



Happy Valley NEWS

January 2026

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2025

Year in Review

Let's take a moment to celebrate everything that made 2025 in Happy Valley so special!



Happy Valley Youth Council takes the stage at the annual LOC conference.



Handmade cards made by members of the community are delivered to local seniors.

City of Happy Valley

2025 was an incredible year here in Happy Valley! To celebrate, we're looking back on some of our top community programs, events, and people who make Happy Valley such an extraordinary place to live.

Welcoming new committee members

The City of Happy Valley has seven volunteer committees made up of residents from around Happy Valley who advise on different topics such as Design Review, Public Art, Parks, Traffic and Public Safety, Planning, Happy Valley Library, and Budget. In January, we welcomed eight new volunteers who

contribute their time and expertise to making Happy Valley thrive.

Youth Summit

In February, the Happy Valley Youth Council had the incredible opportunity to participate in the League of Oregon Cities' annual conference, celebrating its 100th anniversary! Youth Council-

ors spent the morning session hearing from notable elected leaders, including Governor Tina Kotek, Senator Daniel Bonham and Representative Christine Drazen. In the afternoon, youth representatives engaged in dynamic workshops, networking events, and

See **REVIEW** / A3

Farmers market is a 'beloved year-round destination'

The popular market continues through the winter months

By **JONATHAN DYER**
For Happy Valley News

The tradition of farmers markets dates back hundreds of years and was a way for communities to gather to exchange goods, share gossip, and build fellowship. The Sunnyside Farmers Market has kept this tradition alive for more than a decade. "We began in 2012 with a simple goal I had to create a warm, community-driven space where local growers, makers, and families could come together," explained Market Manager Jamie El-Khal. "What started

as a small neighborhood gathering has grown into a beloved year-round destination." Located on Sunnyside in the heart of Happy Valley, the market provides a place for merchants and artisan producers, bakers and crafters, food trucks, and farmers to sell their wares and provide services to the community. There are four markets throughout the year: Winter, Summer, Harvest, and the annual Procrastinators Holiday Market. "We strive to provide a reliable, welcoming place that supports small businesses, strengthens local agriculture, and offers families and neighbors a place to gather all year long," said El-Khal. In addition, the market provides a stage for talented



Customers enjoy fresh produce and a lively community at the Sunnyside Farmer's Market at the Sunnyside Foursquare Church parking lot. The market, now in its 15th year, is a place people can come to experience local artists, purchase hand-made crafts and baked goods, great food, and fellowship. It is expected to open back up for Winter January 7th. (PHOTO PROVIDED BY AGENCY)

musicians to perform. "We love showcasing local musicians and creating a lively, inviting atmosphere for shoppers," continued El Khal. El Khal, as founder and manager, is especially proud of the growth of the market. "Since opening in June 2012, our market has grown into a

true community destination filled with familiar faces, new families, and vendors who have become part of our extended market family. Now, as we enter January 2026, we're proudly celebrating our 15th season." **Where:** Sunnyside Foursquare Church, 13231 SE Sunnyside Rd, Clackamas **When:** Opens Jan. 10 and runs every other week through March 21, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. If you wish to submit an application to become a vendor or musician, email the organization at sunnysidefarmersmarket@gmail.com to request more information. Or you can connect with them on their website, <https://www.sunnysidefarmersmarkets.com/> or on their Facebook page.

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Otter Orthodontics is proud to be in Happy Valley

Dr. Gemma Hill and her team are always looking for ways to get involved

By JAMES KENNETH PRESLEY
For Happy Valley News

Otter Orthodontics’ mission is as clear as Invisalign, and that’s the belief that “everyone deserves a smile they’re proud to share.”

Located in the Hikade Dental Building, next to the Happy Valley Food Station, Otter Orthodontics is built on the foundation of providing patients with exceptional care through a personalized experience, supported by today’s advanced technology.

At the helm of this operation is Dr. Gemma Hill, a California woman who relocated to the Pacific Northwest with her family a little over three years ago.

“As a child, I was super shy and not very confident with my smile,” Hill said. “I’m very fortunate that my parents got me started with orthodontics early, around the age of eight. I went into an expander, braces, and really just the whole spectrum you can have. It made a huge impact on my confidence and the way I felt. As I got older, I really fell



Dr. Hill and her team work in this modern space. (COURTESY: OTTER ORTHODONTICS)



“As I got older I really fell in love with the details of working with teeth and providing people with that same confidence I found young.”

— Dr. Gemma Hill

in love with the details of working with teeth and providing people with that same confidence I found when I was young.”

Dr. Hill, who began working as a general dentist before moving into orthodontics, notes that Happy Valley reminded her of the area where

she grew up in California, aiming for a more suburban setting with a strong sense of community.

“My patients here are so kind and welcoming,” she said.

So, why “Otter Orthodontics” as a name for her business?

“Otters have always been my favorite animal,” Hill said. “My husband and I brainstormed for a while, but it kept coming back to the best representation of me and my team, which is warm and friendly. I want everyone who comes in to feel both safe and comfortable.”

Opening in Happy Valley in August 2024, Otter Orthodontics offers a full range of services, including braces, Invisalign, retainers, surgical orthodontics, and general care for all ages.

“You name it, we do it,” she said. “We are in

network with Delta Dental as well as most other insurance patients bring through.”

Since starting work in orthodontics, Hill has seen several advances in the dental profession.

“We luckily don’t see much headgear anymore,” jokes Hill. “Some of the best things in terms of technology, especially on the aligner side of things, is the ability to program predictable tooth movement and have a good estimate on timelines while also being able to track our patients’ movements without coming physically into the office all

the time. The experience alone that these new tools provide today is way more comfortable and the experience they provide is just so much better than it used to be.”

Lastly, as a new member of the Happy Valley Business Alliance, Hill and the team at Otter Orthodontics are always open to new opportunities to both meet and contribute to the community. Whether that be in the form of sponsorship, fundraising, etc, feel free to reach out to Dr. Hill and her team via email (info@otterortho.com).

“We’re always looking for an exciting opportunity to partner with our community and to help in any way we can,” Hill said.



Arches at sunset (COURTESY: VIRGINIA GETZ)

A TRIP TO ZION

Happy Valley resident Virginia Getz recounts a recent trip to see some of America’s greatest natural wonders

By VIRGINIA GETZ
For Happy Valley News

A friend and I decided to spend a week traveling through Utah and Arizona, visiting Zion, Bryce, Arches, Monument Valley, and Upper Antelope Canyon. We booked airfare to Las Vegas, rented a car, stopped for snacks and started on our 1,300+ mile journey. My friend is quite the planner, and she mapped our route and booked our hotels at a substantial discount because we picked November 5-11, in the off-season. The weather turned out crisp and cool and perfect for little hikes. We enjoyed the days touring and the nights stargazing.

With my America the Beautiful National Park Pass and a suitcase full of warm clothes, my companions and I flew to Las Vegas, picked up our rental car, and began the journey to St. George,

See ZION / 7

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Wed. - Jan. 28, 2026

Time: 7:30 - 9:00 AM

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Review

■ From Page A1

update sharing. As young adults, the Youth Council is passionate, informed, and eager to make a difference, and they were proud to have participated in the milestone event!

Valentine’s Day with local seniors

To celebrate Valentine’s Day, the Happy Valley Parks and Recreation team, in partnership with Happy Valley Library, once again enlisted the help of the community to bring love and cheer to local seniors for the fourth year. More than 700 hand-made cards were delivered to memory care centers and assisted living facilities throughout Happy Valley as part of a community-wide effort.

