

Happy Valley NEWS

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A MOVEMENT... NOT *a* MOMENT

JOHN HIGGINS

PHOTO BY: JOHN HIGGINS

Organizer Monnie Spears (second from left) and her father De'Shawn Hardy (third from left) march a group of roughly 2,000 protestors into the grounds of Happy City Hall on June 3.

Happy Valley residents join march against racism

“Social media creates an openness of information that people can see. Racism has been going on all our lives, but it just wasn’t always recorded. ... Now we really see racism, and it’s different when you see it.”

— De'Shawn Hardy

By SHELLEY McFARLAND

On June 3, Happy Valley joined the nation to protest racism. Organized by 2017 Clackamas High School graduate Monnie Spears, roughly 2,000 demonstrators held signs and chanted as they marched eastward on two lanes of Sunnyside Road.

Starting at CHS, the march ended at City Hall, where organizers spoke about violence affecting Black people nationwide, along with the effects that systemic racism has on Black Americans.

“This is not just a moment, but a movement. Our community came out, and we saw the signs and the marchers. We don’t take away from the moment, but the movement part is important. We must now look at policies and make changes. Standing together and having people together is wonderful, but that doesn’t change things,” De'Shawn Hardy said. “There has to be policy change in institutions and when there comes change, we as Black people need to be present at those tables to help with police reform, laws and racism. That’s where the change comes.”

An organizer himself, Hardy is a fourth-generation preacher and reverend at Emmanuel Church. He also is the father of Spears and helped with the march’s logistics. They expected a few hundred protesters and were stunned that roughly 2,000 residents marched. (In comparison, Gresham’s recent demonstrations have drawn only a



PHOTO BY: JOHN HIGGINS

Signs of all shapes, sizes and colors were displayed by marchers who showed up to the Peaceful Protest to denounce racism.

few hundred protesters yet the city has five times the population of Happy Valley.)

“I was nervous about what the

response would be and wondered if people would yell at us. But the people were hungry for it; they were waiting for it and wanted it. People came up and thanked me and my family and Monnie for organizing the march because they wanted to do something, but just didn’t know how to do it,” Hardy said. “Everybody plays a part in this movement. Some are going to sit at the table, some are going to march, and some will support, but to see our community come together was great.”

At City Hall, Hardy and Spears spoke about their experiences with racism and the changes they want to see. North Clackamas School Board member Libra Forde, and Happy Valley’s United Alliance Committee member Tiffany Parret also spoke. In attendance were all Happy Valley city councilors, Mayor Tom Ellis and Rep. Janelle Bynum, D-Happy Valley.

“It was one of the most moving and powerful nights in our city’s history. It will forever be special to me,” Bynum said. “It reaffirms the inclusiveness of our community and those values, plus it shows our kids that they can peacefully protest, and they will be supported.”

The march, which Hardy called “electric,” and the speeches helped galvanize residents to demand change. Ultimately, Hardy wants to leave a legacy for his children and grandchildren and equality for

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Direct ACTION delivers

Monnie Spears organizes peaceful protest and thousands respond

STORIES BY
Shelley
McFarland



De'Shawn Hardy and march organizer Monnie Spears say they were surprised at the turnout to the Peaceful Protest.

After learning of the killings of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and George Floyd, Happy Valley resident Monnie Spears decided to do something.

She had been chatting with friends and went through a range of emotions, including anger and hurt, and felt a deep

need to be heard in a positive way.

Spears knew she could post on social media all day, but thought a march would be more visible. She rallied everyone she knew and with a bit of help from her father, De'Shawn Hardy, the City of Happy Valley,

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Movement

■ From Page A1

all people of color.

“I want get to a place in time where Monnie knows there are protections and policies in place for her and her kids. Then if things do happen, we don’t have to hope or guess that maybe a police officer will be convicted and we will know the law is there,” Hardy said.

“We can see on social media that people are having the conversations about race and speaking up and they are posting, which is good, especially coming from white people,” he said. “I asked at the march ‘How can we cure something we didn’t create?’ We didn’t create racism so we can’t cure it.”

When asked about the lack of change since the civil rights movement in the 1960s, Hardy attributed technology with changing the landscape of the fight against racism.

“Social media creates an openness of information that people can see. Racism has been going on all our lives, but it just wasn’t always recorded,” he said. “We watched George Floyd die and call for his mom, but back in the days of civil rights and Selma, it was just word of mouth. Now we really see racism, and it’s different when you see it. It’s in your face now and people have no choice but to accept it, and they are really taking it serious now. It’s not just Minnesota, it’s a world problem, and it’s not just a black problem, this is an ‘our’ problem.”

Hardy, who has lived in Happy Valley for 15 years, is the son of the late Rev. W.G. Hardy Jr., a pastor and activist who protested the death of Kendra James by police in 2003, which sparked use-of-force protests and debates.

“Now the light is on racism and people can see there is systematic racism and Black people are at a disadvantage when it comes to jobs. People ask us, ‘Why didn’t we realize this a long time ago?’ or ‘Why weren’t we protesting a long time ago?’ For Blacks, we have been saying it exists. We have been waving the flag saying ‘help,



PHOTO BY: SHELLEY MCFARLAND

Rep. Janelle Bynum welcomes marchers to Happy Valley City Hall where speakers talked about the effects racism has on them and how to enact change.

help ...,” Hardy said. “We commend the police who have taken a knee and are standing with us, but it means nothing if we don’t have change. We are still scared because we’ve seen this continue with the police who are not even investigated in situations. When will enough be enough? We must do what’s right. We must get change.”

During his speech, Hardy asked protesters to share 8 minutes and 46 seconds of silence in a symbolic reference to the killing of George Floyd. During the silence, many protesters noticed a slight breeze.

Hardy noticed more.

“I never realized how long 8 minutes and 46 seconds is. It was emotional to imagine somebody on my neck for that long. I was thinking of my father and of George, and while looking up, a little bird flew across the protest and landed on a tree. I sat there the whole time,” Hardy said. “When the moment of silence was over, I started talking and looked over and the bird was gone. It set in for a lot of people how long 8 minutes and 46 seconds is, that was a huge moment for people.



Spears

■ From Page A1

along with Rep. Janelle Bynum, D-Happy Valley, a peaceful protest took shape.

“I wanted to reach people in our community. In Happy Valley there is a lot of silence, and I have a lot of white friends who were not posting or saying anything about what was on the news. Let me say, they were friends,” Spears said. “I’m a Black woman and I understood there were people nervous and didn’t know what to say to me. And with the protests in downtown Portland with the destruction, I understand that maybe people wouldn’t feel safe to protest there, so I thought I could create the safe space for everyone.”

Spears thought the rally would draw a few hundred people, so she was astonished when roughly 2,000 people marched with her against racism.

“The number of messages I received was great. People wanted to donate money, and I told them no, but others made cookies or brought snacks and signs for the march,” she said. “Our community really came together for this. To see the amount of people who want change made me so happy.

“The younger kids are stepping up because they know what’s right, and they are not holding on to those older values. There’s so much history we are (missing) because our schools aren’t teaching a full history. Black people have to learn our history on our own, and we want to see a change where everyone learns the same history.”

During this historic time when America directly confronts racism, Spears asks people to spend time listening and learning about Black history, black experiences and systemic racism.

“It’s as simple as white people educating themselves on all of it. I understand them wanting to reach out to their Black friends, but educating themselves and the people in their households is important. To me, that says more than people reaching out. They are seeking knowledge on their own,” Spears said. “I don’t want to be the spokesperson for every Black person. I would prefer people ask me how I’m doing rather than having to teach them how to be a better white person.”

Spears has always had a desire to fight for equity. While in preschool in Happy Valley, she wanted to know why her class wasn’t acknowledging Martin Luther King Jr. Day. In response, her teacher found a picture for the class to color.

SPEARS’ RECOMMENDATIONS

- Podcasts or books by Amanda Seales
- “Hello Privilege, It’s Me, Chelsea” on Netflix
- “13th” on Netflix
- “Stony the Road: Reconstruction, White Supremacy and the Rise of Jim Crow” by Henry Louis Gates Jr.

Spears comes from a long line of organizer activists, including her father, Hardy, a fourth-generation preacher, and her late grandfather, Rev. W.G. Hardy Jr., a well-known preacher in Portland.

“I found out about the march on social media,” Hardy said. “I had to take off all the other hats I wear and only put on the full-time hat of a dad. My concern was how to protect my daughter. I’m in this field, I know how to do this, and I stand in my community for other things. If it goes bad, it’s going to go back on her, and I was concerned for her safety, but I didn’t want to take away her voice. A friend told me, Monnie lit the flame, I blew on the flame and it united a whole community.”

