

Lighting

■ From Page 1

cocoa and coffee to keep cozy in the chilly December weather.

■ **North Pole Substation:** Kids can mail their letters to Santa, ensuring their wishes reach the North Pole.

■ **Operation Santa Donation Drop Off:** Contribute to the community's efforts to support Clackamas Fire District #1's Operation Santa Claus donation drive. Bring non-perishable food and new toys to make the holiday season brighter for those in need.

Parking may be limited in the City Hall lot, so please plan accordingly and be considerate of residents when parking in nearby neighborhoods.

The Tree Lighting Ceremony is not only a festive tradition but also an opportunity to promote a community of peace, love, and hope. Join your fellow Happy Valley residents in celebrating the wonder of the season and creating special memories. For more information and to download a Letter to Santa template, visit www.happyvalleyor.gov/tree-lighting or scan the QR code with your smart device.

Can't make it to the event?

The holidays are a unique time of year and the City is committed to keeping the magic of the holidays alive throughout the season. The City Tree will be decorated with its traditional lights and available to view every evening through the beginning of the new year.

TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Date: Sunday, Dec. 3

Time: 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

Location: Happy Valley City Hall
16000 SE Misty Drive

Some activities will take place in the main parking lot - please dress for the weather!



Mail a letter to Santa!

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FAMILY DENTAL

Local

■ From Page 1

HVFM — Procrastinator's Market

Saturday and Sunday, December 16th – 17th:
9am-3pm

Clackamas High School

Too busy this year and left it until the last minute to finish your holiday shopping? Come browse things to buy from more than 350 local vendors, including those selling fresh produce, artisans, unique specialty items, delicious baked goods, food vendors, Santa visits, and much more, at the 12th Annual Procrastinators Holiday Market!

www.sunnysidefarmersmarkets.com

Eagle Landing Golf Course

For players of all ages, skill levels, and interests, Eagle Landing Golf Course provides a variety of fun golf experiences. Eagle Landing gift cards are available on their website and make excellent stocking stuffers for golf lovers. The facility offers a 27-hole pitch and putt course, 36 holes of miniature golf, and 9 holes of soccer golf, and all can be used with the gift card. Make sure to schedule a meal while you're there as Executive Chef Arthur Delfin's culinary experience, The Ledge at Eagle Landing, is closed for the remainder of the year, but will reopen, bigger and better in 2024. Enjoy delicious meals like Pork Belly Tacos and Shrimp & Grits, among others!

10220 SE Causey Avenue
503-698-8020

For more information, visit: theaerieateaglelanding.com

Northwest Love in a Box

NW Love in a Box is a wonderful local business in Clackamas County that makes thoughtfully chosen gift boxes that are perfect for sharing happiness and love. Their many boxes are filled with a delightful assortment of locally sourced and handmade products, such as artisanal chocolates, unique handcrafted goods, and heartwarming messages. Shopping at NW Love in a Box this holiday season is a beautiful way to support your community. By choosing their gift box selections (and even making a custom one), you bring the spirit of giving, making it a meaningful choice that extends the holiday cheer

to both the gift recipients and the community. You can order online and get it shipped right to you or the lucky recipient of this great gift.

For more information, visit: nwloveinabox.com

Venvino Art Studios

Venvino Art Studios offers a wide range of activities, including wine and painting nights, team-building exercises, art classes, and camps. Kid-friendly projects that include painting canvases and crafting ceramics to painting glass to wood projects are available at Venvino.

Visit their Misty Drive location in person or shop online for classes, gift certificates, and other items to give the gift of creativity and the arts this holiday season. All this month, they're also having a number of winter and holiday-themed events!

13329 SE Misty Drive
503-342-8644

For more information, visit: venvinoartstudios.com

Happy Valley City Store

Rep Happy Valley all year round with gifts from the Happy Valley City Store! Featuring high-quality items you'll actually want to wear & use including: hats, t-shirts, sweatshirts, vacuum-insulated water bottles, bags, golf umbrellas, wine glasses, coffee mugs, pencils, key chains, USB car chargers, and more. The Happy Valley City Store is open by appointment only, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Visit: www.happyvalleyor.gov/community/city-store.

The many stores at Clackamas Town Center

Although not in Happy Valley, The Clackamas Town Center is a shopping haven that caters to people of all kinds, making it a desirable destination for holiday shopping. With a diverse array of stores, it offers something for everyone, from fashion and tech lovers to book worms and home decor aficionados and even food and olive oil enthusiasts. The mall provides a unique opportunity to support local businesses while finding the perfect gifts for your loved ones. From cozy boutique shops offering handcrafted and local items, like Made in Oregon, and clothing to big-name retailers with the latest trends, the Clackamas Town Center truly has it all. Plus, you won't want to miss out on all the many deals going on!



Visit city hall to purchase local Happy Valley gifts.



Explore the many gift options at Terra Casa.



COURTESY PHOTO: EAGLE LANDING GOLF
Experience the many golfing options at Eagle Landing Golf.



COURTESY PHOTO: VENVINO ART STUDIOS
Activities and gifts for people of all ages at Venvino Art Studios.

Now 2 days this year!

Happy Valley Farmers Market

12TH ANNUAL PROCRASTINATORS HOLIDAY MARKET

Saturday December 16th & Sunday December 17th! - 9AM - 3PM

Over 350 local vendors, fresh produce, Artisans and specialty items, baked goods, food vendors, live music, visit Santa, and more!

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Get Ready for the Ultimate Holiday Shopping Experience at Procrastinators Holiday Market!

By **EMMA DAVIS**
Pamplin Media Group

If you're a last-minute holiday shopper or just love the festive spirit, mark your calendars for the Procrastinators Holiday Market at Clackamas High School. Celebrating its 12th year, this local gem, founded and operated by Jamie El-Khal and her family, has become a beloved tradition. It has grown from a spontaneous decision to host a holiday market in 2012 to a spectacular event featuring 350 vendors with now more than 5,000 attendees from around the city and beyond.

The market's popularity prompted the expansion to a two-day event. This allows even more shoppers to join in the festive fun of the holidays. "Everybody was so happy and our vendors, have been asking us for years to extend it to two days because a lot of people can't make it on Saturday, so they want the opportunity, you know, to be able to attend on Sundays," El-Khal said. "They want that opportunity like, to come in on Next day, in case they can't make it, so we did it and made it happen." The two-day format not only accommodates diverse schedules but also alleviates congestion, enhancing the overall shopping experience.

This community market showcases several kinds of vendors, each offering something unique and different. With 60 outdoor vendors and roughly 300



People near and far come into town for the Procrastinators Holiday Market.

COURTESY PHOTO: JAMIE EL-KHAL

inside, the market boasts a wide array of goods, from specialty items to locally sourced produce. "It's such a popular market. We have everything, baked goods, arts and crafts, the neatest handmade items. Like specialty items, things you would never find in any store," she said. "We also have things from local farms; I mean everything

you would find at the regular farmers market and then some and more."

The Procrastinators Holiday Market is not just about shopping; it's a festive celebration for the entire family. Visitors can enjoy live Christmas music, meet Santa Claus, and indulge in a variety of delicious treats from local food vendors. The market's warm and organized atmosphere creates a joyful holiday mood, making it a must-visit destination to find that perfect, unique gift.

One of the many things that makes the market special is how family is at its center. "We're about the community and family and we all I think we really bring out the spirit of the holidays when people walk in. You know from handing out candy canes to just making you feel like you when you walk in the door like you've walked into a family's home," she said. "That is how we are. We are right there at the door, greeting everybody, myself and my crew and we make everybody feel like they are at home."

So, mark your calendars for December 16th and 17th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, and join the holiday festivities at Clackamas High School. Whether you're a seasoned procrastinator or an early bird, this market guarantees a delightful and memorable shopping experience that captures the true spirit of the season. Don't miss the chance to support local businesses, find unique treasures, and immerse yourself in the joyful ambiance of the Procrastinators Holiday Market!

Giving

■ From Page A1

Meals on Wheels People

Through the Meals on Wheels People program, Happy Valley Parks and Recreation provides warm,

nutritious meals to some of our community's most vulnerable seniors while offering friendly visits to those who may otherwise feel isolated or have difficulty getting out and about. Please consider donating to the City's local Meals on Wheels People program by visiting happyvalleyor.gov/meals-on-wheels. From there, you can submit a tax-deductible donation in the amount of your choice online. Your gift will support home-bound seniors right here in Happy Valley who would otherwise not have consistent access to wholesome, nutritious meals.

Happy Valley Parks and Recreation Foundation

The Foundation works collaboratively with the City's Parks and Recreation Department to help bolster park amenities and vital programming. Its mission is dedicated to ensuring that parks and recreational programming are available for the enjoyment of all Happy Valley residents and visitors.

Donations to the Foundation not only help sustain City parks and natural areas, but they also support community programs, such as Meals on Wheels, and recreational scholarships which directly benefit those who may otherwise not have access to these services.

Be sure to check out www.hvprf.org for more information and follow @HVPRF on Facebook!





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503-783-3800



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503-783-3800



DAVID GOLOBAY
Councilor
503-807-2979



JOSHUA CALLAHAN
Councilor
503-783-3800

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 Happy Valley, OR 97086 (503) 783-3800 www.happyvalleyor.gov

COUNCIL CORNER

Superblock Phase III

City of Happy Valley

The final phase of the Superblock project is underway, which means we are one step closer to completing a vision that has long been in motion. In 2021, the City broke ground on the Superblock, a significant development that will bring contiguous sidewalks that link sections of Ridgecrest and 132nd and King Road and 147th. The multiphase plan aims to connect these spaces so that travelers can more easily, and more safely, navigate this popular area.

Since its kickoff, the project has led to a variety of improvements including sidewalk installation, crosswalk safety upgrades, and utility undergrounding. Street improvements, new pavement, and even the construction of a major planter strip along the south side of Ridgecrest were completed.

