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# Happy Valley NEWS

April 2024

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## An important visit to the CAPITOL

Happy Valley's City Council and Youth Council take part in the NLC Congressional City Conference

City of Happy Valley

Happy Valley's City Council recently embarked on a visit to Washington D.C. to participate in the prestigious National League of Cities (NLC) Congressional City Conference. This annual event serves as a platform for municipal leaders from across the nation to convene, exchange ideas, and advocate for the interests of their respective communities at the national level. The conference featured a

keynote address from President Joe Biden, an impressive lineup of speakers, and more than 3,000 attendees. Embracing the city's commitment to continuous improvement and active participation in shaping policy discussions, Mayor Tom Ellis, Council President David Emami, Councilor Joshua Callahan and City Manager Jason Tuck, used the opportunity to engage with counterparts from a variety of cities and regions. The conference allowed participants to connect with others and



Happy Valley Youth Council visited Washington D.C. last month to participate in the 2024 National League of Cities Congressional City Conference. The experience included a tour of the Capitol and meeting with former Happy Valley Mayor and Oregon Representative Lori Chavez-DeRemer.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

collaborate on a non-partisan platform. During the event, a myriad of pressing issues confronting municipalities nationwide were explored. From urban infrastructure challenges to public safety concerns, participants engaged in discussions aimed at identifying

innovative solutions and potential approaches to relevant issues. Engaging with city leaders from other cities during the conference revealed a common thread of shared challenges among participating municipalities, which encouraged collaborative dialogue and exchange of insights.

A notable highlight of the experience was the Council's interaction with federal legislators. Recognizing the importance of representing Happy Valley's interests at the national level, the councilors held constructive meetings with senators and congressional representatives.

Of note, City Council advocated for federal funding assistance for Happy Valley's Community Center project. Recognizing the need and strong desire of the community to complete this project, the Council stressed

See CAPITOL / 2

## Preserving the tree canopy

Happy Valley celebrates 20 years of being a Tree City USA



Happy Valley boasts an abundance of trees and a commitment to keeping our tree canopy and native plant life healthy and cared for. At a recent event last month, volunteers helped plant a variety of trees and seedlings to help encourage pollinator health despite the wintery weather.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

City of Happy Valley

Spring is in the air and that means rejuvenation, growth, and new beginnings. In Happy Valley, this signifies the perfect time to take action and begin welcoming an influx of budding flowers, pollinating insects, and a new group of woodland creatures. Maintaining and preserving a healthy tree canopy is paramount to this and that means being proactive in ensuring our open spaces remain vibrant and nurtured.

Happy Valley is fortunate to have a great partner in Friends of Trees, a local organization dedicated to inspiring community stewardship of our urban forests by bringing people together to plant and care for trees and natural areas. Through their support, multiple community plantings



and tree care events are held in Happy Valley each year. The City of Happy Valley has partnered with Friends of Trees for over a decade to improve water quality and habitat for wildlife at Happy Valley Park. Residents of all ages and experience levels are encouraged to participate.

While Earth Day is officially Apr. 22 and Arbor Day is Apr. 26, here in Happy Valley we are celebrating this designation on Apr. 20 with a special project that commemorates both. Just one of several springtime tree care events, the occasion serves to commemorate the amazing and far-reaching benefits of trees and encourage local communities to be part of the solution. And, with it marking our 20th year being a Tree City USA, the event is especially significant.

See TREES / 2

## Farmers Market set to open May 4th

Get ready for farmer's market season at Sunnyside Farmer's Market!

By BREN SWOGGER  
 Pamplin Media Group

The regular season is only around once per year, and you don't want to miss it. Held every Saturday May 4th to October 26th, the Happy Valley Farmers Market has vendors galore and there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Jamie El-Khal started the Happy Valley Farmers Market back in 2012 with the hopes that the community could come together every weekend and have a place to shop from local businesses and farms. Now celebrating their 13th season, the Market is back and better than ever, with even more farms and more fresh foods.

"We're going to be expanding just a little bit because we have

new vendors joining us," El-Khal said. This year's new vendors will be bringing in jams, more baked goods like pretzels, freshly caught salmon, and more organic produce. With these new additions and long-time favorites, the Market will be hosting about 110 vendors per week.

"We're very lucky in the sense that we have most all our vendors returning, which is really, really great," El-Khal said. "We're really excited to see everybody again."

El-Khal and her family are at the market every weekend to greet customers with smiles and friendly faces as they wander and see what its many vendors have to offer.

"It's a wonderful place to be, and everyone's so nice," El-Khal said. "We get to meet new people, and then we see familiar faces. We just enjoy seeing our customers happy

and satisfied with their purchases, finding great things, and eating fresh and healthy. Bringing that to the community every week is what we're all about."

If you can't make it during the regular season, the Happy Valley Farmers Market will hold their Halloween Market at the end of October, then return in November for the Harvest Market, as well as their two-day Holiday Market in December, held at Clackamas High School.

"We would like to thank the Congregation at Sunnyside Church for welcoming us, giving us a home to provide our community with a Farmers Market," El-Khal said.

To find the full list of this year's vendors, or if you want to become a vendor yourself, visit their website at [www.sunnysidefarmersmarkets.com](http://www.sunnysidefarmersmarkets.com).



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUNNYSIDE FARMER'S MARKET  
 ▲ Just a few of the many vendors you will see at this year's market season!

► Martinez Fresh Vegetables booth from 2023's season

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# Capitol

■ From Page 1

the importance of securing sufficient resources to ensure its timely completion. The dialogues proved fruitful, creating a wide network of contacts for the group to maintain communication with going forward.

A meeting with Oregon Representative Lori Chavez-DeRemer, and former Happy Valley Mayor, held a special significance for the City Council as it fostered a sense of connection and shared pride in their community's representation at the event.

Also in attendance during the conference was Happy Valley's own Youth Council. This group's inclusion in the event demonstrates the city's commitment to empowering its young leaders and fostering their participation in civic affairs. Together with youth council members from across the country, Happy Valley's students actively contributed to discussions on pressing issues affecting their generation.

The following excerpt captures the reflections of two Happy Valley Youth Council members after this recent trip:

*During our trip to Washington D.C. with the Happy Valley Youth Council, we were given the privilege to experience a private tour of the Capitol building by our former mayor and current Oregon Congresswoman, Representative Chavez-DeRemer. "Being a senior with the Happy Valley Youth Council and visiting the Washington D.C. area for the second time was an amazing opportunity," said Youth Councilor Will Sussman. Rep. Chavez-DeRemer then showed us a stunning view of the National Mall from the iconic Capitol steps. Rep. Chavez-DeRemer and her staff paired a tour of the better known and seen parts of the Capitol building with a tour of some of the rarely seen areas of the Capitol, places that would not be viewed by a regular tour group. "I had the privilege to see rooms which are accessible to very few people," said Youth Councilor Dominic Pienovi. One of these areas included an escape tunnel under the Capitol building, which was constructed around the time of the War of 1812. Rep. Chavez-DeRemer showed us her office and explained how her important work gets done with the help of her wonderful staff. We were able to learn about and sit in on a voting session in the House of Representatives chamber, which*



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
City Manager Jason Tuck joined Council President David Emami, Mayor Tom Ellis, and Councilor Joshua Callahan on the steps of the Capitol building.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
Youth Council at the National Mall.

*was truly fascinating. Rep. Chavez-DeRemer then showed us a stunning view of the National Mall from the iconic Capitol steps. Rep. Chavez-DeRemer and her staff made the experience personable and enjoyable, and answered any questions we had. We left her office with a sense of pride knowing how well Happy Valley was being represented on Capitol Hill. Thank you, Rep. Chavez-DeRemer for this amazing opportunity!*

Upon returning home, members from both councils were eager to apply insights gained from the NLC Congressional City Conference and remain committed to making Happy Valley an even better place for all residents.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
Youth Council toured the Capitol building with Representative Chavez-DeRemer. The group even experienced a behind the scenes walkthrough.

# Trees

■ From Page 1

## Happy Valley Friends of Trees Projects

### Windswept Waters Stewardship

**When:** Saturday, Apr. 13, 8:45 a.m. - noon  
**Where:** SE Quartz Ln. & SE Windswept Waters Dr.

### Special Arbor Day/ Earth Day Event!

### Village Green Park Stewardship

**When:** Saturday, Apr. 20, 8:45 a.m. - noon  
**Where:** Village Green Park, 13786 SE Sieben Park Way

Celebrate Arbor Day and Earth Day by mulching hundreds of native trees and shrubs that were planted this past winter.

Please note there will be no tree-planting at these upcoming events. Activities for this project are considered more physically demanding and are great for folks looking for a workout.

The only participation requirements are to dress for the weather, wear sturdy/closed-toe shoes, and be prepared to have fun! Residents of all ages and experience levels are encouraged to participate.

Pre-registration for individuals is required. To sign up for any Friends of

Trees event, you can register online by checking out the events calendar through [www.friendsoftrees.org/event-calendar](http://www.friendsoftrees.org/event-calendar). Click on the project you would like to attend and fill in your information.

These volunteer events are a fun way for families, service groups, or individuals to get outside and help improve their local natural area. Friends of Trees will provide tools and gloves, and guide volunteers throughout the event.

### Other ways the City makes trees a priority

The City has a robust tree replacement requirement and tree permits are required for any type of tree removal. Additionally, if a developer is dividing land, the City requires the developer complete a Planned Unit Development (PUD) if more than 10% of the site is in environmentally constrained areas. This ensures a minimum of 20% of the final site contains open space, which in turn results in more preservation of natural areas compared to traditional subdivisions found in other cities.

To further ensure that Happy Valley's tree canopy remains healthy, the City spent \$16.37 per capita on urban forestry in 2023. Things like tree pruning, tree maintenance, plantings, and removal of hazardous trees on City property are covered by these funds. These efforts help curb erosion, aid in storm water management, create cleaner air, and even boost property values.



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
Sign up ahead of time to take part in one of two Friends of Trees events in April.

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# Traffic enforcement in Happy Valley

*With a sharp focus on combating dangerous driving behaviors, traffic deputies Alex Mazhnikov and Tyler Van Wormer are dedicated to traffic safety.*

City of Happy Valley

In 2017, the decision to utilize a dedicated traffic enforcement deputy stemmed from a notable increase in crash data. Happy Valley Police were observing upwards of over 100 crashes per year as well as a sharp rise in emergency traffic safety calls. Deputy Alex Mazhnikov was assigned to address the issue, and crack down on speeding, distracted driving, DUII, and drivers running red lights. He has since been leading traffic enforcement efforts in the City and has become a consistent presence on Happy Valley roads during the busy morning commutes.

While Deputy Mazhnikov's efforts yielded positive results from the beginning, he and the Happy Valley Police Department recognized that more work was needed. "Changing ingrained driving behaviors takes significant time and effort," he noted. "Many people adhere to safer practices only when a patrol car is visible, but this doesn't really reflect their everyday habits. It's the behaviors that occur when they believe they're not being observed that often lead to collisions and injuries." That's why, in 2019, Deputy Mazhnikov received an unmarked vehicle to help address some of these ongoing concerns.