Both say the city of Happy Valley was awesome in wanting a peaceful march and coordinat-

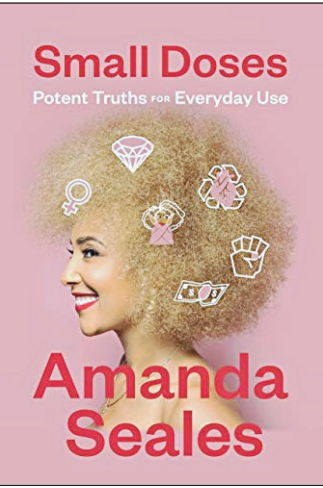
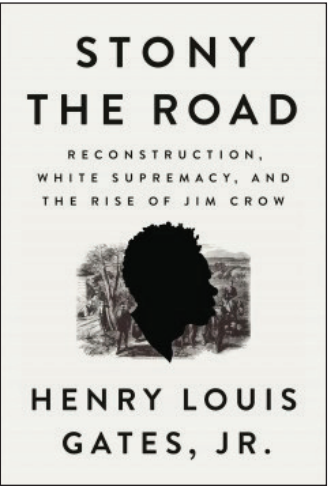


ing to keep it safe.

Spears was nervous to speak in public, practicing her speech at home and asking her dad for advice on addressing a large crowd. Hardy said the family heard the speech at least 20 times. His advice was to “be transparent and unveil your feelings and show your pain.”

“When I got there, I had so much energy and adrenaline, I was ready. Everyone was sitting down, so it felt intimate. It made a difference, and I was comfortable and knew my family was close. I thought it’s only three minutes of my life, I can do this.”

In Spears’ world, three minutes is a long time. The 2017 Clackamas High School graduate attends attending Weber State University in Ogden, Utah. While attending CHS, Spears was a sprinter and broke numerous school track records set



in the 1970s. She runs the 100 meters, 200 meters and four-by-one relay. Spears recently won short sprints at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field competition.

At WSU, Spears is studying psychology and health promotion and plans on a career in sports psychology. She intends to open a training center to work with kids physically and mentally, especially helping girls who have been victims of molestation or rape.

To keep the momentum of protesting for change going, Spears is brainstorming with friends again. She is in the beginning stages of organizing a team to speak to schools about race. She says education reform will take time, but her group

could make an impact on students while helping schools advance their diversity curriculum.

Education is near to Spears’ heart because her mother, Lashawanta (Taye) Spears-Hardy is a middle school vice principal in the Portland metro area who has always strived for equity, including by creating a multicultural family night.

“We taught our kids by words and examples. They got to see us feed homeless people and help families in need and see me come home late at night from holding a funeral or holding someone at the hospital,” Hardy said. “They see our examples, and it’s invigorating to see our daughter stand up and use her voice.”



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HAPPY VALLEY CITY COUNCIL
Council Meetings are held
1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the
month at 7 p.m. at City Hall
16000 SE Misty Drive
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www.happyvalleyor.gov

Diversity & Inclusion

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



TOM ELLIS

I want to take this opportunity to recognize current events we find ourselves in. First and foremost, the City Council and I stand together in condemning the actions taken against Mr. George Floyd in Minnesota. Second, I'm grateful the Happy Valley Police Department and Clackamas County Sheriff's Office also expressed their condemnation of these actions. There is no place in our society for anyone to be treated so despicably. Our hearts go out to the family and friends of Mr. Floyd. We know this incident, and more like it, have affected many people in our own community. Please know that we are committed to working together for a better future by building stronger relationships.

Throughout our country, we have seen demonstrations and protests take place daily since the news of Mr. Floyd's death was

reported. As many of you know, Happy Valley had one of the largest demonstrations in our area. Families and friends in the thousands from our community engaged in a peaceful protest to express their opposition to systemic injustice. Of particular note, this event was largely comprised of our City's youth. The march began at Clackamas High School and concluded at Happy Valley City Hall where there was a united call for equity from those who gathered. Throughout the event, participants remained peaceful and focused on communicating messages of solidarity. It was inspiring and uplifting to share in this experience. We want to extend a huge thank you to all the organizers of this event as well as to the United Community Alliance of Happy Valley. Thank you for bringing our community together in such a meaningful way.

I also want to thank the Happy Valley Police Department for working collaboratively with the event organizers to help ensure the march remained safe for all who came out to participate. I've seen many demonstrations on the news, but this was the first one that included a thank you from the organizers to the local police and City staff members.

On a final note, there is no doubt we are in the midst of a new movement. Several months ago, the City Council established a goal for 2020 to support and foster a community and organizational culture that embraces diversity, equity, and inclusion. We are in the early stages of developing a Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Task Force to assist with this important work. I'm eager to move the work forward on addressing these issues to build stronger relationships in our community.

Comprehensive Plan to hold off on next steps



Pleasant Valley North Carver COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Two Open Houses had been scheduled this Spring to offer the public a chance to view a variety of visual materials and information relating to the Pleasant Valley/North Carver (PVNC) Comprehensive Plan. The recommendations were a culmination of ideas brought forth by the Plan's Technical and Community Advisory Committees. Due to the pandemic, plans continue to be postponed for this community event.

The PVNC Comprehensive

Plan provides guidance regarding such things as land use, transportation, parks, and environmental issues within the Pleasant Valley/North Carver areas.

To ensure the community has ample opportunity to be part of the input gathering process, the City will continue to postpone the Open Houses so that information can be reviewed by those who are interested. The community is encouraged to visit <https://hv.city/pvnc> for updates in the meantime.



CHEER CAMP open for registration

As part of its Parks and Recreation programming, the City has partnered with Thunder Elite All-Star Cheerleading to offer a cheer camp for youth ages five and up. Register today to secure your child's spot.



Cheer Camp!

Thunder Elite has partnered with the city of Happy Valley to hold a cheer camp in the park for kids ages 5 to 14!

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CITY COUNCIL

Budget Update

One of the most important tasks we have as City Council members is ensuring your tax dollars are well spent. Of your property tax dollars, only 4% comes to the City for general operations. 8% goes towards Public Safety and 3% goes towards Parks and Recreation, as voted by Happy Valley residents. The other 85% of your tax bill goes to other service providers such as the North Clackamas School District, Clackamas Fire, Clackamas County, and more. As a City Council, all we control are the tax dollars the City receives.

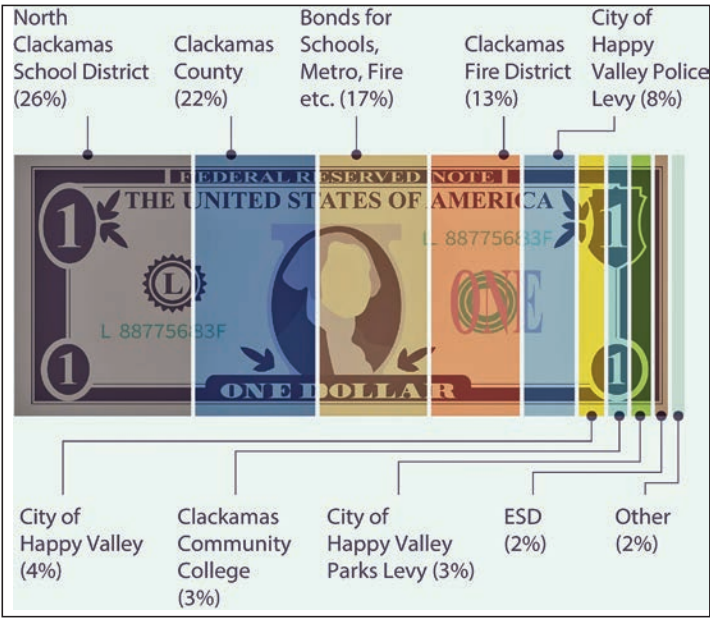
Just this last month, we had our annual Budget Committee meeting to discuss how city tax dollars and other revenues are spent. Like many cities, the Happy Valley Municipal Code follows Oregon State Law by requiring an annual budget to be balanced and adopted by the City Council no later than

the end of June. Getting to this point involves a review of prior trends, projections for the future, and analysis. Most importantly, it involves input and approval from the Budget Committee which includes five local residents and the City Council members.

The City is in a positive financial position. This allows us to continue funding the services that you have come to expect such as street sweeping, maintenance of public areas, code enforcement, land use planning, economic development, and community events.

In addition, this budget includes funding to evaluate options for a new downtown, develop new parks and recreation programs, start a new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force, and purchase land for new parks and a new Public Works Facility.

It's exciting to be able to continually improve city services and facilities. We know there are many more needs



This graphic helps demonstrate the financial breakdown of resident tax dollars. GRAPHIC BY CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

in the community and we will keep striving to meet our goals for the future. While the budget may have been a major focus this last month for us on City Council, our City staff prioritizes the budget daily. We're so proud of the work our entire team does throughout the year to manage our resources. It's going to be another great year ahead.

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Publisher's Note: Happy Valley News is always on the lookout for story ideas and suggestions from our readership. If you know of an interesting local story or a person deserving of community recognition, please forward tips to afox@clackamasreview.com and include your name and phone number for contact information.