As phase III begins, residents will soon see crews descend

upon King Rd. as final preparatory work between Regina Ct. and 132nd Ave. commences. In the coming year, these crews will focus on storm drainage improvements and later, undergrounding remaining utilities. The project will culminate with the final sidewalk connections installed.

Ultimately, the superblock will allow for better traffic flow and connectivity between the sections of land that currently have gaps, allowing for increased usability of the space. This is of paramount importance to the City's youth, elderly, and those with disabilities. Being able to safely traverse the area not only promotes healthy recreational activity by way of exercise, but it also helps boost cross-visibility between those on foot and those using the road.

The Superblock project is undeniably vital to the thriving community of Happy Valley. We are thrilled to witness the transformation of our beloved neighborhood into a walkable



COURTESY PHOTO FROM CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

Phase III of the Superblock project is headed our way. Once complete, the entire perimeter will include contiguous sidewalks along the remainder of King Rd.

haven, as this initiative resonates with the core values of our residents. We eagerly anticipate the day when we can stroll through the Superblock, connecting with our neighbors and enjoying the vibrant, pedestrian-friendly atmosphere. We understand that creating a more accessible and inviting environment is key to

enhancing the overall quality of life in our town. With this project, we are taking a significant step toward a more vibrant, livable, and community-oriented Happy Valley, and we couldn't be more excited about the future that it promises.

The City is utilizing transportation dollars collected through the development

process to complete this project. These monies can only be used on capacity increasing projects and projects identified within the City's transportation system plan. This project is also funded via an increased right-of-way use fee charged to PGE. To learn more, visit happyvalleyor.gov/Superblock-project.

Stay safe this winter when using candles



Clackamas Fire District #1

Candles are the leading cause of fires, especially during winter weather months and the holidays. Statistics show that most candle fires start when candles are left unattended in the home.

Here are some helpful tips to keep your family safe when using candles:

- Never leave candles unattended.
- Make sure a grown-up is always in the room when a candle is burning.
- If a grown-up leaves the room, make sure he or she puts out the candle first.
- Set up a "kid-free" zone around

burning candles – no playing with or near candles, with candle wax, or with items that could catch fire near candles.

- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that could catch on fire.
- Don't put candles in windows or doorways where the wind could knock them over.
- Keep matches and lighters up high, out of children's sight and reach, preferably in a locked cabinet.
- Make sure to use candles and candle holders that are sturdy and won't tip over easily.
- Consider using flameless candles to replace real flame candles.
- Develop and practice your home escape plan.
- Make sure your home is equipped with working smoke alarms.

Use candles with care.

- When you go out...blow it out!
- Clackamas Fire District – Fire Marshal's Office – (503) 742-2660



COURTESY PHOTO FROM CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

Always remember to keep an eye on candles and make sure your home's smoke alarms are in working order.

BUZZED DRIVING IS DRUNK DRIVING



Happy Holidays!





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MAYORS MESSAGE

YEAR IN REVIEW

City of Happy Valley

As we get ready to take on a new year, I want to share all that we accomplished as a City in 2023. Below are just a few of numerous projects the City has been working on this past year:

- Began an expansion of the Happy Valley Library for a new community room;
- Completed installation of all-abilities play-grounds throughout the City;
- Purchased 40-acres of land for a future community center and park;
- Purchased land and developed plans for a future downtown;
- Started design work to widen and improve 172nd Avenue;

MAYOR OF HAPPY VALLEY



Tom Ellis

- Continued building new sidewalks;
 - Worked collaboratively with developers to ensure new subdivisions and commercial centers provide parks, sidewalks, trails, and other amenities for the entire community to enjoy;
 - Began construction of a new permanent sculpture to be placed the Veteran's Memorial;
- All of these exciting projects are in addition to the day-to-day business of running a City. Our team maintained roads and parks to high standards, responded to daily calls and emails from residents, processed permits, organized community events, offered programs for youth and adults, provided library materials, and more.
- I'm grateful to work alongside my fellow City Councilors



An artist rendering shows a community room at the library. This feature is just one of several included in the Happy Valley Library expansion, which broke ground earlier this year.

who are united on a vision for our community that includes well-maintained infrastructure, facilities and programs that bring our community together, and fiscal responsibility to achieve our goals. We also have the best team

of employees of any City. They show up to work every day with a desire to make Happy Valley a better place to live, work, and play. Without their hard work, we wouldn't be able to achieve our vision. Thank you also to our

volunteers who serve on committees, shelve books at the library, and/or assist with community events. We couldn't do this without your help. I am proud of what we have accomplished and excited for the year ahead.

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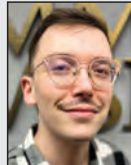


Publisher's Note: Have an idea for a story? We are always on the search for new people, places, and things to write about. If you have an idea for an uplifting story that would benefit the community, then we want to hear from you!

To submit your idea, please head to hvbn@pamplinmedia.com and include as many details as possible, so our publication team can review your proposal. Our best stories highlight the spirit and values of the Happy Valley community and showcase meaningful happenings in the lives of residents and local businesses. We invite you to include anecdotes in your story proposal that are funny, astonishing, heartwarming, and inspiring. If we think your story idea is a good fit, our community writer will get in contact with you to discuss the possibility of it being featured in an upcoming issue.



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If I Were Mayor Contest

What would you do as mayor?

City of Happy Valley

Know a student with big ideas, a compassionate heart, and interest in making the community a better place? The City of Happy Valley is once again participating in the Oregon Mayors Association (OMA) If I were Mayor contest, so tell students to mark their calendars and prepare to submit their entries by March 1.

Extra credit!
If you are employed in one the Happy Valley schools and teach students in grades 4 through 12, please consider encouraging your students to partake in this activity. It is a great way to supplement concepts taught in the classroom.

The winner of each age group in the Happy Valley contest will be awarded a \$100 cash gift card and recognized at an upcoming City Council Meeting. More information and official entry forms can be found at www.happyvalleyor.gov/if-i-were-mayor.



LEARN MORE



IF I WERE MAYOR

CONTEST OPEN TO 4TH-12TH GRADE STUDENTS
SUBMISSIONS DUE MARCH 1 BY 5PM

What would you do as Mayor? Get a head start and plan to participate in the 2023-2024 If I Were Mayor contest.

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10025 SE Nicholas Dr.	6	4	3069	ACTIVE	\$899,960	-
15336 SE Arrowhead Pl.	3	2	1902	PENDING	\$659,725	-
15414 SE Woodcroft Ln.	3	2.5	2255	SOLD	\$664,960	\$675,557
15441 SE Baden Powell Rd.	5	3	2780	SOLD	\$898,950	\$840,000

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At the time of print, the following events were scheduled. Most meetings have options to attend in-person or virtually. Please check www.happyvalleyor.gov to confirm timing of events and instructions to participate virtually. You can also opt in to receive notifications about upcoming meetings by visiting www.happyvalleyor.gov/signup-for-notifications

City of Happy Valley
December Community Calendar

- December 1**
Operation Santa Happy Valley parade:
please check www.clackamasfire.com for parade route and time. This is a non-collection event. Please, no donations.

December 2
Leaf Drop:
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Public Works Building: 13910 SE Ridgecrest Road, adjacent to Happy Valley Park (See page 18 for details)

December 3
Tree Lighting Ceremony:
City Hall, 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.
(See cover page for details)

December 5
City Council Work Session:
City Hall, 6 p.m.
City Council Meeting:
City Hall, 7 p.m.

December 19
City Council Work Session:
City Hall, 6 p.m.
City Council Meeting:
City Hall, 7 p.m.
- December 24-25**
Happy Valley Library: CLOSED



December 25-26
City Hall: CLOSED

December 29
City Hall: CLOSED

December 31
Happy Valley Library: CLOSED

January 1
City Hall and Happy Valley Library: CLOSED

January 2
City Council Work Session:
City Hall, 6 p.m.
City Council Meeting:
City Hall, 7 p.m.

January 8
Parks Advisory Committee Meeting:
City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 

Essential Theft Prevention Tips for a Secure Holiday Season

While the holiday season should be filled with fun and cheer, it's equally important to prioritize the safety and security of your home, vehicle, and family. Thankfully, Happy Valley is a wonderful, safe community, but it's essential not to grow complacent. Here are some valuable tips to keep in mind as you gear up for the celebrations ahead.

HAPPY VALLEY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT



Chief Rich Sheldon

Protecting Your Package Deliveries and Mail

- Ship your package to a location where someone you know will be available to receive it. This might be your house, a neighbor's house, or your place of employment.
 - Track your packages online and request a text or other alert about delivery status.
 - **PRO TIP:** Sign up for Informed Delivery via www.usps.com. With this free service, you can opt in to receive digital previews of all your general mail that is scheduled to arrive that day.
 - Invest in a doorbell camera or other security camera. These give you a real-time view of your porch, driveway, side door, or any other area on property that you might want to monitor. Many have two-way audio, so you can talk with the delivery person (or thief), even if you aren't home. Camera footage could be helpful if a thief targets your home or car, or it could even be helpful to another resident. Perhaps your camera caught a view as the thief passed by your home. You can share your surveillance footage with the Happy Valley Police Department and we may be able to use it to help identify suspects that have been targeting neighborhoods.
- If You Are Traveling**
- Lock your doors and windows. This seems like a no brainer, but you would be surprised how often thieves take advantage of an entryway that simply was not secured.
 - Set your home alarm, if you have one, and make sure your alarm permit is up to date with the City and displayed in a visible location. If your alarm sounds, deputies will respond to the

call and having your permit up to date helps ensure we have the right information should we need to get a hold of you.

- Get an automatic timer for your indoor lights. With it completely dark by early evening, this is an easy way to detour thieves by giving the appearance that someone is inside.
- Let your neighbors know you'll be gone and make sure they have your contact information. If they are aware of your absence, it's more likely they will notice something amiss and take the next steps to report it.

