



What will you discover?  
HV Parks & Rec Fall Guide is here.  
Insert inside

INSIDE:  
Road Projects Update  
Page 10



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# Happy Valley NEWS

September 2024

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## A NIGHT TO REMEMBER for Happy Valley volunteers



Volunteers gather for a group photo at the annual appreciation event hosted by the City of Happy Valley.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

### Volunteers celebrated at appreciation event

By City of Happy Valley

The City held a special event on Aug. 15 during Summer Concerts in the Park to honor and celebrate Happy Valley's volunteers. The annual appreciation night is a way of thanking and publicly showcasing the people who help make Happy Valley a great place to live, work, and play.

Throughout the year, the City receives countless hours of service, invaluable

advice, and strategic guidance from volunteers in the community. It is fortunate to have volunteers serving on advisory committees that do things like find solutions to traffic problems, improve parks, and manage growth.

Happy Valley also sees many individuals organize and participate in service projects that enhance our environment, foster community spirit, and support our community

See VOLUNTEERS / A2



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

The appreciation event recognized the contributions of more than 80 volunteers who dedicated their time and skills to various projects and initiatives in the past year.

## Back to school: How to stay safe on the road

A reminder to remain  
vigilant about road safety.

By STEVE CAMPBELL  
Director of Public Safety

As the school year begins this month, new schedules and routines will also bring more traffic and safety risks. Here are some useful tips to follow to ensure a safe and successful school year.

#### Bus safety tips

■ **Stay alert:** Children may be waiting or getting off at bus stops, so watch out for them on the sidewalks or crossing the street.

■ **Slow down:** When you see buses, you should also expect children. Even if the bus lights are not flashing, drive carefully in case kids run into the street or the bus stops or turns suddenly.

■ **Keep your distance:** The most dangerous area for children is the 10 ft zone around a school bus. Help bus drivers by leaving enough space and a clear view of their surroundings when you are driving or stopping behind them.

■ **Get ready to stop:** When the bus lights



With school busses taking students to and from school, prepare to stop as kids are picked up or dropped off at their stops.

are yellow or red and the stop sign arm is extended, that means children are getting on or off the bus and you need to stop. FACT: Passing a stopped school bus that is loading or unloading children is illegal in all 50 states.

■ **Be visible:** Tell students who use the bus to avoid playing around and to stay at the designated spot while waiting for the bus. Remind students to look both ways before crossing the street and to NEVER walk behind the bus.

See SAFETY / A2

## Music bringing people together

Kelvin Woods, aka DJ Doc Rock, gives an insight on his  
love for music, DJing and bringing people together

By EMMA DAVIS  
Staff Reporter

Kelvin Woods, also known as DJ Doc Rock, is a shining example of positivity and resilience. A Portland native and 10-year cancer survivor, Woods has always held music close to his heart, seeing it as more than just sound, but rather a way of life, a means to connect with others, and a source of indescribable joy. Woods has a full-time job, but he dedicates time to old-school DJing, where he spins timeless tracks that resonate with people of all ages. For Woods, DJing is about reliving the magic of classic tunes, creating a shared experience, and giving back to the community that has supported him throughout his journey. He doesn't just see himself as a DJ but as someone who uses music to lift spirits and bring people together.

Born and raised in Portland, Woods has been surrounded by music for as long as he can



PHOTO COURTESY OF KELVIN WOODS

DJ Doc Rock hard at work providing all of the jams for the crowd.

remember. "I come from a household with a single mother of five kids, and I'm the youngest," Woods recalls. "She always played music all the time. Once I got old enough to start causing trouble, I started going through her record collection." His first gig came at the young age of 12. "It was a house party that one of my older sisters was having for

some of her friends," Woods said. "That was the first official one I did, and then it kind of caught on from a few different people in the neighborhood."

As word spread about his DJ skills, he found himself getting booked for gigs, even at such a young age. "People in the area

See MUSIC / A2

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# Safety

## From Page A1

### Walk this way

■ **Use marked crosswalks:** Tell students to cross the road only at designated places where drivers can see them better. If there is a crossing guard, students should also follow their instructions on when to wait and when to cross.

■ **Walk with a friend:** It's safer to have students walk in groups. They can help each other make decisions and avoid dangers on the road.

■ **Avoid distractions:** Remind students to put away smart phones and other devices that could take their focus away from the road.

■ **Check twice before crossing:** Encourage your student to always be alert and to look both ways before stepping into the street.

### Let's roll

■ **ALWAYS wear a helmet:** If your student bikes to school, ensure they have a properly fitting helmet and emphasize the importance of wearing it consistently.

■ **Know the rules of the road:** Students who ride their bike to school should know basic traffic rules and heed to stop signs, stop lights and crosswalks. Generally, it is best to have your student walk their

bike through an intersection as an added safety protection.

■ **Share the road:** Whether you are riding a bike, scooter, or e-bike, remember to be courteous and careful around pedestrians. Be mindful of your speed and ensure there is enough space for pedestrians to travel, too.

### Be a safe driver

■ **Focus on driving:** Don't let anything distract you from the road, especially in school zones where you need to follow the speed limits. There are many things happening during pick up and drop off times, and you need to be alert and careful. Avoid using your phone while driving and keep other distractions, like music and talking to passengers, to a minimum.

■ **Respect the crosswalks:** Crosswalks are where kids cross the street to go to school or go home, so you need to slow down and stop when you see students there. Crossing guards are often there to help, so please follow their directions.

■ **Watch out!:** If you park in the school parking lot, please make sure you look around you before you move forward or backward. Students may not notice you and run out in front, and younger students may be harder to spot because of their smaller size.

Together, let's help students, parents, and school staff get to and from school with ease.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY



Steve Campbell



With school back in session, be sure to keep distractions to a minimum while using the road.



DJ Doc Rock on stage with Hit Machine.

# Music

From Page A1

would hire me, and it could be like \$20 or something, but \$20 back then was a lot for a kid," he says. "It got to the point where I was doing about two or three parties a year." Now, at 59, he considers himself "old-school." "I almost don't even consider myself a DJ. I consider myself someone who has the opportunity to play songs and music that I feel like people will enjoy."

Woods specializes in family-friendly events, carefully creating mixes of clean songs that can be enjoyed by diverse audiences. He also makes it a point to play the full versions of songs, encouraging people to fully engage with the music. One of his favorite regular gigs is at Happy Valley Park on Thursdays fondly known as "Concerts in the Valley", where he spins classic rock and disco. "Usually, the people that are there may be kids, but it may be a lot of adults. And disco is something that's just family friendly and it's clean," he said.

In addition to his park performances, Woods opens for bands or plays music between sets, always trying to match the vibe of the band.

Through his work as a DJ, Woods has witnessed the big impact music can have on

people. He fondly remembers an experience at the Cathedral Park Jazz Festival in 2022. "I played a song, and this man came up to me and told me about his best friend who had recently passed away," Woods said. "His best friend's favorite song was this particular song, and he said that when his when his best friend was in hospice and about to die, he's like, hey, man, when you get to heaven, send me a signal that you're okay. He's like, when I heard you play that song, I knew that was the signal that my best friend was in heaven, and everything was fine."

Woods himself has faced challenges, including a health scare that greatly impacted him. "I'm a breast cancer survivor," he shares. "A lot of men don't have or don't get breast cancer, but I'm 10 years removed." Since his remission, Woods often plays events for the Susan G. Komen Foundation, such as the Pink Walk, and supports the Pink Lemonade Project at the American Cancer Society. "It really motivates my passion for what I do," he says. "As a survivor, I appreciate life. And I appreciate everything. I want people to see that you can overcome whatever issues you have."

Outside of DJing, Woods works for Kaiser Permanente, enjoys sports, and loves spending time with his family. His love for music extends beyond his DJ work; he's an avid supporter of live bands. "Even when I'm not



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KELVIN WOODS  
DJ Doc Rock steps away from the turntables and hypes up the crowd.



Kelvin Woods, aka DJ Doc Rock

DJing, I go out and check out other bands," he says. "I'm a firm believer that in order to get support, you should give support."

At the end of the day, Woods' reason for what he does is simple "All I want to do is see people smile. That's it. That's my why.

My why is seeing people smile no matter what they're going through or what they've gone through or even if they're not going through anything at all. If I can see you just get out and just enjoy yourself for a few minutes, I've done my job."

# Volunteers

From Page A1

events and services. These individuals and groups consistently put Happy Valley first.

The City would like to once again express its gratitude and inspire others in the community to get involved. These groups and individuals are shaping Happy Valley's future and are a source of motivation for us all.