Day of Happiness

Every year on March 20, the Happy Valley Parks and Recreation Department celebrates ‘International Day of Happiness’ with a fun community event. The team organizes a fun-filled afternoon with games and activities, plus complimentary snacks. It’s easy to celebrate happiness here in Happy Valley!

‘If I Were Mayor’ contest

In April, the City Council and the Happy Valley Youth Council selected three winners for the annual ‘If I Were Mayor’ contest. The annual event, hosted by the Oregon Mayors Association, invites students in grades 4-12 to share project and initiative ideas they would like to manage if elected mayor. Congrats to the 2025 winners!

Celebrating Public Works Week!

Every May, the City of Happy Valley celebrates ‘National Public Works Week’ with a family-friendly event to recognize our staff who provide and maintain city infrastructure and maintenance services. In



Residents participate in the annual ‘Day of Happiness’ event at Happy Valley Library.



Volunteers help residents get rid of their clutter on ‘Dumpster Day.’



City Councilors celebrating the 4th of July in the annual community parade.

2025, our Public Works Department achieved a great deal, including finishing the Scott Creek Trail restoration project, installing new public art features, and conducting annual road maintenance projects, including placing 33 tons of material for pothole repairs, sweeping nearly 1,300 lane miles of roadway, and conducting 52 playground inspections.

Helping Happy Valley Declutter at Dumpster Day!

In June, residents of Happy Valley were once again invited to bring their junk to Happy Valley Park to be disposed of for free by the City’s public works team.

This annual program is offered to the community to help dispose of clutter that’s difficult to discard, including broken household items, furniture, appliances, and tires.

4th of July in Happy Valley

Happy Valley’s annual 4th of July Family Festival brought the community together for a full day of celebration and summer fun. The day started with the Happy Valley Hikers enjoying a scenic morning walk, followed by the always-popular community parade, featuring local groups, businesses, and first responders. Families then gathered at Happy Valley Park, where perfect weather set the stage for a day filled with live music,



Students Jordan Aguilar, Vera Davis and Kevin Chen were named the 2025 ‘If I Were Mayor’ contest winners.



Local children enjoy the annual ‘Public Works Week’ event.

rides and inflatables, local vendors, and lots of good food. The evening ended with a spectacular fireworks show, lighting up the sky as neighbors relaxed on blankets and soaked in the patriotic spirit.

Record-breaking summer concert series

This summer, Happy Valley Park was the place to be every Thursday night as the 2025 Concerts in the Valley wrapped up another unforgettable season. But this year felt a little extra special since we celebrated the City’s 60th birthday with a tribute-filled lineup that had the crowds dancing from start to finish. From classic rock to pop anthems, each performance drew record-setting crowds.

National Night Out

This year’s National Night Out in August was one for the books!

Residents gathered at Happy Valley Park for an evening full of community spirit, connection, and appreciation for our local safety heroes. Residents from across the city gathered for an evening packed with live music,

emergency vehicle tours, and heartfelt moments honoring local safety heroes. The evening is designed to foster genuine connections between residents and first responders. Throughout the park, officers, deputies, and firefighters shared laughs, exchanged high-fives, and engaged in meaningful conversations about community safety.

Recognizing our Rockstar volunteers

The City held a special event in August during Summer Concerts in the Park to honor and celebrate Happy Valley’s volunteers. The annual appreciation night is a way to thank and publicly recognize the people who help make Happy Valley a great place to live, work, and play.

Welcoming our new Chief of Police

In September, Happy Valley welcomed its new Police Chief, Marcus Mendoza. A 16-year veteran of the Clackamas County Sheriff’s Office, Chief Mendoza brings a wealth of experience to the Happy Valley Police Department.

Reopening of Mt. Scott Creek Trail!

In September, community members, city officials and trail enthusiasts gathered in Southern Lites Park to celebrate the grand reopening of the newly improved Mt. Scott Creek Trail. The ribbon-cutting ceremony marked the completion of major enhancements designed to make the trail more accessible, safer, and more enjoyable for all.

Oktoberfest

Residents and visitors gathered at Happy Valley Park on Saturday, Oct. 4, to enjoy the return of Oktoberfest. Hosted by Happy Valley Parks and Recreation, the event was a resounding success. The festivities included pumpkins, children’s crafts, dog races, and a bustling beer garden, making for a memorable day in Happy Valley.

New public artwork unveiled

In October, a new statue, Confluence by the artist Douwe Blumberg, was installed at the roundabout at Southeast Kind Road and 129th Avenue. During the installation process, Mr. Blumberg hosted a “conversation with the artist” event, where he met with Happy Valley City Councilors, members of the Public Art Committee, and members of the general public to discuss his inspiration for the piece and the work that went into creating it.

Coffee with a Cop

Happy Valley residents had the opportunity to sit down with local law enforcement over coffee and pastries earlier this month during the City’s annual Coffee with a Cop event. The gathering provided a relaxed setting for community members to meet deputies, ask questions, and share their thoughts on public safety.

Tree Lighting

To kick off the holiday season, the community gathered to light the City tree.



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**HAPPY VALLEY
CITY COUNCIL**

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

COUNCIL CORNER

Looking forward in the new year

City of Happy Valley

In November, Bond Measure 3-626 to fund the construction of a community center in Happy Valley failed to pass. As City Council it is our responsibility to determine how we move forward.

During our December City Council work session, we met to discuss the various options and provide direction on next steps. Over the course of the next several months, City staff will focus on three opportunities:

Finalize the design for a new community park

One of the top requested amenities in Happy Valley has been another large Community Park. The City has received this feedback multiple times via surveys and public engagement efforts over the last several years. More specifically, residents have asked for a new park that includes all-weather turf fields, pickleball courts, tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, picnic shelters, and an amphitheater to host the City’s ever-growing events. In response, the City purchased 40 acres of property east of the roundabout at Scouters Mountain Road and 172nd Avenue. The original plan called for a phased approach, with



DRAFT Community Park Design following community surveys and input/review by the Parks Advisory Committee.

phase one focused on the construction of the Happy Valley Community Center and phase two focused on the building out of the community park. While the bond measure for the community center failed to pass, the City can still move forward with finalizing the design for the park with the goal of breaking ground in the summer of 2027. Funding will come from existing City resources and no

additional tax measures are planned to fund the community park.

Explore potential public-private partnerships to build a community center type facility

As many longtime residents know, prior City led outreach also indicated that building a community center was a top priority, along with the community park. Although the bond measure to fund the

community center failed to pass, we will continue to explore whether there is an opportunity to partner with private entities to build a facility. City staff have been in talks with various organizations over the years but will renew those efforts and if there is interest, they will potentially put out a Request for Qualifications to ensure there is an open and competitive process for selecting a private partner.

Seek feedback from residents about why Bond Measure 3-626 failed

Lastly, we would like to learn more from residents about why the bond measure to construct the Happy Valley Community Center failed. City staff will be developing a plan and conducting community outreach focused on gathering that information. Stay tuned for more information on how you can participate.

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New Year’s financial resolutions:
Making them stick

As the calendar flips to a new year, millions of Americans pledge to improve their financial lives. But without a concrete plan, those well-intentioned resolutions often fade quickly.

Financial goals consistently top the list of New Year’s resolutions. A 2025 CFP Board study shows that financial resolutions are prominent, with saving more money (45%) and reducing debt (32%) ranking among the top three goals.