In 2020, Deputy Tyler Van Wormer joined the Happy Valley Police Department to specifically address traffic enforcement challenges in the afternoons and evenings. "Ultimately, our goal is to encourage people to slow down, stay focused, and reach their destinations safely," said Deputy Van Wormer. "When Mazhnikov and I are on patrol, we continuously scan the roads and assess for potential risks. Our strategy involves patrolling or focusing on areas prone to frequent traffic accidents and using radar and LiDAR technology to efficiently identify speeding violations." Deputy Van Wormer emphasized that a crash could happen to anyone at any time, regardless of their driving habits. He believes it is important to hold unsafe drivers accountable and sees his role as vital in promoting safer streets within the community.

Aside from addressing common infractions, such as speeding and distracted driving, Happy Valley's



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
Deputy Van Wormer and Deputy Mazhnikov at National Night Out last August.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
Traffic Deputy Alex Mazhnikov

traffic deputies also keep an eye out for illegal vehicle modifications (think overly tinted windows or loud exhausts) and violations of weight limits on city roads. Both traffic deputies are certified heavy truck inspectors and enforce motor carrier laws that pertain to overweight trucks. Enforcing these particular laws helps minimize road wear and tear and contributes to roadway maintenance. These efforts further contribute to helping keep Happy Valley a desirable place for residents and visitors alike.

Safety in school zones is also a top priority and has prompted collaborative efforts between law enforcement and the community. Deputy Mazhnikov and traffic deputies from the city and county have teamed up with Happy Valley Elementary's PTO on several occasions to help facilitate crosswalk enforcement exercises aimed at emphasizing to drivers the importance of stopping for pedestrians.

In 2022, Deputy Mazhnikov underwent specialized training to operate a traffic patrol motorcycle. He has since been utilizing the motorcycle whenever possible to help augment enforcement efforts, primarily during busy commute times. This resource has further improved the department's capacity to



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
Traffic Deputy Tyler Van Wormer

address dangerous driving behaviors, particularly due to the motorcycle's smaller size, agility, and efficiency in maneuvering through congested areas. Another advantage of the motorcycle is Deputy Mazhnikov's capacity to position himself in strategic locations, enabling him to monitor high-traffic areas without obstruction.

Highlighting the collaborative nature of the City's traffic safety initiatives, the traffic deputies were quick to point out the importance of interagency cooperation. Through a dedicated partnership with the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, residents of Happy Valley directly benefit from round-the-clock police patrols, and this

includes the dedicated traffic enforcement efforts provided by Deputies Mazhnikov and Van Wormer. All of these services are funded exclusively by a special Public Safety Levy which is voted on by residents every five years. "Because of this," said Deputy Van Wormer, "we bring with us a vast amount of specialized training that generally only a larger law enforcement agency can provide."

Besides routine traffic enforcement patrols, a large portion of Deputy Van Wormer's workload involves investigating crashes and incidents pertaining to DUIIs. His certification as a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) is one of the specialized skills he brings to Happy Valley. As one of only 148 DREs in the state, this expertise significantly boosts his capability to detect impairment not only from alcohol but also from other drugs. His work has helped keep Happy Valley safer as a result. "Every time I remove an impaired driver from the road, I potentially prevent a catastrophic crash or tragic loss of life," he said.

Deputies Mazhnikov and Van Wormer have succeeded in reducing crashes in Happy Valley by nearly 50 percent as a result of their dedicated efforts. Together, they have organized a variety of traffic details targeting

speeding and cellphone use and have helped other jurisdictions do the same. They agree that not all traffic stops must end in a citation. Sometimes, the intervention is simple education about why a behavior might be harmful. In such cases, their approach involves cultivating a positive rapport with local drivers while also delivering a clear and firm warning. "In general, people are doing the right thing," said Deputy Mazhnikov, "but it does not take much for a simple distraction to end in tragedy. Ultimately, our goal is to educate the public about the dangers of hazardous driving and consistently reinforce the importance of responsible driving habits for everyone's safety."

The Happy Valley Police Department remains steadfast in its mission to promote road safety and reduce traffic incidents within the City. For additional insight and information about police services and the Public Safety Levy in Happy Valley, residents are encouraged to visit [www.happyvalleyor.gov/police](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov/police). This online resource offers a deeper understanding of the Happy Valley Police Department's commitment to community safety and the additional services included as part of our partnership with the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office.

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

**COUNCIL CORNER**

# Help bring new furnishings, art to Library expansion

*City Council encourages community to get involved*

*City of Happy Valley*

The transformation of the Happy Valley Library's expansion is well underway, with the new space rapidly taking shape. As the project nears completion later this year, we're calling upon your support to help us take this space to new heights.

In solidarity with the City and Happy Valley Library, we invite you to join us in shaping the future of our beloved library by helping us raise an additional \$150,000 to furnish the new community spaces and bring beautiful, curated art to

its walls. Your investment will do more than decorate the new space – it will foster an inclusive environment where ideas can flourish, conversations can ignite, and creativity will thrive. Ultimately, your investment will help make this new space a place for everyone to enjoy as it will reflect the contributions of our community.

Staff have meticulously selected furnishings that balance durability with versatility, ensuring a space that can adapt to the evolving needs of our patrons for years to come. Moreover, we're proud to collaborate with local artist Sophie

Franz, whose beautiful murals currently grace the walls of the original library space. Sophie will be incorporating a similar artistic style to anchor the new areas, infusing them with the same warmth and appeal that we've come to love.

We recognize the profound impact of community engagement and want to invite you to be part of our community's story as we help bring these final touches to fruition. Your support will not only enhance the new library's expansion but will also cultivate a sense of belonging and shared identity among us all.



Help put the finishing touches on the soon-to-be library expansion!

For those who generously donate to this initiative, the City and Happy Valley Library will ensure your contribution is recognized as we believe it important to showcase the collective support it will take to make this possible. To this end, your gift will be celebrated as part of the Happy Valley Library's legacy.

Together, let's all pitch in and make this newest addition to our City something truly special.

For all the details about this campaign and to make a tax-deductible gift, please head to [www.happyvalleyor.gov/library-expansion](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov/library-expansion).



# Start your engines: Car Care Clinic

*Parks and Recreation to host a free instructional event for drivers*

*City of Happy Valley*

Looking to boost your car care knowledge? Happy Valley Parks and Recreation is teaming up with Les Schwab, AAA, and Happy Valley Police later this month to present an event geared toward helping drivers learn the basics of automotive care. The Car Care Clinic promises to equip drivers with essential maintenance skills and road safety tips.

The event, currently in its third year, was originally aimed at teenage drivers. However, due to a surge in interest from adults seeking to enhance their vehicle maintenance skills, the event has now broadened its scope to include all licensed drivers. Furthermore, this year, permitted drivers are also encouraged to join licensed drivers, providing an opportunity for nearly everyone to participate. Although the event is open to all community

members, it's important to note that pre-registration is required.

During the event, participants will encounter four informative stations, each designed to enhance their understanding of car maintenance and safety protocols. A Les Schwab tire technician will guide participants through tire care essentials, including pressure checks, tread depth assessments, and the art of changing a spare tire. A representative from AAA will help explain how to check and change vehicle fluids and will also show attendees how to decode dashboard warning lights and maintain their car's battery health. Happy Valley Police will also be onsite, sharing indispensable road safety tips and answering drivers' questions. This segment is especially beneficial for teen drivers and those seeking more personalized advice from traffic enforcement deputies.

So, whether you're a novice behind the wheel or a seasoned road warrior, the Car Care Clinic promises to bolster your confidence in maintaining your vehicle and getting you ready for the season ahead.

Sessions are available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with pre-registration essential to secure your preferred time.

**CAR CARE CLINIC**

Happy Valley City Hall  
16000 SE Misty Dr.  
■ Saturday, Apr. 27  
■ 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

You must pre-register online to participate.

**SESSION BLOCKS**

- 9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
- 10:30 a.m. – Noon
- Noon – 1:30 p.m.
- 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

A maximum of 8 participants will be scheduled for each session.

Head to [www.happyvalleyor.gov/parks](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov/parks) or scan the corresponding QR code.



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Participants make a break for it at the starting line of last year's race.

# On your mark, get set, go!

## Happy Valley Fun Run returns in May

City of Happy Valley

Dust off your sneakers because the Happy Valley Fun Run is headed your way! Back for its 43rd year, this popular annual event encourages adults and kids alike to lace up their running shoes and help support programs for local students. This year's run is scheduled for Saturday, May 18.

The race, organized by Happy Valley Elementary School's PTO, is a professional event, complete with race shirts, timing chips, and sponsor booths.

Participants can choose from three events which include a kids' one-mile dash, a 5k run/walk, or a 10k run.

The kids dash will begin at 8:15 a.m. while the 5k and 10k races will begin at 8:45 a.m.

Fun for the whole family! There will be community booths and local vendors before and after the race, and kids can even enjoy some activities throughout the event. Be sure to visit the Happy Valley Parks and Recreation team as they will once again be hosting the ever-popular Hydration Station for race participants in Happy Valley Park.

### HAPPY VALLEY FUN RUN

- Saturday, May 18
- Happy Valley Elementary School
- Races for every level - one-mile kids dash, 5k run/walk, and 10k run
- Use the QR code to head to the event webpage and register.



# DIVE INTO FUN!

## Your ultimate summer event lineup

Happy Valley's Parks and Recreation team is gearing up for another season of fun in the sun

City of Happy Valley

The 2024 Happy Valley Parks and Recreation summer events line up is official and we're so excited to have the community join us once again for music, celebrations, and fun. For now, mark your calendars and get ready for another unforgettable season.

Happy Valley Parks and Recreation will be unveiling more event details soon, including special happenings in the works for this year's National Night Out multi-day experience.

Be sure to follow Happy Valley Parks and Recreation on Facebook and head to [www.happyvalleyor.gov/parks](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov/parks) for all the latest when it comes to event information. And don't forget to check out the Parks and Recreation 2024 summer programming guide in the June issue of HV News.



Things are about to heat up! Let the countdown begin to the summer happenings of 2024.

### Summer event lineup

- Dumpster Day:** Saturday, June 8
- 4th of July Family Festival:** Thursday, July 4
- Concerts in the Valley:** Thursdays, July 11-Aug. 22
- National Night Out Activities:** Monday, Aug. 5-Thursday, Aug. 8

**You good?**

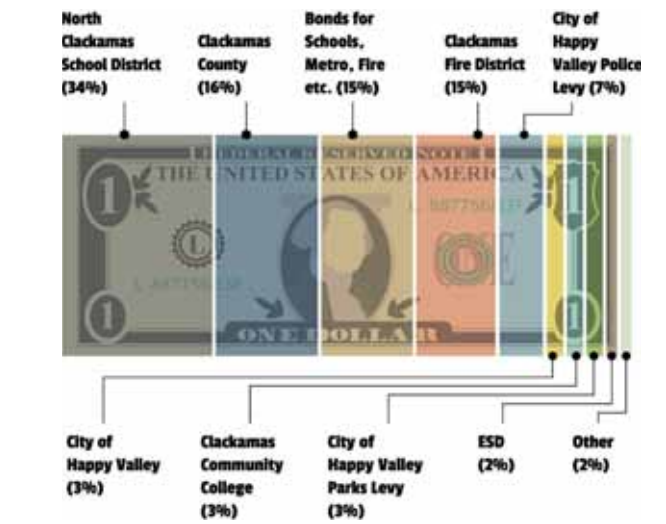
Reach out to a friend about their mental health.