Volunteers connected at the event over dinner and enjoyed a variety of fun activities.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

## THANK YOU 2024 CITY VOLUNTEERS

- |                   |                     |                    |                      |                    |                     |   |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| ■ Al Matecko      | ■ David Emami       | ■ Glenn Wachter    | ■ Kari Yon           | ■ Marco Arboleda   | ■ Nick Browne       | ■ Steve Sonk                              |
| ■ Alina Kravchuk  | ■ David Golobay     | ■ Grace Bach       | ■ Keira Adsitt       | ■ Mario Musil      | ■ Nicole Olson      | ■ Susan Kahut                             |
| ■ Amy Wallis      | ■ David Sharyan     | ■ Izzy Garlington  | ■ Kevin Lentz        | ■ Mark Aasland     | ■ Paige Hunt        | ■ Tom Ellis                               |
| ■ Ariya Andrews   | ■ Deeann Scott      | ■ Jameson Lee      | ■ Kierun Sarish      | ■ Mark Montalbano  | ■ Patrick Sheehan   | ■ Tricia Lee                              |
| ■ Asher Chen      | ■ Dominic Pienovi   | ■ Janice Kiser     | ■ Kim Henderson      | ■ Mary Helton      | ■ Paul Grad         | ■ Victoria Villalba Flores                |
| ■ Avi Patel       | ■ Donald Hanna      | ■ Jen Anderson-Vue | ■ Lance Gardner      | ■ Marya Choudhry   | ■ Ray Fager         | ■ Boys Team Charity                       |
| ■ Banessa Verkest | ■ Doris Bedsole     | ■ Jennifer Ellis   | ■ Larissa Bonn       | ■ Maya Terefe      | ■ Ray Kato          | ■ National Charity League                 |
| ■ Bill Taylor     | ■ Eric Burmester    | ■ Jennifer Huang   | ■ Lee Jones          | ■ Michael Morrow   | ■ Réne Canler       | ■ North Clackamas/<br>Happy Valley Rotary |
| ■ Bjorn Clouten   | ■ Erin Bell         | ■ John Rask        | ■ LizBETH Hale       | ■ Michelle Ma      | ■ Ryan Rudge        |   |
| ■ Brett Sherman   | ■ Geri Naumcheff    | ■ Joshua Callahan  | ■ Lucas Wong         | ■ Minh Matthews    | ■ Sarmed Dilshad    |   |
| ■ Clint Ehlers    | ■ Giancarlo Manzoni | ■ Julie Auvil      | ■ Luke Stahl         | ■ Naomi Turrentine | ■ Sheila Ritz       |   |
| ■ Dale Guenther   | ■ Glen Sachet       | ■ Kanak Patel      | ■ Marchelle Paholsky | ■ Nate Hon         | ■ Shelley McFarland |   |

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# School Resource Officer helps support safety on campus

City of Happy Valley

Through the City’s contract with the Clackamas County Sheriff’s Office and funding from the City’s Public Safety Levy, schools in Happy Valley have access to the support of a designated School Resource Officer (SRO). This person works in tandem with educational staff to maximize efforts related to promoting safety at school, with preventative measures taking top priority. Happy Valley’s designated School Resource Officer specifically maintains a strong presence at our local schools, providing students and faculty alike with opportunities that encourage open dialogue and promote collaboration.

Here in the City, it is Brett Moore who currently fills the role of SRO for our local schools.

As an additional set of eyes and ears, he plays an important role in supporting safety efforts and creating an environment that encourages positive relationships between himself and those he serves. Because he is in the schools every day, he is familiar with the daily happenings and students know who he is. He also participates in a variety of community events and has been an active in the quarterly principal meetings, which are hosted by the City throughout the academic year.

The main difference separating an SRO from other police deputies is that they have special training on how to work with youth. Their focus is often on issues related to things like cyber safety, violence prevention, conflict mediation, and helping connect students who may be struggling behaviorally at school

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Dedicated police services in Happy Valley are provided to residents via a partnership between the City and the Clackamas County Sheriff’s Office (CCSO). In Happy Valley, these services are funded entirely by a Public Safety Levy, which is voted on by Happy Valley residents every five years. In addition to having access to a School Resource Officer, this funding also covers the City’s dedicated 24/7 police patrols, crime prevention efforts, investigations, proactive traffic enforcement, and the ability to respond quickly to emergencies. The next Public Safety Levy renewal will be in November 2024.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

School Resource Officer Brett Moore visits with students at National Night Out.

with vital resources. Their role is not only to respond to emergencies, but also to prevent them from happening in the first place. They are an important component of the school safety plan and a positive force in the community. SROs like Moore are familiar with staff, students, and routines.

Because they are so actively involved and engage regularly with staff and students alike, they are able to model a positive relationship between youth and law enforcement and are often seen as trusted mentors and allies. As a result, an SRO very much augments educators’ efforts to create a safe environment for students and families.

With the school year about to kick off, be on the lookout for SRO Moore and feel free to say hello. Like any of Happy Valley’s police deputies, he too is always happy to answer any questions you might have about his role.

# COFFEE with a Cop

Happy Valley Police Department to coordinate two community events this fall

City of Happy Valley

Join us for complimentary coffee and pastries and meet some of your local law enforcement team at an upcoming gathering. This is a great opportunity to ask questions about City safety and the Public Safety Levy, meet deputies that patrol the area, and learn about safety issues affecting our community. Conversation will be casual

and community centric. Families and kids are very much encouraged to attend. Event takes place Wednesday, Oct. 2 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Peet’s Coffee.

Happy Valley Police will also be available to connect with residents on Tuesday, Oct. 15 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Stickmen Brewing Company. Enjoy a complimentary slice of pizza and chat with deputies that work in Happy Valley.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

Informal gatherings with local law enforcement have been a great way for residents to learn more about police services in Happy Valley.

# Jazzy Davidson, Team USA earn FIBA AmeriCup title

The Clackamas senior represented both her community and her country overseas

By JACKSON NAUGLE  
Staff Reporter

Rising Clackamas senior Jazzy Davidson helped the USA Basketball Women’s U18 National Team bring home the 2024 FIBA AmeriCup championship earlier this summer, defeating Canada 80-69 in the championship game in Bucaramanga, Colombia.

Representing both her community and her country overseas, Davidson contributed nine points, two rebounds and four assists in the championship game, helping the USA claim its 11th consecutive gold medal dating back to 2000.

The Americans maintained a small lead throughout the game, taking a 39-36 edge into the half-time break before inching ahead 58-51 after a productive third period by Kennedy Smith.

While Canada trimmed the lead to 60-57 with less than eight minutes left to play, the USA ultimately held on to win 80-69, earning its 12th total gold medal at the event.



PMG PHOTO: ANDY DIECKHOFF

Sophomore Jazzy Davidson scored a game-high 23 points for No. 5 Clackamas in the Cavaliers’ 84-26 romp over Sunset in the first round of the OSAA Class 6A Girls Basketball State Championship tournament on Tuesday, Feb. 28.

Davidson finished the tournament averaging 11.3 points, 3.8 rebounds, 3.2 assists, 2.7 steals and 1.3 blocks per game. Her mark of 2.7 steals per game was good for first on her team and fourth in the entire field.

Meanwhile, Canada and Argentina joined Davidson and the Americans on the podium taking home silver and bronze medals, respectively. Alongside fourth-place Brazil, all three teams qualified for the 2025 FIBA U19 Women’s World Cup, which is set to take place in Czech Republic next summer.

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MAYOR’S MESSAGE

Remembering 9/11

City of Happy Valley

This month, we join the nation and the world in remembering the lives that were lost and the families that were shattered on 9/11. The attacks shook us to our core, but they did not break our spirit.

We also pay tribute to the brave heroes and first responders who risked their lives to save others and who continue to serve our communities with courage and compassion.

For those who witnessed the events of that day, who were there to help, or who lost someone they loved, this anniversary is a reminder of a significant loss. We stand with them in solidarity and support, and we honor their resilience and strength.

Our country has faced many challenges and changes since that fateful day, but we have also shown our capacity for unity and hope in spite of extreme challenge. America is a land of freedom and opportunity, and we will not let fear or hatred dim our light. As we reflect on the legacy of Sept. 11, 2001, let us remember that we are stronger together, and we will never forget.



New York City's Tribute in Light, which takes place each year on the night of Sept. 11, serves as a powerful reminder of the events that transpired in 2001 and celebrates the unbreakable spirit of the American people.

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

To submit your idea, send an email to hvn@pamplinmedia.com and include as many details as possible, so our publication team can review your story idea. The 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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Lemonade stand for a cause : Local siblings raise money for cancer research

City of Happy Valley

On Aug. 25, Mayor Tom Ellis presented Roslyn and Xavier with a celebratory business license to honor their dedication to raising money for Alex's Lemonade Stand, a national nonprofit organization that aims to change the lives of children with cancer by funding research, raising awareness, supporting families, and empowering everyone to help cure childhood cancer.

This marked the fifth year the siblings have operated their lemonade stand in the Happy Valley community. The effort holds personal significance for Roslyn, who is a cancer survivor herself. At the event, Mayor Ellis praised the family's commitment to helping others, highlighting the positive impact they have made and continue to make.