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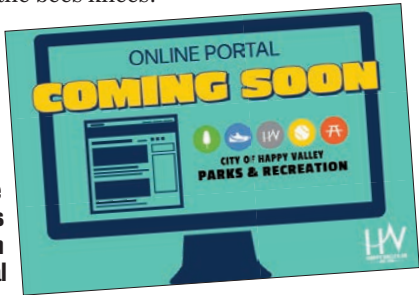
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See page 12 for information about the online Parks and Recreation portal

Happy Valley and Venvino Art Studios are partnering to provide

SUMMER ART CAMPS

In the Park!

Kid's Aged 4-10	Happy Campers Art Camp	Kid's Aged 4-15	Fairy Garden Art Camp
<p>Secret Agent Art Camp Date: August 3 and August 4 Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Cost: \$150</p>	<p>Date: July 6 and July 7 Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Cost: \$150</p>	<p>Fairy Garden Art Camp Date: July 20 and July 21 Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Cost: \$150</p>	<p>Date: July 20 and July 21 Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Cost: \$150</p>
<p>Mad Scientist Art Camp Date: August 17 and August 18 Time: 11:00 - 2:00 Cost: \$150</p>	<p>Date: August 17 and August 18 Time: 11:00 - 2:00 Cost: \$150</p>	<p>Painting in the Park Art Camp Date: July 27 and July 28 Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 am Cost: \$150</p>	<p>Date: July 27 and July 28 Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 am Cost: \$150</p>

Camps will all be held at the Happy Valley Park.
For more information please visit our website, email us, or give us a call!
www.venvinoartstudios.com | info@venvinoartstudios.com | 503-342-8644

Sign up for art camp this summer

Venvino Art Studios is offering a variety of themed art camps this summer geared toward kids ages 4-15. Whether it's painting mermaids or making binoculars, there's a little something for everyone.

Happy Valley & Skyhawk Sports present

SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

in the park!!

Multi-Sport Camp (Baseball, Basketball, Soccer): 7/20 - 7/24
Mini-Hawk (Baseball, Basketball, Soccer): 7/20 - 7/24
Soccer Camp: 7/27 - 7/31
Flag Football Camp: 8/03 - 8/07
Cheerleading Camp: 8/03 - 8/07
Basketball Camp: 8/17 - 8/21

Get in the game with sports camps for kids

The City's Parks and Recreation program is teaming up with Skyhawks and focusing on skill building and sportsmanship. Head to www.happyvalleyor.gov soon to check out all the details and sign up.



New Memory Care Community in Happy Valley!

Our mission at Mountain Park Memory Care, is to offer a thriving, and inspiring environment for residents and their families. We are purposeful in providing individualized care to each resident. Mountain Park is designed in a neighborhood style, to ensure our residents are comfortable and secure. We would like to partner with you on this journey. Please come by and meet us!



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‘Skating is freedom’

Mikey Burton is popping ollies and more in Happy Valley

By SHELLEY McFARLAND

From as early as he can remember, Happy Valley resident Mikey Burton always had a toy skateboard lying around, but when he was given a “real” skateboard one Christmas, he started to take the sport seriously.

“I had a skateboard from a sports store, it was Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, but when I was 7, I was actually really trying to ride. I had an older brother who skated, and that was influential to me. I’d watch him do tricks and I wanted to do that, too,” Burton said.

With flat driveways and endless dry days in Arizona, Burton was able to skate every day. Back then, there weren’t any skateparks, so Burton skated in shopping plazas, behind grocery stores, school playgrounds or in the streets.

“I was run off all the time, and there were quite a few citations in my youth for skating on college campuses or grocery store lots,” he laughed.

By the time he was 11 years old, Burton had earned his first sponsorship with Politics Skate Shop.

“I’d get out of school and instead of going to a day care, I’d go to the local skate shop called Politics. Laura Martin ran the shop and would basically watch me while my mom worked,” Burton said. “I’d skate around her shop and when not skating, she’d put me to work in her shop, helping organize shoes or grip skateboards for customers. Eventually I was sponsored by her shop, and it was my introduction to sponsorship.”

Politics Skate Shop eventually changed its name to Cowtown Skateboards and Martin is considered the iconic godmother of the Phoenix skate scene, where she raised funds to build the first public, cement skatepark in Arizona.

Over the course of his career, Burton has cycled through numerous sponsors including Mannix Skateboards, Nike SB and Bones Wheels. His sponsorships have included flow programs where he received product-to-contractual sponsorships earning royalties off products with his name on it.

From 2002 to 2011 Burton competed professionally in national contests including the annual Tampa AM in Florida that attracts hundreds of skaters from across the world and is listed as a qualifier competition for the Olympic Games.

“There are contest skateboarders and skateboarders that are great at filming or making ... videos set to music, and they don’t necessarily do well under pressure in competitions. But they’re good at filming and it’s put out into the world and everyone thinks they’re an amazing skater,” Burton said.

At age 16, Burton moved with his mother from Phoenix to Oregon, graduating from Sandy High School in 2003. Burton says that though there weren’t as many skaters in the Portland metro area compared to Phoenix, Portland has always had a national reputation for being a city devoted to



PHOTOS BY: SHELLEY McFARLAND
Happy Valley resident Mikey Burton has spent a lifetime skateboarding. He earned his first sponsorship at age 11.



Burton recently built a small skatepark at his home. It’s been a hit with the neighborhood kids who love skating with him. Here he pops an ollie to fakie on his backyard quarter pipe.

skate culture.

“It was a cool experience coming from a huge city. My school in Phoenix — Mountain Ridge High School — was the size of a college campus. Coming to Sandy, it was the old school then, was tiny with 500 kids. It was a great experience to see both those worlds,” he said. “There weren’t as many skaters, but there was still a fantastic community for skateboarding. Portland has always been supportive and iconic within skateboarding because of the Burnside Skatepark, which is one of the first skateboarder-built skateparks, and its rogue mission, it’s legendary. Even in Phoenix, I knew about the Portland skate scene.”

Burton knew at a young age he wanted to be a professional skateboarder, but he understood only a few skaters ever make it to Tony Hawk status. By 26, Burton started to learn more of the corporate side of business and wisely plotted his career course, first by working at Nordstrom where he started as a salesperson. While working his way up the corporate ladder at Nordstrom, Burton accepted a buyer position with Zumiez, which has a strong

skateboard clientele.

“My goal was to become a part of the companies that I was sponsored for. I tried to be a sponge and learn from everyone, including salespeople, and volunteer as much as possible. That was going to be my college and I learned firsthand. I skated for lots of small local companies, like Mannix, and sometimes we got orders and I had to pack boxes. I learned business through those experiences,” Burton said.

Burton took a position with a new company called Ethika Underwear and through the Zumiez business model helped grow the company. In 2018, with his prior corporate experiences, Burton took the leap to start his own business where he consults with companies.

Currently, Burton owns CTC Brand Agency and predominantly contracts with Imperial Motion, a surf and skate brand in the Northwest where he oversees the manufacture and production side of the business along with helping manage a developed model for strategic partnerships with personalities like reality TV stars and athletes who want to develop their brand.

Burton, along with his wife, Kia, and 7-year-old daughter London, has only lived in Happy Valley for a few years, but has made an impact on his neighbors, especially the kids.

“I went from competitions and having a videographer and photographer crew to now I’m usually with a bunch of 7-year-olds in the cul-de-sac. It’s awesome,” he said. “It’s fun to see them play with it; it’s a toy and that’s what I want for them. There’s acceptance and a good sense of community in skating.”

Burton recently built a mini skatepark in his back yard and has given out countless skateboards. His favorite local park is the Ed Benedict Skatepark on Southeast Powell Boulevard where “it’s street-oriented and skaters can decide how serious they want to skate.” In the nation, his favorite is the Encinitas Skate Plaza, a 33,000-square-foot, concrete skatepark for all abilities. Regarding scooters and bikes on the skatepark, Burton says it’s all about etiquette and whether there is enough room for everyone.

Burton is excited for skating in the Olympic Games.

“Ultimately it’s going to help

skateboarding and the brands by putting them on the platform to give it the source of income skateboarders deserve. Skaters are hard on their bodies, many of them don’t have health insurance or make a lot of money,” Burton said. “It also puts women’s skateboarding on a great stage. I love seeing more girls skating; they should be at the same level. You can see the influence over the last few years, like the women skaters coming out of Brazil and places.”

Over the course of his life, Burton has had numerous injuries, including a dislocated shoulder, has given away thousands of boards and helped design five boards. And through it all, his love of the sport remains deep.

“Skating is freedom. Especially if you’re skating downtown or on the streets. When you can get to the point where you can maneuver the board to go anywhere you want, it’s a whole different world. Everything you’re around is an obstacle or can be used, and you always feel like a kid because it’s up to your imagination with what you want to do,” he said. “Every time I step on the skateboard, I feel free.”



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Happy Valley gets creative this 4th of July



While we may not be able to celebrate with a traditional fireworks display, the City of Happy Valley is encouraging residents to get in the patriotic spirit and connect at safe distances with a festive yard decorating contest.