Find more ways to help at [SeizeTheAwkward.org](http://SeizeTheAwkward.org)

SEIZE THE AWKWARD

ad COUNCIL American Foundation for Suicide Prevention JED The Jed Foundation

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE



The corresponding graphic illustrates distribution of Happy Valley residents' tax dollars.

# Financial Forecast

One of the most important tasks we have as the Mayor and City Council is ensuring your tax dollars are well spent. Of your property tax dollars, only 3% comes to the City for general operations. With additional voter approval, another 7% goes towards Public Safety and

MAYOR OF HAPPY VALLEY



Tom Ellis

Recreation. The other 87% 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.

Prior to developing the annual budget, the Finance Team at Happy Valley develops a five-year financial outlook. We forecast changes in revenues and expenditures and evaluate where we can improve service levels. The forecast estimates how local growth and the global economy might impact our operations. All of this information helps the Budget Committee and City Council develop a more detailed annual budget.

I'm pleased to report, with careful spending, the City has been able to have a positive financial outlook. The annual budget we approved at the end of June 2023 continues to allow for the funding of services that

you have come to expect such as park beautification, road maintenance, community services, code enforcement, recreation programs, public safety services, growth management and permit processing, library services, and more.

In addition, the City has prioritized funding to keep the ball rolling on key capital investments,

- Purchasing land for parks
- Designing improvements to 172nd Avenue
- Completing the Superblock project
- Designing a new Community Center
- Purchasing land and designing a new Public Works facility

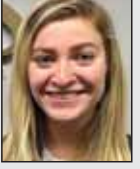
All these significant projects take time to implement and diligent financial planning. This requires a great deal of input, deliberation, and strategy as we work to ensure projects have the funding they need. We have to look long term when making decisions, which means we are always looking ahead as we determine what is best for the City and our community's future.

Thank you to the Budget Committee, my fellow City Council members, and our dedicated staff for ensuring we spend local resources wisely and in a manner that advances our community priorities.

## HAPPY VALLEY NEWS STAFF



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This publication is a partnership between Pamplin Media Group and the City of Happy Valley.



**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 [hvn@pamplinmedia.com](mailto: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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**HVBA BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**

**Virginia Getz**  
Realtor  
Managing Principal Broker  
Licensed in OR #201208303 & WA #106313

I am a seasoned Real Estate Broker with over 10 years of experience, bringing a wealth of expertise to Buyers and Sellers in Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington County areas, along with the surrounding neighborhoods. Specializing as both a Listing and Buyer's Agent, as well as, working with first time home buyers, VA buyers, relocation buyers, investors and others. Prior to becoming a real estate agent I was a CPA and a business finance professional.

I live in Happy Valley and love the area and all the connections and people I have met at the HVBA and in the community. I have been part of the Happy Valley Women's Group for over 4 years. Beyond Oregon's borders I am also licensed realtor in Washington/Clark County, serving clients in the greater Vancouver area.

We have an experienced group of real estate professionals working out of the Windermere Happy Valley Office.

[VirginiaGetzpdx@gmail.com](mailto:VirginiaGetzpdx@gmail.com)

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**Windermere REAL ESTATE**  
Happy Valley

Windermere Happy Valley  
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Cell # 503-504-7476 • Office # 503-658-2030



# Happy Valley Police make learning fun

*Police visit kindergarten classes during special event focused on Community Helpers.*

## City of Happy Valley

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](http://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 [hv.city/notifications](http://hv.city/notifications)

## April Community Calendar

**Apr. 16**  
City Council Work Session: 6 p.m.

**Apr. 20**  
Friends of Trees Arbor Day & Earth Day event: (see page 2 for details)

**Apr. 23**  
Library Board Meeting: HV Library, 6 p.m.

**Apr. 24**  
Design Review Board Meeting: City Hall, 6 p.m.

**Apr. 27**  
Car Care Clinic: City Hall Parking Lot, sign up for session (see page 4 for details)

**Rx Drug Take Back Event:** City Hall Parking Lot, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (see page 7 for details)

**Apr. 24**  
Happy Valley Business Alliance Meeting: City Hall, 7:30 a.m.

**May 6**  
Parks Advisory Meeting: City Hall, 6 p.m.

**Apr. 24**  
Happy Valley Business Alliance Meeting: City Hall, 7:30 a.m.

**May 6**  
Parks Advisory Meeting: City Hall, 6 p.m.



## City of Happy Valley

On Mar. 5, Chief Rich Sheldon and Traffic Deputy Alex Mazhnikov had the pleasure of visiting the kindergarten classes at Happy Valley Elementary School. As part of the grade's Community Helper unit, they had the opportunity to share with the kids some insights into their roles, the tools they use, and the training they undergo. The students asked lots of questions and even had a chance to explore Deputy Mazhnikov's police car and gadgets. For Chief Sheldon and Deputy Mazhnikov, the visit was a rewarding opportunity to engage with some of our youngest community members.

These visits are just one of the many ways Happy Valley Police stay connected to our local schools and foster familiarity in the community. Learn more about Happy Valley Police, the City's partnership with the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, and our community engagement efforts at [www.happyvalleyor.gov/police](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov/police).



A class posed for a group photo with Chief Sheldon and Traffic Deputy Mazhnikov.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY



Students listened intently and showed curiosity about the types of responsibilities police have.



Students checked out a police car and even got to see how LIDAR, a sensing method that uses light, is used to track vehicle speed during traffic enforcement.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

# Window fall prevention

*Helpful tips to prevent injury*

## Clackamas Fire District #1

Annually, thousands of children in the United States receive emergency medical treatment following a fall from a window or balcony. Unfortunately, some of these injuries result in death.

The Window Safety Task Force offers these suggestions to help protect children:

- Teach children to play away from windows
- Teach caregivers and children that screens keep bugs out, but they don't keep children in
- For any windows that are six

- feet or higher from the ground, install window stops or guards, limiting open windows to no more than four inches
- Keep windows closed and locked when not in use
- Keep furniture or anything a child can climb on away from windows



■ Always supervise children and ask about window safety when your child visits other homes

■ Lessen the potential impact of injury from a fall through strategic landscaping – use wood chips, grass, or shrubs beneath windows

For more information on window stops or guards you can use in your home, and how to install them, visit [www.stopat4.com](http://www.stopat4.com). The safety stores located at Randall Children's Hospital and Doernbecher Children's Hospital are also excellent resources as they carry safety devices for windows as well.



Ensure your home's windows are safeguarded from falls as children are at most risk for injuries and death.

CLACKAMAS FIRE DISTRICT #1

**VICTORIA WRIGLESWORTH**  
REAL ESTATE TEAM

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

**THIS MONTH'S  
FEATURED NEIGHBORHOOD:**

**SUNNYSIDE-  
WEST MT. SCOTT**

Address	Sq Ft	Beds	Baths	Status	List Date	List Price	Sold Price
14157 SE 116TH AVE	2346	3	2.1	ACTIVE	1/2/2024	\$523,000	-
13704 SE WILLINGHAM CT	2926	3	2.1	PENDING	2/29/2024	\$849,900	-
14707 SE 131st DR	1906	3	2.1	SOLD	11/30/2023	\$520,000	\$530,000
13600 SE 116TH CT	1619	3	2	SOLD	8/4/2023	\$545,000	\$552,500
13655 SE 123RD AVE	2666	4	3	SOLD	10/18/2023	\$649,900	\$643,000

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- Victoria has been recognized within Harcourts Real Estate Network Group receiving the Top Ten sales award six years in a row; 2017-2022
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HAPPY VALLEY YOUTH COUNCIL



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
Applications for Happy Valley Youth Council vacancies must be received by Friday, May 10 at 5 p.m.

## Youth Council seeks new members

City of Happy Valley

Know a teen who loves to be involved or wants to be an advocate for other teens in our community? Applications are now being accepted for teens interested in filling a vacancy on the Happy Valley Youth Council. The applications must be completed and submitted to City Hall by Friday, May 10 at 5 p.m. Applicants must then be available to attend the May 15 Happy Valley Youth Council meeting at 5 p.m. at City Hall, where each applicant will participate in a panel interview.

The 13-member Youth Council works to promote a positive influence for their peer group and their community through safety events and participation in many of the City's community events. Any City of Happy Valley resident teen who will be at the freshman through senior academic level for the 2024-2025 school year is eligible to apply and serve. Visit [www.happyvalleyor.gov/youth-council](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov/youth-council) for the application and more information.

**HAPPY VALLEY YOUTH COUNCIL APPLY TODAY!**

- COLLABORATE WITH LOCAL LEADERS AND ORGANIZATIONS
- DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS & PERSONAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES
- CONNECT WITH LIKE-MINDED PEERS AND MENTORS
- HAVE FUN WHILE CREATING MEANINGFUL CHANGE

EMAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION TO: STEPHANIE@HAPPYVALLEYOR.GOV  
DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MAY 10 AT 5PM

## Annual Rx Drug Take Back event

No questions asked drop-off event encourages community to get rid of outdated, unneeded prescriptions

City of Happy Valley

Happy Valley's Youth Council is once again leading the charge in promoting community wellness with its annual Rx Drug Turn-In event, scheduled for Saturday, Apr. 27. This initiative not only aims to raise awareness about the dangers of medications falling into the wrong hands, but also underscores the Youth Council's dedication to fostering a safe environment for all residents in the City.

Since its inception, the event has collected well over 5,000 pounds of drug items and ensured their safe disposal through the support of community partners. This year's event promises to continue this tradition of impactful service.

Taking place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the City Hall parking lot, the event welcomes the disposal of unwanted or outdated prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, or drugs. It's a simple process. Simply drop off your items — no questions asked. Please note that for the safety of our volunteers, intra-venous solutions, injectables, syringes, and medical waste will not be collected.

This year, the Youth Council has particularly highlighted the correlation between youth drug use and mental health challenges, emphasizing the need to address this important issue. During Happy Valley's Youth Town Hall last November, experts and special presenters shed light on the concern, while discussions at the Oregon Youth Summit similarly homed in on the need to address youth drug use and its impact on

**HAPPY VALLEY YOUTH COUNCIL**

**RX DRUG TAKE BACK**

SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH | 10AM - 2PM  
HAPPY VALLEY CITY HALL  
16000 SE MISTY DR.

Drive by and drop off any unwanted or outdated prescription or over the counter drugs.  
No questions asked.

PROVIDENCE Health & Services

No questions asked! Rx Drug Take Back events aim to help get prescription drugs off the streets and out of the hands of our most vulnerable community members. Consider dropping off any unwanted or outdated medications and drugs at this annual community event.

mental health. Their efforts have focused on encouraging their peers to find healthier ways to cope with challenges and ask for help when needed.

The Rx Drug Take Back event wouldn't be possible without the invaluable support of community partners, including the Happy Valley Police, Happy Valley Community Service Officers, Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, and Providence Health & Services. Their continued assistance is greatly appreciated and essential to the success of this event.

HAPPY VALLEY DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

## TWO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

### Join the City of Happy Valley's Design Review Board

Your expertise can help shape the future of Happy Valley

City of Happy Valley

Are you passionate about shaping the aesthetic and architectural appeal of Happy Valley? Do you have expertise in engineering or a keen eye for design?