Unfortunately, most resolutions don’t last. A 2023 Forbes Health poll found that over half of people give up on resolutions by the four-month mark and only 1% make it the full year.

The challenge isn’t a lack of desire for change. People may set the same resolution year after year, revealing a disconnect between intentions and action. Or it may be that they try to tackle too many goals at once, or aim higher than is realistic, setting themselves up for disappointment.

Set smart financial goals. Before crafting your action plan, consider which financial priorities matter most to you. If you need ideas, here are some areas where you may want focus in 2026:

- Regularly review your financial goals and track progress toward meeting them
- Increase your 401(k) contributions or max out your IRA and/or HSA contributions
- Pay down debt strategically and negotiate lower interest payments
- Build an emergency savings fund of six to 12 months
- Save more consistently

Be specific. Vague resolutions like “save more money” rarely succeed. Instead, it can help to make goals specific and measurable. For example, rather than making a resolution to “start an emergency fund,” commit to a specific goal, such as, “I will put \$100 a month into an emergency fund.”

This shift from general to specific transforms wishful thinking into actionable steps. When goals are attainable, it’s easier to track progress and stay motivated.

Find an accountability partner. Don’t go it alone. Having someone to check in with can help you stay on track. This could be a spouse, friend or family member who shares similar goals.

Consider working with a financial advisor who can help you create a realistic plan, monitor your progress and adjust strategies as needed. A professional can provide expertise and accountability, making it easier to stay on track throughout the year.

Start small and build momentum. Rather than overhauling your entire financial life all at once, focus on one or two priority areas. Identify where the largest gap exists between your current situation and where you want to be, then concentrate your energy there.

Breaking larger goals into smaller, manageable actions makes them less overwhelming and more achievable. Each small win builds confidence and momentum for tackling the next challenge.

The new year offers a fresh start and renewed motivation to improve your financial health. With specific goals, a solid action plan and the right support system, this could be the year your financial resolutions finally stick.

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MAYOR’S MESSAGE



Happy Valley Library - Ribbon Cutting on October 2nd, 2024. Nine84 Agency

2026: My final year as mayor

As we enter 2026, I am reflecting on my experience over the last seven years serving as your Mayor. Here in Happy Valley the Office of the Mayor is limited to two four-year terms, and so at the end of December I will be saying goodbye to this role. Entering my final year has given me a reason to look back at some of the things we have accomplished together, including:



- Completing sidewalk, traffic, and safety improvements on the “Superblock” around Happy Valley Park.
- Funding critical infrastructure projects, such as the improvements coming to 172nd Avenue over the next couple of years.
- Purchasing over 100 acres of land for future parks, a mixed-use downtown, and a new Public Works Facility.
- Expanding the Happy Valley Public Library on-time, under budget, and with zero workplace injuries.
- Improving the sports fields at Happy Valley Park.
- Creating the Veteran’s Memorial near City Hall.
- Supporting our local law enforcement and our parks and recreation services through voter-approved levies.
- Improving every city-owned playground to be all-abilities.
- Supporting our local businesses with grants during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Managing growth in a thoughtful manner, balancing property owner rights and new state mandates while maintaining our small town feel.
- Reducing the overall budget by 7% without a reduction in services.

I am incredibly grateful for the opportunities I have had to serve this community. I’ve spent the last 21 years volunteering for the City of Happy Valley. First on the Planning Commission then as a City Councilor and finally as Mayor. During that time, I’ve been able to experience what makes Happy Valley such a special place. The commitment from our residents, community groups, volunteers and our City staff is second to none, and we all benefit as a result. Happy Valley is a safe, clean and well-run city with a bright future. Thank you for the privilege of serving as your mayor. It’s been the honor of my life.

HAPPY VALLEY NEWS STAFF



City Writer
Ashley Hagg
ahagg@happyvalleynews.com

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 happyvalleynews@youroregonnews.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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Annual ‘If I Were Mayor’ contest returns for 2026!

Participating students could win \$100

City of Happy Valley

Do you know a student with big ideas, a compassionate heart, and an interest in making the community a better place? The City of Happy Valley is once again participating in the ‘If I Were Mayor’ contest, hosted by the Oregon Mayors Association.

The statewide contest is held every year to help educate students in grades 4 through 12 about the function of a city mayor. Each student is encouraged to come up with a project or initiative they would lead if they were elected mayor of Happy Valley. The contest has three categories based on student grade, with different entry requirements for each:

- Elementary School (grades 4-5) – Poster
- Middle School (grades 6-8) – Essay
- High School (grades 9-12) – Digital Media Presentation

One winner will be selected for each category. Those winners will receive \$100 and be recognized by the Happy Valley City Council. They will also be entered into the statewide contest, for a chance to win a prize worth \$500. This contest is open to students from the City of Happy Valley, students enrolled in schools that serve City of Happy Valley residents, and home-schooled students from the City of Happy Valley. For additional information, including entry requirements visit hv.city/student-contest

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15337 Southeast Lewis Street	3370	5	3	SOLD	10/30/25	\$875,000	\$850,000	12/9/25
15413 Southeast Clark Street	3218	4	3	SOLD	11/25/25	\$859,000	\$878,000	12/17/25
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City of Happy Valley

At the time of print, the following events were scheduled. Please check hv.city 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 hv.city/notifications

January 6

■ City Council Work Session, City Hall: 6:00 p.m.

■ City Council Meeting, City Hall: 7:00 p.m.

January 8

■ Traffic & Public Safety Committee, City Hall: 6:00 p.m.

January 13

■ Planning Commission, City Hall: 6:00 p.m.

January 15

■ Public Art Committee, City Hall: 5:30 p.m.

January 20

■ City Council Work Session, City Hall: 6:00 p.m.

■ City Council Meeting, City Hall: 7:00 p.m.

January 27

■ Library Board, Happy Valley Library: 6:00 p.m.

■ Planning Commission, City Hall: 6:00 p.m.

Scan QR code to sign up for notifications



Community invited to provide input on vision for downtown



Draft rendering of the future 'Downtown District'

City staff will host an open house at City Hall

City of Happy Valley

The City of Happy Valley invites the community to provide feedback on preliminary plans for a Downtown District! Drop in any time between 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 13th at City Hall to learn more about these plans directly from City staff.

Located along a future “Main Street” between 172nd Avenue

and the planned community park, the Downtown District will serve as the heart of Happy Valley. Envision a place where neighbors bump into each other while shopping, families gather for meals along Rock Creek, and residents enjoy the option to live closer to work, recreation, and daily conveniences.

The draft vision and zoning code is meant to grow with and serve the Happy Valley community over many years.

We don’t yet know the exact timeline, but developing the Downtown District will take time. This is because it depends on private investment, new development, and future public funding to build the planned Main Street. It also requires permits to cross Rock Creek and a small nearby floodplain, which adds additional steps to the process.

Your insights are essential to ensuring the space evolves

into a downtown that feels authentically “Happy Valley.” Whether you are interested in walkability, local business opportunities, public spaces, or the character of future development, we want to hear from you.

Learn more on the City’s website at hv.city/downtown-district or join us in person on January 13th. Together, we can shape a downtown that truly belongs to the community.



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CLACKAMAS FIRE

Clackamas Fire District now accepting volunteer applications

Clackamas Fire District #1

Clackamas Fire is excited to announce that volunteer applications are now open for the 2025 cycle. If you’ve ever considered serving your community, gaining hands-on emergency response experience, or supporting the fire district in a meaningful way, now is the perfect time to apply.