Even kids can get in on the fun by decorating their bikes, scooters and other wheeled devices. This is a great way for youth to be part of the activities, especially since our traditional 4th of July parade was canceled. Don't forget to head to www.happyvalleyor.gov to vote on your favorite kid creations by 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 1.

City of Happy Valley

This year, the City of Happy Valley is organizing a 4th of July Yard Decorating Contest. While we may not be able to gather for our annual 4th of July Family Festival, the City is encouraging the community to celebrate with an inaugural contest that is sure to spark some love for the USA! Entries are set to be evaluated by our very own Happy Valley Public Safety Team on July 2 with the following categories in mind.

- Best Overall Decor
- Best Use of Red, White, and Blue

- Most Creative Decor
- Most Patriotic Neighborhood

Prizes for the winners in each yard decor category include 4th of July Party Packs complete with hamburgers, hot dogs, and chips.

The City also made a call to action to kids. Students in grades K-12 were encouraged to decorate their bikes, scooters, and wagons in honor of the holiday. These submissions will be reflected on the City website with winners for this particular contest being decided by YOU,



the people! The top three entries in this contest will win a 4th of July Kids Party Pack complete with candy, popcorn, and other assorted treats. Online voting for this contest will close promptly at 1 p.m. Friday, July 3, so head to www.happyvalleyor.gov/4thofjulycontest to choose your favorites before it's too late!

All contest winners will be announced on the City's Facebook page and website by Friday, July 3 at 5 p.m.

Thank you, veterans, and Happy Fourth of July

By **SHELLEY McFARLAND**

It may be a common platitude, but it's never said enough. Thank you to all our Happy Valley veterans and to all veterans throughout America.

Independence Day may look a bit different this year during the pandemic, but what remains the same is the appreciation Happy Valley has for the men and women in the Armed Forces. The Americans who serve in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Space Force stand ready to protect the nation and its citizens, and we are grateful.

Remember to fly your American flag on Saturday, July 4, and let freedom ring!



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We are happy to announce the addition of our newest team member- Dr. Roland Nomie- who starts next month! He is a graduate of Barlow High School and Midwestern University dental school.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW OFFICE!

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HAPPY VALLEY LIBRARY

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July 2020 Library Events

The library will be closed Saturday, July 4.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Genealogy Club Virtual Meetings

Mondays, July 13 and 27, 2-4 p.m.
Searching for family roots? All are welcome to come and share questions, strategies, and organizing tips. Insights are discovered and pathways revealed as we attempt to solve the mysteries of our ancestors' elusive stories! Contact the library for Zoom login information.

Virtual Book Group

Thursday, July 2, 6:30-8 p.m.
Read the book selection for the month and meet to discuss the book with other readers. The book we will be talking about for July will be *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston. Contact the library for information on how to download the book for free from cloudLibrary and for Zoom meeting information.

Trivia Tuesdays!

Tuesday evenings 7-7:30 p.m.
The questions are trivial, the fun isn't! Join us for a fun evening, with a different theme each week. Contact the library for Zoom login information.



Surja Tjahaja returns to the Happy Valley Library lineup with a virtual presentation focusing on mindfulness. Contact the library for Zoom login information at 503-783-3456.

Mindfulness for a Topsy-Turvy World

Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8 p.m.
Clinical evidence shows that Mindfulness Meditation can improve sleep, relationships, and help people cope with the feelings of depression, anxiety, grief, loss, and loneliness. These weekly sessions

include both guided meditation and Q&A led by Surja Tjahaja. Particular focus is on coping with the uncertainty and challenges brought on by a global pandemic and social unrest. For beginners as well as those who have experience with Mindfulness Meditation. Contact the library for Zoom login information.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Family Saturdays

Saturdays at 10 am
For K-5th graders. Drop in virtually for family fun, games, and trivia. Email youthlibrary@happyvalleyor.gov for log in information.

Teen Meet Ups

First and Third Thursdays, 5-6 pm
You bring the snacks, we'll bring the games for a weekly virtual teen hang out in Zoom. Email youthlibrary@happyvalleyor.gov for log in information.

Online Storytimes

Thursdays, 10-10:30 am
Join Anna, Isaac and Lisa for weekly stories, songs and fun in Zoom. Email youthlibrary@happyvalleyor.gov for log in information.



Family Saturdays are perfect for families with young kids. Consider joining us at our next virtual session.

Don't forget!

You can find musical performances, storytime songs, book reviews and more on the library's webpage,

Facebook and Instagram. Family Saturdays are perfect for families with young kids. Consider joining us at our next virtual session!

Library offers contactless pickup service for materials on hold

Happy Valley Library

Did you get a notice that the items you have placed on hold are available at the Happy Valley Library?
Please call 503-783-3456 to schedule a time to pick up your items. All you need is your library card number!
How does it work? Schedule an appointment. We'll place your items, already checked out, on a table outside the front door for you to grab and go.
Have questions? Just contact us and we'll get you squared away!

UPDATE

Holds ready?

Call us to schedule an appointment for pick up. 503-783-3456

HAPPY VALLEY LIBRARY

Have a library item on hold? You may be able to pick up your materials sooner than later as this service just recently resumed.



Follow us on social media

◀ Your Happy Valley Library has been busy on Facebook and Instagram! Check out some of our top posts from the last month. Be sure to follow them for updates, stories and songs, and the occasional alpaca.

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GET TO KNOW YOUR LIBRARIANS

Happy Valley Library Staff Spotlight

WHO: Anna, Youth Services Librarian
WHAT I'M READING: *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky* by Kwame Mbalia and *Grown-Up Pose* by Sonya Lalli
WHAT I'M LISTENING TO: *Body Kindness* podcast by Rebecca Scritchfield and the *Good Night Stories* for Rebel Girls podcast
WHAT I'M LEARNING: how not to be a planner and be present!



Youth Librarian, Anna, is a familiar face at the Happy Valley Library. She is often helping families and teachers find just the right book or resource, and is passionate about her work.

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When will the Happy Valley Library reopen?

Happy Valley Library

Library staff are asking that question, too! While we don't know exactly when the library will reopen just yet, we do know that things will look and work a little differently for a while. Here's what we do know:

Wait Time

There will be a limit to the number of people allowed in the building at one time. Expect to wait in line outside of the building and be prepared to stand in the weather!
You can help us by limiting the number of people you bring to the library as well. While we would love to see your entire family (sigh!), fewer people mean lines can move faster. We truly appreciate your patience with this one.

Be Quick!

In order to help as many people as possible, we will be asking patrons to limit their time in the library. Please be mindful of those waiting to enter and try to browse the aisles and complete check out efficiently.

Services Will Be Limited

You will be able to get a new library card, pick up holds and check out materials, but we will not have computer access, Wi-Fi, study tables or in-person programming available in the library just yet. We're sad about this too, but hope that we can expand our services in the future.

We're Still Here to Help

Staff are available by phone, email or on social media to answer questions, provide recommendations and offer virtual programming. It looks a little different, but our library staff still loves to help!
Things are constantly changing, so visit our website at www.happyvalleyor.gov/library or follow us on social media (Facebook and Instagram) for updates on our services, including when we will reopen!



▲ The Happy Valley Library team has been working diligently since the pandemic broke and is excited to serve patrons in-person. While a reopening date has yet to be announced, be sure to check out the library website or follow the team on social media to stay in the know about all the latest happenings.

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Bridgetown Productions helps fill musical void with digital concerts

Jim Bevan and Blake Nelson, seen in their production studio, have been producing digital concerts during the pandemic. Their company, Bridgetown Productions promotes artists, venues and events.



By SHELLEY McFARLAND

After years in the music scene, friends Jim Bevan and Blake Nelson decided to create their own production company to put on concerts and other events and promote the music industry.

When Bridgetown Productions took shape last year, Bevan and Nelson were humming with excitement to launch their new enterprise, but then the COVID-19 pandemic hit.

Bevan and Nelson didn't miss a beat. They created a variety of digital concerts to continue their mission of promoting their musician clients and the industry.

"Our focus with Bridgetown, in general, is technical production, artist representation and event management. But right now, with no gigs or events happening, we decided to pursue putting on some highly produced, virtual, livestreamed shows," Bevan said. "We started it with the desire to support artists who are talented but need help and also to support community events. Given these times when all events are canceled — which hurts artists who rely on gig income to survive — we thought doing some livestream shows was a perfect way to help them. Also, giving people more of a true concert from a local artist from the comfort and safety of their home."

Bevan, a drummer originally from Michigan, is an engineer at Daimler Trucks. Nelson is a bass guitarist and singer who grew up in North Portland and is a real estate broker in Happy Valley. The two played together for 10 years in various bands, mostly country. They saw many talented musicians who were not savvy to the business or production side of the music industry.

"There's a learning curve in the music industry, and you can learn the wrong way. It can start you off on the wrong

"We can create a respectable album for artists for a fraction of the cost. It only takes the right person to hear the right song at the right time to make a career."

— Blake Nelson

foot and set the bar for you; I went through that myself," Nelson said. "Jim and I thought, we have years of successful experience and good results, let's see what we can do," he said.