The City of Happy Valley is currently seeking individuals to fill two open positions on the Design Review Board. One of these positions must be filled by a registered engineer, who will help ensure the board maintains the

highest standards of technical expertise.

As a member of the Design Review Board, you'll play a vital role in guiding development projects to ensure they align with our city's vision and enhance the overall character of Happy Valley. Your input will specifically help shape and guide the new and exterior alterations for commercial, industrial, mixed-use, institutional, and multi-family development for compliance with our community adopted standards.

Benefits of joining the Design Review Board include:

- Influencing the design of new developments and improvements within Happy Valley.
- Collaborating with fellow community members and professionals in the field.
- Contributing your expertise to ensure projects meet safety and quality standards.
- Making a lasting impact on the visual appeal and functionality of our city.

If you are interested, we encourage you to apply today! Visit [www.happyvalleyor.gov/city-committees](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov/city-committees) for more information and to submit your application.

APPLY NOW!  
**DESIGN REVIEW BOARD**  
ENGINEERING EXPERIENCE NEEDED!

HV HAPPY VALLEY OR

The City of Happy Valley is seeking individuals to fill two open positions on the Design Review Board.

# You Can Help Prevent Water Pollution!

Keeping your lawn free of weeds involves many choices—some are hazardous to our families, pets, and waterways.

**Safest**

Annually aerate, de-thatch and over-seed bare spots in spring. This will keep the lawn dense and healthy, which keeps out weeds. Use a long-handled weed removal tool for easy weed removal. Fertilize only in fall with a slow release fertilizer, if at all.

**Next Best**

If you choose a weed or insect control product, look for the OMRI label which helps identify less hazardous chemicals. Always read and follow the label, as even natural/organic products can be harmful. Only apply products when multiple dry days are forecast. Spot spray only the individual weeds you really can't live with!

**Important Measures You Can Take**

Do not apply pesticides, herbicides or fertilizers under windy conditions, or when rain, snow or hail is predicted within the next 48 hours.

Consider hiring an ECOBIZ certified landscaper!  
See [www.ecobiz.org](http://www.ecobiz.org)

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](http://clackamas.us/wes/education)



CLACKAMAS  
**WATER ENVIRONMENT SERVICES**

CODE CORNER

# Importance of sidewalk repair

Know what to look out for and what your responsibilities are when it comes to your sidewalk's safety

City of Happy Valley

Sidewalks offer pedestrians safety and mobility, and help support an active community. That's why it is so important to maintain sidewalks and ensure they are free from obstacles and other hazards. Things like broken sidewalk concrete or an overhanging branch can make it difficult for someone to maneuver and could lead to serious accidents and injuries.

In Happy Valley, the responsibility for repairing sidewalks and keeping them clear is that of the property owner. That means if you as a property owner neglect to repair your damaged sidewalk or fail to



keep these areas clear of debris or other obstructions, you could be cited by a Community Service Officer for being in violation. In most cases, a Community Service Officer will first talk with you about a concern before it reaches the level of receiving a citation. We would much rather see your efforts focused on remedying a problem and are happy to assist you in understanding the necessary steps toward compliance. Something to keep in mind, however, is you could be held liable for any accidents that occur should someone get hurt

because of failing to keep these areas in good condition.

What contributes to sidewalk damage?

- Natural weathering, such as ice or erosion
- Tree roots pushing up and out of the pavement
- Heavy foot traffic and general wear and tear
- Improper installation or maintenance
- Vehicle accidents or acts of vandalism

Be on the lookout for tripping hazards, concrete that is breaking apart or cracking, and areas that show a tendency toward being unstable. These are all signs a problem may be on the horizon.

### What should I do if I need to repair my sidewalk?

**Get a permit:** Before making a repair, you must apply for a Right of Way permit through the City's Engineering Department. If damage to the sidewalk is due to a tree and the tree needs to be removed, then a Type A Tree Removal Application is also required. Visit [happyvalleyor.gov/engineering-permits](http://happyvalleyor.gov/engineering-permits) for more information.

information.

**Hire wisely:** The City cannot endorse any business or person for work done on your property, but we highly encourage you to reach out to a professional with experience who can help you with a proper evaluation and diagnosis. Always seek out reputable professionals who are licensed to do business in Happy Valley as this increases your chances that repairs are done correctly.

Aside from avoiding potential liability issues, there are some great benefits to maintaining a safe and secure sidewalk, so it's worth your while to take care of any issues. These include enhanced property value, increased curb appeal, and an improved aesthetic which ultimately makes the city a more attractive place to live, work, and visit.

### Branch out

Just as damage to a sidewalk can pose a challenge to livability, so can the effects of overgrown shrubs, branches, and other vegetation that encroach into walkable spaces and lines of sight.



Watch out! Sidewalk concrete that has become disjointed, cracked, broken and uneven is a hazard. In Happy Valley, property owners are responsible for ensuring sidewalks adjacent to their homes and businesses remain in good working condition.

### Keep in mind that City code requires you:

- Trim or remove vegetation that overhangs or obstructs streets or sidewalks. Allow at least a 7-foot clearance over sidewalks and a minimum 11 foot clearance over streets so that cars, the City street sweeper, and emergency vehicles don't collide with overhanging material. On arterial roads, the clearance must be at least 14 feet.
- At corners and intersections,

trim so that the view of the intersection is not obstructed by property vegetation. Overgrown bushes and hedges are frequent culprits that can make seeing oncoming traffic more difficult.

■ Clear vegetation that obscures traffic or parking signs.

By taking the time to ensure your property's sidewalks are clear and vegetation is under control, you'll help contribute to a neighborhood that is more accessible for everyone.

# Meet your Happy Valley Planning Commission

Learn more about the Planning Commission and its important city work

City of Happy Valley

The Happy Valley Planning Commission plays a crucial role in shaping the city's growth and development. Comprised of seven to nine volunteers appointed by the Mayor, the Commission is a decision-making body for some land use applications and offers recommendations to the City Council.

Guided by the Land Development Code and Comprehensive Plan, the Commission ensures that its decisions align with the city's long-term vision and goals. Its responsibilities include reviewing development applications for compliance with the code and providing recommendations to the City Council on long-term land use plans.

As the initial step in the development process, the Planning Commission holds significant weight. The Commission has the legal authority to approve or deny certain types of development proposals outright and makes recommendations to the City Council on larger issues and land use policies.

Ultimately, the Planning Commission serves as a vital link between the local

government and the community, providing citizen oversight and advocating for the interests of Happy Valley residents in matters of planning and development.

### Planning Commission Members:

- Michael Morrow, Chair
- Naomi Turrentine, Vice Chair
- Donald Hanna
- Mary Helton
- Marchelle Paholsky
- Avi Patel
- Mario Musil
- Laura Terway – City Liaison
- Cheryl Whitehead – City Liaison
- Michael Cynkar – City Liaison
- Chris Alfino – City Liaison
- Mayor Tom Ellis – Council Liaison

Thank you to the Planning Commission for helping keep the best interests of our community top priority.

If you are interested in sharing your time and talents with the City, please visit the Boards and Commissions page of Happy Valley's website at [www.happyvalleyor.gov/city-committees](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov/city-committees) and complete a Public Involvement Application.



From left: Cheryl Whitehead, Mary Helton, Donald Hanna, Michael Morrow, Naomi Turrentine, Marchelle Paholsky, Mario Musil, Michael Cynkar, Laura Terway



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"Great dancers are not great because of their technique, they are great because of their passion." - Martha Graham

At Happy Valley Dance Academy, we're offering a wide range of dance classes to meet the needs of our community. Something you'd like to see added to our list? Submit a request.



**Register now for your free trial class!**

14863 SE Oregon Trail Dr. Clackamas, OR 97015  
360-909-3945 • [www.happyvalleydanceacademy.com](http://www.happyvalleydanceacademy.com)

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# A Q&A with Nelson High's Bobby Nove

Happy Valley News caught up with Nelson High's Bobby Nove ahead of inaugural musical Mamma Mia!

By **BREN SWOGER**  
Pamplin Media Group



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOBBY NOVE  
Nelson High School drama teacher, Bobby Nove

**Tell us about yourself. How long have you been the drama teacher at Nelson? And what's your background?**

This is my very first year as the drama teacher at Nelson, and I'm loving every minute of it. It's been such a fun experience so far. I've done theater since I was a little kid. My mom couldn't keep me off anything that resembled a stage. I would just climb up on stage and just start performing stuff. So, I've always really been drawn to theater. For me, it's been the only thing I really am super passionate about.

**What led you to decide that you wanted to pursue drama in a teaching capacity?**

I did not know that you could teach theater until I got to high school. I remember, prior to my high school years, I didn't know that there was such a thing as a theater teacher. I went to a small K-8 school that didn't have a theater program. So, I took classes through Northwest Children's Theater and other theaters around town. But I remember being really excited when I heard that the high school I was going to [LaSalle] had a theater program. That was just a very, very cool thing to me. And one day I remember sitting in the theater at my high school watching my drama teacher, and I thought to myself, he's got the coolest job in the world. He just sits and he talks about theater and teaches theater. It pretty much instantly made sense to

me that that's the job that I wanted to do.

**Now that you're in this role, what are you most passionate about in your role as a drama teacher?**

I think the thing I'm most passionate about is helping kids find their spot in the world using theater. What I love about theater is that everyone can do it in some capacity or another. You might not necessarily be an actor, but maybe you're someone who likes working behind the scenes. Maybe you're someone who likes building things, and you can build the set. Or maybe you're someone who likes computers and can work with the sound or the lighting design. It really teaches you every kind of life skill that you could need. I've always said that to students who are reluctant about joining theater because I know from a lot of years of experience that there's something for them in theater. I think a lot of times people feel it's acting or nothing else, and that's not true. And I love showing people all the different ways that you can contribute to theater and that you can be a part of the theater world, whether it's on stage or off stage. I love that moment when a student realizes, oh wow, I can do this. It's a really fun moment.

# Mamma Mia! Nelson High's First Musical opens April 19

Nelson High School anticipates its first ever school produced musical, Mamma Mia!

By **BREN SWOGER**  
Pamplin Media Group

Adrienne C. Nelson High School is buzzing with excitement as it gears up for its most ambitious production yet. In only its third year, and with Bobby Nove at the helm for his first year as their drama teacher, the school is preparing to stage its first musical entirely on its own.

The journey to this milestone has been a steady climb. The first year was all about setting up the theater space, laying the groundwork for future productions. In the second year, Nelson collaborated with Clackamas High School on the musical Pippin, dipping their toes into the world of musical theater. Last year, they tackled Peter and the Starcatcher, a play with some musical elements.

But this year is different. This year, Nelson is diving headfirst into the world of musicals with Mamma Mia, marking their "first full blast musical with singing, dancing, the whole nine yards," as Nove proudly declared. "This is that first big-scale style show that we've tackled."

Nove and the whole company at Nelson have been in the middle of the rigorous rehearsal process, which Nove says has been going wonderfully. "I'm excited with how well things are going so far," he said. "We're really ahead of schedule, which is fantastic."

Putting on a musical is no easy feat, with many moving parts to coordinate. "I remember listening to interviews when I was younger with different directors, and one question that always got asked is, what's the hardest type of show to direct," Nove said. "And every single one of them always said, musicals."