- Be mindful of what you share on social media. Posting travel plans or pictures from your vacation can inform potential thieves that your home is empty.
- Have mail and any deliveries stopped. If items pile up, it's a sure sign you're not home. Just go to www.usps.com and create a Hold Mail service request for the duration you will be gone.
- **PRO TIP:** Take advantage of the City's Vacation Check service. Did you know a Community Service Officer from the City's Code Enforcement team will gladly swing by your property and do a perimeter check? Check out www.happyvalleyor.gov for all the details about how to submit a request.

If You Are Out for the Evening

- Turn on some lights and a radio or TV, so it looks (and sounds) like someone is home. If thieves think you are home or at the very least are unsure if the home is empty, they will be more likely to move along to another location.
- Lock doors and windows when you leave, even if it's just for a few minutes.
- Don't display valuables or gifts where they can be seen from outside. Put items away or make sure blinds and window coverings conceal views.
- Illuminate your property with outdoor lights, especially in dark areas, to deter potential intruders. Motion-activated lights and cameras are excellent additions any time of year.



COURTESY PHOTO FROM CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY
With more online shopping, residents are encouraged to be mindful of package theft. Be vigilant about tracking packages and bring them inside as soon as possible.

Protect Your Vehicle

- **ALWAYS lock your vehicle:** I cannot emphasize this enough. Most car break-ins reported in Happy Valley have been from cars being unlocked. This means all the thief must do is lift the car door handle and then they have complete access to your belongings, including your garage door opener, if you use one. Thieves are much more likely to give up and move on to another car if they can't open yours within one attempt.
- Do not pin your automatic garage door opener to your sun visor or leave it out in the open. Should a thief get a hold of your garage door opener, disable it from the main keypad and follow your unit's steps for reprogramming the system.
- Park in areas that are well lit. This not only enhances your personal safety by reducing the risk of theft or vandalism, but also ensures that you can more easily keep tabs on your surroundings.
- Store all items out of sight. Anything left in plain view—from your holiday gifts to spare change, sunglasses, cell phones or tools – could motivate a break-in or a thief's willingness to take their efforts to the next level by breaking a window. Make it a habit to unload your items every time you get home from an outing and conceal items if you have more stops BEFORE heading out.

After You've Opened the Gifts

Thieves know that after the holidays, many households will have new and desirable items in their homes. Dispose of boxes and packaging discreetly. Break down boxes and place them inside trash bins to prevent advertising valuables inside your home or consider placing it with your recycling the morning of collection.

Of course, even the best safety practices may still lead to an unwanted break-in. Be a good neighbor and remain alert as you look out for one another. Getting to know your neighbors is often the best way to help prevent crime and a sense of community in a neighborhood is an invaluable resource to police. Neighbors are much more likely to recognize when something is amiss and suspicious activity will be thwarted faster if neighbors feel confident in approaching one another. **As always, call 9-1-1 anytime you see suspicious activity or a crime in progress. You can also call the non-emergency number at 503-655-8211 to provide information or make a report.**

On behalf of the Happy Valley Police Department, I would like to wish everyone a joyous holiday season. We are honored to serve you and look forward to the year ahead.



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Preparing for Winter: Your Essential Guide to Weathering the Cold Season

You can't always predict just how severe winter weather will be in the Pacific Northwest. Forecasters have hinted at a mild winter this year, but a storm could swoop in and cause disruption. That's why I recommended you and your family be prepared for a winter weather event and have plans in place should something head our way. Here are a few simple tips to keep in mind:



As winter approaches, the Public Works team will be watching the forecast and aiming to stay ahead of inclement weather.



COURTESY PHOTOS FROM THE CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY
Keep an eye on storm drains along neighborhood streets. Keeping them clear of leaves, debris, and snow will help reduce flooding and backups.

Plan ahead

■ **Stay informed and be prepared:** If a winter storm is predicted, please be sure to stock up on home essentials, medications, pet food and any additional necessities that you may need throughout the duration of the storm. Having your home properly stocked ensures that you can stay home and avoid winter driving.

■ **Ensure your vehicle is prepared for emergencies:** If the need arises to leave home during a storm, be sure to have equipment for any situation. Always carry a cell phone and portable charger, windshield scraper, collapsible shovel, warm shoes with traction, emergency flares, tire traction devices, a bag of road salt or sand, rope or chain, booster cables, flashlight, blankets, water and snack food, extra hats, coats and gloves.

■ **Keep tire chains handy:** It's important to learn how to install your chains BEFORE bad weather strikes, and it's a lot easier to put chains on for the first time when you don't have to struggle to read the instructions alongside a snowy road. Practice installing your chains at home where you can troubleshoot any challenges. Then, when road conditions require chains, you'll already know how to use them. To support this, the Happy Valley Parks and Recreation team is partnering with Les Schwab Happy Valley for the fourth annual Tire Check and Chain-up Clinic.

■ **Check your tires:** Don't wait until it's too late! Experts agree tires are the single most important safety item on our car. Checking to see if tires are too worn is simple. The bare minimum for your treads should be 2/32nds of an inch, which you can measure with a penny. Tire treads should at least come up to the imprint of Abraham Lincoln's head.

Winter Driving

■ **Don't assume your vehicle can handle all conditions:** Even four-wheel and front-wheel drive vehicles can encounter trouble on roads covered with ice and snow. If you do not know how to maneuver vehicles in the snow and ice, please stay off the road.

■ **Give yourself enough time and give yourself enough space:** You should allow at least three times more space than usual between you and the car in front of you.

■ **Clear off and turn on your headlights, even in the middle of the day:** They make it much easier for other drivers to see you, particularly when visibility is poor.

■ **Allow snow plows enough room to do their jobs safely:** Don't follow too closely behind and please don't pass a snowplow. The drivers have limited visibility, and you're likely to find the road in front of them worse than the road behind.

Abandoned cars

If you must abandon your car during a storm, please pull

as far off the road as possible to allow for snowplows and emergency vehicles to pass. This is crucial to keeping Happy Valley accessible to first responders and members of the Public Safety Team. **When abandoned cars create a safety hazard, the City will tow your vehicle, at YOUR expense.**

Tree Safety

When heavy snow and ice accumulate on tree limbs, even a slight breeze is enough force to cause them to come crashing down due to the unprecedented amount of weight. It's best to let the precipitation melt on its own and for you and your family to stay away from the area during this process. Once thawed, inspect trees for broken branches that have detached and become tangled among other branches. If anything is touching or near a powerline, call the PGE Tree Hotline at 1-800-544-1794. Do not attempt to dislodge anything. Instead, wait until someone has inspected the tree and the area surrounding.

Helping to keep you safe

The City's Public Works and Public Safety teams often work 24/7 to keep established snow routes plowed and sanded. The City of Happy Valley has developed a Snow Removal Priority System due to specialized equipment needs, timing, and employee resources. These priorities were established to

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO STAY NOTIFIED?

The City's Facebook page and website are great resources for staying updated with current information regarding bad weather and local road closures. If you haven't signed up to receive City alerts yet, please take a moment to do so on the City website at www.happyvalleyor.gov

provide the greatest benefit to the traveling public. The priority is to clear the roadways most used by emergency responders. This means clearing high traffic, high volume roadways. Next, the city crews will focus on collector roads, which distribute traffic between local roads and first priority roads. Last, and not always a guarantee, are local and residential roads.

The map of snow removal and plow routes can be found at www.happyvalleyor.gov/inclementweather.

As a city, we try our best to predict what the weather will do, and plan accordingly. Sometimes we are spot on and other times we choose to error on the side of caution. In either case, it's not always an easy decision, and safety remains the top priority. The best advice for ensuring your safety during a winter storm is to plan ahead, stay informed, and keep off the roads if you can avoid it.

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To register email: stephanih@happyvalleyor.gov
Les Schwab Tire Center is located at 13254 SE 169th Ave



Les Schwab to offer free tire check and chain up clinic.

Is your vehicle ready for winter weather?

City of Happy Valley

Secure your appointment today and ensure your car or truck is winter ready at Les Schwab's Tire Check and Chain Up Clinic. This free event offers a chance for residents to learn how to use tire chains and check for tire readiness. Register by Dec. 7 to stephanih@happyvalleyor.gov.

■ This event is brought to you in partnership by Happy Valley Parks and Recreation and Les Schwab Happy Valley.



The 2023
Women in Leadership
and Management
Awards

Join the North Clackamas Chamber of Commerce for the Women in Leadership and Management Awards Luncheon on January 25, 2024 at the Abernethy Center to celebrate these women selected from throughout Clackamas County. These eight women will be celebrated for their high-level achievements as executives and leaders who encourage, inspire and mentor others.

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Dec 15 • Member Showcase - Camp Withycombe

Dec 22 • No ABC - Happy Holidays

Dec 29 • No ABC - Happy New Year

Public Policy & GA Meeting

Dec 4 • Noon-1 PM

Better Homes & Gardens

Chamber 101 (Virtual)

Dec 12 • Noon- 12:45PM • Zoom

Ambassador Meeting

Dec 12 • 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

Ribbon Cuttings

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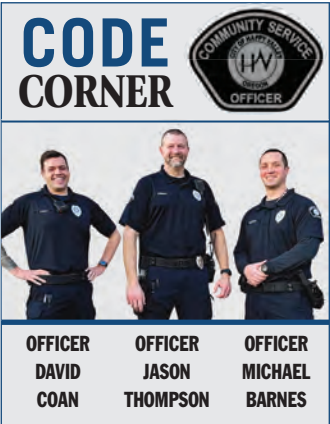
Make sure your permit is up to date

City of Happy Valley

Home security systems offer protection for your loved ones and property and often provide peace of mind whether you're home or away. Depending on the company you use and the features you select, alarm systems can be as basic or complex as you desire. With this said, it is important to keep in mind that if you have a home or business alarm system, it is a requirement that you obtain a formal permit from the City before activating your alarm system.