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City of Happy Valley

At the time of print, the following events were scheduled. Please check [www.happyvalleyor.gov](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov) to confirm timing of events and instructions on how to participate virtually. You can also opt in to receive notifications about upcoming meetings by visiting [www.hv.city/notifications](http://www.hv.city/notifications).

September Community Calendar

September 2

■ Labor Day: City Hall and Happy Valley Library closed

September 9

■ Staff Event: City Hall closing at noon, Happy Valley Library closed all day

September 10

■ Planning Commission Meeting, City Hall: 6 p.m.

September 17

■ City Council Work Session, City Hall: 6 p.m.

■ City Council Meeting, City Hall: 7 p.m.

September 25

■ Happy Valley Business Alliance Meeting, City Hall: 7:30 a.m.

October 1

■ City Council Work Session, City Hall: 6 p.m.

■ City Council Meeting, City Hall: 7 p.m.

October 2

■ Coffee with a Cop, Peet's Coffee: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. see Page 3 for details

October 5

■ Oktoberfest, Happy Valley Park: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. see page 11 or the Fall Parks and Recreation insert for more details.



Scan QR code to sign up for notifications



# PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES

Planning now could mean all the difference

Clackamas Fire District #1

September is National Preparedness Month, which is a nationwide coordinated effort sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) each year to encourage people to prepare for emergencies in their homes, business, and schools. Efforts serve to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time.

Some basic steps you can take to prepare for any emergency are:



- Build a disaster kit with enough supplies for at least three days, including food, water, medications, flashlight, batteries, first aid kit, and important documents. Store the kit in a secure and accessible location.
- Make a family communication plan and share it with your

household members and close contacts. Decide how you will contact each other, where you will meet, and what you will do in different scenarios.

■ Sign up for local alerts and warnings from your city or county, and follow the instructions of authorities during an emergency. Know the evacuation routes and shelter locations in your area.

■ Learn basic skills that could save lives, such as CPR, first aid, and how to use a fire extinguisher. You can also join a community emergency response team (CERT) or a volunteer organization that supports disaster relief efforts.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

Make plans now that will help you remain safe should a major disaster strike. If you know a senior citizen or someone who may need support in cultivating a plan, consider reaching out to help them develop one.

## City staff named Building Inspector of the Year

City Inspector, Tyrone Bergen, receives award

City of Happy Valley

The Oregon Building Officials Association awarded Tyrone Bergen the title of Building Inspector of the Year at their annual business meeting in July.

Tyrone began his career as a journeyman plumber before switching to the inspection side of the business. He has been working for the City of Happy Valley for over 12 years, conducting plumbing, structural, and mechanical inspections for residential and commercial buildings.

In addition to his inspection duties, Tyrone is also an instructor for the Plumbing Apprenticeship Program at Clackamas Community College, where he teaches and mentors students. He is highly regarded as an instructor and his colleagues at the City appreciate his willingness to share his knowledge and insights.

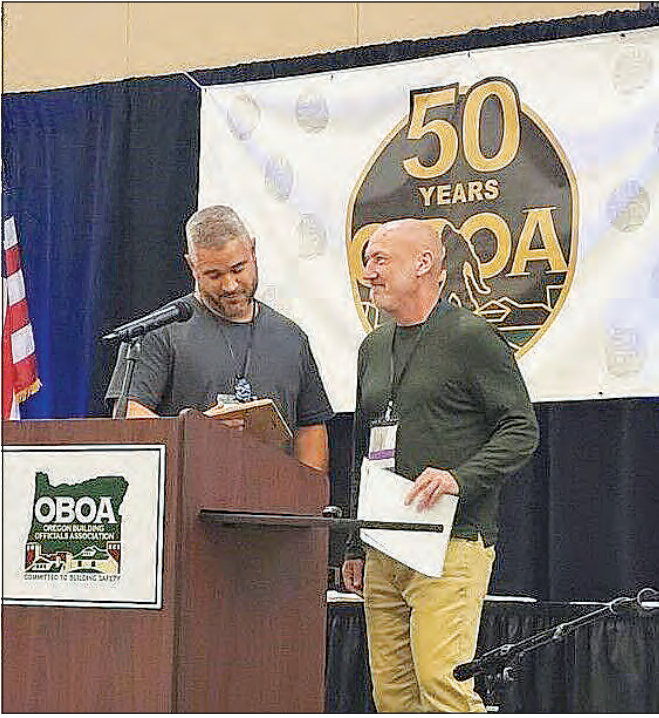


PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

City employee, Tyrone Bergen, accepts the 2024 Building Inspector of the Year Award.

Tyrone also serves on the State of Oregon Plumbing Board, a multi-year volunteer position that he was selected for this year. This is a great honor and a

testament to his expertise and dedication. Congratulations to Tyrone on this well-deserved award. The City is proud to have him on the team.

## Oregon Military Museum Project To Host Fundraising Event Oct. 4th

Event to include presentations, silent auction, beverages & bites

Courtesy OMMP

In support of the Oregon Military Museum (OMM), the Oregon Military Museum Project (OMMP) is presenting "A Harvest for Oregon's Military History" fundraiser event October 4th. This event will raise funds for the Oregon Military Museum's future programs and operations.

Please join OMMP for an evening of FUNdraising! We are excited to share this enriching line-up experience where we will have unique brief presentations for two of the OMM (Oregon Military Museum)'s experienced volunteers to share their expertise in the skilled areas that are making this Museum come to life.

Along with presentations you will have an opportunity to have a closer look into the OMM's historical exhibits with featured artifacts from their collections that are awaiting exhibit placement in the gallery, along with an open gallery experience. This event includes a silent auction with beverages available and bites. Interested guests are



### A HARVEST FOR OREGON'S MILITARY HISTORY

■ Camp Withycombe, Oregon Military Museum  
■ 15300 SE Minuteman Way, Clackamas, Oregon 97015

■ October 4, 2024, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

■ To register for this FREE event visit <https://givebutter.com/IGKkvN>

■ Email: [eventsommp@gmail.com](mailto:eventsommp@gmail.com)

invited to support efforts to fund the Museum's future programs and operations for opening in 2025. Your generous monetary and in-kind donations, or sponsorships are appreciated.

You may also donate by mailing a check to Oregon Military Museum Project, 15300 SE Minuteman Way, Clackamas, Oregon 97015 or visit us at [www.oregonmilitarymuseumproject.org](http://www.oregonmilitarymuseumproject.org).

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Is your dog’s license up to date?

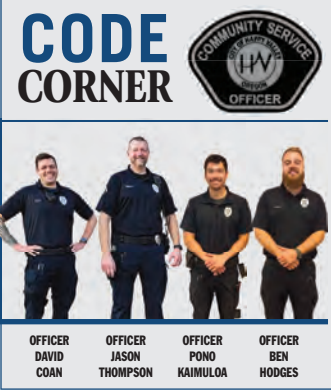
City of Happy Valley

Happy Valley’s Animal Control Services support people and animals in a variety of ways. With animal control one of our many responsibilities, we aim to protect pets and wild animals while simultaneously protecting people and property from challenges that can arise when animals are uncontrolled. Whether assisting an animal in distress, reuniting lost pets and their owners, or responding to animal nuisance concerns, our team is responsible for the daily happenings related to animal services. We enforce City laws and ordinances and help ensure the City remains a safe place for people and animals alike.

Whether lost or abandoned, when a dog is seen roaming City streets, Community Service Officers can be called to help. We will attempt to contain the dog and reduce its chance of running into traffic or getting further away from home should it accidentally escape. If identifying information can be obtained, we will then proceed to help reunify the dog with its owner. This is a primary reason the City of Happy Valley requires dog licensing. It could mean a world of difference, especially if your dog were to become lost.

When dogs get lost

More times than not, a dog gets out when a door is left open, or a gate latch or section



of fencing becomes loose. When this happens, your pup escapes and off they go on an unplanned adventure. Our team has found dogs wandering neighborhoods and thankfully no harm is done, but most concerning is when they get near busy streets like Sunnyside and 172nd Ave. To report dogs running at-large please contact us at 503-783-3800.

How we can help

Should a lost dog be found, we can easily reference the City’s licensing database to



locate you for reunification if it has a collar. We also have the needed equipment on hand to scan for microchips. But these efforts only go so far in helping reunite dogs with their owners if the information is up to date. That is why it is so important to keep your dog’s licensure in compliance.

Additionally, we can’t emphasize enough just how important it is to microchip your pet. We often find dogs without an identifying collar, and it can take a long time to sift through the database if we have to search by breed alone. So, if you haven’t already, be sure to talk to your vet ASAP about microchipping your

dog and keep in mind you will need to update the microchip company with any changes to your contact information if you move or get a new phone number.