As the drama teacher, Nove plays a crucial role in coordinating these moving parts, directing parts of the show, bridging scenes, and handling behind-the-scenes work like advertising and volunteer coordination.

However, when it comes to the show itself, the students take the lead. "We have a couple of adults helping with different elements of it," Nove explained, "but once the show gets going, it's really just the kids that run the thing."

Juniors Tyson Thames and Emily Sutliff, playing the roles of Sam and Donna, are two of the show's leads. Both have been



Rehearsals are underway for Nelson's production of Mamma Mia!



Students help paint the set for the upcoming musical.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NELSON HIGH SCHOOL

And it's not just the cast; the students on the crew have been working extremely hard to make sure the whole show goes off without a hitch.

Barrett Greenwalt, a senior at Nelson, has been involved with the theatre department since the school opened in 2021. Just like for the cast, putting on a big production is a challenge for the crew as well.

"There are so many things to create and set up, and time seems to just fly by," Greenwalt said. "We pour so much hard work into putting on a great show, and it's so rewarding seeing that final product. We finished the main portion of our set last week, and I'm already so excited to see it on stage."

Though there are a lot of challenges in putting on such a big production, Nove said the students have been incredible in the process. "It's a big undertaking and being able to see them all rise to the occasion..." he said. "They're thriving, they're achieving all of the things that we need for this show and doing it incredibly."

For Nove, the work put in by the whole company represents something even larger. "Theater brings the community together," he said. "It lets you see parts of the school that maybe you wouldn't see otherwise. You get to see students shine in areas that they're passionate about. It just brings people together in a way of just being able to share this cool experience."

Nelson's production of Mamma Mia opens April 19th and runs Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays through the 28th. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. Thespians get in free with a Thespian card.

**"Getting to actually perform these songs on a stage and picturing an audience there ... it gives me goosebumps."**

— Emily Sutliff

part of Nelson's previous productions and agree that this production is a step up for the theater department.

"There's a lot more to learn," Thames said. "It's one thing for everybody to learn their lines and blocking, but then you come into a musical and there's all the dancing and the music. The scope is a lot bigger and that makes it harder."

Despite the challenges, Thames and Sutliff say that the process has been a blast. "[Mamma Mia] is my favorite musical," said Sutliff. "Getting to actually perform these songs on a stage and picturing an audience there ... it gives me goosebumps."

"The best part has definitely been the people," Thames added. "Most of my friends are in theater, so it's really fun to hang out with my friends and do a show with them."

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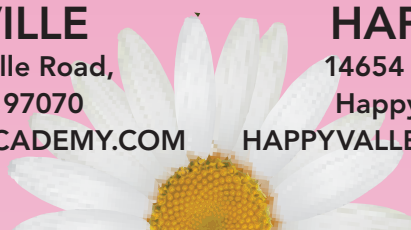
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# More Than a Workout

By EMMA DAVIS  
Pamplin Media Group

Scott Haugen and his wife Crystal are the driving force behind the iLoveKickboxing studio in Happy Valley, a cherished establishment deeply rooted in the local community.

This small, family-owned studio takes pride in its inclusivity, with a client base and instructor team predominantly composed of women. While iLoveKickboxing naturally appeals to women, it welcomes all, creating a supportive fitness environment.

Scott Haugen's journey from corporate life to entrepreneurship led them to evaluate various business opportunities before settling on iLoveKickboxing. Their decision was driven by the studio's focus on locality, with all members and instructors living or working within a 10-minute radius, fostering a strong sense of community.

Offering instructor-led classes, iLoveKickboxing ensures attendees can work out at their own pace without the pressure of making decisions, making it suitable for individuals of all ages and fitness levels. Since the studio opened in Happy Valley, it has seen great success due to its non-traditional memberships. "Our members are very serious about coming, it's part of their daily routine or their life," Haugen said. "It's very common that the average member comes about two to three times per week."

The studio's commitment to wellness extends beyond fitness, subtly incorporating eight key principles into their teachings to enhance members' quality and longevity of life. By prioritizing the local community and offering transformative fitness experiences, Scott and Crystal strive to enrich the lives of their neighbors and foster lasting relationships within the studio, making iLoveKickboxing more than just a gym—it's a supportive and transformative space where members can thrive.

"It's transformational. And so that gives our members



The iLoveKickboxing facility is rooted in Happy Valley community.

COURTESY PHOTOS: ILOVEKICKBOXING



iLoveKickboxing studio offers classes led by instructors.

who are neighbors an extra 20 years of love and life and laughter that impacts their families and all those that they care about the most," Haugen said. "They're changing their own life, but really it changes the life of everybody who their life intersects with."

With a focus on flexibility and personalized attention, the studio offers live classes, streaming options, and a diverse library of on-demand workouts accessible anytime, anywhere. "We offer nutrition that that is designed by a nutritionist to help you

achieve whatever your goals are, we have a goal setting session when you first come in for your consultation," Haugen said. "Some people want to lose weight. Some people want to release some stress or add lean muscles. Some people want to gain endurance and flexibility. Some people just want to not be able to not be alone and have a community to go to."

From weight loss to stress relief, muscle building to community engagement, the studio caters to a wide range of aspirations. Currently offering 23 classes per week, the

studio continuously adapts and expands its offerings to accommodate its growing membership base, reflecting its commitment to providing accessible and effective fitness solutions.

iLoveKickboxing has evolved from a workout facility to a light of positive change and hope by embracing its inclusive and community-focused culture. The studio's instructing team provides an inviting environment that caters to the needs of people of all ages and fitness levels. Beyond physical fitness, iLoveKickboxing aims to improve its members' general well-being, happiness, and lifespan by including eight fundamental principles into their instruction. By offering personalized care, a wide range of services, and a commitment to expanding, the studio continues to grow and makes sure that each member gets the resources and encouragement they need to reach their goals.

Haugen and the rest of the iLoveKickboxing team celebrates the accomplishments while staying true to the goal of motivating people, improving lives, and creating enduring relationships—a testament to the transforming potential of wellness and community.



The indie music festival Pickathon continues to evolve, and it'll be held Aug. 1-4 at Pendarvis Farm in Happy Valley, after receiving a renewal of its permit from Happy Valley.

COURTESY PHOTO: PICKATHON

## Pickathon indie music fest in Happy Valley receives permit renewal

Organizers were worried about future of property before renewal

By JASON VONDERSMITH  
Pamplin Media Group

Pickathon, the indie music festival held each year at Pendarvis Farm, plans to be around for another 10 years — at least.

The festival received a 10-year renewal of its conditional use permit from Happy Valley Planning Commission. It has been operating at the cool, rural property since 2006; it had been held at Horning's Hideout in North Plains from 1999 to 2005.

Organizers have been worried about the future of the property, and whether it would eventually be used for development.

"We are thrilled to announce that our 10-year permit at Pendarvis Farm has been approved, and we can officially confirm that Pickathon 2024 is happening," said Zale Schoenborn, founder of Pickathon. "Right from the

start, we reached out to our neighbors, the city of Happy Valley, and our community in the decision-making process for the future of Pickathon at Pendarvis Farm. This led to an incredible response, with over 1,500 letters of support and a massive turnout at the CUP approval meeting. We are incredibly grateful for the overwhelming enthusiasm we have received, and we look forward to bringing the best Pickathon experience yet to our community in summer 2024."

Pickathon has been an integral part of the Portland-area music community and summer festival season for 25 years. It happens Aug. 1-4 this year.

"We believe that Pickathon is one of the few independent cultural and ecologically-driven festivals that exist in the U.S. and we want to see it continue to thrive at the farm in Happy Valley. The location is so important to the festival as it allows us all to connect with nature and the surrounding landscape and offers up activities for children and families ranging from permaculture to the petting zoo," said British-born Piya Malik, of band Say She She, in a news release.

More: pickathon.org.



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# Oregon Army National Guard "Boss Lift" offers meaningful insight

*Assistant City Manager gets a glimpse into employees' military service during event*

City of Happy Valley

Providing high-quality services to the community starts with a great workforce. To that end, the City of Happy Valley strives to be a model employer.

One particular area the City has long focused on is being a supportive workplace for individuals (and their families) serving in the military. The City has accomplished this by signing the "Community Pledge and Covenant" to recognize the sacrifice and commitment of soldiers and their families, showcasing veteran stories in the HV News, and constructing a formal Veterans Memorial Park adjacent to City Hall.

Recently, Assistant City Manager, Ben Bryant, was nominated to participate in the Oregon Army National Guard's Boss Lift event, an occasion that serves to recognize employers that support employees in the military. Specifically, Bryant was nominated by Lieutenant Colonel Chris Markesino



Assistant City Manager, Ben Bryant, takes in the sights aboard an HH-60M Black Hawk helicopter.



Participants at the recent Oregon National Guard Boss Lift event gather for a group photo.

of the Oregon Army National Guard, husband to the City's Human Resources Director, Ivy Markesino. In addition to his current role, LTC Markesino has served several tours overseas.

Also attending the Boss Lift were several other public and private sector employers. The event began at the Salem Army Aviation Facility where participants heard from The Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard, State Director for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), and several other military members about the various roles of the National Guard. The remarks emphasized the significance and necessity of the National Guard

while also acknowledging the crucial role employers play in supporting military personnel to excel both in their military duties and in their workplace responsibilities.

In symbolic fashion, the event then segued to a literal "lift" of bosses in Oregon who have demonstrated consistent support for employees in the military. Participants received a safety briefing from the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team about the HH-60M Black Hawk helicopters which are often used for medical evacuation, search and rescue, and wildland fire

suppression missions. From Salem, the group boarded the helicopters and flew over the Cascades to the Biak Training Center near Redmond, Oregon. At Biak, participants were able to observe training drills, a simulated training scenario briefing, and get a ground tour of the training site led by Colonel Peter Helzer, the commander of the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

While a once in a lifetime experience for the participants, regular training drills are nothing new to members of the National Guard. In addition to

regular deployments, members of the National Guard are required to attend training exercises once a month over the course of a long weekend. "While most of us get to relax, take up hobbies, and spend time with our families on the weekend," began Bryant, "our employees who also serve in the military don't always get those restful breaks. They might be sleeping outside in 20-degree weather at night and training all day for multiple days straight. As a dad with young kids, I was not only struck by their rigorous training schedule and efforts, but also the sacrifice it takes for their family members to have them away so regularly, all so that we can be safer."

Participating in the event provided Bryant with an opportunity to gain a comprehensive understanding of the various components involved in military service. More significantly, it reiterated the City's dedication to our community's veterans, active military personnel, and City employees who either serve directly or support military members within their families.

To all those in our community who serve, thank you for your unwavering sacrifice. Please visit our designated veteran's webpage at [www.happyvalleyor.gov/veterans](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov/veterans) to learn more about how the City recognizes and honors our local heroes.

# Clackamas County to host Sunrise Corridor Community Visioning open house

City of Happy Valley

If you live or work near the Sunrise Corridor or take Hwy 212 or SE 82nd Drive to visit area businesses or to reach nearby nature and recreation, your knowledge could help plan for the needs of the whole community. Complete the County's online survey to help offer some initial feedback about what works in the area today and what challenges you experience.