Volunteers have been an essential part of Clackamas Fire’s history, contributing to emergency responses, community engagement, and behind-the-scenes support that keeps the district running strong. The program offers two primary pathways:



Suppression Volunteers:

- Train and respond to emergency calls, support fireground operations, and work alongside career firefighters. This is an excellent option for those pursuing a future fire service career or wanting to serve in a more active emergency-response role.

Support Volunteers:

- Assist with vital non-emergency functions such as rehab support, command-bus operations, water-tender driving, chaplain services, and other roles that help keep the district mission-ready.

Why volunteer?

- Serve your community in



a real, impactful way

- Learn new skills and work in a fast-paced, team-focused environment
- Build experience that can support future fire service careers
- Join a committed group of individuals dedicated to public safety

How to Apply:

Applications are now available on the Clackamas Fire website. Interested community members can visit the Volunteer Program page and submit their application online here. The application period closes February 15th. If you have questions or

need additional information, contact Volunteer Coordinator Ryan Kragero at 503-742-2780 or ryan.kragero@clackamasfire.com. Make a difference in 2025 — join the Clackamas Fire volunteer team and help protect the communities we call home.

Zion

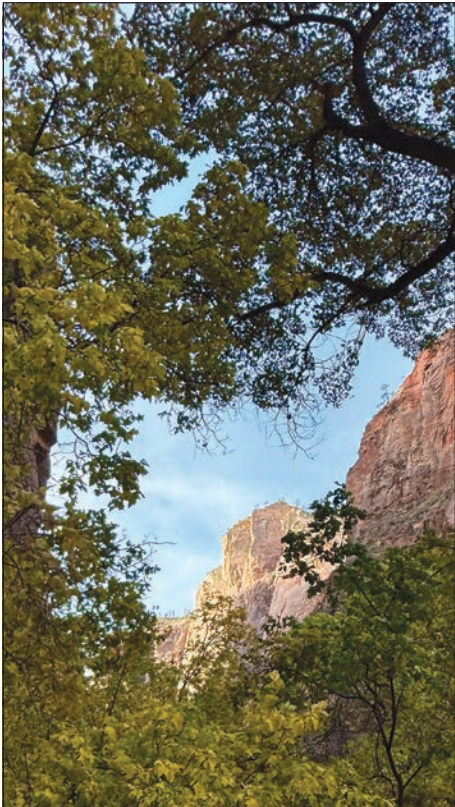
■ From Page 2

Utah, on our way to Zion National Park. We decided to go in early November, as the National Parks in Utah see temperatures of more than a hundred degrees during the summer, when lines are long, waits are hot, and hotels are double the prices we paid. Our journey was a bit of a dash, but we didn’t feel we left anything undone.

We stopped in St. George and bought some drinks and snacks for the road. We logged just under 1,400 miles as we traveled to Zion National Park, Bryce National Park, Arches National Park, and Monument Valley, and finished our tour at Upper Antelope Canyon in Arizona. In Zion, we stayed just outside the park at a nice place called Red Cliff Lodge. As I was checking out of the hotel, I saw the moon setting between jagged mountain peaks, and it seemed like a good omen. Three minutes later, it was out of sight.

A few minutes later, we were on the Zion Park Shuttle with a few other early travelers. The air was crisp, the skies blue, and there were just a few people on the valley floor. Our plan was to take the shuttle to the end and work our way back. Shuttles take about 45 minutes to drive between the Zion Canyon Visitor Center and the Temple of Sinawava, where a two-mile walk ends at The Narrows, a slot canyon sometimes filled with water. Since we were on a scenic trip, we turned around and visited a few of the other stops. It was beautiful, with no lines, no rain, blue skies, and no crowds. Next was a late lunch, and then on to Bryce.

In Bryce, we stayed at the lodge inside the park. Although the accommodation was just average, we had a short drive to all the scenic viewpoints. Again, there were no crowds, no lines, and no waiting anywhere in the park. We hiked along the rim, had a nice dinner in the lodge, and headed back out to watch the sunset and the November full moon rise over the edge of the Bryce Canyon walls. It was beautiful. I’m in the Happy Valley Astronomy Club, and one of our members had just presented a class on iPhone



Canyon walls at Zion National Park. (COURTESY: VIRGINIA GETZ)

astrophotography. I took my \$20 tripod and snapped some photos. The full moon blotted out the stars, but it was still a sight to see.

Day 3, and on to Arches. It was a long drive, so we checked out the visitor center and made plans for the next day. We stayed close to the park and just outside Moab, which is a cute tourist town with a lively nightlife and many restaurants. I can’t say enough about this National Park, and I enjoyed a full day of driving and walking. I came back in for the sunset and night sky. The stars were amazing before the moon rose, and my photos were much better than my first try at Bryce. I went back alone for the sunrise the next morning, and I felt safe and comfortable on my own. All three National Parks were easy to navigate through this time of year.

On day five, we headed to Monument Valley, on the border between Utah and Arizona. By then, I was getting a little tired of driving, but I was thoroughly impressed with Mother Nature in this part of the country. We paid for a tour through the valley, but after a couple



Moonrise overlooking Bryce Canyon. (COURTESY: VIRGINIA GETZ)



The North Window Arch at Arches National Park. (COURTESY: VIRGINIA GETZ)

of potholes, we opted for lunch. After we drove on to Lake Powell. The next morning, we toured Upper Antelope Slot Canyon, an above-ground slot canyon. It’s an easy, flat 100-yard walk, following a two-mile off-road ride from the Navajo Tribal Park Gate. Thankfully, we booked



Rock formation in Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park. (COURTESY: VIRGINIA GETZ)



Virginia Getz at Arches National Park. (COURTESY: VIRGINIA GETZ)

this tour a couple of weeks in advance, as it is in high demand. That afternoon, we packed up and headed back to Vegas, which was quite the shock. After traveling on roads far from freeways and lightly traveled — seeing few people anywhere along our journey — it was overwhelming.

My takeaways from this trip are: go to these amazing places in the offseason, but not too far off. Book just after or just before the busy season, and if you are lucky like we were, you will have a fantastic journey with cheaper rooms, no crowds, no lines, no traffic, and mild weather with blue skies.

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DONATE MORE IN 2026

City of Happy Valley Blood Drives

Call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: HappyVal to schedule an appointment



City of Happy Valley Parks & Recreation



City Hall blood drives help 255 patients in 2025

City of Happy Valley

Thank you to the American Red Cross for its continued partnership with the City of Happy Valley. Hosting blood drives at City Hall gives our community an easy, local way to step up for a vital cause.

Donors are always in need, and every appointment truly matters. This year, we welcomed 85 donors, which helped provide blood for an estimated 255 patients. That impact reaches far beyond the walls of City Hall—supporting families, neighbors, and people across our region during emergencies, treatments, and everyday hospital care.

Let's help even more people in 2026 by spreading the word, bringing a friend, and continuing to show up when our community needs us most. For upcoming drive dates and appointment information, visit the American Red Cross website www.redcrossblood.org or watch for City announcements.



Spread some love with Valentine's Care Cards

City of Happy Valley

Happy Valley residents are invited to help brighten a senior's Valentine's Day by participating in this year's Valentine's Care Cards project. Beginning January 5, community members can pick up complimentary card-making kits at Happy Valley City Hall or the Happy Valley Library. Each kit includes supplies to help create a thoughtful, heartfelt card.

Prefer to craft using your own supplies? No problem! Participants are encouraged to use their own materials to make festive cards filled with warm wishes, cheerful drawings, and kind messages of love and encouragement.