The two work together as a team, with Bevan taking care of the technical aspects of audio engineering, recording and lighting, while Nelson enjoys the relational aspect of the job — bookings and working with venues and musicians.

To date, Bridgetown has produced 15 high-quality, virtual shows in Happy Valley with over 26,000 views. The shows range from pop, rock, country, soul, R&B and even Celtic. Their artist list includes Trent Beaver, Tay Conti, Almost Urban, Pride of the North Bank, Jessie Leigh and Joanna Lee. They started out asking their family and friends to watch the videos, but the viewership quickly grew.

"Our first virtual concert was with Trent Beaver, and we set a goal to get to 1,000 views. We thought that would be a great number, and it was at 1,000 views by that night. The videos are live, but after they're done people can still watch them," Nelson said.

In the music industry, Nelson said artists can spend upward of \$15,000 to make a six-song album.

"We can create a respectable album for artists for a fraction of the cost. It only takes the right person to hear the right song at the right time to make a career," Nelson said. "Even a bad song can change your career if someone likes it.

And if an artist finds themselves in this position, can they deliver on what they have?"

Bevan said many artists are happy being independent and look to produce high-quality recordings. With Bridgetown Productions, they want to help their clients find the path that will work best for them.

"We are excited about what we do because there are bands out there that might have their big shot next week, and we made a quality video of them that helps define them. If your goal in life is to reach that point, don't sell yourself short," Nelson said.

Both men said this is an exciting time for their production company because people are looking forward to watching the weekly virtual concerts and are telling their friends. As their viewership grows, Nelson said people are listening to music they might not usually listen to and are expanding their repertoire. The artists also are listening to the concerts and supporting one another.

"We're basically taking the idea of a livestream music performance and stepping it up to the next level. Most people just use a cell phone camera for this, but at Bridgetown Productions, we're using a staged area with lights, true engineered/mixed audio, and making it more of a legitimate show. All this happens from my studio right here in Happy Valley," Bevan said.

For more information or to watch the virtual concert series, visit bridgetown-productions.com.



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Keep your trees healthy this summer

City of Happy Valley

Nothing reminds us summer is here quite like a flourishing garden and a beautiful treescape. It's the time of year when you can enjoy the warmth of the sun in your own backyard and revel in the beauty of the colorful flora and fauna at your fingertips. If you are wondering what to do to keep your trees looking great, below are some helpful tips from our City Arborist, Leslie Gover.

Safety first: All that June rain likely caused your outdoor plant life to grow in abundance. With fire season on the horizon, now is the time to mow that tall grass and cut back any branches that overhang rooftops. Remember to always use proper pruning tools and techniques whenever cutting things back. Just go slowly and be cautious, so you don't overdo it.

Make a little space: Winter pruning promotes better growth in the spring and summer, but if that growth has been bountiful, it's important to check on your trees, particularly street trees, to see if any need some thinning out. City

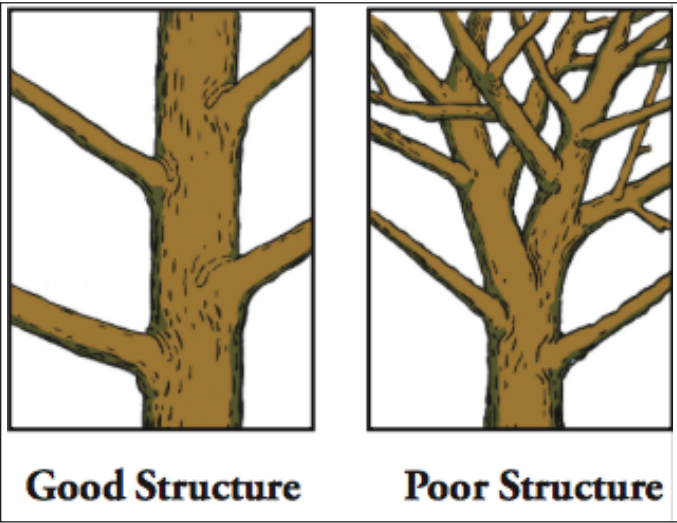


Summer is the perfect time to enjoy the beautiful foliage in Happy Valley. By giving your residential trees some TLC, they too will enjoy these warmer months.

Code does require residents to trim trees affecting public rights of way. This helps ensure that traffic safety devices (i.e. stop signs, traffic signals, vehicular and pedestrian safety, street names signs, etc.) are visible from roadways. This also ensures garbage trucks and emergency vehicles can safely navigate City streets. Interior branches can also be thinned out to help promote better aeration throughout the tree, like

an umbrella shielding you from a storm.

Don't be alarmed: For residents that have conifer trees, such as Doug firs, cedars, and pines, you may notice browning of interior needles. This is a common occurrence that happens once the new spring growth matures. It can be alarming to witness, but it is a very much a normal part of the natural aging and shedding cycle.



Balanced branch spacing is key to the pruning process. Illustration found at treesaregood.org.

Interior needles are the oldest and photosynthesize less effectively as new growth occurs. You will likely find that these needles eventually shed as the tree lightens its load in preparation for the coming winter. If your tree is showing browning or yellowing at the tips or all over, there is likely a problem. Culprits might be pests, lack of hydration, or disease.

Know when to turn off the sprinklers: Although summer is usually drier and hotter, trees, shrubs, and other plant life can get too much water if you aren't careful and that can be detrimental if you give too much. When deciding if you should water your trees, check the condition of the soil nearest them. If it is soggy or damp, you

IS MY TREE SUPPOSED TO LOOK LIKE THAT?

City of Happy Valley residents can reach out to City Arborist/Horticulturalist, Leslie Gover, with questions about tree care. While she won't do the work for you, she will most certainly help walk you through the concepts and give advice on steps you can take to keep your trees healthy and sustainable. She can also provide guidelines when picking a private arborist or tree care company to help.

And, if you have a question about the health of a tree in your parking strip, shared space, or on City owned property, Gover is certainly an excellent resource.

Residents can Email Leslie at cityarborist@happyvalleyor.gov.

can hold off. Helping the City's tree canopy remain lush and healthy is of benefit to everyone. By taking steps now to preserve the life of trees, we will be able to enjoy them for years to come.

Create a welcoming habitat for wildlife in your own backyard

City of Happy Valley

While it may seem like one yard is insignificant when it comes to protecting wildlife habitats, the Backyard Habitat Certification Program disagrees. In a partnership between Columbia Land Trust and Audubon Society Portland, this program provides technical assistance, advice, and incentives to those who want to improve wildlife habitat in their yards, control noxious weeds, manage stormwater onsite, and garden naturally.

With 4,500 urban and suburban yards currently in the program, the combined effect can have a huge impact on the region's wildlife.

gion's wildlife.

The program is open to private residences (under one acre), as well as to schools, community groups, public institutions, and businesses. For \$35, a Habitat Technician will visit the participant's yard to identify noxious weeds and suggest beneficial native plants and other features that will attract and support birds and other wildlife. Recommendations are tailored to each participant's yard and interests. Participants also receive other perks such as discounted prices on native plants, coupons to local garden centers, follow-up technical assistance, and certification signs to display in their yard.

To enroll or learn more, please visit www.backyardhabitats.org. It should be noted that due to the pandemic, site visits have been placed on temporary hold, however the program encourages registrants to move forward with enrollment and be added to the waitlist. The Backyard Habitat Team will be connecting as soon as possible to schedule.

This program is made possible with assistance from the following organizations: Columbia Land Trust, Audubon Society of Portland, Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District, and Clackamas County Water Environment Services.



▲ Black-capped chickadee photo
► The violet-green swallow or the black-capped chickadee could call your backyard home.



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Portland Party Platters
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US World Class Taekwondo
Happy Valley
Sublime Clothing
Hyva SPC
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Fireworks task force prepares for the holiday

City of Happy Valley

In the days leading up to the Fourth of July holiday as well as several days after, a task force of police and community service officers watch the streets and skies of Happy Valley, on the lookout for illegal fireworks.

While fireworks are the Fourth of July’s hallmark feature, serious catastrophes inevitably ensue when safety precautions and the law are ignored. Complaints due to illegal fireworks in the area are naturally higher this time of year, so the task force operates in efforts to be proactive to prevent major crises. To do this, the team conducts targeted patrols of neighborhoods and responds to resident reports. With many residents staying close to home this year, the City recognizes there may be an influx in neighborhood fireworks.

Most simply, illegal fireworks endanger life and property. In 2017, Happy Valley Police responded to illegal firework activity near the 13000 block of Taralon which nearly created a full-blown house fire. A citizen lit a large, illegal mortar firework in his backyard. The firework hit the resident’s sliding back door, where it broke the glass and exploded



PUBLIC SAFETY
Steve Campbell



Is it worth it? Consider the cost of a \$1,000 citation. If you are found to be in violation, it is an automatic fine. If someone in your neighborhood is setting off illegal fireworks, please call to report it. You could help prevent injury and or property damage.