Malfuncions and mishaps

In Happy Valley, our police patrol units respond to all home and business alarm calls, but excessive false alarms can place a significant burden on our law enforcement resources



and public safety tax dollars. That's why it is the responsibility of the alarm user to be able to manage the system and use it correctly. Malfunctioning sensors and careless use can be troublesome and lead to unnecessary visits by police. Should your home or business

alarm be triggered unnecessarily more than twice, you WILL be subject to penalty. Please help us keep false alarms to a minimum and be mindful of any training you, your family, or employees may require to effectively use any systems in place.

Know your alarm

- 3rd false alarm in permit period \$50
- 4th false alarm in permit period \$75
- 5th false alarm in permit period \$150
- 6th false alarm in permit period \$500 and suspension of call response

Benefits to YOU when you complete the permit process:

Emergency contact numbers will be on file with the City in case emergency personnel cannot get a hold of you right away.



Apply for a permit

Alarm permits are issued at City Hall and can be applied for in person or by mail. Alarm permits cover a two-year period, beginning the date the permit is issued. Users simply need to head to happyvalleyor.gov/alarm-systems to download the alarm permit application. Follow the directions and submit the completed application with accompanying fee



Do you utilize a home alarm system? Make sure you have an up-to-date permit on file with the City by heading to www.happyvalleyor.gov/alarm-systems or scanning the QR code.

Fact: If police respond to your alarm, and you don't have an alarm permit, you could be subject to a \$500 fine. Make sure you comply by completing your alarm application if you haven't already.

(\$60 for residential, \$100 for business). Once your permit is received, it should be displayed physically upon the premises and available for inspection. Please note: For residents 65 years of age or over, or resident military/veteran, an alarm permit must be

submitted, however the permit fee is waived. Have questions about the alarm permitting process? Reach out to Code Enforcement Administrative Assistant, Christine Beltz at cbeltz@happyvalleyor.gov. You can also contact her by phone at 503-783-3800.

Highlighting our Heroes

The City of Happy Valley would like to recognize our community's veterans and active military.

To do this, Happy Valley News aims to share the story of people in our community who have served or are currently serving in one of our country's armed forces each month. Stories might focus on your military experience, what you've learned from your travels, or

anything interesting or inspiring. The City is encouraging you to reach out to us directly if interested and we additionally welcome nominations from family and friends. Please contact the City's Communication and Public Relations Coordinator, Stephanie Warneke, at swarneke@happyvalleyor.gov or our Community Writer, Emma Davis at edavis@pamplinmedia.com.



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Youth Town Hall brings local high school students together



City of Happy Valley

On Nov. 15, high school students from Happy Valley gathered at City Hall for the annual Youth Town Hall, an event led by Youth Council members to give local teens a chance to connect. This year's focus was on teen wellness and mental health, with discussion guidance provided by mental health experts from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and Clackamas County Mental Health.

Jamie Zentner, Senior Program Planner at Clackamas County's Public Health Division, provided context for the evening's discussion. Drawing from data obtained from the Oregon Student Health Survey, not only are students reporting experiencing anxiety and depression, but the use of e-cigarettes,

marijuana, and alcohol is often correlated. This means talking about mental health is crucial and there is an evident need to help youth find healthier coping strategies. Gary Marschke from NAMI offered additional perspective. He said despite the availability of treatment options and early interventions that can be beneficial, the stigma associated with seeking help remains unfavorable and teens are reluctant to speak up as a result. Teen suicide has also seen a marked uptick nationwide, which is a big reason why the Happy Valley Youth Council believes there is a need to take notice and take action. Several guest speakers shared their personal stories during the town hall, which helped further emphasize the power youth have in helping change someone's life trajectory. The importance of asking

for help and recognizing signs of crisis were emphasized throughout the evening. Ensuring teens have the knowledge and tools to support themselves and their peers is crucial in maintaining a focus on conversations about mental health. By actively providing opportunities for connection and education, the City is playing a pivotal role in reshaping community perspectives on these critical issues. As the community embraces this proactive approach, it is the resilient voices of the youth that will continue to advocate for positive change and inspire a healthier, more supportive environment for everyone. Learn more about Happy Valley's Youth Council online and stay tuned for more developments as the Youth Council brings this discussion to the Oregon Youth Summit next year.



High school students throughout Happy Valley attended the Youth Town Hall on Nov. 15.

COURTESY PHOTO: CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

Earth on the Edge supports new pollinator garden in Happy Valley

Pamplin Media Group

Monte Harris, a Tualatin resident who established the Earth on the Edge organization, recently presented Rivers of Life Center with a check for over \$600 for their new pollinator garden at Happy Valley's Eagles Landing Golf Course and new Mt. Scott Headwaters Environmental Center.

Harris, a resident of Tualatin, founded Earth on the Edge and worked tirelessly to involve community volunteers in active efforts to release over 7,000 trees from choking ivy growth. Rivers of Life Center is a regional education and training program for youth.

"We took on huge ivy challenges that were destroying the nest sites on goat island at the



Jerry Herrmann from Rivers of Life Center accepts a check from Earth on the Edge founder Monte Harris at West Linn's Mary S. Young State Park Pollinator Garden stewarded by educator Cheryl Borden in dark glasses and surrounding Rivers of Life youth.

COURTESY PHOTO: JERRY HERRMANN

confluence of the Clackamas and Willamette Rivers," Harris said in a press release. "We toiled at Clackamas County's carver and other regional parks and we know our work has made a difference and saved thousands of trees from the effects of ivy attachment, shading and in general, reduction in life."

Rivers of Life Center recently conducted a youth training program at the pollinator garden located at Mary S. Young State Park in West Linn. Cheryl Borden, a lifetime educator and master gardener, shared her knowledge and the development of the West Linn garden with over a dozen people.

Harris joined Borden's class at Mary S. Young State Park and on conclusion presented the check.

"These funds will buy the

majority of the pollinator plants that we are combining with proper bee and hummingbird attractive trees for this at our 30-acre project," says Jerry Herrmann, founder and president of Rivers of Life Center. "Monte Harris' donation will help us complete our 5,000-square-foot pollinator garden, which will be seen by visiting golfers and the many patrons of the adjoining Aerie Event Center."

Harris is closing his Earth on the Edge nonprofit with great satisfaction at what it was able to accomplish over the last several years.

"I just wanted our remaining funds to go to a worthwhile project and the youth and programs of Rivers of Life Center are what we want to support," Harris said.



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Principal Ajai Huja stands proudly in front of the Sabin Schellenberg Center.



COURTESY PHOTOS: AJAI HUJA

New Sabin Schellenberg Center Principal Creates Opportunities for All

Principal Ajaj Huja continues 25-year education career with new position

By **EMMA DAVIS**
Pamplin Media Group

Standing firm as an advocate for students of North Clackamas School District is Ajai Huja, the admired principal of the Sabin Schellenberg Center. With numerous classes and programs for students at nearby Clackamas High School and Adrienne C. Nelson High School, Huja is continuing his 25-year career that he has dedicated to making sure students from all backgrounds and walks of life have access to a world of possibilities.

Huja's unwavering commitment to students has mapped out a path to

success for every student he meets, giving them the confidence and determination to pursue their chosen trades and careers.

Although Huja has been in the education profession for more than two decades, he only recently joined the team at Sabin Schellenberg Center. Since beginning his career, he has worked in various settings. In all of them, he found a passion for giving students the chance to flourish in the classroom and find their place.

When he saw that there was a need to do better for students and give them more chances to succeed, he vowed to make that happen regardless of where he went. At Sabin Schellenberg, he

can do just that. The school has been around for decades, giving people chances to find their niche, but now, in 2023, there are more resources available for students. Currently, Sabin Schellenberg has 18 programs of study and 17 that are active across its two campuses; it also has a five-acre working and running farm.

"We have a little bit of everything," Huja said, "From architecture, digital design, culinary arts, and health sciences to welding, machinery, automotive, and cosmetology and more." With the many options available to students, they can come and get exposed to a lot of different things, and almost all of them are articulated

with college credit.

Principal Huja finds immense pride in the level of inclusivity and diversity in the school. "We serve all students," he said. "A lot of home high schools want their students to have those hands-on opportunities, so we see a lot from different demographics and backgrounds."

Huja also finds joy in the way that Sabin Schellenberg and its instructors are able to connect students to chances where they are likely going to find success, have a positive experience, and keep them engaged and excited about what they are learning.

Being at the helm of Sabin Schellenberg, Huja gets to witness

every student who walks through its doors get a chance to find something they love and succeed at it. "I say to people all the time that I just get to watch this magic happen walking around the building where students are just engaged in things that they are so excited about," he said. "It's really exciting for me because wherever I am in the school, I can see students end up with internships or credentials or finding their identity, and that makes me feel like we're working in the right direction for these kids."

Sabin Schellenberg is a place of encouragement and success, and having Principal Ajai Huja leading the way, students can't ever fail.



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County implements a new Recycling Program

Optional program provides opportunity to recycle even more items.