Completed cards must be returned to either City Hall or the Library by Wednesday, February 4. Once collected, all cards will be delivered to seniors in local care communities and to homebound residents—spreading joy, connection, and a reminder that their community is thinking of them.

This small act of kindness makes a big impact. We invite all ages to join in and help share the love this Valentine's season.



Valentine's Day Care Cards

SHOW A SENIOR YOU CARE

PICK UP A CARD KIT AT CITY HALL OR THE LIBRARY STARTING JANUARY 5TH



CITY OF HAPPY VALLEY PARKS & RECREATION





Community members hand out handmade cards to local seniors for Valentine's Day



Clean Up After Your Pet for Healthier Water

Clackamas County has almost 100,000 dogs of all shapes and sizes. The Food and Drug Administration estimates that the average dog produces approximately three quarters of a pound of waste per day. That adds up to over 13,000 tons of pet waste in our county per year!

Reasons to Scoop:

- When it rains, storm runoff carries pet waste and other pollutants directly into waterways.
- Animal waste adds nitrogen to the water. Excess nitrogen depletes the oxygen in water necessary for beneficial aquatic vegetation, wildlife and fish.
- Animal waste may contain harmful organisms such as Giardia, Salmonella and E. coli that can be transmitted by ingesting contaminated water.
- Roundworms and hookworms deposited by infected animals can live in the soil for long periods of time and be transmitted to other animals and humans.
- Cleaning up after your pet is always the right thing to do

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CLACKAMAS
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City of Happy Valley attorney, Chris Crean, retires after 17 years

His work helped shape Happy Valley as we know it



City Council and City staff recognizing Chris Crean on his retirement.

City of Happy Valley

In December, City Council recognized Chris Crean, who has served as the City of Happy Valley’s attorney for the past 17 years, in celebration of his

retirement. Crean was instrumental in the City’s settlement agreement with the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation Department, which resulted in over \$15 million returning to the City for investment in future

parks. During his nearly two decades of service, Crean also assisted the City’s Economic and Community Development team on land use planning efforts, balancing property owner’s rights while maintaining

Happy Valley’s small-town feel. He also guided the City on all other legal matters. City Council and City staff are incredibly thankful for Chris’ dedication and steady leadership and wish him the best in his retirement!

Local firefighters and police bring holiday cheer in red kettle challenge

City of Happy Valley

And the Winner is Clackamas Fire!

The Police vs. Fire Salvation Army Red Kettle Challenge brought out the very best of Happy Valley last month. While Clackamas Fire may have taken home the bragging rights and raised a little more money than the police department, the true victory was the incredible sense of community, camaraderie, and generosity shared by everyone who stopped by. The event was a powerful reminder that public safety is about more than responding to emergencies, it’s about caring deeply for our community. Both Clackamas Fire and the Happy Valley Police Department work every day to keep residents

safe, and during this event, they stood shoulder to shoulder with neighbors to support families in need during the holidays. Every dollar collected will stay right here in Happy Valley, providing meals, shelter, and hope to local families. Residents and shoppers enjoyed ringing bells, meeting local first responders, and exploring fire trucks and police vehicles up close. The friendly competition between departments added an extra layer of fun, but the event’s heart was the spirit of giving and connection. A huge and sincere thank you goes out to everyone who donated, cheered, shared a smile, or took a moment to stop by. Your kindness and generosity are what make Happy Valley such a special place.



Clackamas Fire & Happy Valley Police joined forces and raised money for the Salvation army in December, helping local families in need.



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Drivers learn to tackle winter roads

City of Happy Valley

Happy Valley residents got hands-on tips for winter driving at this year’s annual Tire & Chain Clinic, hosted by Happy Valley Parks and Recreation in partnership with Happy Valley Les Schwab Tire Center.

Attendees practiced installing tire chains, snow socks and had their tires checked by Les Schwab experts, leaving with the skills and confidence to handle snowy and icy roads. Multiple community members participated, learning practical tips for staying safe this winter.

Missed the clinic?

Winter safety resources are always available at hv.city/inclement-weather, and Les Schwab can help with tire chains and other winter gear for your car at 13254 SE 169th Avenue or 503-427-0448.



A resident learns how to install tire chains at the annual Tire Check and Chain Up Clinic.



Local residents picking out some new tires for their vehicle.

YOUTH COUNCIL

Youth take the lead: Town Hall ignites a new wave of civic engagement

City of Happy Valley

On Wednesday, November 19, more than 90 local youth gathered in the Happy Valley Library community room for the annual Happy Valley Youth Town Hall—a vibrant and inspiring event dedicated to building civic awareness, leadership, and community involvement among young people.

What Is Civic Engagement? The event began with an introduction to the core theme: civic engagement. Youth learned that civic engagement includes both individual and

collective actions aimed at addressing issues of public concern—whether that’s through volunteering, serving on community groups, or simply staying informed and engaged. It’s about showing up, getting involved, and helping shape the community around us.

Community Organizations in Attendance

Throughout the evening, attendees heard from presenters on a wide range of local organizations, each sharing how youth can get involved today. Participating groups included:

- Boys Team Charity, Happy Valley League
 - National Charity League, Inc. – Sunnyside Chapter
 - La Salle’s National Honor Society
 - Nelson High School’s Key Club
 - JROTC – Oregon City
 - Clackamas County – Sunrise Community Coalition
 - Oregon National Guard – Oregon Military Department
- Each presenter provided hands-on insights, volunteer options, and pathways to leadership for students ready to take an active role in their community.

Inspirational Speakers

We were honored to host three outstanding civic leaders who shared powerful stories about service, responsibility, and the impact of giving back:

- Mayor Rory Bialostosky of West Linn
- Thomas T. Joseph of the Rotary Club of Clackamas
- Happy Valley City Council President Joshua Callahan

Their personal journeys underscored a common message: anyone—at any age—can make a difference, and community thrives when individuals choose to get involved.

A Community Effort

A heartfelt thank-you goes out to all of our partners, presenters, speakers, volunteers, and youth attendees. Your time, passion, and dedication are what make events like the Youth Town Hall possible—and what make Happy Valley a stronger, more connected community. We are grateful to everyone who contributed to this year’s successful Town Hall and look forward to seeing these young leaders continue to shape the future of our city.



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CODE CORNER

WINTER DRIVING IN HAPPY VALLEY:
A lighthearted reminder to stay safe this season

City of Happy Valley

CODE CORNER

COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER

JASON THOMPSON

DAVID COAN

PONO KAIMULOA

BEN HODGES

As winter settles into Happy Valley, the familiar combination of chilly mornings, frosted windshields, and the occasional surprise snow shower is officially back on the seasonal menu. While our Public Works crews are always prepared for whatever the weather throws their way, this is also a good moment to revisit a few friendly reminders on how to stay safe when the roads get slick.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY



Steve Campbell

Winter driving doesn't need to feel intimidating...a little preparation goes a long way. Whether you're heading out before sunrise or making the slow crawl home after work, these tips can help keep your travels smooth, steady, and stress free.

Give Yourself Time

When road conditions deteriorate, the simplest strategy is often the most effective: slow down. Increase your following distance, apply the brakes gently, and take curves with a little extra patience. Rushing and winter roads rarely mix well.

Clear the Frost, Not Just a Peephole

It can be tempting to scrape out a tiny "I can mostly see" window and hit the road, but fully clearing your windshield, mirrors, and windows makes a real

difference — both for you and everyone around you.