KEEP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFE

To report illegal firework activity in Happy Valley, you can do the following:

For immediate danger to life or property, or you witness the use in progress, please call 911.

To report the use of illegal fireworks, but have no suspect information, please call non-emergency dispatch at 503-655-8211.

You can also email fireworks@happyvalleyor.gov.

dangerously, sending flames into the yards of two neighbors. The resident was cited for possession of illegal fireworks and arrested. Luckily, no one sustained any serious injuries, but it could have been much worse. The busiest day of the year

KEEP IT LEGAL - KEEP IT SAFE ILLEGAL FIREWORKS

State of Oregon Fireworks Chart:

ILLEGAL: Any firework that flies into the air, explodes, or behaves in an uncontrollable and unpredictable manner.

Warning label may say:
"Shoots Flaming Balls."

Oregon Laws Violated:
ORS 480.120

Violation Charged:
Class B Misdemeanor

Contact OSFM or the OSP Explosives Unit at 503-378-3720 for assistance with disposing illegal fireworks.

OREGON OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL
503-934-8274 | oregon.gov/osp/sfm | sfm.lp@state.or.us | [fb.com/OregonStateFireMarshal](https://www.facebook.com/OregonStateFireMarshal) | twitter.com/OSFM

The items below are considered illegal explosive devices and should only be handled by a bomb technician.

Don't risk it: Per Oregon law, fireworks used in the state must be purchased from an Oregon permitted retail fireworks sales location. Fireworks that fly in the air, explode or behave in an uncontrolled and unpredictable manner are simply not allowed to be used in Oregon without a proper permit issued by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

for emergency rooms is usually the Fourth of July, with most common injuries resulting from extreme burns, loss of fingers or limbs, and severe eye damage.

Happy Valley adopted its zero-tolerance policy for illegal fireworks 11 years ago. A firm \$1,000 citation will be issued on the spot if someone is found to be using illegal fireworks within City limits. Safety is by far the number one priority and officers will not be interested in excuses or reasons as to why residents are opt-

ing to use illegal fireworks. If you observe someone in the City to be lighting illegal fireworks, please report it. The potential for physical injury or property damage is too great.

We hope everyone enjoys the upcoming holiday and refrains from using illegal fireworks this year. We recognize this has been a tough several months. Between the pandemic, kids being out of school, and the emotional climate of our nation right now, we simply want to en-

courage everyone to look out for one another and help keep the Fourth of July as stress-free as possible. Now, more than ever, we are encouraging residents to work together in these efforts. For some individuals such as war veterans, young children, and pets, illegal fireworks are also extremely frightening. For property owners, the damage that follows as result of a house fire can be financially devastating. Please, be respectful of each other and our City. We are all in this together.

Online Happy Valley Parks and Recreation portal coming soon

City of Happy Valley

Set to go live on July 1, Happy Valley will introduce a new online system for residents and visitors to use when coordinating their City recreational needs.

The software will help City staff with activity scheduling, facility management, and fee collection, as well as provide auto-



mation and tracking.

This online registration allows our community to conveniently access our programs, activities, classes, and field and park reser-

vations from anywhere, any-time.

It will offer and manage registration, configure pricing, build waitlists, communicate with participants, and run camp and activity sessions, all within one flexible system.

Check out our website at www.happyvalleyor.gov or the City's Facebook page for more information!



An online Parks and Recreation portal will soon be available for use. Sign up for programs, make reservations, and pay for activities all in one place!

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Answers to The 7 Most Common Questions About Music Lessons

By David Martin *Director of Happy Valley Arts Academy*

Question 1

"How much should my child be practicing every week?"

Well, of course EVERY day would be best. But you also don't want to set them up for something they cannot maintain. 5 days a week is probably the most reasonable.

But before you worry about how many days a week they are practicing, make sure they have all the tools to practice during the week. The key is preparation.

1. Have a daily practice journal to log their practice time.
2. Have written assignments from their teacher so that if they have questions during the week, you can help them.
3. Explain what is expected of them and set weekly goals for attaining those goals.

4. Provide a reward system if they reach these practice goals. One more note about practicing: it is usually a good idea for children to not take more than one day off from practicing at a time. The reason for this is simply that two full days of time away from their instrument will result in them forgetting much of what they were working on. They'll get rusty.

So if they practice 5 days a week, just skip one day during the week, and one day on the weekend.

Question 2

"How long will my child have to take lessons before they will know how to play the instrument?"

It is truly impossible to answer this for everyone. Some people may take lessons for a couple years and be perfectly proficient at their instrument. Others may take lessons for 5 years and still struggle with basic concepts.

It really just depends on a few key things:

1. Do they have a good teacher that is patient and does not put too much pressure on them?
2. How motivated is the student? If they are motivated to learn, they may surprise you and make tremendous progress in under a year.
3. What does "knowing how to play their instrument" mean to you? Does it mean they can play a song? Does it mean they can read music? Does it mean they are at the level of a professional musician?



Anybody who is truly great at something must commit many, many years of their lives to it.

What's great about music is that the enjoyment comes not just in the playing, but also in the process of learning. Most things that are worthwhile don't happen overnight. The key here is commitment. Stick with it. You will never regret sticking with music.

Question 3

"How often should we come for lessons to get the best result?"

Over the years we have had students come once month, twice a month, once a week, twice a week, three times a week, and various other frequencies. And I can tell you that the best frequency is once a week. It's just enough time for the child to practice without developing bad habits. It's not too often for them to get burnt out.

Question 4

"What's the best teaching method to use for my child?"

I don't think there is one right answer here. I DO think it's WAY more important that they find the right TEACHER regardless of what method they teach. In addition to the right teacher, the students need to be plugged into a system which gives them the opportunity to perform and earn rewards for their progress. This is critical and far too often overlooked by teachers.

These two keys are FAR more important than any specific teaching method used.

Question 5

"What do I do when my child says they don't want to take lessons anymore?"

The first question I would ask the student would be, "why don't you want to take lessons?".

If they say they don't like their teacher because they are mean, then you need to talk to the teacher and find out what is going on.

If they say they just don't like to practice, then you would want to make sure you and the teacher are giving them proper motivation to continue (do they get a chance to perform at least once a year, are they earning trophies and certificates for their progress etc... Once again, don't underestimate the power of rewards and recognition.)



If they don't give a reason other than that they are just tired of it and want to quit. Well, then it just comes down to their/ your level of commitment. Which of course I cannot answer for you as it is a personal choice.

I will however say this: You will get out it what you put into it. EVERYONE comes to a point in lessons when it gets hard. The ultimate question then becomes this: Will your child regret quitting when they are older. My guess is yes.

Let me put it to you this way: Have you ever heard someone say, "I wish I had stuck with my music lessons when I was a kid." (I have personally heard countless people say this) How about this:

"Gosh, I really wish I had quit my music lessons when I was a kid..." (I've NEVER heard anyone say that.. Have YOU?)

Question 6

"My child says they want to take a different instrument. Should I let them switch or should I make them stick with it?"

Depends on how long they been taking their current instrument. Personally, I think 2 years is a good amount of time for a child to get a good handle on an instrument before exploring a new one. If they have only been taking lessons on their current instrument for 6 or 8 months, then I would be careful. Because once they move to the new instrument, they may never play the old one again. ESPECIALLY if they never learned how to play a song or anything on the old instrument.

I've noticed that if a child takes lessons on two separate instruments. The strangest thing happens. They progress faster on each instrument. The reason for this I think is because they are practicing twice as long per day (practicing two different instruments) and so they are developing themselves musically at a faster rate. CAUTION: Don't let them take lessons on two separate instruments unless they are prepared to practice twice as long per day!

Question 7

"My child has never taken lessons before. What's the best instrument to start with?"

First I would say ask THEM what they want to learn. If they truly have no preference, I would say piano. It's the easiest instrument to learn at the beginning. The key for any of us when learning something new is to get results as quickly as possible. This gives us confidence, which leads to motivation, which leads to more learning.

Over 30 FIVE-Star Google reviews and Over 70 FIVE-Star facebook reviews

"Friendly staff that always have been accommodating with my schedule and fitting me into slots. Instructors who know the instrument that they are teaching. Whether your wanting to take lessons yourself or enroll your child to learn an instrument, I highly recommend Happy Valley Arts Academy."

– Joseph *****

"They do a great job making learning music fun!"

– Brian Chou *****

"My daughter loves taking voice there! I have been impressed with your facility and how well your business is run. My daughter thinks her instructor is wonderful."

– Heather Tercek *****

"Faithful instruction. Kind teachers. Friendly, competent staff. Quick responses to my inquiries. " This is my experience always at HVAA! Love this place!"

– Sheri Howell *****

"I was really impressed with this place. The people that work there I so kind and accommodating. They work with people of all age groups."

– Jenah Winkler *****

"Very enthusiastic staff members! My daughter had picked up piano quickly with no former knowledge of music theory. We look forward to every visit!"

– Vanessa Urias *****

"My kids love this school. Teachers are fun and knowledgeable."