Please also consider attending an open house set for Wednesday Apr. 10. At the open house, there will be opportunities to ask questions and learn more about the project.

### Sunrise Corridor Community Visioning

Wednesday, Apr. 10  
Drop in between 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.  
Adrienne C. Nelson High School – Commons  
14897 SE Parklane Drive in Happy Valley

### Can't attend in person?

There will be an online open house to add to the conversation.

For more details and to sign up for email updates, visit [www.clackamas.us/sunrise](http://www.clackamas.us/sunrise).



*The future of the Sunrise Corridor Community depends on planning for the needs of the entire area*



Sunrise Corridor QR code



The visioning area includes:

- Parks
- Small Businesses
- 8,500 Residents
- Schools
- Large Businesses
- Clackamas River
- 14,000 Employees
- 39,000 vehicles on Hwy 212 each day

PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

If you travel the Sunrise Corridor frequently, consider providing feedback on an upcoming visioning exercise.

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# The Fantastical Illustrations of Cori Derfus

*HV Librarian and artist, Cori Derfus, talks about her artistic endeavors*

By EMMA DAVIS  
Pamplin Media Group

Cori Derfus, a Wisconsin native turned Oregon resident, leads a multifaceted life filled with artistry and creativity. Spending her days split between working at the library and pursuing her passion for art, Derfus immerses herself in a diverse range of artistic endeavors, drawing inspiration from her surroundings, particularly the natural environment of Oregon, which she finds captivating.

With a degree in arts from University of Wisconsin, Derfus' artistic repertoire encompasses various mediums, including watercolor and oil painting, and crafting handmade watercolor paints. Alongside her artwork, she is the co-creator of Furbeasts Forest, a venture specializing in whimsical monster illustrations. Despite facing challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic disrupting her artistic pursuits, Derfus remains dedicated to her craft, self-publishing books and participating in events like the Rose City Comic Con.

Her love for animals and nature shines through in her work, reflecting a lifelong passion that grows with each project. From gallery exhibitions to self-initiated endeavors, Derfus' journey exemplifies a steadfast



Cori Derfus also watercolors birds, and here are a few  
COURTESY PHOTOS: CORI DERFUS

commitment to artistic expression and creative exploration.

With the time they had from the pandemic, Derfus and her partner, Winn Wright, were able to plan and make the coloring books a reality. They began the project on their own, managing everything from book layout to graphic design and of course, the art itself, without the help of a publisher. Once they finished their first book, the others came out quickly.

"The thought for the books I had since about 2017, so I had this in the back of my head this whole time. It took that long for it to kind of formulate and come out," Derfus said. "Then, having all that time to kind of work and plan on... I think it gave me more time to sit down and create."

The "UnNatural History" coloring books (Furbeasts Forest: Beastly Botanicals, one and two) include the fantastical Furbeasts combined with lush botanical elements. They were carefully curated with a blend of fantasy and education in mind. In these books, Derfus creates worlds where fantasy and

learning meet and are filled with creativity and imagination. For the first book, having to do with various plants, she did a great deal of research.

"I spent time researching plants, so I'd make them basically one of our Furbeasts and make a list of the plants I'd like to include in it and do research on it," she said. "The first one we had was a few poisonous plants, few mushrooms, some succulents, and some poisonous plants." The second one was topics and creatures related to the ocean (Furbeasts Forest: Beastly Ocean Creatures) and the next one will be related to bugs. By combining Furbeasts with scientific terms in her artwork, Derfus gives people a fun learning experience.

Cori Derfus is not only dedicated to her coloring books but also has ambitious plans for her other artistic ventures. She expresses a desire to return to creating larger paintings and continuing her exploration of sculptures; she also wants to add Furbeasts plushies to bring her characters to life in physical form.

"I'd love to get some full color books and plush and that has



FurBeast Forest: Beastly Botanicals II, the second Beastly Botanicals coloring book



One of the Beastly Botanical creatures



An octopus from the FurBeast Forest: Beastly Ocean Creatures coloring book showing some love with a heart

**FIND CORI AND HER PRINTS**

- Websites  
FurBeasts: <https://furbeastforest.bigcartel.com/>  
Cori's: <https://www.artofcori.com/>
- Social media  
Cori's Instagram: @corinna\_beena

FurBeasts: @furbeast\_forest (Instagram), <https://www.facebook.com/FurbeastForest>  
Find her on Etsy too!  
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**"For me, it's not even about the money and it's just something that's in there and you know I always have a million more ideas that I'd love to do."**

— Cori Derfus

been on the table for a few years now," she said. "I've always loved plush and that's something I'd love to do; Maybe by the end of this year, get something going on that." With that goal in mind, she has involved her daughter in those projects.

Working at the library has also brought inspiration to her plans with her creations. With

her love of books beginning in childhood, Derfus finds comfort and inspiration for her coloring books. Her position at the Happy Valley Library provides a cozy space for her to indulge in her love of books and build relationships with readers, even if it has no direct influence on her artistic creations with Furbeasts. But what really inspires and has inspired her through every work of art she has done is the natural environment.

Derfus draws inspiration from the splendor of nature while spending time outside and incorporating it into her artwork with FurBeasts. She splits her time between working at the library and continuing her artistic interests. "It's a nice mesh," she said. "Working there a couple days a

week and then doing this stuff, the other half of the week and then hopefully getting outside in between." She values being able to explore both worlds and finds joy in those parts of her life.

Whether she is creating watercolor paintings, detailed sculptures, working at the library or bringing Furbeasts to life, Derfus remains dedicated. She hopes to broaden her horizons and imagines her future work to include stuffed animals and picture books with her beloved characters as she continues to split her time between her work at the library and her creative pursuits. "For me, it's not even about the money and it's just something that's in there and you know I always have a million more ideas that I'd love to do," she said.

## Communities connected: City meets with local school principals

City of Happy Valley

On Feb. 29, the City of Happy Valley convened the second of three meetings of the 2023-24 school year which help bring City department representatives together with each of the area's school principals.

The meetings provide an opportunity for City staff and other community partners to build relationships with school leaders and discuss relevant happenings. Topics covered include updates related to capital projects

and development in the city, as well as upcoming community program offerings and events that may be of interest to students and teachers. Principals also have an opportunity to share the latest developments at their respective schools. Through these meetings, both entities can help support one another and find ways to work efficiently and in the best interest of the City's students.

Any principal from a school that serves students in the City of Happy Valley is invited and very much encouraged to attend.



Principals from the City's local schools met with representatives from the City to discuss topics like traffic safety and youth engagement.

COURTESY PHOTO: CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY



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# ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



## Clackamas High School



### Ema Noirhomme, Senior

**Cheer**

Senior cheerleader Ema Noirhomme is the Clackamas High Sun Glow Athlete of the Week. Ema is an exchange student from Belgium. Not only has she learned a new sport, but she has lead the team in

tumbling. Ema always has a positive attitude and the team feels blessed to have her.

**Congrats, Ema! Go Cavs!**

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### Sara Barhoum, Junior

**Varsity Girls Basketball**

Girls varsity basketball player Sara Barhoum competed well in the state playoffs with big games against North Medford, West Salem, Jesuit and Willamette. Sara had 25 points vs North Medford, 28 points 5 assists and 4 steals vs West Salem, 13 points vs. Jesuit and 14 points 4 rebound and 2 assists and

steals. Sara also hit 1000 career points against Jesuit in the quarter finals. The girls basketball team finished in 3rd place at the state tournament.

**Congrats, Sara! Go Cavs!**

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### Hudson Normand, Senior

**Varsity Baseball**

Cavaliers' senior pitcher Hudson Normand put together a dominant complete-game showing on the mound March 22nd, holding the Jesuit Crusaders scoreless until the final frame of the ballgame. Normand's performance helped the

team pick up an important non-league, dominating Jesuit 8-1 on the road at Jesuit High School.

**Congrats, Hudson! Go Cavs!**

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## Adrienne C. Nelson HS



### Alyssa Gibbons, Senior

**Varsity Girls Golf**



Alyssa led Nelson to a first place finish in the opening Mt Hood Conference Golf match shooting an 84 including her first ever Eagle on hole #11 at the Stone Creek Golf Course.

**Way to go, Alyssa! Go Hawks!**

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### Bailey Hill, Junior

**Varsity Girls Softball**



Bailey has been having a tremendous start to the season with a batting average of 1.000 through the first 2 games played of the season with an OBP .857 and 4 RBI

**Way to go, Bailey! Go Hawks!**

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### Porter Maciag, Sophomore

**Varsity Boys Track & Field**



Porter got two Personal Records in his first meet of the season. He finished 2nd in both the Shot Put and Discus.

**Way to go, Porter! Go Hawks!**

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# Swimming toward the Gold

*Nelson High senior, Mason Hopper, reflects on swimming and his goals*

By EMMA DAVIS and BREN SWOGGER  
Pamplin Media Group

Mason Hopper, a senior at Nelson High School, embodies perseverance in the world of competitive swimming. His journey began at the age of six with swimming lessons, initially influenced by his brother's passion for the sport.

"When I was younger, I wasn't really that interested in swimming," Hopper said. "Honestly, I was just more doing it because my brother was."

However, as he continued, his dedication deepened. "I think as I continued with the sport and I just continued to have fun with it, I got a little bit more serious with it."

At the age of 11, Hopper clinched victory in the 100 fly at state, a milestone that ignited his competitive

spirit. "I think that was the first time I had ever won a state championship in an event," Hopper said. "To actually finally get that title, it was really exciting and it kind of set me to a path where I wanted to keep on doing that."

A proud member of the Portland Swimming Club, Hopper competes year-round, showcasing his prowess in events like the 100 and 200 freestyle. Balancing his club commitments with high school swimming, Hopper finds fulfillment in both realms.

With a practice schedule of six days a week, Hopper's commitment to swimming is unparalleled, leading to some major victories in his career already. In his junior year, Hopper and his teammates broke the state record in the 200-medley relay. "That was definitely one of my favorite moments throughout my swimming career so far," Hopper said.

His interest in college swimming was piqued during his freshman year, watching his brother navigate the recruiting process. This experience clarified his vision, leading him to start his recruiting process after his sophomore year.

After building relationships with coaches from various universities, Hopper narrowed down his choices to four schools: University of Arizona, Southern Methodist University, University of Pittsburgh, and the University of Notre Dame. He ultimately chose the University of Arizona, where he will go to compete at the college level next year.

Though he looks forward to his collegiate competitions, Hopper is looking much further and bigger. Currently, he is training to qualify for U.S. Open trials. The qualifying time is 49.99. At the moment, Hopper has 51.2. "I'm really pushing and trying hard to get

**"To actually finally get that title, it was really exciting and it kind of set me to a path where I wanted to keep on doing that."**

— Mason Hopper



Maeve DeYoung of West Linn (left) and Mason Hopper of Nelson (right) are awarded as the top swimmers for the OSAA 6A State Swimming Finals at the Tualatin Hills Aquatic Center in Beaverton on Feb. 17.

PMG PHOTO: JOHN LARIVIERE

that," Hopper said. "If I can hit that qualifying time, that would be the best."

As he continues to pursue his swimming dreams, Hopper's journey serves as an inspiration to aspiring athletes, showcasing the rewards of perseverance and dedication in the pursuit of excellence.