Keep an Eye on Traction

Even experienced drivers know that ice can sneak up on you. Bridges, shaded streets, and early mornings are common spots for black ice. Keep both hands on the wheel and avoid sudden movements.

Prepare Your Vehicle

If you haven't already, now is a great time to check your battery, wiper blades, tire pressure, and emergency kit. And speaking of tires, I hope everyone had a chance to swing by Les Schwab to learn more about winter tires and chains. They're valuable tools when the weather takes a turn.

Stay Informed

Following the City's communication channels is one of the easiest ways to stay ahead of winter weather impacts. Alongside updates on road closures, the snowplow and sanding routes, and which areas have been prepped or completed, you'll also find helpful service alerts, including whether garbage pickup has been suspended for the day.

If collection is paused due to weather, there's no need to drag heavy cans out to the street, especially when they might impede the plows. The last thing anyone needs is a gust of wind knocking over your trash cart and giving the neighborhood an unintended preview of last night's dinner.

In addition to City updates, you'll catch great behind-the-scenes videos of our crews at

work and sometimes, the surprising artwork they create while prepping roads. Visit hv.city/inclement-weather to sign up for alerts and find other useful information and follow us on Facebook and Instagram by searching City of Happy Valley.

Community Support

Happy Valley is fortunate to have an amazing group of volunteers ready to help residents who have mobility challenges or difficulty clearing their sidewalks. If you need assistance shoveling, they are here to lend a hand and help keep walkways safe for everyone.

Additional Reminders

The City has a tow company on standby to quickly remove stuck or abandoned vehicles from public streets so they do not impede emergency responders or snowplows. If your car becomes stuck and must be towed, you will be responsible for the tow bill, its definitely something worth avoiding.

Stay Safe

The best course of action during significant winter weather is often the simplest: stay home. Enjoy time with family and friends, make a pot of chili, drink hot cocoa, wrap up in your favorite blanket, and watch a movie or two.

If you must travel, drive only if necessary, take it slow, and be prepared. With a little planning and awareness, we can all navigate winter weather safely and keep Happy Valley moving.



(COURTESY: MARDI WING, VIRGINIA GETZ)

HV women's group celebrates the holidays

By MARDI WING & VIRGINIA GETZ
For Happy Valley News

The Happy Valley Women's Group recently celebrated the season with its annual Holiday Party at the Monarch Hotel & Conference Center.

According to President Mardi Wing, and Vice President Virginia Getz, members generously contributed toys to the Les Schwab Toy Drive, helping brighten the holidays for local families. Adding to the festive atmosphere, the Adrienne C. Nelson High School Choir delivered a beautiful performance that made the Holiday event especially memorable.

The Happy Valley Women's Group is a social organization dedicated to helping local women build new friendships and feel more connected to the community. With dozens of interest groups — from hiking and book clubs to pickleball, crafting, cards, bunco, wine appreciation and more — there's truly something for everyone.

Because many members are retired, most gatherings take place during the day, offering a warm and welcoming way to stay active, social and engaged. Women who are new to Happy Valley, North Clackamas, Damascus or the surrounding areas are especially encouraged to join and meet their neighbors.

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Happy Valley kicks off the holidays in style

City of Happy Valley

Holiday cheer filled the air at Happy Valley’s annual Tree Lighting celebration, where residents and visitors gathered at City Hall on Sunday, December 7th for one of the community’s most beloved traditions.

Hosted by Happy Valley Parks & Recreation, this year’s event was a huge hit bringing together families, neighbors, and friends to officially welcome the holiday season with glowing lights and festive fun.

The evening was packed with seasonal delights, from sweet treats and hands-on children’s crafts to heart-warming visits with Santa. Live performances added to the magic, featuring choirs from Happy Valley and Rock Creek Middle Schools, a standout set from the Nelson High School Jazz Band, and spirited dance performances by Happy Valley Dance Academy and Tippy Toes, which had the crowd cheering.

Community spirit shone brightly as well through Clackamas Fire’s Operation Santa, offering attendees a meaningful way to support local families in need during the holidays.

As the final countdown began and the tree illuminated the sky, the excitement of the crowd made it clear: Happy Valley’s Tree Lighting remains a bright and joyful tradition that continues to unite the community year after year.



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The heart of a mother

National Charity League helps create bonds through volunteerism

By JOSIAH PENSADO
For Happy Valley News

For a century, the National Charity League has helped mothers and daughters build lasting bonds through volunteerism.

The Sunnyside chapter of the National Charity League (NCL) is hosting five informational meetings for the 2026-2027 program year.

According to the Vice President of Communications, Michelle Chard, the meetings are for the public to ask questions about NCL and learn about the membership process.

The NCL is a nationwide

philanthropic organisation that donates roughly 3 million volunteer hours to 6,000 charities across the United States. The Sunnyside chapter was founded in 2008 and consists of mothers and their daughters who attend 7th through 12th grade.

The NCL aims to help mothers and daughters bond through cultural experiences, leadership development, and community service.

Milwaukee Ledding Library will host the first meeting on Thursday, Jan. 22, from 5-6 p.m., Bow & Arrow Coffeehouse will host on Sunday, Jan. 25, from 4-5 p.m. and Thursday, Feb. 19, from 5-6 p.m., Cup of Tea will host one on Sunday, February 1, from 5-6 p.m. and Tuesday, Feb. 17, from 7-8 p.m.

Chard, who volunteers alongside her daughter, Kora, says the NCL has helped her

and Kora bond.

“I’ve been volunteering since I was in high school with one of my friends, and my kids have always done different volunteering things together. My daughter, Cora, and I really enjoy spending time together and helping others. It’s very rewarding,” Chard says.

According to Chard, the NCL focuses on philanthropy, leadership training, and fostering cultural events among those involved.

“We have to volunteer 15 hours of philanthropy a year from June 1st to May 31st. A lot of people do more than that,” says Chard.

This year’s cultural event is the cookie exchange, where each person brings 12 cookies and takes 12 cookies.

In NCL, each grade progresses through the program alongside its peers. “They started together



The mothers and daughters of the National Charity League have been serving communities for 100 years. (COURTESY: NATIONAL CHARITY LEAGUE)

in seventh grade. And they stay with each other through each year. And each year they have a different project that they have to do that they are responsible for,” says Chard.

Chard says she sees the benefits of NCL in her relationship with her daughter, noting that Kora has been able to pivot more effectively in social situations.

Chard hopes that more mothers and daughters join the

NCL because of its structured volunteer programs, character-development opportunities, and philanthropy.

“If you like to hang out with your daughter and volunteer, this is a great way to do it,” says Chard, “You’re helping the different philanthropies, and you’re helping strengthen your relationship, and you’re building character. Yeah. So it’s kind of like a win-win scenario.”

Pints with Purpose brings Happy Valley together

City of happy Valley

Happy Valley once again came together in a big way last November as Happy Valley Parks and Recreation partnered with local taphouses for the annual Pints with Purpose campaign, an effort dedicated to supporting seniors in our community through the Meals on Wheels People program.

Each year, Pints with Purpose highlights the impact of something simple: sharing a pint with friends can also mean extending a hand to a

neighbor in need. Participating taphouses featured a select beer and pledged \$1 from every pint sold to help provide warm meals to homebound seniors. These services offer not only nourishment, but also vital connection for older adults who may feel isolated or struggle to prepare meals on their own.