– Oksana Proskurnya *****

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- The staff will be cleaning off instruments, door knobs, and used surfaces between lessons
- Social distancing markers will be placed throughout the school
- All chairs will be removed from the lobby
- Lesson rooms will only have chairs for the teacher and student

Martin and his staff are excited about moving forward into this new phase.

"We believe now it more important than ever before that we continue to share and learn music in our community."

To sign up for lessons at the academy, you can go to www.happyvalleyartsacademy.com or you can call 503-974-4997

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HOPING for real CHANGE

How one Happy Valley couple is talking to their kids about racism

By SHELLEY McFARLAND
For Chip and Cynde Dunn, the recent flood of race talks is nothing new. Chip has dealt with racism, and how he is perceived, every day of his life.

Chip is a Black man who grew up in southern California where race issues were prevalent, while Cynde is white and grew up in Milwaukie. Their two children, Charlie, 10, and Isaac, 7, are witnessing a shift in America culture, and their parents are helping them understand the significance.

“We saw the video (of George Floyd), and then to have a bedtime conversation with a 10-year-old is hard. Charlie told me he didn’t want his dad to leave the house, and he didn’t want to go outside to play. He’s just a kid. From my perspective, that’s awful,” Cynde said. “But that’s his reality. Can I really tell my children that nothing will happen, and everything is going to be OK? I can’t. I can’t reassure them, and as a mom, that’s what I want to do, but it’s giving them false hope.”

Recently, the Dunns took their boys to the Happy Valley march on June 3, where they saw friends and neighbors join in the rally to end racism. The Dunns hope the national momentum of the protests can create real change and people will expose their children to more diversity through books, events and friends.

“Now our conversations have changed drastically. Before, race was something we just touched on, and we’ve always talked about how mom and dad look different from each other. But with the current events, it’s been taken to a whole new level,” Cynde said. “It’s saturated in the news. At first, I just wanted to protect my kids. We didn’t want to, but we can’t not have these talks. It’s impacting them because they’re seeing it, and they have to be pre-



The Dunns recently attended the Peaceful Protest in Happy Valley on June 3 to denounce against racism and police brutality.

pared because they are facing it already.”

Earlier this year, Charlie was exposed to the “n” word for the first time during recess at school. While Cynde and

the school dealt with it quickly, it saddened her to have to explain what the word meant and to give him strategies for dealing with racism.

“Charlie had never heard

that word before, not in music or movies; he’s not exposed to it. We protected him from it. But with the narrative that is happening now, we must be transparent with him and give him the information to prepare him.

“The conversations that our white friends are having with their kids are not the same conversations about race that I am having with my children. And why aren’t they? They should be the same conversations, because when something happens, those are the kids who need to step in and support Charlie and not leave him by himself,” Cynde said. “When I’ve asked friends if they are having those conversations or if they think their kid would stand up for Charlie



The Dunns, Cynde, Chip, Isaac 7 and Charlie 10.

“The conversations that our white friends are having with their kids are not the same conversations about race that I am having with my children. ... They should be the same conversations, because when something happens, those are the kids who need to step in.”

— Cynde Dunn

and they say, ‘no,’ I think it’s the responsibility of the parents to have these talks so there will be real change.”

Cynde said her parents did not have any discussions with her about race when she was growing up because it didn’t impact her life. Her school only had a couple Black students and Black history education was reserved for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. She hopes all families will start to have the difficult conversations confronting racism, even in predominantly white neighborhoods.

Chip’s experiences growing up in California were vastly different.

When Chip was a child, he learned a second history from his parents, a more accurate history of the Black experience in America, along with celebrating the valuable accomplishments of his race.

Chip’s grandfathers each contributed to improvements in the lives of Black people. One was a Pullman porter for the railroad. Up until the 1960s, porters were exclusively Black. The group has been credited with helping create a black middle class.

Chip’s other grandfather was a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, composed of African American and Caribbean American military pilots. The two Tuskegee units, the 332nd Fighter Group and the 477th Bombardment Group of the U.S. Army Air Forces fought in North Africa and Europe during WWII.

While Chip continues teaching his children to celebrate their collective history, he wishes he didn’t also have to talk about racism.

“In the big picture, I hope the world sees my children as no different, they are treated the same and are allowed the same opportunities as everybody else without judging them based on how they look. It’s that simple,” Chip said. “The same things that were happening 60 years ago are still happening today, and as this movement progresses, I hope there is a break in the chain and the system will start to change in a way that is equitable for everybody, primarily for people of color.”

“It’s impossible to heal from the emotional, psychological and physical trauma when the racism continues.”

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“WES is grateful to customers who help us spread the word about only flushing toilet paper, which protects the equipment we use to protect public health and the environment,” said WES Director Greg Geist. “The last thing we all need during the current public health crisis, is another crisis created by

damages to wastewater treatment equipment. Fortunately, we can easily prevent that by working together to raise awareness about wipes.”

No wipes are flushable, even though the packaging often claims they are.

To avoid these problems, dispose of wipes in the trash along with the following: surface cleaning wipes, paper or cloth towels, cotton balls, swabs, dental floss, disposable contact lenses, sanitary napkins, diapers, swiffers, toilet bowl scrub pads, and mop refills.

Clackamas Water Environment Services (WES) reminds customers to avoid flushing hand wipes, baby wipes and all “flushable” wipes and other materials down the toilet as they can clog pipes, cause sewer backups and damage wastewater treatment equipment. The only thing you should ever flush down a toilet is toilet paper.

WES recommends throwing all wipes in the trash. So-called “flushable” wipes do not disintegrate in water like toilet paper. The vast majority of these products stay fully intact after being flushed and often get stuck in sewage lines that connect homes to main sewer lines and cause raw sewage backups.

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FOR
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June 1-August 31, 2020


Summer's here, and we want you to join us for a summer reading challenge. Open to members of the Happy Valley Library community, we're celebrating summer fun! Let's read away the long days, and we'll mail out prizes to participants in September.


How to play:

 Read for at least 20 minutes on 24 separate days. Audiobooks count too!

 If you're 5 or younger, someone can read or sing with you for at least 10 minutes per day for 24 separate days.


 Mark a square for each day that you read.

 Are multiple family members sharing this game board? Fantastic! As you read, mark squares with your initials or a symbol to keep track.


 Have access to a printer? You can print out additional game boards at happyvalleyor.gov/summerreading

 Look on the other side for more library inspiration and some creative Make & Do challenges!

When you finish:

 Just cut along the dotted line, drop it in an envelope and send it our way!

- OR -

 Slide it into the HV Library bookdrop.

- OR -

 Keep the game board for your scrapbook and fill out our online form at happyvalleyor.gov/summerreading

Look for more Summer Reading fun in the August issue of HV Monthly and on our website!



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Who's playing?

Please write your name and, for 0-18, your age, school name, and grade.

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Your Address

Where should we mail your prize?

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Your Favorites

What did you love reading this summer?

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HAPPY READING!

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24



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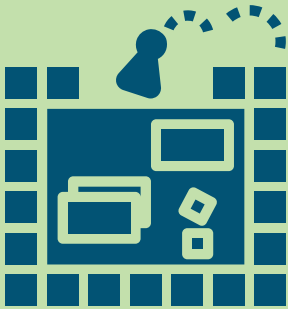
MAKE and DO

Email a picture to library@happyvalleyor.gov to be entered into a weekly prize drawing. Entries open to members of the Happy Valley Library community of all ages.

Have a picnic and try a food that's new to you. Be adventurous!



Play a board or card game. Send a pic of the game in progress.



Recreate the cover of a favorite book, starring you!



Make a card and send it to someone special. Send us a pic of the front!



Create your own Make & Do challenge. We can't wait to try it out!



Look for wildlife, in your backyard or beyond. Snap a photo or sketch what you see!





During a car parade given for retiring Spring Mountain Elementary School teacher Theresa Martin, she stopped to talk to each person. Her ability to connect to parents and students has made her a beloved teacher in the SME community.

Farewell to a fulfilling career

Spring Mountain Elementary School teacher Theresa Martin retires after 33 years

By **SHELLEY McFARLAND**

Theresa Martin, who started her teaching career 33 years ago, recently retired. Dozens of retirement well-wishers drove in a parade past her house on June 5, and she took time to chat with each one, a quality she is known for: making people feel loved.

When she was in the third grade, Martin moved with her family from California to Oregon. The change was difficult for Martin, but she found solace in school.

“Times were rough with my family, and school was always my stability,” Martin said. “I loved the structure that came with each day and the warmth and support I felt from my teachers. It’s interesting that my first school when coming to Oregon was Clackamas Elementary and then I ended my career in North Clackamas. I’m sure my time at this school was when I made my decision to become a teacher.”

For a while, Martin considered a career in journalism, having worked on the school newspaper when she attended Sam Barlow High School in Gresham. She received the Nicholas Alexander Scholarship, which allowed her to attend Oregon State University and graduate with a bachelor of science degree in Education in 1986. While considering journalism, Martin shadowed a local reporter during an internship. It was then she realized her doubts about journalism as a career and followed her heart to become a teacher.