Clackamas County Sustainability & Solid Waste

Recycle+ is a new, optional service from your garbage and recycling that gives residential garbage and recycling collection customers in urban unincorporated Clackamas County and several of the communities within the county, the opportunity to recycle even more. For the easy recycling (or down-cycling) of particular, clean, pre-sorted items that are frequently gathered at recycling depots, Recycle+ provides a great and effective option. You must get in touch with your waste and recycling provider to sign up for the optional Recycle+ service. Here's a suggestion: think about scheduling pickups with neighbors, relatives, or friends. A monthly base price and an extra charge for each pickup will be imposed on customers who elect for the additional, optional service. Paying for

pickups only happens when they happen. The base charge is \$2.50 per month, and the additionally monthly prices for the various types of pickups are as follows: curbside (\$9.25), non-curbside (5-150ft from curb) (\$11.70), and non-curbside (\$13.00) for pickups that are more than 150 feet from the curb. When enrolled, you will receive a purple bin with a lid and specific plastic bags for Recycle+ materials. All materials should be sorted by type: Plastic film / plastic bags Clear plastic #1 clamshell containers Textiles Compact fluorescent light bulbs (customer provided bag) After the materials have been sorted, place them in the given plastic bags, and then place the bags in the purple bin. To keep materials dry, the container's lid must completely close, and all the bagged materials must fit inside. On the days of collection, no additional bags beyond the container

will be allowed. You can add more material to your next scheduled pickup. Collection days vary by garbage and recycling company, but they usually take place every other week. Your collection day may or may not fall on the same day as your weekly regular service; your waste and recycling provider will confirm. Customers of Recycle+ are required to arrange for collection with their waste and recycling provider at least two (2) working days in advance of the scheduled collection day. Please place the purple bin outside by 6 a.m. on the day of your scheduled Recycle+ collection after scheduling your pickup (with the lid securely on). When it comes to batteries, make sure you properly dispose of them. Those who live in apartments, condos, or other multifamily communities can properly dispose of batteries for free at Metro South's Household Hazardous Waste Facility (2001 Washington St., Oregon City). Clackamas County is working with garbage/recycling

companies to be able to offer this service in a safe manner at communities with shared trash/recycling service. TIP: Have friends or family with a glass bin? Ask to use theirs. Here are the steps: 1. PREPARE: Tape (or don't tape) battery ends, depending on type, using clear tape. 2. BAG: Place taped & un-taped batteries together in a clear, 1-qt zip-seal bag. 3. SET OUT: Place the zip-sealed bag on top of the glass bottles and jars in your glass bin, and set out on your regular garbage day. Please only set out the glass bin when it is at least half-full. Limit of a single 1-qt bag per pickup. For additional tips, check the Recycle+ Guide at clackamas.us/recycling/recycle-plus. Clackamas County Sustainability & Solid Waste www.clackamas.us/recycling 503.557.6363 Curbside collection of batteries is now available to single-family residential customers throughout Clackamas County as part of regular collection services.



COURTESY PHOTO: CLACKAMAS COUNTY The new Recycle+ bin for the new recycle program.

NCEF Grants for 2023-24 School Year



By EMMA DAVIS Pamplin Media Group

The Discretionary Grant program is designed to support NCSd projects that fulfill NCEF's mission to: Ensure that students are engaged and ready to learn Support equity in educational outcomes Align our work with NCSd's strategic goals and objectives. Over the last three years, NCEF has awarded more than \$100,000 in Discretionary Grants for projects such as the Rowe Middle School Wind and Oar project; Ready, Set, Go; and NCSd Family Support Services. This 2023-24 NCEF awarded \$14,795.02 for funding 15 projects in 11 schools. Elementary School Projects 5th Grade Brain Bins: Happy Valley Elementary, Heather Harris — \$500.00 Purpose: This project will

supply three 5th grade classrooms with a class set of "brain boxes" containing open ended, high engagement manipulatives and materials to build community, SEL skills engagement and joy during our daily soft start time in line with our responsive classroom model. Orton Gillingham Institute for Multi-Sensory Education Materials: Oregon Trail Elementary, Theresa Just — \$300.00 Purpose: 10 student classroom kits to be used as a supplement to Orton Gillingham curriculum, designed to be used in small reading groups. Enhancing Inclusive Education with Sensory Tools: Lewelling Elementary, Zooy Hamdan- \$427.00 Purpose: This project aims to establish a sensory area in a 2nd grade classroom to support the diverse sensory needs of students and enhance their learning experience. Social Emotional Learning

through Stories & Play: Bilquist Elementary, Kalei Ostreim — \$888.89 Purpose: Support SEL using Slumberkins lessons in kindergarten classrooms. Middle School Projects Thinking Classrooms in ACMS: Alder Creek Middle School, Hannah Garcia- \$900.00 Purpose: When students were given the opportunity to work on a Vertical Non-Permanent workspace (VNP), such as a dry erase board or wipe book, they were more willing to engage in the math task and work in a collaborative environment. High School Projects Climate & Air Quality Data: Adrienne Nelson High School, Nancy Mitchell — \$2,000.00 Purpose: This project will fund the purchase of 10 durable, portable air quality monitors and one air quality monitor station that will

collect data on the air quality outside the school building. Doorways to Expression and Creativity: Clackamas Web Academy, Debbie Steere- \$1,706.00 Purpose: This grant will help purchase materials for a new art program: 'Doorways to Expression and Creativity'. Currently, our small school does not have an arts program. Equitable Access within the Classroom, Flexible Seating and Whiteboards: Adrienne Nelson High School, Catriona Dahlke- \$833.09 Purpose: The procurement of flexible seating will allow for equal access for all students, regardless of neurodivergence, sensory needs, or other factors. Green Our Planet's Hydroponics STEM Program Grant: Rex Putnam High School, Katie Rasouli- \$2,000.00 Purpose: This grant provided the final funding to implement a Hydroponics Growing unit in at Putnam. With this

project, students will have access to fresh produce all year. Mustangs in the Field Podcast: Milwaukie High School, Roberto Aguilar- \$129.99 Purpose: This grant purchases a podcast-quality microphone to use in a podcast about Milwaukie High School graduates. Slushies for Schellenberg: Sabin Schellenberg, Grace Saad- \$1,515.05 Purpose: This grant provides partial funding of 100% fruit, Smart Snack compliant, Frosty Fruit slushie machine for the SSC student store space. Sources of Strength: Adrienne Nelson High School, Caley Melton and Carrie Dinsmore- \$800.00 Purpose: This grant will provide funding for the Sources of Strength year 2 implementation for Tier 1 suicide prevention programming at Adrienne C. Nelson High

School. Breakaway Banner: Milwaukie High School Athletics, Sabrina Larson- \$1,085.00 Purpose: Funding for a run-through banner for the cheerleading team to hold up at the beginning of each home football game. Kingsmen Thunder Drumline: Rex Putnam High School, Renee Ormae-Jarmer- \$2,000.00 Purpose: Funding for the award-winning drum line, including purchase of a new vibraphone. If you are interested in applying for a Discretionary Grant, or know of a program you think NCEF would be interested in helping to fund, please download and submit the form located at the bottom of this page or contact us at ncfoundation@nclack.k12.or.us



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From Streets to Sea and Back

DEPUTY SHAWN CHOE REFLECTS ON COAST GUARD SERVICE IMPACT

By EMMA DAVIS
Pamplin Media Group

Following a journey from the streets of Pittsburgh, Deputy Shawn Choe’s life took an unexpected turn when he enlisted in the US Coast Guard. He had no idea that his career as a police officer in Happy Valley would be influenced by the valuable lessons he took away while serving.

Unlike most military recruits, Choe didn’t enlist right out of high school, but rather after he started his career. Still in Pennsylvania, he entered the police academy in 2000 and began his career as a police officer. After a few years on the force, he had his sights on moving his way up to the federal level as a United States Marshal. But to do that, he had to have military service. That’s when he decided to enlist in the United States Coast Guard.

“I honestly don’t know why I joined the police force, it was more of like ‘that’s like a dream job’ you know, like watching movies that kind of stuff,” Choe said. “I thought it was a cool thing.”

When deciding what branch to enlist in, it was between the Marines and the Coast Guard. Ultimately, he decided on the latter. “I chose it because it falls under the DHS (Department of Human Services), and what’s unique about that is because it falls under that, after people get out of the Coast Guard they can get a transfer to a different department.

“It was a good backup plan,” Choe said. “When I got out, it would be an easier way to get into a different federal level if I didn’t go to the Marshalls or if I didn’t get out and come back to law enforcement.”

While enlisted, he had a few jobs and was stationed around the country, but primarily on the East Coast. “I was stationed in Cape May, New Jersey as a strength and conditioning instructor for recruits, and then after that, I was in New York doing boarding team, so like law enforcement stuff,” Choe said.



COURTESY PHOTO: SHAWN CHOE
Shawn Choe in US Coast Guard uniform.

With those jobs, he became kind of a jack of all trades. “When I was in New York, I did maritime safety and security, POTUS operations, boardings, ferry escorts, and body recovery,” Choe said. “I had a lot of responsibilities in a lot of different departments.” His favorite though was training the recruits since fitness was and still is a big passion of his.

Once returning from his duties in the Coast Guard, he decided against moving up to the federal level and went back to his career as a police officer in Pittsburgh. He then moved to Oregon in 2018, continuing his law enforcement profession in 2019.

Although he is no longer in the military, many of the experiences and lessons he learned while enlisted have translated into his current job. “I guess the Coast Guard taught me to never be afraid to take those chances to fail,” Choe said. “Like everyone’s going to make mistakes and what matters is what happens



Deputy Shawn Choe featured next to a US Coast Guard helicopter.

COURTESY PHOTO: SHAWN CHOE

after the mistake is made, you know, like what are you doing to prevent it from happening again and learn from it to make yourself better, day in and day out.” He applies that to how he serves the community, interacts with his fellow officers, and performs his day-to-day police duties.

Choe notes that if he never joined the Coast Guard, he would not be where he is today, in all aspects of his life. “Meeting all the people I met in the Coast Guard, I would not be anywhere near where I am,” he said. “I’d probably be still in Pennsylvania doing the same things over and over, working in the same place, and not that there’s anything wrong with that, it just isn’t for me.”

The many jobs he held, the experiences he had, and the lessons he learned helped shape him into the man and officer he is today.



Deputy Shawn Choe.