Dogs that cannot be reunited with their owner are placed for shelter with our community partner, Clackamas Dog Services. The City’s partnership with Clackamas Dog Services allows us the ability to access shelter for lost or abandoned dogs 24/7, ensuring safety, basic needs, and medical care are provided.

Health and wellness

Another reason it is required for dog owners

to complete the licensure process is to ensure your pup has received a current rabies vaccination. This is absolutely imperative to the health and safety of anyone, including other animals, who may encounter your dog.

Local partners

We’ve made it a point to connect and partner with each of the Happy Valley veterinary clinics in the City. In doing so, we’ve provided local veterinarians with the resources needed to remind pet owners of the dog licensing requirement during routine visits. Additionally, the City reinforces compliance by cross-reporting with

DO I HAVE THE CORRECT LICENSE?

If you reside in the City of Happy Valley and you own a dog, you must have a current dog license on file with the City. In most cases, a Community Service Officer will first talk with you about a concern related to dog licensing before it reaches the level of receiving a citation. Ultimately, it is your responsibility as a dog owner to comply. If you possess a Clackamas County dog license or dog license from another jurisdiction in the state, please contact City Hall at 503-783-3800.



veterinary offices, ensuring that licensing records are consistently updated.

We also work closely with Clackamas Dog Services. Their team sends us an updated document every six weeks that lists dogs in Happy Valley that have received the rabies vaccination. If those dogs are unlicensed, our team will reach out to the owner to complete the necessary paperwork.

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# HONORING first responders

A visual recap of  
National Night Out



City of Happy Valley

On Aug. 6, residents gathered at Happy Valley Park to celebrate National Night Out, a nationwide event that serves to build relationships between neighbors and promote community partnerships with Happy Valley Police and other local first responders.

The event offered an evening of summer fun that included food and beverage vendors, educational and interactive safety booths, and live musical entertainment. Throughout the evening, popular cover band, Hit Machine, kept the crowd engaged as residents and visitors came together to pay tribute to their local safety heroes. Coordinated by Happy Valley Parks and Recreation the event brought neighbors, friends, and emergency responders together for a night to remember.

Save the Date

National Night Out 2025 is slated to take place Tuesday, Aug. 5. Be sure to follow the City of Happy Valley on Facebook or check out [www.happyvalleyor.gov](http://www.happyvalleyor.gov) for information about future events.





# Ending on a HIGH note



## Happy Valley Park wraps up the Concerts in the Valley series.

City of Happy Valley

Happy Valley Park hosted the final show of the 2024 Concerts in the Valley series on Aug. 22. The City's popular summer event brought together families and friends every Thursday night to enjoy live music from local bands. With food and drinks available, the event offered a complete package of entertainment and fun.

The musical lineup featured a variety of genres, including country, pop, blues, classic rock, 80's funk, and big band. The audience had a blast dancing and singing along to different tunes.

Additionally, the series introduced a Youth Entrepreneur Fair held weekly and featured special occasions such as a wine-tasting event and a showcase of vintage and exotic automobiles.

The series was a great way to celebrate summer and foster community spirit. We can't wait to see you next year, Happy Valley!

The 2024 Concerts in the Valley summer series was presented by Happy Valley Parks and Recreation and sponsored in partnership by









# Celebrate Fall at Oktoberfest

Autumnal fun is right around the corner

City of Happy Valley

Happy Valley Parks and Recreation is excited to announce the return of Oktoberfest, the ultimate celebration of Fall. Join us for a day of fun and festivities, featuring pumpkins, wagon rides, and lots of activities for the whole family. You'll also enjoy a taste of Germany with authentic food, music, and beer! Don't miss the chance to participate in the hilarious Weiner Dog races, the lively chicken dance contest, and the challenging Paulaner Stein hoist competition (21+ only).

Event takes place Saturday, Oct. 5 at Happy Valley Park. You'll also find a variety of vendors and community booths to explore. For more details and to sign up for competitions, visit [hv.city/oktoberfest](http://hv.city/oktoberfest).

Check out the Parks & Recreation Fall Guide in this issue of HV News for more information!



Mark your calendars now for the upcoming Happy Valley Oktoberfest, presented by Happy Valley Parks and Recreation.

Oktoberfest is brought to you by Happy Valley Parks and Recreation, in partnership with Rotary Club of Clackamas and Boys Team Charity. Oktoberfest is additionally supported by the following sponsors:



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## HAPPY VALLEY BUSINESS ALLIANCE

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A view of the updated baseball field.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

# Sports fields back in action at Happy Valley Park

Long awaited project is now complete

City of Happy Valley

The sports fields at Happy Valley Park have been replaced with new grass and updated maintenance amenities. The fields are now open for light recreational use by individuals and families with competitive sports leagues and Parks and Recreation programs resuming Sept. 15.

This improvement project provided much needed updates to these high use areas. Changes included:

- Updates to irrigation and drainage lines

Your tax dollars at work!



- Fencing and sign modifications
  - Infield upgrades to baseball field
  - Newly leveled soccer fields and grass
- Parks improvement projects, such as this one, are fully funded by the Happy Valley Parks Levy, which is voted on by residents every five years. This critical funding not only helps maintain our beloved recreational amenities but allows for their long-term accessibility by residents and visitors alike.



# You're a Good Man, Jared Beideck

Clackamas High School senior puts on his own production of 'You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown'

By EMMA DAVIS  
Staff Reporter

Seventeen-year-old Jared Beideck, a senior at Clackamas High School, is channeling his years of theater experience and ambition into a bold new project: producing, directing, and starring in his own production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown." Beideck's theater journey began in sixth grade with Journey Theater, a local youth group, where he first discovered his love for the stage. His passion deepened in 2021 when he landed his first professional role in "Elf: The Musical" at Lakewood Theater, inspiring him to pursue a career in the arts. Since then, he has dedicated himself to numerous productions, but this latest venture is his most ambitious yet.

After previously playing Charlie Brown, Beideck was inspired to create his own unique version of the show. Despite facing obstacles, his determination only grew. With support from friends, family, teachers, and his own willpower, Beideck is making it all happen. His hard work and determination are set to pay off as he brings this beloved production to life on his own terms.

Theater has been a significant part of Beideck's life since he was in the sixth grade. Once in the high school theater scene, he became more involved at Clackamas High School while continuing to work with Lakewood Theater. In his junior year, he played the lead in a production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" and began considering putting



Beideck and some of his cast mates hanging out after a rehearsal.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JARED BEIDECK



Jared (center) and two of his cast mates with signs promoting support for theater arts.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JARED BEIDECK



Teddy (last name), who plays Charlie Brown, playing around with set pieces.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JARED BEIDECK

on his own version of the show. "I'm getting the small talk out with my group, and I looked at them and thought, what I really wish I could do is 'You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown' with just six people. It would be so much fun," he said. "And my theater director looked at me and told me, 'You know,

you could always try to just get it started yourself and, you know, put it on.' And I was like, 'Oh, you're right.' And so, I took that and had so many ideas."

Determined to bring his vision to life, Beideck decided to create his own performing company, Playhouse Collective

**YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN**

**Where:** Clackamas High School Auditorium

**When:** September 6th at 7:00 PM.

**When:** September 7th at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM

**Closing night:** September 8th at 7:00 PM.

Theater Company, after facing challenges in finding another company to collaborate with. He began fundraising through GoFundMe and, with the help of his Uncle Scott, raised \$2,500 to buy the rights to the show. He reached out to Oregon theaters like Crow Theater and Corban University for set pieces and secured Clackamas High School as the venue with help from his teachers.

In addition to directing and producing the show, Beideck is also starring as Linus. Throughout the process, he's gained valuable professional insight, from learning how to be a business owner and managing funds to balancing his responsibilities as a director. "It's been really eye-opening, I would say. I'm learning a lot about how to take care of myself and do things for myself and my friends too," he said.

This production is more than just a show — it's a celebration for the entire community. As he reflects on his experience, Beideck shares his passion for the art and the joy of entertaining others. "My passion for the art is for myself, but part of the love I have for this is the love that other people have for it as well," he said. "I have never been happier than to hear somebody enjoyed my performance. As an entertainer, my work isn't completely fulfilling unless people are enjoying it." Beideck's ambition and dedication have set the stage for a bright future, and he hopes people will come out to support and see the show. "As much as I'm doing this for myself, I am also doing it for the people, and I really, really hope that they like it."

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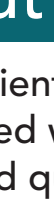
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In the right direction

Local Nelson High School graduate gets recognized for her involvement in the community and passion for theater with the STAR Scholarship

By EMMA DAVIS  
Staff Reporter

Riley Thames, an 18-year-old recipient of the prestigious STAR Scholarship, embodies dedication, creativity, and leadership. With only 150 scholarships awarded nationwide, this honor recognizes her exceptional achievements and ambition. With a love for storytelling that shines through in her work in theater, Riley has explored multiple facets of the craft, from tech to performing, and the role she has truly fallen in love with, directing. Her involvement in the Happy Valley Youth Council, National Charity League (NCL), and various volunteer efforts reflect her dedication to leadership and community service. Thames has gone through life taking chances and learning from those around her, all while surrounding herself with like-minded individuals who share her drive. Her multi-faceted experiences, paired with her STAR Scholarship recognition, undermine her potential for success. With a clear ambition to pursue her passion for directing and telling stories, not identified by just one thing, she has her sights set on a bright future, ready to embrace whatever comes her way.

