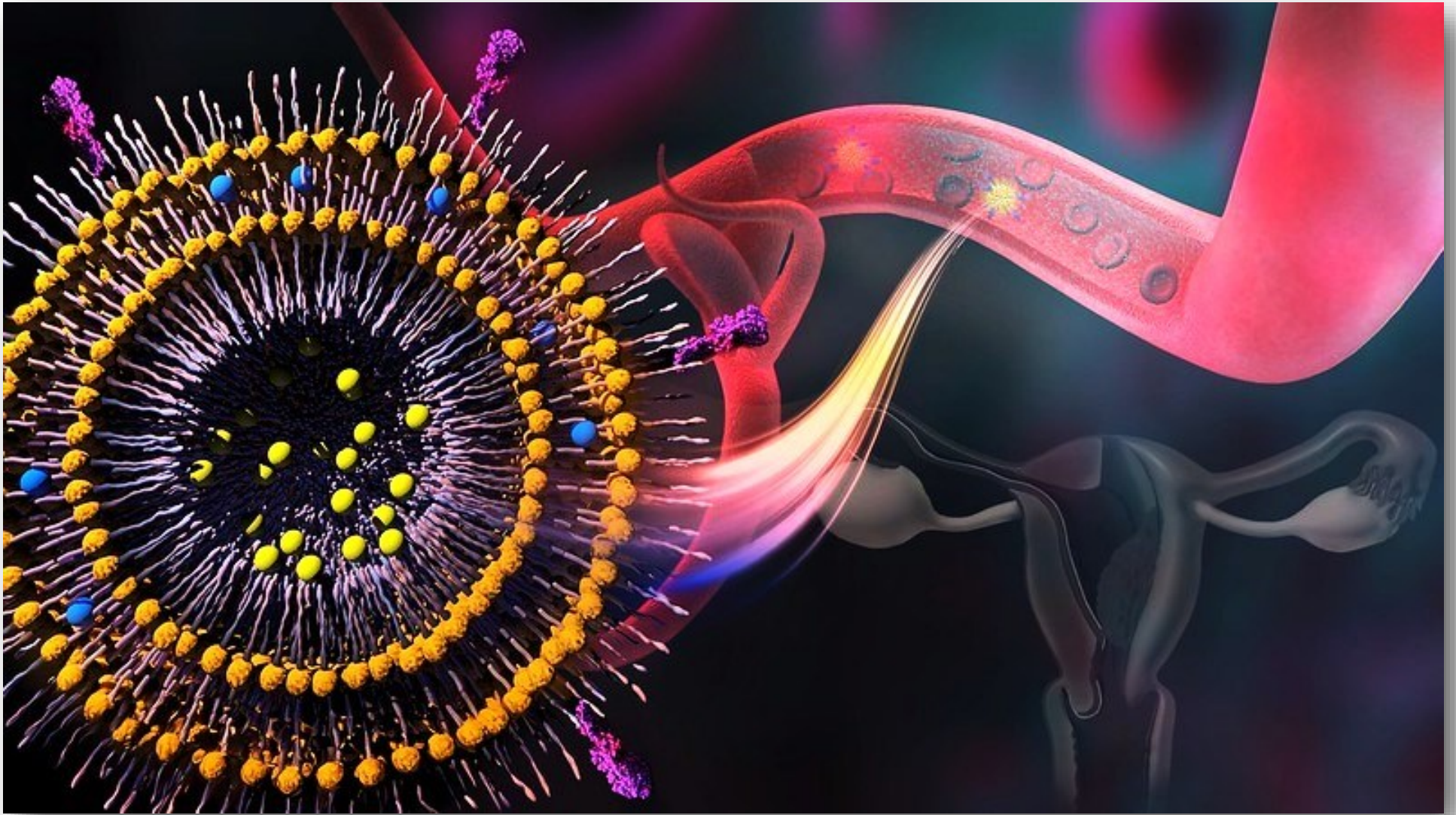
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Registration closes June 4, 2025.

 Oregon State University 

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A polymersome with its methotrexate cargo. Illustration by Parinaz Ghanbari.

Drug delivery method treats aggressive pregnancy-related cancer

OSU News Service

PORTLAND, Ore. – A new drug delivery system shows promise for treating a rare, aggressive form of cancer affecting pregnant women and new mothers, and it has potential with other cancers as well.

Scientists led by Olena Taratula, a nanomedicine researcher at Oregon State University, have found a way to better ensure the drug used to combat the disease reaches tumor cells without damaging healthy tissue.

Findings of the study into choriocarcinoma, which occurs in the United States at a rate of about four cases per 100,000 pregnancies, were published in *Small Science*.