COURTESY PHOTO: SHAWN CHOE

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Golf and Family Comes Full Circle For Nick Lisac, Sah-Hah-Lee GCs New GM

After a departure, Nick Lisac has found his way back in a new role, returning to the game he loves

By JAMES KENNETH PRESLEY,
For Pamplin Media Group

Sah-Hah-Lee has always been a particularly special place for new General Manager Nick Lisac, whose memory of the course goes as far back as to when it was first being built by his dad, uncle, grandfather, and great uncle. Lisac is the son and nephew of current owners Bud and Steve Lisac.

In fact, the very clubhouse players walk into today to check in for tee times was once a home, the home Nick Lisac grew up in as he watched his family convert what was once a radish farm into the par 3 course we love today.

"They built the course by hand," said Lisac when referring to his family/course owners. "I was like seven or eight in that timeline. It was easier for us to just live here and set up shop so



NICK LISAC

they could work all day. We used to ride our mountain bikes down on the course when it was just dirt. It was a great childhood."

A couple of years later, right around the start of the 90s, Sah-Hah-Lee officially opened, giving the young Lisac his first introduction to the game of golf.

"Me being on property and having access to free golf was really how I started to grow my interest in the game," says Lisac. "I'm a self-taught golfer and never really had a one-on-one golf lesson. I just started watching the good golfers on the range and tried to mimic what they were doing."

A natural athlete who played a variety of sports at La Salle HS, it's no surprise that Lisac took to the game as swiftly and as naturally as he did, especially with the course access in his own backyard. However, once high school ended Lisac would take to other interests outside of golf, configuring life and what else might be out



Range of Opportunities: Winter might be coming, but the future is bright for Sah-Hah-Lee Golf Course! COURTESY PHOTO: JAMES KENNETH PRESLEY

there for him. While he admits his college experience was up and down, he did go on to meet his eventual wife at Montana State, adding a new foundation to the Lisac family legacy.

"I guess you can say I got one good thing out of my freshman year," jokes Lisac.

So, after enrolling in Portland State sometime later, Lisac would work in the pro shop after years on the greens crew, noting how course pro Don Otto rejuvenated his interest in the game and, more specifically, teaching it.

"Don encouraged me to get

into the PGA program," says Lisac. "He told me it was a path that I should pursue so I worked my tail off and became the head pro once Don was ready to step down."

In the mid 2000s, Lisac would go on to achieve many feats, including building the Northwest Golf Academy and frequently teaching the game. However, blindsided by his daughter's questioning as to why her Dad was never home, Lisac was forced to refocus his day-to-day thinking and take a look at the big picture.

"I was working 6-7 days a

week around fourteen hours a day," says Lisac. "I didn't see it at the time but I was so used to working and the grind that I had to take a major step back and put my family first. I had to make a change"

After taking some time to recalibrate, Lisac stepped away from his role as head pro thanks to a connection he made with a client, taking on an account management job so he could have a better work-life balance. However, six and a half years later and internal family discussions regarding the future of the course, Lisac was eventually brought back into the conversation fold by his dad, stepmom, uncle, and aunt regarding the possibility of returning to the course in a bigger, more fulfilling role that worked for everyone.

Hesitant at first to leave his new lifestyle and a job that he loves, especially as a dad with two daughters, there was now an existing possibility that the course might no longer stay in the family, a heartbreaking notion to Lisac who spent much of his life at what felt like a second home. So, after many conversations with his family, several negotiations, and a newfound understanding of his

role, Lisac decided to come return to the course as the General Manager.

"I've had a really strong family dynamic my entire life," says Lisac. "I was in this business because of family, I left because of family, and ultimately came back because of family. There was a lot to facilitate to make sure my time was well used at the course as well as at home with my family, but I wanted to be sure that Sah-Hah-Lee remained a family operation for at least another generation so long as I had my family's blessing. I learned a lot leaving here, but I feel now, in this capacity, that this is where I want and need to be."

Lisac has many ideas in store for the course's future, including the recently launched Trackman range. However, he says, that is just the beginning.

"Big picture, overarching goal is to make the Sah-Hah-Lee golf experience top notch," he said. "We have a lot of revamping in our future to improve the range, course, events, and business in general. We want to attract the next generation of golfers and the love for this course, the same love I got to experience in my childhood."

TRACKMAN RANGE: Tech Advancements for a Classic Sport

Once considered a "gentleman's game," the sport of golf has become a game for all with new innovative strategies to progress the game

By JAMES KENNETH PRESLEY,
For Pamplin Media Group

Towards the end of Summer it was announced that Sah-Hah-Lee Golf Course would be introducing the highly innovative Trackman tech to their golf range, a next-level driving range that offers a variety of unique functions, such as tracking shots and providing feedback data, mini games, and even capable of taking you to some of the world's most famous golf courses.

"Both Steve and my dad (Bud) had talked to Trackman a while back," says General Manager Nick

Lisac when discussing how long the idea has sat with the course owners. "When I decided to come back I said we needed to go after putting Trackman on the range, an idea that they both wanted to pursue as well. We all knew it would offer a unique and exciting golf experience as the next closest Trackman is in Vancouver BC."

Lisac went on to discuss the opportunity Trackman presents to Sah-Hah-Lee, sort of breathing new life into what is already such a beloved local course.

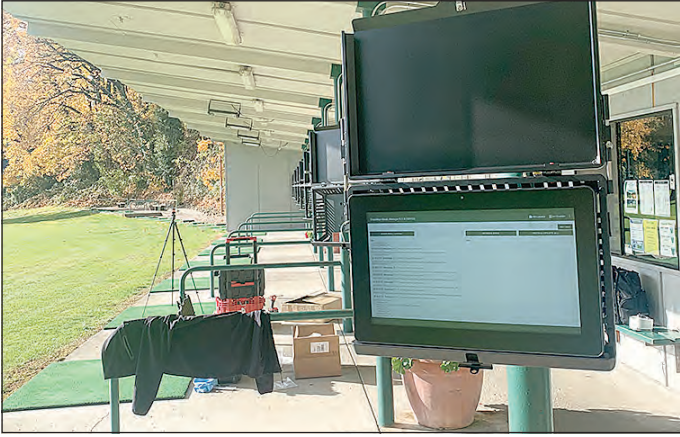
"Gamification and the idea that bringing in non-golfers to the facility, like TopGolf, was huge to me," says Lisac. "So that led me down the path to see what's available that's NOT TopGolf. That's when Trackman came up in my research, specifically because of what it affords golfers to go out and do on a range. We're confident that it will help with range usage and attracting new customers, and even more

specifically non-golfers and giving them a fun activity to do during the week."

Currently, Sah-Hah-Lee has 13 available undercover bays equipped with the Trackman tech, including two radar units that are out on the range as well as one on the roof, capable of tracking up to 100 golf balls at once until the moment they hit the ground, pinpointing the ball back to the range mat it was hit from and presenting data on it's own individual bay screen.

"People who take golf seriously and want to practice can come out here multiple times a week and feel like it's not too expensive to do so," says Lisac. "As well, folks can come out in a foursome and play a round at places like St. Andrews and Pebble Beach. There's also arcade games where you hit targets out on the range. It's meant for everybody."

Lisac did disclose, if all goes well, how Sah-Hah-Lee will be



COURTESY PHOTO: JAMES KENNETH PRESLEY

Trackman range technology at Sah-Hah-Lee GC

committed to installing their fifteen soon-to-be covered outdoor mats with the Trackman tech down the road.

So, just how will this experience work for guests who wish to try Trackman out?

"There's an answer to what we're going to do now but it

could change based on how we adapt to it," says Lisac. "First, we will have guests download the Trackman app, which is free, so that you can store and track your data. The bays will be on a first-come-first-serve basis at an hourly rate of around \$15 per hour. We will provide guests with

the recommended time and the amount of buckets of balls you might need based on the experience, game, or course you're wanting to play. You'll just operate with the touchscreen at your bay and off you'll go!"

Lisac went on to discuss that they're committed to keep an experienced employee at the range to help facilitate the experience, though it may not be necessary around the clock.

"Once you do it once it's pretty self-explanatory," says Lisac. "That being said, we're not going to leave guests stranded."

Lisac notes people will not be obligated to use Trackman when visiting the range, and Sah-Hah-Lee will keep prices adjusted for anybody who wishes to simply hit a bucket of balls the old fashioned way.

Trackman range launched in mid-November. For more information, visit: www.sah-hah-lee.com



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Mayor Tom Ellis (4th from right) with Peggy Brockamp (4th from left), officials from Clackamas County, Metro and Catholic Charities of Oregon.

Good Shepherd Village Celebrates Grand Opening With Ribbon Cutting

Project includes 1,000th unit of affordable housing from \$650 million Metro Housing Bond

By Pamplin Media Group

Catholic Charities of Oregon (COO) along with the City of Happy Valley, Clackamas County, Metro and state officials celebrated the completion of Good Shepherd Village, a new public-private affordable housing partnership project in Happy Valley. Good Shepherd Village includes the 1,000th unit of affordable housing developed under a \$652.8 million Metro Housing Bond passed by Portland area voters in 2018. The Village is the first affordable housing

development in Happy Valley and is setting a tone for smaller towns across the state. It is the largest affordable housing development in Clackamas County, the county said in a release. At a ribbon-cutting ceremony held November 6th, many representatives and elected officials spoke, including Mayor Tom Ellis. Mayor Ellis expressed gratitude, addressing how appreciative he is of what the property is providing for the community, which includes 15 apartments reserved for veterans. “I’d like to welcome Good Shepherd Village to Happy Valley,” Mayor Ellis said. “As a U.S. Coast Guard veteran, I’m appreciative that several units will be set aside for veterans. By working together, I believe we can help connect our community members to services they need.” In 2012, the Brockamp family donated 11 acres of land off Southeast

162nd to CCO to be used for affordable housing, developers broke ground in March of 2022 with construction completed last month. Developed by Caritas Housing at COO, the 142-unit community will house hundreds of families, veterans, and seniors impacted by the high cost of housing in the area. Fifty-eight apartments are set aside for supportive housing, which helps formerly homeless families. Catholic Charities will provide those residents with food, employment, financial support, and other services related to their physical and mental health. The property also features murals by Emily Kepulis and Paola de la Cruz that pay tribute to the area’s flora and fauna along with depictions of communal cooperation and harmony. For more information on Good Shepard Village visit <https://www.goodshepherdvillageapts.com/>

○ Christmas Tree, ○ Christmas Tree

There are many places to find a tree, including garden centers and the National Forest

By JAMES KENNETH PRESLEY
For Pamplin Media Group

There’s nothing like a warmly lit, vibrantly decorated Christmas tree to set your home’s holiday tone for the season, as a well-placed and impeccably themed tree will give you, your family, and any holiday guests that warm feeling that inhabits the spirit of Christmas. So, just where can you find your perfect tree this holiday season? Here are some local options to consider.