Thames has been an active member of the Happy Valley community since she was young. She has been a member of the National Charity League with her mom and has also been a co-chair of the Happy Valley Youth Council. She got involved with theater during her freshman year of high school, but since it was the year of the COVID-19 pandemic, she could only take acting classes. When things started to open up again, she started on the tech side until she realized she had a knack for performing after her first role in Imagine Theater's production of 'The Sound of Music.' "By my junior year, I started auditioning and then I fell in love with performing,"



STAR Scholarship recipient and Happy Valley resident, Riley Thames

Thames said. "From performing in my first role, I have just kind of kept auditioning, and taking roles as they come."

During that time, Thames discovered directing and loved it. It was then that she realized that she wanted to further pursue this new passion. "There are so many people who can do everything. You know, you've got so many people who can sing, who can act. And that's kind of all really spread far and wide, especially among like, young people," she said. "But I had several directors telling me like, you've got something special in directing, telling me to really pursue that." She had her first directing experience that same year at the Mt Hood Conference One Act Festival.

then on, she went on to be the lead director for a two-actor, small one-act called 'Counting to Three' to which she won an award and had "so much fun"

with the project. "Being able to take on a project totally independently and then create a portfolio and work through it and then place first," she said. "It was really encouraging to me that the first time wasn't a fluke and that I could kind of maintain that." She continued performing while learning more about what it takes to be a director. Thames has been assisting directors for school productions at Nelson High School, including the recent 'Mamma Mia.'

Since she was a kid, Thames loved everything about stories. "I've always been drawn to stories and it was like finding that [theater was] the vessel with which I wanted to tell stories through," she said. "My appreciation of stories from when I was younger, really, that set me up for directing and performing." Additionally, she had been compelled to have leadership play a role in what she



PHOTO COURTESY OF RILEY THAMES  
Thames (right) and fellow actresses during Adrienne C Nelson's production of Mamma Mia! (April 2024)

does, including theater, NCL, and Youth Council. "I wouldn't have the set of activities around me that I do if I hadn't been so drawn to leadership," she said. "I know that everyone has their own set of talents and like leadership is definitely something that has come pretty naturally to me."

Through all of her experiences from childhood to now, Thames has learned a lot about herself and how she chooses to go about her life. "I think something I've definitely like learned through all these experiences is that you kind of have to like advocate for the opportunities that you want, you have to actually apply and get out there and go for it," she said. "It takes a certain level of initiative and I think I've definitely learned to put myself out there, and I can't just wait for things to fall into my lap."

Ultimately, Thames takes away from her life in leadership, theater, and beyond trusting herself, going for her goals, and making the most out of anything she does. "Trusting myself has been a big part of everything and then trusting the future a little bit too. Like I have goals but, you know, you trust the process and everything will work out," she said. "I just have to make the experience valuable for myself."



PHOTO COURTESY OF RILEY THAMES  
Thames (left) at the Mt. Hood Conference One Act Festival where I presented my directing



PHOTO COURTESY OF RILEY THAMES  
Thames (left) performing in Nelson High School's production of Mamma Mia! (April 2024)

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# Sunrise Corridor Community Visioning Open House

Join us Sept. 24 to see what we learned and share your thoughts

Clackamas County

The Sunrise Corridor Community is home to 7,600 residents, 800 businesses and more than 14,000 employees. It is one of the busiest freight distribution centers in the region. Clackamas County is working with Oregon Department of Transportation, Metro, Happy Valley and the community to develop a shared vision for the future.

Using community feedback from more than three hundred people last spring, we've pulled together some possible actions to improve the future of transportation and mobility, land

use, economic development, public health, and open spaces in the Sunrise Corridor Community. Come see what we learned and share your ideas to help make sure this area grows in ways that meet everyone's needs!

Attend the open house Sept. 24 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. at Adrienne C. Nelson High School, 14897 SE Parklane Drive in Happy Valley.

Can't attend in person?

Join us online between Sept. 16 and Oct. 6 to learn about possible actions and share your ideas. Sign up for email updates at [www.clackamas.us/sunrise](http://www.clackamas.us/sunrise).



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
Upcoming open house will provide update on community feedback related to the future of the Sunrise Corridor.

# Making way for a new roundabout

City of Happy Valley

Beginning Sept. 16, there will be a multi-week road closure at the intersection of SE 129th Ave. and King Rd. This closure is required in order to accommodate the work of building a roundabout that will significantly improve the flow of traffic at this intersection.

A detour will be in effect to accommodate the majority of the work needed for road reconstruction, including grading, subgrade construction and paving. Once paving is complete, the intersection will reopen as quickly as possible with some occasional traffic impacts to follow. The project is scheduled to be fully



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
The final step to improvements at SE 129th Ave. and King Rd. will include the installation of a roundabout. Travelers in this area will notice a full closure of the intersection later this month.

completed in November.

This is the final step in completing updates to this high use

area of roadway. Taks have also included undergrounding utilities and making major revisions

to the landscaping and right of way. Together, these improvements will enhance the safety, functionality, and aesthetics of the area.

The City recognizes this road closure may cause inconvenience and frustration for those who use this major thoroughfare on a regular basis, but once complete, the roundabout will help curb traffic and instead allow for more continuous movement and increased safety.

If you have any questions or concerns about this project, please contact City Hall at 503-783-3800.

For additional information about this project, including specific detour information, please visit [hv.city/129th-roundabout](http://hv.city/129th-roundabout).

# Improvements coming soon along Mt. Scott Creek Trail



Get ready for an enhanced experience along popular walking path

City of Happy Valley

The City of Happy Valley, in conjunction with Happy Valley Parks and Recreation, is working on a project to improve the Mt. Scott Creek Trail, a popular recreational pathway located west of SE 129th Avenue with multiple trail access points. Just shy of nine acres, Mt. Scott Creek Trail offers an abundance of natural vegetation and forested ambiance, all within close proximity to Happy Valley neighborhoods.

The project will include new asphalt pathways, a boardwalk, and a bridge crossing over the creek. The project will soon be going to bid, with plans to complete the work later this Fall.

Funding for this project is



A view from Mt. Scott Creek Trail.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY

made possible in partnership with the Oregon Department of Transportation Community

Path Grant, which supports the development of multi-use paths across the state. The

grant aims to enhance safety, accessibility and connectivity for those using this local trail.



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# Happy Valley resident competes for spot in finals of national songwriting competition



FILE PHOTO: KATIE SMITH  
West Linn High School alumnus Tyler Stenson is competing in America's Next Top Hit Maker.

By HOLLY BARTHOLOMEW  
Staff Reporter

A Happy Valley resident is in the running for the title of “America’s Next Top Hitmaker.” Tyler Stenson, a graduate of West Linn High School, is competing in the quarterfinals of the competition for the chance to win \$10,000, a spotlight in Rolling Stone magazine and the opportunity to perform at Rolling Stone’s Future of Music Showcase. Stenson was named Portland’s songwriter of the year by the Portland Songwriters Association in 2007 and 2008; in 2011 he

won best male artist at the Portland Music Awards. “I’m incredibly honored to have made it this far in America’s Next Top Hitmaker,” Stenson said in a press release. “This opportunity allows me to share my music with a broader audience and connect with listeners in new and meaningful ways. Coming out of post-Covid retirement with a new album in the works, the timing feels right to put myself out there and share what I’ve been working on.” Those interested can learn more about the competition and vote for Stenson at tophitmaker.org.

# Welcome to the neighborhood

New businesses celebrate

City of Happy Valley

Did you know the Mayor, City Council, and members of the Happy Valley Business Alliance (HVBA) frequently partake in ribbon cutting ceremonies as a way to officially welcome new businesses to the City? For nearly 15 years, the City has been offering this opportunity as a way to engage new businesses and connect residents to some of the best spots in town.

Happy Valley businesses contribute significantly to our local community by providing many of the goods and services we all need and enjoy. They offer places for us to gather, workout, eat, drink, and shop, and provide jobs which boost the economy and contribute to a city that thrives. The City of Happy Valley not only encourages new businesses to set up shop, but it is happy to highlight them with pomp and circumstance. By partnering with the Happy Valley Business Alliance to offer commemorative ribbon cutting ceremonies, the City aims to celebrate one slice of the American Dream.