Typically starting in the uterus, choriocarcinoma develops from cells that were part of the placenta. It can occur after a miscarriage, abortion or ectopic pregnancy, one in which a fertilized egg implants somewhere other than the lining of the uterus.

It can also happen following a molar pregnancy (no embryo forms, and the placental tissue grows abnormally) and even after a full-term pregnancy.

Taratula and collaborators including OSU postdoctoral researcher Babak Mamnoon and Maureen Baldwin, a physician at Oregon Health & Science University, designed a type of drug nanocarrier known as a polymersome to specifically target a protein in choriocarcinoma cells.

Polymersomes are hollow spheres that are synthetic versions of liposomes, lipid-based sacs found in all living cells. The protein the researchers aimed for is equilibrative nucleo-

side transporter 1, usually abbreviated as ENT-1, which is important for a range of cellular processes, among them DNA and RNA synthesis.

In addition to being abundant in choriocarcinoma cells, ENT-1 is found in the brain, heart, liver and other tissues in the body.

Mamnoon led the research team in mouse model testing that confirmed attaching guanosine, a building block of RNA, to the polymersome allowed it to deliver more of the chemotherapy drug methotrexate directly to tumor cells.

“Given methotrexate’s role as the mainstay treatment for choriocarcinoma, the critical goal now is to enhance its effectiveness, including faster response times, while simultaneously minimizing side effects,” said Taratula, an associate professor in the OSU College of Pharmacy.

Methotrexate or MTX, a common cancer drug, works by interfering with cells’ ability to use folic acid, essential for making DNA and RNA. By blocking a certain enzyme, MTX thwarts replication of the otherwise rapidly dividing cancer cells.

Common symptoms of choriocarcinoma are pelvic pain and irregular vaginal bleeding. The cancer can quickly spread via the bloodstream to other parts of the body including bones, gastrointestinal tract, breasts, kidneys, liver, lungs, lymph nodes and brain.

“Because choriocarcinoma occurs in people who were recently

pregnant, they often have young families, so we need to make getting diagnosis and treatment easier and faster for them,” said Baldwin, an obstetrician/gynecologist at OHSU.

Most cases, especially if caught early, are curable, with a five-year survival rate of about 87%.

“But MTX has poor tumor specificity in standard applications and can cause side effects such as liver and kidney toxicity,” Taratula said. “That’s why we need a specially designed nanoplatform that ensures precise drug delivery and release directly into tumors.”

In the mouse model, the approach reduced tumor size by 95%, working roughly six times better

than non-targeted drug carriers. The upshot is more effective treatment coupled with fewer or less severe side effects, and with further research, the same approach could be applied to treating other cancers, Taratula said.

Financial support for the study came from the OSU College of Pharmacy, the OHSU School of Medicine, the National Institutes of Health, and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Collaborators included Oregon State’s Ana Paula Mesquita Souza, Tetiana Korzun, K. Shitaljit Sharma, Oleh Taratula, Yoon Tae Goo, Prem Singh, Vladislav Grigoriev and Aryan Lakanpal.



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May 16-17
Tangent (Boshart Trucking)

June 16-17
Aumsville (Victor Point Farms)

June 16-18
Aurora (NWREC)

For More Information & Registration

Go to:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/4h/youth-tractor-safety-certification>


Oregon State University
Extension Service




Enjoying the snow and solitude at Clear Lake Resort are Josh and Samantha Sayles and their sons, Chance, 9 and Kevin, 8 and their dog, Diesel.

Sweet Home family finds peace, solace winter camping at Clear Lake Resort

By Alex Paul
Linn County Reporter

ALBANY — In the summer, Clear Lake Resort can be a very busy place. The restaurant is humming at full speed, families are hiking the trail around the beautiful, crystal clear water and anglers of all ages are tempting colorful trout with fat worms. But in the winter, life at Clear Lake Resort slows down. It takes on an entirely different persona, blanketed in snow and an air of solitude. Just ask Sweet Home resident Josh Sayles and his family. They spent a few days at the resort in early February and can't wait to go back., The Sayles family includes mom Samantha, and their sons, Chance, almost 10 and Kevin, 8. Their dog, Diesel, also had a fun time playing in the snow. The family moved to Sweet Home about three years ago, after living in Brownsville for a few years. Josh, 42, is originally from Cottage Grove and Samantha is originally from Springfield. He works for a road striping

company based in Brooks and Samantha is an adult caregiver. "We usually like camping where there is sand for our side-by-side and four-wheelers," Josh said. "But we decided we wanted to try some new things. We are definitely outdoor people. We love camping." They learned about Clear Lake Resort from friends in 2017, but hadn't been there for a while. "We loved it, but we got busy and didn't get back up there until now," Josh said. "We wanted to get back into the snow, so we called the Parks Department and talked with Karrie (King). She is amazing. She fixed us right up with a cabin, even though it was pretty last minute." Josh said his family "loved it." "We disconnected from our phones. The solitude was amazing. There were other people, but it we had so much family time. At night we played games," Josh said. "The boys loved playing in the snow and sledding."