JTB U-Cut Christmas Trees

Located just under 4-miles from Happy Valley is JTB U-Cut Christmas Trees, a cash and check only tree farm that gives you and your family the tree-cutting experience while taking care of the equipment for you, providing tools such as saws, kneeling pads, and twine to help tie your freshly cut fir to your car; don’t worry, they will help you out there! It is recommended to wear boots and jeans, or any outfit you don’t mind getting a little dirty. This farm is a perfect option for those looking for uniformed firs that aren’t too giant, but rather manageable to take home and set up in your living room.

Al’s Garden & Center

Al’s Garden & Home is only 5-miles from Happy Valley and is located just off Hogan road right next to Persimmon Country Club, giving you an exciting selection of pre-cut Christmas trees that will make your tree shopping experience as easy and jolly as can be. From wreaths, to greens, to poinsettias, to even their famous ice apples, Al’s will give you and your family all the holiday feels. You can even get your Christmas tree freshly flocked for an additional charge! If you’re looking for a simple yet magical experience, look no further than Al’s, which is covered and heated so you may dress as natural as you’d like!

Mt. Hood National Forest

Don’t let Clark Griswold scare you off, there’s nothing intimidating about



DREAMTIME PHOTO
There’s a plethora of options of your fresh tree in and around Happy Valley this Christmas

venturing into the woods and chopping down your own Christmas tree... so long as you have the right permits. If you and your family are looking to strap on those coats and lace up them boots and trek out into the snowy woods, then you’ll first want to visit Recreation.gov or visit one of the district offices in Sandy, Parkdale, Zigzag, or Dufur and spend a reasonable \$5 to collect your tree cutting permit. This will allow you to cut one tree up to 15 ft tall. From there, you’ll receive cutting guidelines that you must carry on you when you go find your Christmas tree. These guidelines will also give you the territories where you’re allowed to cut. Is it old fashioned? Sure, but it’s likely one memory that every family should experience at least once... just make sure you bring your own saw and kneeling pad, as well as twine if you don’t have a large truck.

Tony’s Garden Center

Tony’s Garden Center in Damascus will be kicking off their holiday season on December 3rd with their Magical Christmas Event, filled with food carts, festive activities, holiday decor, and even photo opps with Santa himself! Here you will find perhaps the most unique collection of Christmas trees, as Tony’s oftentimes offers a collection of colored trees that are as bright as your home’s personality, including trees that are blue, red, and pink! The work is already done for you, so all you have to do is pick the Christmas tree that speaks to you and make it part of your home this holiday season.

Keep FOG Out of Your Pipes!

Fats, oils and grease (FOG) are found in everyday foods and food ingredients such as meat, fish, butter, cooking oil, mayonnaise, milk, gravies, sauces and food scraps. If poured down the sink drain or into your garbage disposal, FOG can build up over time by sticking to the insides of sewer pipes. This could eventually cause an expensive sewer backup into your home or the public wastewater system. You can help prevent sewer backups by following these simple steps:

- Pour cooled fats, oils and grease into a covered, disposable container and toss it into the trash instead of down sink drains.
- Soak up remaining FOG with paper towels and place it in the trash.
- Scrape food scraps into your compost or trash before washing dishes or loading the dishwasher.
- Use sink strainers to catch any remaining food waste while washing dishes.

Clackamas Water Environment Services produces clean water, protects water quality and recovers renewable resources. We do this by providing wastewater services, stormwater management, and environmental education. It’s our job to protect public health and support the vitality of our communities, natural environment, and economy.

Learn more at clackamas.us/wes/education

CLACKAMAS
WATER
ENVIRONMENT
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HAPPY VALLEY LIBRARY

13793 S.E. SIEBEN PARK WAY, HAPPY VALLEY, OR 97015 | 503-783-3456 | WWW.HAPPYVALLEYOR.GOV/LIBRARY

DECEMBER 2023 LIBRARY EVENTS

The library will be closed Sunday, Dec. 24; Monday, Dec. 25; Sunday, Dec. 31; and Monday, Jan. 1.

LIBRARY CALENDAR

All Together Now: Card Making

Monday, Dec. 7, 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
For all ages. Everyone's welcome to make some cards to share! We'll have nice paper, stamps, stickers, markers, and more to use.
All Together Now programs are designed as intergenerational programs, with people of all ages coming together to create and play together.

Winter Break Programs and Activities

Super Smash Bros. Tournament

Wednesday, Dec. 20, 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
For ages 10-18. Hey gamers, join us for an afternoon of Super Smash Bros. Snacks provided.

Winter Solstice Crafts

Thursday, Dec. 21, 10:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
For all ages. Drop in to craft your own star and lantern to celebrate the shortest day of the year. Provided in partnership with Happy Valley Parks & Recreation.

Giant Coloring Sheets

Wednesday, Dec. 27, 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
For all ages. Everyone's welcome to decorate a giant coloring sheet! We'll have big pieces of paper, markers, pencils, and crayons.

Family Lotería

Thursday, Dec. 28, 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
Bring your family together to play ¡Lotería! Originating in México, Lotería is similar to Bingo but uses images instead of numbers. Learn the meaning of popular Spanish words, all while competing for fun prizes! Registration is not required, but RSVP to get an email reminder and let us know you'll be there!

Teen Volunteer Party

Thursday, Dec. 28, 3 p.m.-5 p.m.
For ages 12-18. We need help making a lot of Care Card kits! Drop by to lend a hand. Provided in partnership with Happy Valley Parks & Recreation. Learn more about this event in this month's Parks and Rec insert.

Let's Build LEGO

Friday, Dec. 29, 10:30 a.m.-noon
For K-5th graders and their grownups. Drop in for some free LEGO building fun.

Youth Programs

Storytimes

To see our full listing of storytimes and playtimes for ages birth to five, visit our website or go.linncc.org/hvbirthto5

Giờ Kể Chuyện / Vietnamese Storytime

Sunday, Dec. 3, 2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Hãy đến thư viện vui hát, kể chuyện, làm quen với văn điệu thơ tiếng Việt và cùng làm thủ công với nhau nhé.
Join us for a special storytime in Vietnamese with stories, songs and activities for all ages.

Stretch, Dance, Play

Thursday, Dec. 7, 10:15 a.m.
For 2-5-year-olds and their grownups. Join Iris Nason for dance, yoga, singing, sign language and play!

Sign & Sing

Friday, Dec. 8, 10:15 a.m.
For 2-5-year-olds and their caregivers. Sing, dance, and sign with Shira Fogel of Tiny Talkers.

Cuentos, música y manualidades / Spanish Storytime

Saturday, Dec. 9, 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
¡Los invitamos a la Biblioteca de Happy Valley a disfrutar de una hora de cuentos, música y manualidades en Español!
We invite you to Happy Valley library to enjoy stories, music, and crafts in Spanish!

Let's Build

Tuesday, Dec. 12, 4 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 29, 10:30 a.m.-noon
For K-5th graders and their grownups. Drop in for some free LEGO building fun.

Tallulah's Daddy

Saturday, Dec. 16, 10:15 a.m.
For ages 2-6 and their caregivers. Drop in for some musical fun with our favorite bass playing dad!

Duplo Play

Monday, Dec. 18, 10:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
For ages 0-5. Let's build together with Duplo blocks! Drop in to play and see what we can make.

Tweens & Teens

For teens in grades 6-12.

Teen Advisory Board

Saturday, Dec. 2, 1 p.m.-2 p.m.
Support the library while earning volunteer hours. Hang out with new friends, share ideas, and make stuff. A safe space for all to be themselves.

Manga and Anime Club

Thursday, Dec. 14, 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Hang out with fellow manga and anime fans -- chat about favorites, browse new number ones, eat snacks, make stuff, and watch anime.

Adult Programs

Register or RSVP for programs at https://go.linncc.org/hvsignup

Genealogy

Monday, Dec. 11, 3 p.m.-5 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!

Mah Jongg

Fridays, 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Those who enjoy playing American Mah Jongg are invited to join our fun and friendly group! Be sure to bring your current National Mah Jongg League cards. Contact the library if you would like to learn to play.

String Along

Sunday, Dec.10, 2 p.m.-5 p.m.
Bring your acoustic guitar, fiddle, ukulele or other stringed instrument to the Happy Valley Library and share some tunes with other musicians. Adults of all skill levels are invited to drop in and play some music in a casual, jam-style setting. Bring a song you know to share.

Happy Valley Book Group

Thursday, Jan. 4, 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.
Read the bright and hopeful fiction title, Perestroika in Paris by Jane Smiley, and discuss it with other readers. Did you like it or not? Did something surprise you or make you think twice? Come share your thoughts!



Exercise your creativity with a card making activity, perfect for the whole family.



The Library is partnering with Happy Valley Parks and Recreation to bring a fun crafting event focused on the winter solstice.