## Recent ribbon cutting ceremonies

- **Café Le Fleurs:** 13100 SE 172nd Ave., Suite 100 (Crossroads East complex)
- **Desmadre Body Spa:** 12930 SE 162nd Ave., Suite 108 (Christilla Commons complex)

## Upcoming ribbon cutting events

- **Stretch Lab:** 15727 SE Happy Valley Town Center space between Dr. and Monday, Sept. 9 at 9 a.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
From the inviting picturesque patio, to the freshest flowers adorning the space, every detail is designed to create the perfect spot for catching up with friends, family or co-workers over handcrafted beverages and French inspired pastries at Café Le Fleurs.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
Desmadre Body Spa uses techniques that align with Mexico's rich healing heritage. Experience the rejuvenating effects of agave-based clay body treatments and popular facial treatments, body sculpting and contouring, and detox body wraps inspired by the spiritual essence of traditional Mexican steam baths.

AGE PREPARED

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A photograph of a smiling man with a grey beard and a yellow t-shirt, standing with his arms crossed. He has a tattoo on his left arm that says "Om Shanti".

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The logo for Embrace Senior Advisors, featuring a stylized flower or leaf design.

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# Farewell, Neighbor: The End of Terra Casa

*Beloved establishment, Terra Casa, closes its doors this autumn.*

By JAMES KENNETH PRESLEY  
For The Happy Valley News

Earlier in the Summer of 2024, it was announced that Terra Casa, a home and garden retailer would be shutting its doors permanently in the Fall of this year.

Terra Casa is and has been a special place for many community members, as this unique business somehow managed to hold a local monopoly in home decor, pottery, and other fun seasonal gifts. This retail store brought an overwhelming warmth to the soul, like a cup of noodle soup on a chilly Fall day. So, in sorrowful gratitude, we sat down with store owner Diana Helm to learn more about the business, her decision to close, and what comes next.

“I’ve been in the area for about 30 years now,” says Helm. “I actually started at Fred Meyer when I was sixteen years old in Albany and that was my first round in the retail fold. I worked my way up the ladder there to the buying office in Portland, which was a big goal of mine as I wanted to travel.”

Helm went on to share how she then “flipped” to the wholesale side of the company as a sales rep before ultimately committing to the role of a stay-at-home mom for her two sons. However, itching to get back to work, Helm began to brainstorm her next big move, specifically as it pertains to the building, which would ultimately become Terra Casa, that her family purchased in the early 2000s.

“This building is super old,” says Helm. “It was a car repair garage for many years and was actually a gas station before that.”

Helm then pulled out an old scrapbook with photos of the space, with pictures that dated back to the 1950s, sharing how when they bought the space they had a lot of refurbishment work to do before renting it out to other businesses.

“I did not have this business (Terra

Casa) in mind at all when we bought it,” says Helm. “It was a property investment that, unfortunately, just didn’t work out for the businesses that occupied this space. So, I decided that I could try and make it work. I mean, 30,000 cars go by here a day so it should work!”

Helm first played to both her strengths and passion for pottery to jumpstart the business, crediting her love of Italy and the aesthetic of the country. So, with pots, gardening supplies, and other gifts, Helm officially had a business, first opening its doors eighteen years ago.

“I originally opened as ‘Terra Potta’, because Terra means ‘Earth’, and Damascus was originally founded by a potter because of the clay here in the soil,” says Helm. “However, in the first few months, I realized that another company on the East Coast had registered and trademarked the same name, so I changed it ‘Casa’ because of its meaning, ‘Home’, which naturally fit the evolving business as we carved out an identity for it. You learn a lot along the way when owning a business.”

Today, close to two decades later, Terra Casa found its niche in the community, and that’s Terra Casa’s ability to adapt as the seasons change, from Christmas decor in the Winter to gardening supplies in the Spring, the business was always able to adapt based on the needs of the community.

“There’s very few lulls in this business,” says Helm. “It’s been a very steady business and has filled a void in both the Happy Valley and Damascus communities. Even if it’s just a singular focus like the fountain business which is very popular in the area.”

Helm then went on to share future plans with the space, planning to lease it out once the business closes in the Fall.

“I am taking this step by step,” says Helm. “Right now the focus is still Terra Casa and taking in these final few months with the employees that I cherish and the community that I love.”

Now that we know the “when”, we went on to ask Helm why she’s ready to step away, noting how both technological shifts in the business as



Terra Casa — a beautiful exterior that attracts most drive-by visitors

PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES KENNETH PRESLEY

well as anticipating time with her first grandchild as the reason she knew it was time.

“Our point-of-sales-system is sun-setting next year, and it’s just too overwhelming to think about switching over to something brand new and not similar, especially with the cost,” says Helm before cracking a small joke. “It’s just time . . . plus I want to be an involved grandparent, as much as I’m allowed!”

Helm began to reflect on the business on a deeper level, sharing how people are more connected to the business than she ever could’ve guessed.

“People are coming in and sort of giving their last rights,” says Helm. “They share how sad they are and, while happy for me, that they’ll miss Terra Casa because of the community and memories this store gave them. I’ve been brought to tears multiple times this summer already. It’s a special place for people other than myself.”

Helm, who insisted on a clean break from it all rather than simply selling the business, shared one final note to the community.

“I’ve tried to contribute to the community as best as I’ve could over the years,” says Helm. “No matter where you go you see a familiar face, and there’s no reason to leave this bubble of Happy Valley and Damascus. It was a great place to raise my kids, a great place to start a business, and a great place to build a community. It’s been a challenge yet a pleasure. Very special and I’ll always look back with wonderful memories.”



Liquidation process — it’s tough to say goodbye.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES KENNETH PRESLEY

# Astronomers, come one come all!

*Sign up for Derek and Hazel Sears’ upcoming astronomy courses and join the newly established Astronomy Club.*

By EMMA DAVIS  
Staff Reporter

Derek Sears’ astronomy classes have been so successful that they inspired the creation of a new astronomy club.

The classes, which include “Astronomy 1: Planets,” “Astronomy 2: Stars and Galaxies,” and the new “Astronomy with a Small Telescope,” are offered each year and have consistently filled up quickly. The telescope course was initially capped at nine participants, but high demand led to 13 people enrolling. Students appreciate these classes for

their scientific insights and the friendships they form, and Sears, in collaboration with his wife Hazel, plans to continue improving them.

In response to the strong interest generated by these courses, he proposed forming a club to extend the experience beyond the classroom in one of his classes.

“That idea was very well received,” Sears said. “We had an organizational meeting in May and basically everyone was on board.” The newly established club meets on the first Tuesday of each month at Sports on Tap, which provides a private room with a large projector. Meetings begin with a social half-hour of eating and drinking, followed by introductions, a “Sky This Month” segment, and discussions on

recent astronomical news. “We start by eating and drinking, and then the chairman of the meeting, which is the President or the Vice President, will

stand up and welcome visitors,” he said. “Then somebody will summarize what’s going on in the sky and we do astronomical news. That’s what I keep for myself, so any particular research articles that have come out in the last month, I will summarize them with the members, so we’re keeping an eye on a lot of things.”

While the club is still young and developing, it aims to become a sustainable and engaging community. For now, members share their insights and experiences, but there are hopes to invite guest speakers as the club matures. Sears is dedicated to maintaining a balance



A group photo from the “Astronomy with a Small Telescope” class that was held earlier this summer.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DEREK SEARS

of growth in the club and also using it to promote his courses.

The classes and the club, though separate, complement each other by providing continuous opportunities to deepen one’s understanding of astronomy.

With registrations for the classes opening in September, Sears encourages anyone interested in the wonders of the night sky to sign up early, as spots fill up fast. Whether you’re looking to learn the basics or delve into more

advanced topics, these courses offer something for everyone. “I’m hoping the classes continue to be as successful as they have been,” he said. “I’m constantly working on them to make them better.”

For those eager to keep the momentum going, the club offers a friendly, supportive space to share your passion for astronomy with like-minded individuals. If you’re interested in joining, don’t hesitate to reach out to the organizers for more information. Looking to the future, Sears is working on setting up additional classes, including topics such as the history of astronomy, to expand the educational offerings. “I’m hoping the camaraderie and the class continues and that people sign up,” he said. “I want try to communicate a lot of the excitement that these courses bring, but at the same time I want a relaxed friendly atmosphere, because I think that’s the atmosphere that works best.”



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# BARRE3: REFUELING THE MIND and BODY

*Enter Barre3 in Happy Valley Crossroads East, a trending workout that, if taken seriously and with an open mind, can improve your overall well-being and create a community of support in the process.*

By JAMES KENNETH PRESLEY  
for Happy Valley News

With so many local options to help improve mind, spirit, and body, we understand the overwhelming need for a personal breakdown of what each of these fitness centers offers and who might benefit from it. Luckily, as it pertains to Barre3 Happy Valley, co-owner Liz Denfeld was sweet enough to take some time from her busy schedule, both as a business owner and a mother of two, to sit down and discuss a bit about her business, including who it can help, and it's overall place in Happy Valley.