We’re excited to share that this year’s Pints with Purpose program raised over \$2,000 for Meals on Wheels People program helping ensure seniors in Happy Valley receive the support they depend on.

This year, the Pints with

Purpose Passport Program added a fun, interactive element to the campaign. Community members who made their way to each participating taphouse enjoyed the featured beer and collected a sticker to complete their passport were able to redeem it at City Hall for a commemorative pint glass.

Every visit, every pint, and every completed passport helped provide meals and a connection to seniors in Happy Valley. Thank you to everyone who took part-your support truly made an impact in our community.



Thank you to our local taphouses and restaurants and to all those who participated in this year's Pints with Purpose campaign!

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Questions About What is Ahead In 2026?

What will happen to Interest Rates?
Will 50 Year Mortgages really be a thing?
are there better options than renting?
CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILDREN PURCHASE A HOME?

Can You Help Find a Single Level Home?

Is Now a Good Time to Invest in Real Estate?

WHAT IS MIDDLE HOUSING?
Will ADUs become more Common?
What are Cottage Clusters?

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Navigating senior living options can be overwhelming, but we're here to help!

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HAPPY VALLEY PARKS AND RECREATION

TO REGISTER, CHECK OUT HV.CITY/PARKS



JANUARY 2026 PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMMING

To register for one of these featured programs, be sure to check out hv.city/parks

TO REGISTER



To register for one of these featured programs, be sure to check out hv.city/parks, or scan the QR code.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

“Find Your Heart in Happy Valley” Treasure Hunt

- Location: Happy Valley
- Jan. 5 to Jan. 30
- FREE
- All ages



Valentine’s Day Care Cards

- Card kits can be picked up from the Happy Valley Library, 13793 SE Sieben Park Way & Happy Valley City Hall, 16000 SE Misty Dr.
- Card kits are available for pick-up starting Jan. 5
- All ages



CLASS LOCATIONS

Happy Valley Park
13770 SE Ridgecrest Rd
Happy Valley, OR

Happy Valley Parks and Recreation Annex
12915 SE King Rd.
Happy Valley, OR

Happy Valley Library
13793 SE Sieben Park Way
Happy Valley, OR

Happy Valley City Hall
16000 SE Misty Dr.
Happy Valley, OR

Sunnyside Grange
13130 SE Sunnyside Rd
Happy Valley, OR

Cup of Tea
10117 SE Sunnyside Rd.
Suite J
Happy Valley, OR

Pleasant Valley Villages Park
12254 SE Falling Rain Wy,
Happy Valley, OR

Venvino Art Studios
13329 SE Misty Drive.
Happy Valley, OR

Spring Mountain Elementary School
11645 SE Masa Ln,
Happy Valley, OR 97086;

Scouter’s Mountain Elementary School
10811 SE 172nd Ave,
Happy Valley, OR 97086

Happy Valley Elementary School
13865 SE King Rd A,
Happy Valley, OR 97086

Valley View Church Gym
11501 SE Sunnyside Rd.,
Clackamas, OR 97015

Rock Haven Bouldering Gym
355 NE 223rd Ave.
Gresham, OR 97030



EXCURSIONS

Field trips depart from Happy Valley City Hall.

Hopscotch & Memory Den

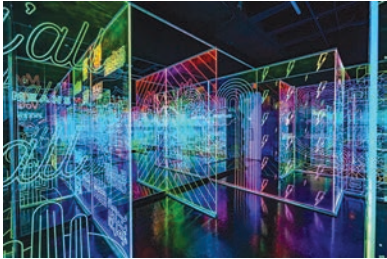
- Jan. 16, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Friday
- Ages 18+
- \$30- Resident / \$45- Non-Resident

A Broadway Night Out: The Wiz

- Feb. 6, 5 p.m.-10:30 p.m.
- Friday Ages 18+
- \$50- Resident / \$75- Non-Resident

Trillium Lake Guided Snowshoe Tour

- Feb. 13, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Friday
- Ages 18+
- \$65



HEALTH & WELLNESS

Red Cross Blood Drive

- Location: HV City Hall, 16000 SE Misty Dr.
- Wednesday, Jan. 14, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Register online: redcrossblood.org
- Sponsor Code: HappyVall



First Aid/CPR/AED Training

- Classes are held at Happy Valley City Hall, 16000 SE Misty Dr.
- Friday, Jan. 9, 9:30 a.m.- 2 p.m.
- Ages 15+
- Resident \$70 / Non-Resident \$105



Babysitter Training Course

- Classes are held at Happy Valley City Hall, 16000 SE Misty Dr.
- Monday, Feb. 23rd, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- Ages 10 – 16
- Resident \$50 / Non-Resident \$75



Chair Yoga

- Classes will be held at Happy Valley Library, 13793 SE Sieben Park Way.
- Jan. 8 – Feb. 26, 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
- Thursday
- Ages 18+
- \$40



Providence’s Basecamp Prevention + Wellness

- Classes are held virtually

Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance (Beginners)

- Tuesday/Thursdays, 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance

- Tuesdays/Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.



Chair Yoga

- Tuesdays/Thursdays 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Gentle Yoga

- Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

Healthy U Nutrition

- Classes will be held at Happy Valley Library, 13793 SE Sieben Park Way

Nutrition and Lifestyle for Gut Health

- Tuesday, Jan. 20, 6-7 p.m., Ages 18+, FREE



SPORTS

Soccer Shots Clinics

All classes are held at Valley View Church Gymnasium, 11501 SE Sunnyside Rd., Clackamas



Soccer-Mini

- Saturday, Jan. 3 – Feb. 21, 4:45-5:15 p.m., ages 2-3, \$172

Soccer-Classic

- Saturday, Jan. 3 – Feb. 21, 3:55-4:30 p.m., ages 3-4, \$180
- Saturday, Jan. 3 – Feb. 21, 3:3-4:00 p.m., ages 4-5, \$180

Soccer-Premier

- Saturday, Jan. 3 – Feb. 21, 2-2:45 p.m., ages 5-6, \$188

Kidokinetics

All winter classes are held at Happy Valley Elementary School, 13865 SE King Rd A, Happy Valley



MLK Day Fun Day!

- Monday, Jan. 19, 9-11 a.m., ages 5-10
- \$50

President’s Day Hoops, Scoops and Shots

- Monday, Feb. 16, 9-11 a.m., ages 5-10
- \$50

Intro to Racquet Sports

- Tuesdays, Jan. 13 – Feb. 17, 6:45-7:30 p.m., ages 4-6
- \$145



Jordan Kent's Just Kids Skill Camp

- Location: Dalzell Community Gym, 17951 SE Hemrich Rd, Damascus, OR 97089

MLK Day Basketball Clinic

- Monday, Jan. 19, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m
- ages 6-12, \$49



Rock Haven Climbing Gym

- Location: Rock Haven Bouldering Gym, 355 NE 223rd Ave., Gresham, OR 97030

Kids' Bouldering Class

- Jan. 7 – Jan. 28, 6:30-7:20 p.m.
- Feb. 4 – Feb. 25, 6:30-7:20 p.m.
- Ages 7 – 13
- Resident \$54 / Non-Resident \$65



ENRICHMENT CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES

Astronomy: Planets, Stars, and Galaxies

- Location: Happy Valley Parks and Recreation Annex, 12915 SE King Rd.
- Feb. 2 - Mar. 23, 7-8 p.m.
- Monday
- Ages 18+
- \$100



Engineering For Kids

Location: Happy Valley Parks and Recreation Annex, 12915 SE King Rd.