"I think the biggest thing that [swimming] taught me is just discipline and

learning how to dedicate a lot of your time to something that is special and something you have fun with," Hopper said.

Hopper also credits his club coach, Nacim Bouferrache, for pushing him to succeed. "He has made swimming so great for me," Hopper said. "He's definitely helped me be very passionate about the sport and just want to keep on going with it."

# Dominic Macon claims first wrestling state title in Nelson High history

*Dominic Macon, Nelson junior, wins state wrestling championship*

By JACKSON NAUGLE  
Pamplin Media Group

During the Feb. 24 semifinal round at the 2024 OSAA 6A Boys Wrestling State Championships at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland, the mother of Dominic Macon was making herself heard from the upper deck.

"Get up, Dominic! Ten seconds, Dominic! Do it, Dominic!" she shouted for the entire gymnasium to hear.

Macon, a 285-pound junior from Nelson, was deadlocked in a tight match with top-seeded Li Moala of South Medford, perhaps in need of a boost.

Macon ultimately got what he needed, recording a clutch takedown with just a few seconds left in the second overtime period to come away with a dramatic 4-2 victory.

"Oh yeah, that's my momma right

there," Macon said. "She's just a blessing."

And while his mother rarely ceased screaming at the top of her lungs during the bout, her excitement boiled over afterward, as Macon blew a victorious kiss up toward his number-one fan.

"I wouldn't have been able to make it an inch closer to where I am today if it wasn't for her," Macon said. "I'm just so blessed to have her. She's so amazing." Still, that was just the semis.

Macon still had work to do, matched up against Aloha sophomore Noah Miner in the finals.

Naturally, the fifth-seeded Hawk had more drama to pull out of the hat.

Against Miner, Macon needed some late heroics yet again, earning a point with less than two seconds left in the match on a stalling penalty by the Aloha sophomore.

From there, Macon shook off a premature celebration by the Warriors to win in overtime, finally pinning Miner at the 7:25 mark to claim the heavyweight title.

"I was like, 'he's celebrating, shoot,' but then I looked at the scoreboard, it said 2-2, and I'm like, 'bet!'" Macon said. "So I just turned it up a little bit. I got



Nelson wrestler Dominic Macon celebrates after winning the 6A 285 championship match on Feb. 24 in Portland.

PMG PHOTO: RALEIGH EMERSON

sloppy here and there, I'll be honest, but I got the job done."

Following his dramatic championship victory, Macon was swiftly surrounded by reporters, but after a question or two, he had more important business to attend to.

Macon ditched the scrum to embrace his biggest fan, who he hands plenty of credit to for not only his unbeaten

season this winter, but also his wrestling career as a whole.

"My mom, she always encouraged me in middle school to pick one instrument and one sport," Macon said. "I play the saxophone as well, in the wind ensemble. But when I got to high school, I was on football and I thought, 'wrestling's cool, too,' and ever since then, I just fell in love with the sport."

Ultimately, the Nelson junior was crowned the first-ever state champion wrestler from his three-year-old school on Saturday, which added to the emotions of an already climatic moment.

It wasn't just a win for Macon, it was a historic win, and the junior still has another year left to wrestle as a Hawk.

"I feel like God blessed me with my body, and I was just born to be a wrestler," Macon said. "I was born to be a physical and ferocious person."

Standing on the podium after the final match, even the fellow 285-pounders looked small in comparison to Macon, who stood above the rest as the unbeaten, 33-0, heavyweight champion on Saturday.

"It feels great," Macon said. "The people here are so loving and vibrant. It just gave me the boost I needed at the end there. It's just amazing to be a part of."

Nursing that win streak with the best fan section he could ask for, the Hawks legend might just barrel through the 2024-25 season as well.

"I just need to keep being coachable, listening to my coaches, and just be the man that my mother raised me to be," Macon said.

If the junior keeps improving, 6A wrestlers beware.



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"Love is the bridge between you and everything."  
—Rumi




# A Taste of Home and Community in Happy Valley

Get to know the story of Ichi Teriyaki and its legacy in Happy Valley

By JAMES KENNETH PRESLEY  
for Pamplin Media Group

As businesses continue to come and go in the Happy Valley area, there are a collection of local favorites that have endured both the expansion as well as challenging times that have faced our community. Is it because of their business models? What about their ownership and work ethic? Perhaps their place within the very community they're serving? For Ichi Teriyaki, it might just be all three.

Ichi Teriyaki, a now ten-year resident of Happy Valley and neighbor to New Seasons, has a menu that may seem familiar, perhaps even flavors that are easily recognizable. However, it is the story of this fine establishment that uplifts Ichi Teriyaki from your standard asian cuisine to what feels like an invitation into the very home of the restaurant's owner, E.J. Kim, who came to Happy Valley with his parents from South Korea just over twenty-five years ago.

"I feel as if Happy Valley is my home away from home," says Kim. "When I came here there was very little, just a

bunch of fields." Kim went on to share what life was like in Happy Valley before opening Ichi, including meeting his wife, now a dental hygienist, and starting a family of his own with the addition of his two sons. However, after working with his Dad for some time, Kim began to realize that it would be important for him to open his own business to better support his family.

"I have been very lucky as it pertains to my business," says Kim. "Even during the pandemic when people in many businesses didn't want to work, my employees still wanted to come in and help because they knew if they didn't work it would affect my family. I am very grateful."

However, that faith and trust Kim has for employees extends way beyond the lengths of his kitchen, as his love for the community is as apparent as it is inspiring, given the community wall inside of Ichi where Kim has taken hundreds of photos, from firefighters to athletes, even the city Mayor, and has placed them on his wall.

"Customers will come in and begin talking to me, people I have never met before, and will ask how my kids are doing or my wife," shares a joking Kim. "I come to find out there are teachers, cashiers, people across the city who know who I am. It's a big spider web. One day I was walking down the street and somebody yelled, 'Hey, Ichi!'"



Whether he likes it or not, Kim's place in the community has seemingly been cemented. However, a good story is not enough to make a successful business, which is why we tasted some of the more popular menu items per Kim's recommendation.

We started off with a bowl of Ichi's egg drop soup, a free appetizer for all patrons who patiently await their meal. "We don't make any profit on it,"

says Kim. "But I wanted to do something more for my customers while they wait."

The soup itself left us warm and delighted, a true representation of Kim's hosting while we waited for our T1 and T2 plates, an arrangement of both white and dark chicken smothered in sweet teriyaki sauce, each complimented with a bed of white rice and a side salad with a dressing that can only



ABOVE: T2 plate: Covering all the necessary food groups and flavors.  
LEFT: The gateway to satisfaction: Located just next to New Seasons Market.

COURTESY PHOTOS: JAMES KENNETH PRESLEY

be described as, well... addicting. "It's a simple blend of soy sauce, sugar, vinegar, and poppy seed, but it's all about the balance," says Kim. "We don't use any chemical stuff. My parents eat here every now and then which is why everything is fresh, not frozen. I want my customers to eat here as if it were my own home kitchen."

To nobody's surprise, the food was delicious, especially given the amount you get for such an affordable price. No wonder clients of both Orange Theory or the local Spincycle locations come here to get their proteins after an intense workout.

"With groceries being so much today it's just easier to come here and get a bunch of good stuff for family dinner," says one patient customer who was waiting on her food. "I love to look at the community wall and see if I recognize anybody."

Ichi Teriyaki is open from Monday-Saturday from 10:30am to 9:00 p.m. and is closed on Sundays, giving Kim some much deserved time to enjoy with his family.

# HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY



International Day of Happiness brought residents together for an afternoon of games, art, and community fun.

City of Happy Valley



On Mar. 20, Happy Valley Parks and Recreation once again created an opportunity for residents to celebrate International Day of Happiness as a community. The team organized a fun filled event that included games, complimentary donuts and cocoa, and a craft that called upon everyone's helping to produce a giant personalized puzzle.

The day's activities took place at Village Green Park and even included cameo visits by deputies from Happy Valley Police Department and the City's Community Service Officers.



Participants decorated puzzle pieces with things that make them happy as part of a larger community art project.

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- Apr 12 · Umpqua Bank
- Apr 19 · Sonder Fields
- Apr 26 · Movement Mortgage

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# Quench your thirst for adventure: A new challenge awaits

*Happy Valley Hydro Hunt pairs sustainability with local park visits*

*City of Happy Valley*

Get ready for an exciting new program launching just in time for Earth Day! With spring finally here, we're celebrating the budding flora and fauna, and encouraging sustainability and healthy living while we're at it. Residents and visitors alike are invited to explore the beauty of our City's parks with the help of an eco-friendly water bottle. Add some cold water and some colorful collector's stickers, and you've got yourself this season's most refreshing Happy Valley accessory yet.

**How to participate**

Purchase our specially designed stainless steel recyclable water bottle, available at City Hall beginning Apr. 22 or during summer community events at our City booth. Not only will you stay hydrated, but you'll also be supporting the environment with a container that can be used time and time again.

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to visit eight designated parks throughout Happy Valley during the spring and summer seasons. Snap a photo at each park and tag the City of Happy Valley's social media accounts with #HVHydroHunt to showcase your journey. Then, swing by City Hall to collect a commemorative sticker for each park you explore. Affix the stickers to your water bottle and show everyone your love of Happy Valley.

Not really a fan of social media? That's okay! Participants can always visit City Hall and show us a picture or simply let us know they visited a specific park to earn a respective sticker.

By participating in the #HVHydroHunt, not only will you enjoy exploring our beautiful parks, but you'll also contribute to a cleaner environment and connect with fellow Happy Valley residents.

Join the fun and start discovering (or rediscovering) Happy Valley's parks today!



Purchase your reusable Happy Valley water bottle and start visiting local parks to earn all eight commemorative stickers. A limited number of water bottles go on sale the week of Apr. 22.

# Happy Valley road projects update

*Improvement efforts along SE King Rd. continue to take shape as utility undergrounding moves forward*



A view of King Rd. looking east shows crew members and equipment along the Superblock.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

*City of Happy Valley*

**129th Avenue & King Road**

Construction work along 129th Ave. and King Rd is progressing as planned. Currently, crews are focusing on burying utilities in preparation for a future roundabout at the SE 129th and King Rd. intersection. Residents have likely begun to notice work centralized more specifically to King Rd. and traffic control will continue as utility work remains the focus in that location.

Installation of the roundabout is anticipated to take place this summer. This intersection is

absolutely crucial for traffic flow within the City as it serves many travelers on a daily basis. For more information about the project, visit [www.happyvalleyor.gov/129th-roundabout](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov/129th-roundabout).

Superblock Phase III The final phase of the Superblock project is also in full swing. This will entail the addition of curbs, sidewalks, and street improvements to the last section of roadway yet to be connected.

In March, crews tended to general utility work and began construction of the stormwater system along King Rd. Mt. Scott Bridge improvements and

construction of the stormwater detention facility were also started.

Undergrounding of utilities for the Superblock project is anticipated to take place later this spring and summer and will be followed by paving and creating the final segment connections. This project is anticipated to be fully completed in winter of 2024. Two-way traffic on King Rd. will be maintained throughout the course of the project, though some minor delays are anticipated. More information about the Superblock project can be found at [www.happyvalleyor.gov/superblock-project](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov/superblock-project).