"I started as a journalism major from the University of Oregon," says Denfeld. "I really thought I was always gonna work in magazines. Life had other plans, I guess."

Denfeld, who spent nearly a decade working at Nike as a copywriter, shared how her new priority as a mother gave her and her family some pause as it pertains to what Denfeld's future might hold, all while scratching a new itch that had been leaving Denfeld curious for quite some time.

"Fitness wasn't a part of my life at all," says Denfeld. "I just really needed to find something for me and I ultimately came across Barre3."

Denfeld shares how she would drive by her local Barre3 in Beaverton for years without the intention of ever going inside.

"I made a judgment of the process and the people who did it," says Denfeld. "I was convinced that it wasn't for me and that I would be out of place and out of shape as a mother."

Surprisingly, Denfeld's curiosity forced her to deep dive into a variety of Barre3 resources which heavily featured Barre3 founder Sadie Lincoln, ultimately leading her to uncover what the Barre3 experience had to offer.

"I felt so welcomed and so strong," says Denfeld. "Going into those first few classes and always having options, or modifications, really felt like the workout was catering to my skills and needs for where I was in life. A bonus was they had childcare!"

At this point, Denfeld was all in on the brand and was determined to integrate herself more with Barre3... all she was missing was a partner.

"Tiffany (DeLorenzo), the co-owner, originally purchased the Camas studio as a resale," says Denfeld. "She also purchased the rights to Happy Valley in 2017. I'm just lucky I found her through a friend.



The open and spacious studio provides plenty of space for attendees to workout comfortably.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAELA MELLMER



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAELA MELLMER

We complement each other immensely and get to focus on the aspects of the business we're both good at."

However, thanks to the pandemic, Crossroads East and its

construction caused a delay in the grand opening of Barre3. Luckily, their patience was rewarded as both Denfeld and DeLorenzo were finally close to opening their studio doors,



One of the key elements of Barre3 is use of a bar to do some of the exercises.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAELA MELLMER

building their brand behind the scenes for eight months with free workouts throughout the community before finally opening in April 2022.

So, what exactly does Barre3 entail?

"Barre3 is an efficient and effective workout that combines strength, cardio, and

**"People come for the workouts and they stay for the community."**

— Liz Denfeld

mindfulness," says Denfeld. "We started with the Foundation, or Barre3 signature class, which is 60 minutes long and literally works for every muscle group. Super low impact too and is what I consider a smart and thoughtful workout."

Denfeld shared how physical therapists have actually recommended Barre3 for clients who need to continue with functional training to help improve and maintain healthy day-to-day lifestyles.

"Every class is sequenced the same, which involves a warmup, then legs, weights, a quick cardio burst, and finally a block for core work," says Denfeld, finally finishing the workout with some stretching and breath work. "That's part of the magic of Barre3. It's so incredibly impactful for releasing stress you've put on your body and helps leave you energized rather than depleted."

One thing Denfeld noted was how these workouts do offer modifications that are personalized to your level of fitness. They do offer other workouts throughout the week that are a bit shorter as well as slower-paced but utilize heavier weights.

"Barre3 is for everyone," says Denfeld. "You can make Barre3 incredibly challenging or scale back based on how you're feeling that day. It's important to take the options that feel good while still providing a challenge. All ages, body types, and fitness levels will benefit from this."

We then asked Dendeld the role the community has played in the success of her business.

"People come for the workouts and they stay for the community," says Denfeld. "It's an incredibly special and welcoming community and so non-judgmental. The energy in the studio is infectious and that is because of the wonderful people in the area. So, if you drive by and think that Barre3 isn't for you please give it a try. The first class is free and there are no strings attached! We also provide daycare."

Equally as infectious is the kindness and generosity offered by owners Denfeld and DeLorenzo outside of their patrons, often hosting small women-owned business popups outside and inside their Barre3 studio that highlight both their products and services, underscoring the concept of community.

## DESMADRE: Turning hardship into healing

*Desmadre, a new Happy Valley spa, aims to heal the community*

By EMMA DAVIS  
Staff Reporter

New to the Happy Valley business scene, 29-year-old Samantha Morales, a second-generation Chicana from Whittier, California, has transformed her turbulent past into a beacon of hope and healing with her new aesthetics spa, Desmadre Body Spa. Facing significant challenges throughout her life, Morales has turned her chaos into a sanctuary of beauty and healing. The name "Desmadre," meaning "chaos" in Spanish, reflects her journey from adversity to strength. Desmadre offers a range of treatments, including post-recovery care, detox body wraps, and personalized bodywork, all infused with elements of Morales' cultural heritage.

As the sole owner, Morales aims to create a welcoming space for all people, especially mothers, ensuring they feel understood and comfortable. By using products manufactured in Mexico, Desmadre emphasizes cultural authenticity and personalized care, creating a sanctuary where



EMMA DAVIS

"Desmadre" proudly displayed above the tunnel to the "calles" in Aztec inspired font.

chaos becomes harmony.

Morales' inspiration for Desmadre began in 2021 while living in Mexico with her ex-husband, Felix. She realized she wanted to create something meaningful that could bring health and healing to others. "It's amazing because I named

it after my background," Morales shares. "I took all the bad things I was involved in, moved here, started a new life, and focused on turning something bad into something good." Two years before this realization, Morales had earned her esthetics license.

Tragically, Felix passed away



PHOTO COURTESY OF ADRIAN SOTO, DESIGN BY SOTO

The interior of Desmadre is inspired by traditional Mexican architecture, while giving a nod to Morales' past with the sleek look.

later in 2021, which pushed Morales to take the leap and bring Desmadre to life. "I took that trauma and grief, and decided, 'I'm opening it,'" she says. "I made a promise to him, and then I entered a very healing stage of my life." It was during this time that the vision for Desmadre became a reality. In December 2021, Morales found out she was pregnant at the start of the process. With the support of her "ride or die," Daisy, she navigated the challenges of launching the spa. "We just kept going, and it all came together in the end," Morales recalls.

Desmadre is a modern space with Hispanic influences, reflected in everything from the concrete-colored paint to the Mexican Lo-fi playing in the

background. "I was inspired by many places I loved in Mexico, like Puerto Vallarta, Tijuana, and Tulum, and incorporated those elements here," Morales explains. She also wanted to retain a hint of her rebellious spirit, which she expressed through the spa's black, minimalist design.

Unique in its approach, Desmadre not only incorporates Mexican influences in its design but also uses products imported from Mexico. An essential aspect of the spa is inclusion and comfort. "I wanted to create a modern space where people of color feel welcomed, where we understand their skin type, and they don't feel out of place," Morales says. "Everyone has a story, and I want to use mine to



SAMANTHA MORALES

connect with others who are like me. This place is built out of pure love, and I want people to feel understood when they walk in."

Desmadre offers various services tailored mainly to women, including post-recovery care, body sculpting treatments, postpartum care, and customized facials. "We offer post-recovery treatments that are aesthetics-based after cosmetic surgery, and we use clay and detox scrubs manufactured in Mexico," Morales explains. "We're here to provide a pleasant, healing experience in a safe space while staying true to who we are."

At the end of the day, Samantha Morales and her team at Desmadre strive to bring something different to the area, highlighting the importance of post-recovery and postpartum care. "It's crucial to continue taking care of yourself afterward, and we make sure we're here for you," Morales concludes.





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SEPTEMBER 2024 LIBRARY EVENTS

Please note the library will be closed on Monday, Sept. 2, Monday, Sept. 9 and Tuesday, Sept 10. Due to construction, there may be other changes to our services. Please visit [go.lincc.org/hvupdates](https://go.lincc.org/hvupdates) for any additional impacts.

SEPTEMBER 2024 CALENDAR

All Ages Programs

Let's Build

Saturday, Sept. 28, 10:30 a.m.-noon  
Community Room A

Drop in for some free building fun with LEGO and Duplo blocks. Need a quieter environment? Supplies are also available in Community Room B for a sensory friendly option. All Together Now programs are designed as intergenerational programs, with people of all ages coming together to create and play.

Community Room Open House

Tuesday, Oct. 1, 5 p.m.-7 p.m.  
Community Rooms A&B

View the new space, enjoy live performances by Jini O'Flynn and Two Bass Hit, and help with a community art project.

Adult Programs

Mah Jongg

Fridays, 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.  
Meeting Room

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, Sept. 5, 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.  
Meeting Room

Read the bittersweet and laugh-out-loud funny, *Early Morning Riser* by Katherine Heiny, and discuss it with other readers. New members are always welcome. Find out more about the group,



Storywalk

Happy Valley Park

Each month you can enjoy a story along the path in Happy Valley Park. Walk along and read the story *A Mooncake for Little Star* by Grace Lin, starting at the all-abilities playground now through Sept. 26. Want to join us to walk/stroll and read the story together? We'll meet at Shelter A (by the big playground) on Monday, Sept. 16, at 3:30 p.m. to do the Storywalk, then everyone is invited to stay for an activity related to the book. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.



including future reads at [go.lincc.org/hvbg](https://go.lincc.org/hvbg). Want to plan ahead for next month's selection? October's book will be *Family Lore* by Elizabeth Acevedo.