CLEAR LAKE RESORT ... See P. 11





Clear Lake Resort ... From P. 10

Josh said he enjoyed the feeling of seclusion and its “tucked away” atmosphere.

Fishing didn’t work out very well, Josh admitted, but it was still fun to get on the water — although it was pretty cold.

“I tried everything I could think of and we still didn’t catch anything,” Josh said with a laugh.

The family enjoyed the adventure so much that Chance asked to go back for his 10th birthday. The family is headed back on March 7.

Chance said he enjoyed sledding, but hoped to catch a fish or two.

A summer trip to Clear Lake Resort may also be in the offing in a few months, Josh said.



Photo by Ranger JR Erspamer

Before you head to Clear Lake Resort

- Cabins and yurts at Clear Lake Resort are open year-round.
- Kayaks and rowboats are available. Linn County Parks has a few boats available for rent, although most boats are pulled off the lake before winter so they don’t fill up with water or snow.
- Restaurant hours vary by month, so people should call the office at 541-967-3917 before making a trip from October through April.
- Clear Lake Lodge and store is open all year, but may have limited hours in the winter when the resort is quiet.
- Linn County Parks also rents snowshoes.
- There are hiking opportunities nearby — depending on snow levels.
- Nearby sightseeing opportunities include Sahalie Falls, Koosah Falls, Blue Pool/Tamolich Falls, Fish Lake/Fish Lake Guard Station, Big Lake (summer only), Santiam Wagon Road, etc.
- Hoodoo Ski Area is only 15 minutes away, McKenzie Bridge is 30 miles away as is the scenic town of Sisters.

Blood Drive OSU Extension Service Linn County

Large Conference Room
33630 McFarland Rd.
Tangent, OR 97389

Thursday, March 27, 2025
10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.





Left to right: Cristal Ponce-Palomera , Mayra Vega, June Medlen (State WIC), Juana Lopez-Gonzalez, Serena Stearns-Garland, Brandy Tarr, Mandi Funk.



Left to right: Dani Crabtree, Leah Brunson, Nadir Pinto, Anita De Anda, Serena Stearns-Garland and Diego Nieto.

WIC Community Garden celebrates tasty success

ALBANY — In 2024, the Linn County Health Services Women Infant Children (WIC) program rented two community garden spaces at the Willamette Community Gardens for \$35 each.

This was the first time the WIC program had done that.

The Linn County Health Education team also rented another space and the two groups worked together to grow many tasty and healthy vegetables and herbs.

A sign-up sheet on Google was created ensuring anyone from our Public Health Department and our county could participate in the watering and weeding.

Team members went out once a month by department for a team building exercise for garden maintenance, planting, harvesting and dreaming.

We provided a local weekly update of the garden, what was growing, our trials and successes via Instagram page and county newsletter.

We were able to use our produce in our bilingual outreach events at Colonia Paz where we demonstrated WIC recipes, used local ingredients and produce from our community garden.

We also grew enough to give to our public community table!

We created a space in our Health Services building to share our produce with Public Health and county staff.

Recently, we planted a fall harvest with radishes, kale, spinach, beets and onions.

This year was our pilot year, and we plan to continue this garden next year with hopes to be able to utilize it more for nutrition outreach and education for our clients and the community.

Stay tuned for big things to come from our Linn County Community Garden in 2025!



Back row: Juana Lopez-Gonzalez, Brandy Tarr, Nadir Pinto. Kneeling: Serena Stearns-Garland.

The following is a timeline of how the successful program progressed throughout the year.

Members of the Health Promotions Team rescued wooden pallets and signs from the trash and made a garden trellis and garden art.

The team also received free vegetable and herb seeds from a local plant store and donations from a local garden for plant starts.



Vegetables grown in the garden and healthy dishes made from them.



Nadir Pinto and Brandy Tarr working one of the garden plots. A sign-up sheet was created on Google to ensure that anyone from our Health Services Department and county employees could participate in watering, weeding and harvesting.



The Linn County WIC and Health Education team rented a space and the two groups worked together to grow many tasty herbs and vegetables.



Members of both teams rescued wooden pallets and signs from the trash to make garden trellis and art.