It is important to note that both the utility work along 129th and King Rd. and the final part of the Superblock project will involve temporary removal of streetlights in the project area, most notably between Regina Ct. and SE 132nd Ave. Existing streetlights will be removed and replaced with new ones. The City anticipates this lack of street lighting to last for a few months. While there are no plans for temporary alternative lighting during the transition, the City will communicate with the community and affected residents in advance of the outage.

## Highlighting our HEROES

*City of Happy Valley*

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](mailto:swarneke@happyvalleyor.gov) or our Community Writer, Emma Davis at [edavis@pamplinmedia.com](mailto:edavis@pamplinmedia.com).



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### APRIL 2024 LIBRARY EVENTS

Please check our website for the most up-to-date hours and services.

#### LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

##### All Ages Fun

###### Giant Coloring Sheets

Wednesday, Apr. 17, 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Everyone's welcome to decorate a giant coloring sheet! We'll have big pieces of paper, markers, pencils, and crayons.

All Together Now programs are designed as inter-generational programs, with people of all ages coming together to create and play together.

##### Youth Programs

###### Storytimes

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

###### Stretch, Dance, Play

Thursday, Apr. 4, 10:15 a.m.

For 2-5-year-olds and their caregivers. Join Iris Nason for dance, yoga, singing, sign language and play!

###### Homeschool Club: LEGO Challenge

Friday, Apr. 5, 10:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

Hey homeschool families! Challenge your problem-solving skills with some LEGO building. We'll have cards with different prompts to solve by yourself or as a team.

###### Giờ Kể Chuyện / Vietnamese Storytime

Sunday, Apr. 7, 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.

###### Duplo Play

Mondays, Apr. 8 & 22, 10:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

For ages 0-5. Let's build together with Duplo blocks! Drop in to play and see what we can make.



###### Let's Build

Tuesday, Apr. 9, 4 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

For K-5th graders and their caregivers. Drop in for some free LEGO building fun.

###### Sign & Sing

Fridays, Apr. 12 & 26, 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, Apr. 13, 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!

###### Chinese Storytime / 中文故事时间

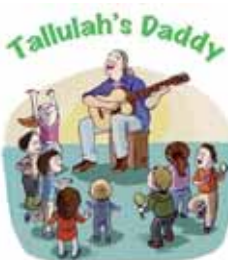
Saturday, Apr. 20, 2 p.m.-3 p.m.

Join us for a special Chinese Storytime presented in Mandarin with stories, songs and activities for ages 0-10. 欢迎加入我们特别为孩子们举办的中文故事时间, 用普通话呈现适合所有年龄层的故事、歌曲和活动

###### Tallulah's Daddy

Saturday, Apr. 20, 10:15 a.m.

For ages 2-6 and their caregivers. Drop in for some musical fun with our favorite bass playing dad!



###### Día Celebration

Saturday, Apr. 27, 10:30 a.m.-noon

We're celebrating kids, books, and reading! Drop in for crafts, games, and free books.

El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros (Children's Day/Book Day) encourages a love of reading for kids of all cultural and linguistic backgrounds.



##### Tweens & Teens

For teens in grades 6-12.

##### Teen Advisory Board

Saturday, Apr. 6, 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, Apr. 11, 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 for programs at <https://go.lincc.org/hvsignup>

###### 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.

###### Happy Valley Book Group

Thursday, May 2, 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.

Read the wise and witty title *Beasts of a Little Lands* by Juhea Kim 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!

###### Genealogy

Monday, Apr. 8, 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!

###### String Along

Sunday, Apr. 14, 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.

###### Flower Wreaths with Iris

Tuesday, Apr. 16, 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Create one of a kind 3-dimensional flowers out of used business envelopes! Explore the art of design by learning about layering, shapes found in nature, balance, color, spacing and clustering. All materials are provided but you are welcome to bring your own paper punches, used envelopes with patterned interiors and embellishments. Registration required.



###### Note Night with Chuck Bolsinger

Wednesday, Apr. 17, 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Enjoy some live music as you browse for books or sit and savor the sounds. Local musician Chuck Bolsinger plays an eclectic mix of vocal and instrumentals on guitar and harmonica, including folk, country, ragtime, blues, and showtimes.



###### Tea and Trivia

Sunday, Apr. 21, 3 p.m.-4 p.m.

Dearest reader, you are cordially invited for a fun afternoon of tea and trivia. We will be providing light refreshments, trivia, and prizes to the diamonds of the season in celebration of the upcoming release of the Netflix original series, "Bridgerton" based on the novels by Julia Quinn. Fancy dress is highly encouraged! Adults welcome. Registration is requested.

###### Oregon Humanities Conversation Project

Brought to our library in cooperation with the Oregon Humanities, these programs bring together people to talk about their beliefs and experiences around important issues and ideas through reflective conversations.

Registration is not required, but RSVP to get an email reminder and let us know you'll be there! RSVP at [go.lincc.org/hvRSVP](https://go.lincc.org/hvRSVP).

###### Can't We Get Along?

Tuesday, Apr. 9, 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Rodney King's iconic question still resonates today. Despite decades of social justice movements, police brutality and divisions persist in the United States. COVID-19 has only added more challenges. How can we connect to each other during these times? What holds us back from connecting with each other? How do our personal experiences contribute to barriers, or have the potential to break them down? Join facilitator Chisao Hata as she holds space to examine individual questions on race, cultural values, and what brings us together and what separates us.

###### What Does Democracy Require?

Thursday, Apr. 18, 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Join David Gutterman from the Oregon Humanities Conversation Project to explore the ideas of democracy big and small. As we begin, however tentatively, to move into a new moment in US political life, calls for unity are often met with skepticism and disdain. But perhaps unity is the wrong measure of democracy anyway. What if we ask instead, Who are our people? Where do we belong? In this moment coming out of the pandemic, let's think together about expanding the scope of our people and what it means to belong so that we can consider what democracy requires of us and for us in this fraught moment.

## The Library Celebrates Día de los Niños/ Día de los Libros

El día de los niños/ El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day) is a national celebration of books, families and reading across cultural and linguistic backgrounds! Join the library's 3rd Annual Día program, held in the Community Room, with crafts, games, and free books.

All activities take place at the Happy Valley Library on Saturday, Apr. 27, from 10:30 a.m. to noon.



Each child who attends the Library's Día can select a free book to keep!

## Preschool Outreach

Most Thursday mornings, Youth Librarian Isaac Fellows packs a bag with books and puppets and heads out to visit local preschools. "Before I became a Librarian, I was a preschool teacher for many years," he says, "so it's an environment where I feel right at home. I love the clear structure of the classroom, the energy and curiosity of the kids, and the inspiring dedication of the teachers, who all give so much of themselves to a job that's not always easy." Isaac's visits include a storytime, where the children gather to sing a variety of interactive songs, listen to a story, and participate in a puppet activity like feeding felt cookies to the fluffy alpaca.

"The puppets are one of my favorite ways to engage with the preschoolers," says Isaac. "I always start storytime with a very short introduction where I talk about the library and then tell them what we'll be doing during my visit, and without fail someone always chimes in with, 'are we going to do puppets?' My answer is always yes, of course."

Isaac has been going on these outreach visits since early 2022, when he reached out to the Clackamas Education Service District, who provide free preschool for families experiencing poverty through their Head Start to Success program. He also visits preschools participating in Oregon's Preschool Promise, a program that funds low-income families attending private preschools.



Youth Librarian Isaac Fellows brings books and puppets to the area preschools he visits.

"A lot of what we do with these visits," he says, "beyond just the fun of sharing storytime, is sending information home to families in the hope that they will discover the public library as the invaluable resource that it is. And when I see my preschool friends visiting the library with their grown-ups, it just makes me overjoyed, because they're having this whole world of books and learning opened up to them."

Visiting the preschool classrooms has proven to be educational for Isaac, as well.

"I've learned some wonderful techniques from the preschool teachers, which carries over into other areas of my work. Some of their tools for reaching the kids, wherever they are on the scale of neurodivergence, go a long way to making storytime more inclusive. And that's something that is very important to me, to bring back to other library programming." It's clear from Isaac's wide smile when he returns to the library from these visits, that doing preschool outreach is one of the brightest spots in his week.

## Repair Fair Returns!

Join this free community event that brings skilled volunteers and people with broken items together. Clackamas County's Office of Sustainability recruits volunteers to provide their repairing skills for those looking to fix items that no longer work. Simply bring in your items that need to be fixed. There are no guarantees items can be restored, but past Repair Fairs have a repair rate of over 75%!

When: Saturday, May 4, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Where: Happy Valley Library's Community Room

What to bring:

- Small electronics
- Small home appliances
- Bicycles
- Knives for sharpening

Learn more at <https://go.lincc.org/repairfair>



Skilled volunteers provide their assistance to help repair items.

# Local teen receives honorable mention in countywide art contest

Every year, the Libraries in Clackamas County put out the call for teens to create a piece of art that celebrates their Summer Reading theme. Local libraries can then use the artwork in promoting teen programs throughout the county. This year local student Violet Struckmeier was selected as an honorable mention for her lovely interpretation of the theme: Read, Renew, Repeat.



▲ Local teen artist Violet Struckmeier creates art with often overlooked or unconventional materials. ► A close-up of Violet's artwork.



"While I was brainstorming, I looked out the window at my bird feeders and decided to make birds reading books. Everything's better with a bird on it!" shares Violet. She created her winning design using watercolor, gel pens and recycled book pages.

"I always have a project that I'm working on, or multiple," continued Violet, who loves to add unconventional materials. Her collage pieces utilize everything from old magazines and book pages to fabric scraps, buttons, pressed flowers, and googly eyes.

own clothes. "I am usually either outside in my greenhouse planting and gardening or upstairs in my craft room sewing, creating, and making a mess," said Violet.

Look for Violet's design on Teen Summer Reading materials this summer. Maybe her creativity will inspire others to use the supplies around them to make their own art.

# Library expansion UPDATE

There's a lot of construction activity going on at the Library! In March, significant progress was made with wall and roof framing, including the installation of roof joists and glulam beams. Additionally, a temporary wall was erected within the existing library to maintain separation from ongoing construction activities.

this issue to learn more about how you can be part of helping bring this project to fruition. You can also learn more about the expansion project online at [www.happyvalleyor.gov/library-expansion](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov/library-expansion) or by scanning the QR code with your smart device.



Roof joists and glulam beams were installed.



Wall framing continues on the main level of the new library addition.



## MARCH LIBRARY RECAP

March brought matcha and more to our library! Take a look at some of the highlights.



Tea enthusiast Caitlin Lushington shared matcha history, ritual, and growing practices with attendees as they learned to make matcha with three of the traditional Japanese tools, including the chasen (whisk), chawan (bowl), and chashaku (scoop).



Artist Mara Bazua led adults in creating their own beautiful watercolor cherry blossom scene to welcome spring.



Storytime presenter Kenny Chen led families in creating their own folded dragon bookmarks after his monthly Chinese storytime program.

# Now Enrolling Our New Milwaukie Campus!

Learn more and schedule a tour at [sunstonemontessori.org](http://sunstonemontessori.org)



Our new 12-acre campus houses a nurturing community and a working farm!



**Toddler Program**  
16 months to 3 years old



**Middle School**  
12 to 15 years old