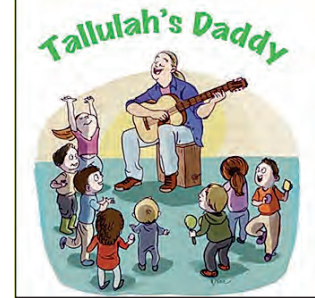
Engage in some friendly competition with ¡Lotería! On Dec. 28.



Help assemble Care Card kits in preparation for an upcoming community activity.



Little ones can move and groove with Iris Nason.



Tallulah's Daddy returns Dec. 16 for a fun musical show.



It's all things Manga and Anime with a teen event on Dec. 14.



Experience the fun of Mah Jongg.



Get a jump start on next month's Book Group.

Library expansion update

The 10,000+ sq. ft. expansion project at the Happy Valley Library continued this past month, with the most recent tasks completed being the forming, pouring, and stripping of the concrete footings in the basement and crawl-space of the annex. Crews also began forming the concrete walls of this new space and preparing the basement area for the slab pour. In the next month, crews will continue to form the concrete walls and will have multiple wall pours as the structure truly begins to take shape.

The library will continue to remain open throughout the construction process, though some interruptions and/or temporary closures or reduced hours may be necessary from time to time. Completion of the library expansion project is anticipated Fall 2024. Learn more about the expansion project online at www.happyvalleyor.gov/library-expansion or by scanning the QR code with your smart device.



Concrete footings poured and wall forming underway.



CULTURAL PASS EXPRESS YOUR PASS TO



With more than 10 attractions to choose from, your library card is also your pass to choose your own adventure!

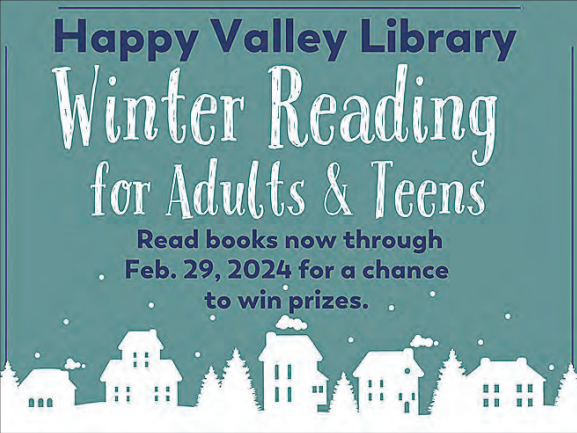
CULTURAL PASSES

Want to explore and save money? Use your library card to visit area attractions for free! Explore a state park, enjoy a garden, or stand in awe at a museum with Cultural Passes from the library. You can be spontaneous and see what's available for the day or plan ahead by booking a pass for a future date. Find out more and check out your passes at go.linncc.org/hvcp.

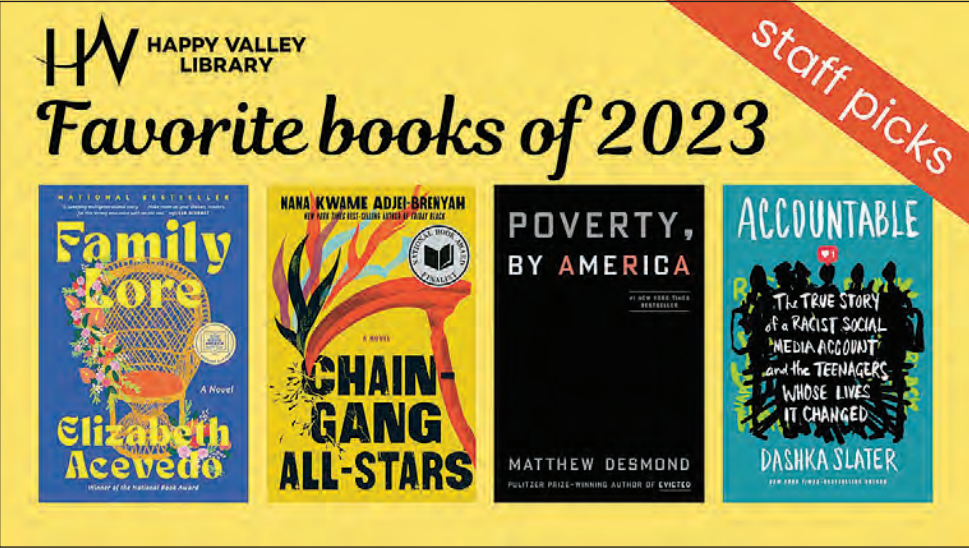
Winter Reading 2024

Wintertime is here once again. Fortunately, cold, dark evenings are perfect for spending time with a good book! The Happy Valley Library is having a Winter Reading program to encourage adults and teens to keep reading this winter. There will even be prizes for some lucky participants!

Submit an entry for every book you finish reading between Dec. 1 and Feb. 29. Enter at least once a month to get that month's special button. Prize drawings will be held at the end of each month, with final drawings on Feb. 29. Area residents ages 13 and up are eligible to participate. Visit https://go.linncc.org/hvwr to submit your entries.



Teens and adults can cozy up and read for a chance to win prizes during the Winter Reading program.



Find the full list of staff favorites for all ages on the Library website

Favorite Books of 2023

The Happy Valley Library staff have made their list and checked it twice to share their favorite reads of 2023. With everything from picture books about gnomes to dystopian thrillers about super-star gladiators, there are amazing picks for every reader.
As the year comes to a close, we love to look back at all the new books that were published and highlight our favorites. These books made us laugh, cry, think, question, learn, and feel all the feels. The following is just a sample of the books we loved; to see our full list, please visit the Favorite Books of 2023 page on our website at go.linncc.org/hvbestbooks or scan the QR code.



MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Bruce Sussman

■ **How long have you lived in Happy Valley?:** My family and I have lived in Happy Valley for 17 years now. My wife is a web designer and our two sons are in high school. We've made many friends and connections across the community over all these years.

■ **Profession/Career:** My "first career" was as a Meteorologist for channels 6 and 8, in Portland, for about 20 years. My "second career" is in cybersecurity media and marketing. I currently work for BlackBerry — yes, the company that made your BlackBerry phone is still around — and now the company is focused on software that involves artificial intelligence (AI), cybersecurity and the Internet of Things (like connected cars, smart medical devices, and so on).

■ **What did you want to be when you were young?:** I always dreamed of being a TV news reporter or anchor. I watched the news and weather every...single...day. No joke that people wrote in my high school yearbook, "Maybe I'll see you on TV someday..."

■ **Favorite Oregon vacation destination:** Nothing beats a week in Central Oregon during the summer, we love BlackButte and Brasada Ranch the most; for a day trip, my favorite thing each year is to raft the Deschutes River starting from Maupin, OR, which is just on the other side (and down, way down the hill!) from Mt. Hood.

■ **Favorite Film:** If I said "Bruce Almighty" would you actually believe it?

■ **Favorite Book:** *Isaac's Storm* — it's a powerful read and puts you inside a hurricane — but be warned, it's not exactly an uplifting book.



Happy Valley resident, Bruce Sussman

COURTESY PHOTO

■ **Favorite music/musician/band:** For King and Country, it's a Christian group and they are incredibly fun in concert.

■ **Favorite type of food:** It's not very classy, but let's go with either fresh McDonald's fries, or fresh waffle fries from Chick Fil A.

■ **Hobbies:** Reading, running, watching the skies and watching football with my family during football season.

■ **Biggest lesson learned in life:** A good reason to be kind to others is that you never know what another person is actually going through when you cross paths with them.

■ **Greatest accomplishment:** Having a family is #1 for me; professionally, it was switching

careers. Now I work from home which is a major bonus for me.

■ **How would your friends or family describe you in one word?:** As an optimist. Of course, pessimists would then call me naive!

■ **Favorite quote:** "The boisterous sea of liberty is never without a wave" — that is a Thomas Jefferson quote etched into the federal courthouse in downtown Portland. I used to see it walking from KOIN6 to Chipotle for dinner and it stuck with me. We think we're the first generation to feel like politics, etc. are crazy? Sounds like that's not actually true, based on the quote. Instead, it's to be expected. And that's actually reassuring in some ways.

Final FREE Leaf Drop event of the season

Event for Happy Valley residents will be held December 2nd

City of Happy Valley

To make things easier for residents, Happy Valley Parks and Recreation is offering one more chance for you to drop off your yard debris at no cost to you. City residents will have the opportunity to drop off seasonal yard debris (leaves, woody debris, and grass clippings) at the Public Works building for free recycling. ■ Saturday, Dec. 2 ■ 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Public Works building is located at 13910 SE Ridgecrest Road, adjacent to Happy Valley Park. Residents are responsible for unloading and de-bagging their drop-off materials on-site. This is a residential service only, which means no commercial landscaping or contractor loads will be accepted. ■ Remember to bring proof of residency with you to the event.



The City's final Leaf Drop event will take place Saturday, Dec. 2.

COURTESY PHOTO FROM CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

Meet Your Neighbor is a new feature of the Happy Valley News, to suggest a Happy Valley neighbor others should get to know, please send an email to hvn@pamplinmedia.com or call 971-204-7789.

Know a HV neighbor others should meet?



Meet your Neighbors!

Brief Q&As with interesting folks from around Happy Valley

Know someone we should feature? Please send us an email at hvn@pamplinmedia.com or give us a call at 971-204-7789 for us to add them to our featured neighbor's queue!



HAPPY VALLEY BUSINESS ALLIANCE
Community is our business
www.hvba.biz

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



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Started by Steve Anderson, of Happy Valley, who was a hearings officer for the Clackamas County Board of Property Tax Appeals, we felt that taxpayers were not getting fair representation.

Our goal is to review your situation and determine if an appeal is recommended. Having been involved in over 4,000 decisions, we have handled thousands of appeals and saved our clients millions of dollars on all types of property.

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