An Irish prayer

"May the road rise to meet you"

"May the wind be always at your back"

"May the sun shine warm upon your face"

"And the rain fall soft upon your fields"

"And until we meet again"

"May God hold you in the palm of his hand"

Photo courtesy Gary Betts



Dedicated volunteers honored

You've seen Larry and LaDonna Chafin of Sweet Home riding horses or driving wagons in parades throughout the mid-valley for years. They are dedicated members of the Linn County Sheriff's Office Mounted Posse and their hard work was recently recognized with the Oregon Association of Mounted Posse's Community Service Award.

Please send story ideas for the Linn County Reporter to apaul@co.linn.or.us or call 541-967-3825.

Volume 3 Issue 1
Jan-Feb 2025



LINN COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

LAW LIBRARY NEWS

LINN COUNTY LAW LIBRARY NEWS BULLETIN

- Stay tuned for the next PowerPoint slides on guardianships in Oregon. Find these slides on our website under **Learning Center - Tutorials** (near [bottom of page](#)).
- Attorneys and Judges: [See the OSB Bar Bulletins Archive](#)
- The Law Library has applied for several grants in the past few years. As you may be aware, grant proposals are very competitive and it is often difficult to convince a committee to fund a specific project. **The Law Library will now accept donations, but they are NOT tax deductible and the library will NOT specifically associate a name with a donation in return for getting their name on anything associated with the law library.**

Access to Justice Links

- [Oregon Access to Justice Coalition](#)
- [Access to Justice in Oregon](#)
- [Addressing Access to Justice](#)
- [Oregon Women Lawyers \(OWLS\)](#)
- [Oregon Judicial Department](#)
- [Oregon State Bar - The State of Access to Justice in Oregon](#)
- [The Lawyer's Campaign for Equal Justice](#)

LEGAL REFERENCE RESOURCES

Do you know of a legal reference resource or a series of legal reference books you think should be housed in the law library? Contact 541-924-6902 or email: aboedigheimer@co.linn.or.us

LAW LIBRARY FUNDING

Oregon law requires that each county provide law library services, and the legislature provides funding for these services through the Oregon Judicial Department budget. Law libraries in Oregon are also funded in part by revenues from civil action filing fees. As far as our 2025-2027 budget is concerned, Oregon County Law Libraries are working to demonstrate our needs for increased funding.

Native American Traditional Dancing Demonstration and Information 1-3 p.m.

Beautiful bright colors moving in the breeze, feather flowing in the air, the heartbeat of Mother Earth, voices singing a song for everyone to dance to and prayers in each step.

Evening Prayer

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

Sunday

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

Native American Traditional Dancing Demonstration & Information 1-3 p.m.

Dance demonstration and information about our dance regalia and meaning of the dancing. We will also answer questions and are happy to share our dancing traditions with you.

Thank You Feast 5-7 p.m.

We welcome all of our new friends with a feast to thank everyone for coming and sharing our culture and traditions. We thank all those who helped us



with everything. We hope you enjoyed yourselves. Hiya Masi (Thank You)

Ending Prayer

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

Hiya Masi — Thank You

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

Contact Information

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

Call 541-570-5950.

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

Native + American + Cultural + Encampments



Brought to you by Linn County Parks & Recreation

Open to the public

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

Cultural Encampments 2025

ROARING RIVER PARK — JUNE 26-30

WATERLOO COUNTY PARK — JULY 24-28

CASCADIA COUNTY PARK — AUGUST 21-25

naculturalencampment.org/

What is a cultural encampment?

Cultural encampment is a group of Native Americans from different parts of the United States coming together, making village-type settings with tipis and tents. We share our individual cultures and traditional information with the community.

Many moons ago, traveling through an area, you might see groups of tipis or tents for a short time in each area. They were there to gather together, trade or meet family members and to celebrate life by having a big feast and sharing food with one another as they traveled from one area to another. Come see what we have to offer.

A little bit about us.

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



trading, gathering, fishing and hunting.

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

FRIDAY

Morning Prayer

We always start each day with a morning prayer.

If you are up before the sun you may join us at our camp. A prayer is a good way to greet the day and make sure that the day goes smoothly and to ask our Creator/Great Spirit to bless the grounds we are on and everyone who may visit and thank him for our blessings.

Usually, we start at sunrise with the prayer and to catch the first rays of the sun when it touches our camp

area about 5:30 or 6 a.m. When the prayer is finished we usually start a campfire and cook breakfast.

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

Meet & Greet 10-10:30 a.m.

It is important for us to introduce ourselves and welcome you to our camp, answer questions that you might have. We will do this every day of the en-



campment.

We will have things on display and items for sale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Please come and see what there is for offer.

Each encampment will have its own craft class you can participate in. Instructors will help you complete your craft item before you leave each day. Class times are from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Storytelling & Flute Music: 4-6 p.m.

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

Evening Prayer

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

SATURDAY

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

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

naculturalencampment.org/