“School was my happy place and I loved the idea of a career in a school. I also became involved in instruction from an early age as 4-H leader, camp counselor and Sunday School teacher, and loved every minute of it,” Martin said.

Martin graduated on a Thursday, started her first teaching job on Friday, and got married on Saturday. She jokes that life has always been a lot like this for her. She began her career as a Title I Language Arts Teacher, instructing K-5 students at Wilcox Elementary School in Northeast Portland and continued

“Playing a part in what will give them (children) what they need to be successful is so gratifying.”
—Theresa Martin

to love teaching in the primary grades.

“I was so incredibly happy. I remember thinking, ‘I can’t believe I get paid to do this,’” she said. “There are so many things I adore about young children. I love how they make me laugh every day. Their innocence, honesty and confidence make being in a class full of them the best place you could ever be. I love how the younger students are solidifying the foundational skills in reading, writing and math that will carry them through their entire school career. Playing a part in what will give them what they need to be successful is so gratifying. I also love that in the younger grades, you partner with the families more. I believe education must be a partnership between home and school. Especially in the world we live in now.”

Though she took a break to raise her two daughters, Martin continued to substitute teach. When she returned to full-time teaching, 17 years ago, it was at Spring Mountain Elementary School where her daughters attended, and she had been involved with the school through PTA and volunteering since it opened in 2001.

Former SME Principal Curtis Long says Martin leaves a legacy at SME that’s bigger than most people realize.

“The school’s annual Art Night fundraiser continued to get bigger and bigger each year, to the point where we needed more space than the school had available. That special event started as a Theresa Martin idea,” Long said. “When we first opened in 2000, the principal at the time liked to gather the entire student body around the flagpole to raise the flag on a new year. After that principal retired, the tradition started to fade away, but Theresa brought it back and it’s once again an annual expectation.”

Long worked beside Martin, first as a teacher, then as principal at SME.

“As principal, Theresa’s classroom was always one of my favorite



Ella Alfano and Kyle McFarland attend a special tea party at Martin’s home. “Mrs. Martin formed strong relationships with all of her students and showed them she cared,” said parent Nicole Alfano. “She was always warm, accessible, enthusiastic and caring. She helped her students foster a love for learning by making lessons fun. Mrs. Martin is truly an amazing teacher and impossible to forget.”

places to visit because kids were always genuinely having fun while they were learning. They each have special jobs that make them feel even more valued and important,” Long said. “She would take time to attend her students’ soccer or basketball games on the weekends. Theresa just makes everyone around her feel special. The kids

never wanted to leave her room at the end of the year, which probably explains why she always had middle and high school volunteers helping on their days off.”

Staci Sigala, an instructional assistant at SME who has witnessed Martin’s abilities from two views, as a parent and a colleague, said when a child leaves Martin’s class-

room, “they’ve grown as both a student and a person because Martin has made learning fun for each child in her classroom in a positive and calm setting.”

Over the course of her career, Martin said the challenges families face every day has impacted education.

“The families’ needs are greater than they have ever been, making it challenging for teachers to have the time to focus on their instruction when they are working so hard to help meet the needs of their students. My fellow educators are my heroes,” Martin said. “They care so deeply for their students and their families, and their priority is to help with difficulties those in their charge are facing. They struggle to balance this along with overwhelming standards, new curriculums, testing and other duties.”

This school year ended abruptly for students and teachers, and Martin was upset she didn’t have time to enjoy her last months in the classroom setting.

“I think, like many of my colleagues, I was, at first, in shock. It all just happened so fast. As you know, we have never been trained for distance learning. But we all just dove in and did what he had to do,” Martin said. “The shock soon turned to exhaustion as there were countless hours trying to build our platforms. It was stressful, sad and frustrating. There was a brief time when I thought about another year so I could have a ‘do over.’ I had saved all of my favorite projects for the spring and was grieving my time away from the kids and how I had always imagined the end looking.”

After reflection, Martin realized she was ending her career doing what she loved most: supporting families.

“From where I sit now, the end of my career has been so special. The humans in my life are such creative, caring people. Everyone from my own family, to my colleagues, to my students and their families, have made me feel so special and appreciated. The celebration planned allowed me to connect with so many people. I told them all that no goodbyes were allowed. I’m still here, just down the road from Spring Mountain.”

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The Public Works Team officially unveils the name of the City street sweeper, Sir Sweeps-A-Lot made a grand debut on June 17 at Public Works.

City unveils name of street sweeper

Without further ado, the City of Happy Valley would like to formally introduce residents to Sir Sweeps-A-Lot, the City’s beloved and hard-working street sweeper. Until recently, the street sweeper had been nameless, yet has operated as an integral member of the Happy Valley crew for quite some time. Jose, the rig’s faithful operator, has logged many an hour in the street sweeper, ensuring neighborhood streets and City roads remain clean.

To find the perfect name, the City launched a contest in conjunction with its Public Works Week festivities this past May. Sir Sweeps-A-Lot was the suggested name of Happy Valley resident, Michele Alvarino. Nearly 60 entries were submitted, and the final selection was determined by the staff of Happy Valley Public Works.

If you see Sir Sweeps-A-Lot rolling down your street, be sure to give a wave!

Eight grilling safety tips for Happy Valley



Clackamas Fire District #1

The summer season is here, as grill connoisseurs reach for their tongs, eager to usher in the long-awaited barbecue season. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), grillers are urged to be mindful of grilling safety in the spring and summer months, when grilling fires most often occur. Although many grillers do so year-round, grilling fires are at their peak in July, followed by May, June and August. Roughly half of grill-related injuries are thermal burns.

Clackamas Fire encourages these simple tips to remain safe when grilling this season:

- Propane and charcoal BBQ



Don’t let those hamburgers and steaks go up in flames. Keep yourself and your family safe with these helpful tips.

- grills should only be used outdoors.
- The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- Never leave your grill unattended.
- Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.
- If the flame goes out from a propane grill, turn the grill and gas off and wait at least five minutes before re-lighting it.
- For charcoal grills, keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.



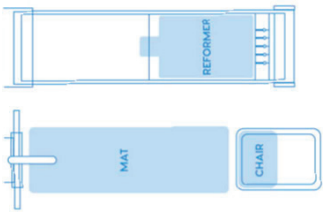
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Damascus is Open for Business!

Support your local Damascus businesses by filling out the “Open for Business Booklet” and win prizes.

32 local businesses are participating. The more businesses you visit these businesses, the more chances you have to win a Salishan Resort Weekend Get-away for Two, Friday Night Diner Cruise for Two on the Portland Spirit or a Basket of Gifts from local businesses.

Booklets are available at Damascus Businesses. Drop off the completed booklet in the yellow drop box on the kiosk at Damascus Centennial Park.

Prize Details

1st PRIZE: Basket of Business Gifts
Many of our participating businesses have contributed

2nd PRIZE: Friday Night Diner Cruise for Two on the Portland Spirit

3rd PRIZE: Salishan Resort Weekend Getaway for Two

Please complete to be notified if you are a winner

Name: _____

Address: _____


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☐ I am interested in helping with Day in Damascus 2021. Please contact me.

Return completed booklet to the yellow drop box on the kiosk at the Damascus Centennial Park entrance

Or mail to:
Day in Damascus, c/o Jeanne Robinson
16385 SE 232nd Dr.
Damascus, OR 97089
Questions? Call Jeanne at 971-200-0516



CANCELLED

but ...

Damascus is **Open** for Business

City encourages neighborhood block parties with safety in mind

City of Happy Valley

As a result of the pandemic, our beloved gatherings, such as the City’s 4th of July Family Festival and Summer Concert series have sadly been canceled as we adjust to the new normal of social distancing. While this has been a challenge, we know Happy Valley residents are looking for ways to safely stay connected and enjoy summertime activities together.

We would like to do something to help. If your neighborhood is interested in holding a get together by way of a Neighborhood Block Party, the City is currently accepting permit applications and will be waiving all associated fees. Residents can simply fill out our online form and submit it virtually for review. There is an option to request a street closure and safety barricades, which may help encourage more space for neighbors to disperse as well as allow children to play more freely.

The City is very much en-



Let’s hang out.
At safe distances, of course!

Neighborhoods across America are getting creative in order to spend some time together this summer amid community events being cancelled or postponed. If your neighborhood would like to coordinate a fun, yet social-distancing-friendly block party, the City would be happy to help make this a reality. Just fill out an online application!

couraging residents to plan neighborhood events with social distancing and healthy hygiene recommendations in mind. Neighborhood social gatherings must also comply with social gathering maximums, per Executive Order of the Governor. If you are interested in filling out an application, head to the link below. Applicants are encouraged to submit applications at least five business days in advance of the planned event so that the City can make any necessary arrangements.

Ready to plan your own neighborhood block party? Head online to www.happyvalleyor.gov/blockparty and fill out the virtual application form. Someone from the City will contact you to follow up.

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