The Basques: Mystery People of the American West

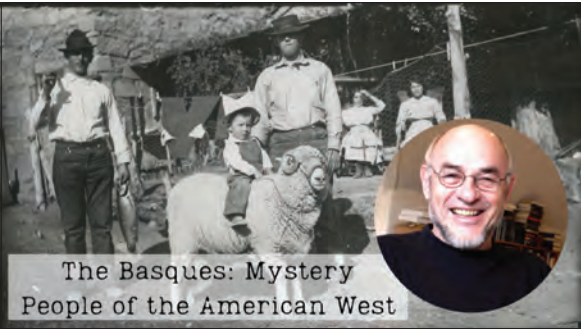
Tuesday, Sept. 24  
6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.  
Meeting Room

Historian Richard Etualian shares the Basque experiences in the American West, especially as herders and ranch owners. Richard will also be sharing from his new book which focuses on boyhood and family experiences on a Basque sheep ranch in eastern Washington. 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)

Medicare 101

Friday, Sept. 27,  
10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.  
Community Room A

Are you already on Medicare? Are you new to Medicare? Certified SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance) Volunteer Counselors will be available to assist with Medicare



questions you might have before Open Enrollment. Learn what's new in Medicare for 2025, compare Medicare Advantage and Medicare Part D plans or learn about enrollment in a plan if you do not already have one. 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)

ESL Class

Monday, Sept. 30  
10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.  
Meeting Room

All levels are welcome to drop in to this weekly class, starting Sept. 30. Each student will receive a free textbook to use in the classes. 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)

Family Movie Time

Sunday, Sept. 29, 3 p.m.  
Community Room A

It's a magical mermaid sing-along with this classic brought to life! Bring the family for a free movie afternoon at the library.

Tweens & Teens

For teens in grades 6-12

Teen Library Group

Tuesday, Sept. 17  
6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.  
Meeting Room

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.



WHERE'S THAT?!

City of Happy Valley

With construction wrapping up, you might notice some new spaces in our library and in our program descriptions. Thanks to the expansion, the library now has three Study Rooms and two Community Rooms. These new spaces are in addition to our current Meeting Room (formally called the Community Room – to make things a little confusing!).

■ **Study Rooms:** These reservable rooms are great for a quiet space to study, attend a class, or take a job interview. Rooms are available for up to two hours per day. Find out more at [go.lincc.org/hvstudy](https://go.lincc.org/hvstudy)

■ **Community Rooms:** Most library programs will take place in our new Community Rooms. While it's technically one big room, this new space will be able to be divided into two rooms, designated as Community Room A and Community Room B.

■ **Meeting Room:** This is the room you are probably familiar with. It was our temporary entrance this summer and will continue to be used for some smaller programs. This room will also offer a quieter group study area when not in use for programs.

Not sure where to go?

Just ask any of our staff and they'll be glad to help direct you!

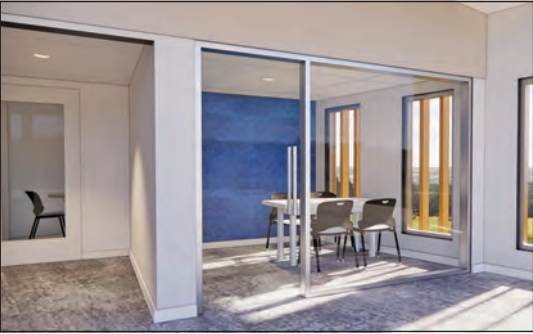


PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
A rendering shows a glimpse into a study room. This reservable space is just one new area set to be unveiled this fall.

IN THE HOME STRETCH!

Library expansion project finishing up final tasks.

City of Happy Valley

Happy Valley Library's main plaza is back open! The exterior stairs and treads were installed last month, and new sidewalks were completed. The interior finishes, including paint, are currently in process, while the flooring is complete and the new addition's restrooms are nearly finished.

In the upcoming weeks, visitors to the Library will see crews completing the building's exterior paint. The team is also finishing the installation of the acoustical panels in the lobby.

The library will continue to remain open throughout the construction process. Completion of the library expansion project is anticipated in just a few short weeks.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
Acoustical panels being installed in the lobby.

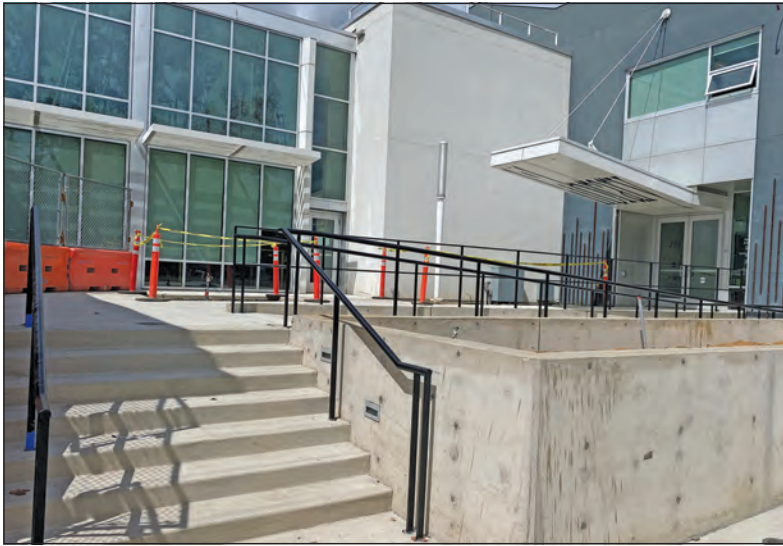


PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
The updated main plaza includes new stairs and treads.

Library Opening Celebration

City of Happy Valley

Opening Celebration

Construction is wrapping up on the library's expansion project. All are invited to join the celebration and get a peek at the new space on Tuesday, Oct. 1. Event activities include:

Ribbon Cutting

4 p.m.-5 p.m.: Official remarks from community leaders

Open House

5 p.m.-7 p.m.: View the new space, enjoy live performances by Jini O'Flynn and Two Bass Hit, and share your ideas for programs

The celebration continues later in October, so save the date for a full weekend of fun, Oct. 19 and 20, with special performances by En Taiko, DJ Action Slacks, and Angel Ocasio.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
Join us for a ribbon cutting as we formally celebrate our new spaces!



FREE ESL CLASSES

City of Happy Valley

The Happy Valley Library is partnering with Goodwill Industries to provide free English classes for adults. All levels are welcome to drop in to this weekly class on Mondays, 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m., starting Sept. 30. Each student will receive a free textbook to use in the classes.

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



Join the free weekly ESL class beginning Sept. 30.

Meet Aaron!

Library welcomes a new services supervisor

City of Happy Valley

In July, the library welcomed Aaron Novinger to the team. As the Library Services Supervisor, Aaron works closely with the librarians on all aspects of services offered, from all-ages reference to collection development to programming and outreach. Coming from the Oregon City Public Library, Aaron brings experience in library marketing, technology, and reference, and helped that library expand its building and services in 2016. Prior to that, he worked in public and higher education as a library assistant and English instructor.

Aaron is also an active volunteer for the PTA and an amateur dog sitter. He enjoys container gardening, listening to audiobooks on Libby while container gardening, traveling, and watching reruns of Seinfeld. He holds a Master's degree in Library Science from Emporia State University and a Bachelors of Arts degree in English from the University of Oregon.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY  
Library Services Supervisor, Aaron Novinger, joined the team this summer.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AARON NOVINGER  
Novinger and his family.



# SUMMER PROGRAMS ARE A WRAP!

City of Happy Valley

Construction didn't stop the fun from the Happy Valley Library this summer! From field days to music, there was something for everyone. A big thank you to the Friends of the Happy Valley Library for supporting and sponsoring library programs!

PHOTOS COURTESY OF HAPPY VALLEY LIBRARY



Summer is fun for grownups too! Felt artist LeBrie Rich helped participants craft their own felted flowers.



Some interactive learning happened with help from the Oregon Coast Aquarium and the University of Oregon's Museum of Natural and Cultural History.



The Library brought fun to Damascus Centennial Park in July and August, with crafts, games, and even a visit from the Oregon Coast Aquarium.



Library staff were busy at area events, from Happy Valley's 4th of July party to Day in Damascus.



Thanks to the Friends of the Library, Village Green Park hosted amazing bands Friday nights and Saturday mornings, including the swingy sounds of Boy & Bean.



Portland Opera singers brought their ballads, arias, and everything in between to Village Green Park, with their Opera a la Cart program.

## 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)