Jr. Environmental Engineering: Eco Heroes

- Jan. 22 - Feb. 26, 3:30-5 p.m.
- Thursdays
- Ages 4 - 8
- \$243



Journey to STEAM

Location: Happy Valley Library, 13793 SE Sieben Park Way



LEGO Mechanical Engineers

- Jan. 20 - Mar. 10, 4:15-5:15 p.m.
- Tuesdays
- Ages 6 - 10
- \$275
- VIP Full-Year STEAM Enrollment: \$235



Sweet Lomy Art Workshops

Location: Happy Valley Library, 13793 SE Sieben Park Way

Winter Glow Fused Glass Panel

- Jan. 15, 6-8 p.m.
- Thursday
- Ages 10+ (kids under 12 must be accompanied by an adult)
- \$65



Fused Glass Valentine Sun-Catcher & Jewelry

- Jan. 31, 10:30 a.m.- 12 p.m.
- Saturday
- Ages 6+ (kids under 12 must be accompanied by an adult)
- \$48



Bridge Nine Candle Co. Workshops

Location: Cup of Tea, 10117 SE Sunnyside Rd. Suite J



Home Scent Workshops

- Saturday, Jan. 24, 6-8 p.m.
- Ages 18
- \$85



FINE ARTS

Tippi Toes Dance Classes

- See program descriptions for locations.

Baby Ballet

- Starting Feb. 2
- Mondays, 5-5:45 p.m.
- Mondays, 5:55-6:40 p.m.
- Ages 2-4yrs, \$70/mo
- Location: Happy Valley Parks and Recreation Annex, 12915 SE King Rd.



Ballet, Tap & Jazz

- Starting Feb. 3
- Tuesdays, 5-5:45 p.m., Ages 3-5yrs
- Tuesdays, 5:5-6:40 p.m., Ages 6-8yrs
- Location: Happy Valley Library, 13793 SE Sieben Park Way



- Starting Feb. 5
- Thursdays, 5:55-6:40 p.m., Ages 3-5yrs
- Location: Happy Valley Parks and Recreation Annex, 12915 SE King Rd.
- \$70/mo

Toddler and Me

- Starting Feb. 3
- Tuesdays, 9 – 9:45 a.m., Ages 1.5 -3yrs
- Location: Sunnyside Grange, 13130 SE Sunnyside Rd
- Starting Feb. 5
- Thursdays, 5- 5:45 p.m., Ages 1.5 -3yrs
- Location: Happy Valley Parks and Recreation Annex, 12915 SE King Rd.
- \$70/mo



Tippi Pro-Intermediate Ballet

- Starting Feb. 4
- Wednesdays, 5-5:45 p.m.
- Ages 7-11yrs
- \$70/mo
- Location: Happy Valley Library, 13793 SE Sieben Park Way

Hip Hop and Jazz

- Starting Feb. 4
- Wednesdays, 5:55-6:40 p.m.
- Ages 7-11yrs
- \$70/mo
- Location: Happy Valley Library, 13793 SE Sieben Park Way

Venvino Art Studios

- All art classes will be held at Venvino Art Studios, 13329 SE Misty Drive.

Learn to Paint: Winter Sunrise

- Jan. 8 – Jan. 29, 5:30- 7:00 p.m.
- Thursdays
- Ages 12+
- \$160

Learn to Paint: Winter Glow

- Jan. 9 – Jan. 30, 6-7:30 p.m.
- Fridays
- Ages 12+
- \$160

Learn to Create: Wire Wrapping Bracelets and Rings

- Jan. 9 – Jan. 30, 5:30- 7:00 p.m.
- Fridays
- Ages 12+
- \$130





HAPPY VALLEY LIBRARY

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



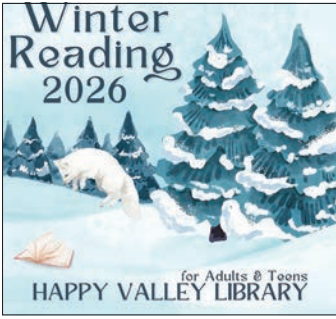
JANUARY 2026 LIBRARY EVENTS

Please note the library will be closed on Tuesday, Jan. 13 and Monday, Jan. 19. Bookdrops will be open.

Winter Reading returns!

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

Submit an entry for every book you finish reading between now and Jan. 31. Enter at least once a month to get that month’s special button. Prize drawings will be held at the end of each month, with final drawings on January 31.



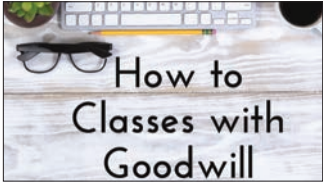
Teens and adults can cozy up and read for a chance to win prizes during the Winter Reading program.

Area residents ages 13 and up are eligible to participate. Visit go.lincc.org/hvwr to submit your entries.

Goodwill computer classes

Thanks to a partnership with Goodwill Industries of the Columbia Willamette, the Happy Valley Library is offering a free, five-week computer series on Thursdays at 1 p.m. From computer basics to Google Docs, each weekly class is designed to help build skills and confidence. No registration is necessary. Computers are provided when needed for the class. This winter, drop in for the following:

- Jan. 15 at 1 pm: Computer Basics
- Jan. 22 at 1 p.m.: Computer Basics
- Jan. 29 at 1 p.m.: Gmail
- Feb. 5 at 1 p.m.: Google Drive
- Feb. 12 at 1 p.m.: Google Docs



‘This is Vietnamese Portland’ exhibit visits Library

The Happy Valley Library is excited to host “This is Vietnamese Portland,” a traveling exhibit that examines how the Vietnamese community has shaped and contributed to the city of Portland. Developed through Lewis & Clark College, the exhibit consists of 15 banners focused on entrepreneurship, community leadership, and the art of the Vietnamese community in Portland.

The exhibit can be viewed in the lobby of the Library’s expansion from Jan. 26 through Feb. 20.



The Happy Valley Library hosts traveling exhibit This is Vietnamese Portland Jan. 26 through Feb. 20.

The people behind the Storywalk

If you’ve taken a walk through Happy Valley Park, you’ve probably seen the pages of a book displayed along the baseball fields. This project, known as a Storywalk, represents the work of many individuals who bring a special book to life each month. During the pandemic and shutdown of the library building, staff wanted a way to continue sharing stories. “Our first Storywalk featured pages of a book displayed on the windows of our Meeting Room, facing out to the sidewalk,” shared Program Coordinator Anna Bruce. “Families couldn’t come into the library at the time, but when they picked up their holds or played at the park, they could also walk along the sidewalk and share the story we had selected.”

In Spring 2024, Friends of Happy Valley Library purchased permanent Storywalk display stands to be placed at Happy Valley Park. Youth Services Librarian Isaac Fellows now thoughtfully selects a book to be shared. “I’m grateful for the input I get from the rest of the Youth Services team about which to choose. There are so many wonderful picture books out there! But we’re considering the whole year when we make our decisions, making sure that the books we feature reflect our communities, and that there’s a good variety of stories month-to-month.”

After purchasing two copies of the book, he carefully separates the pages to display them. Then teen intern Jaynell Lee laminates those pages, along with the supplemental materials, and places



Happy Valley Librarian Isaac Fellows installs a new picture book at Happy Valley Park.

them on the display boards. Isaac takes those pages to switch out the story near the beginning of each month. In addition, Friends of the Happy Valley Library volunteers, Ray and Susan, walk the path several times a month to clean the stands. “When we are cleaning, people approach us and comment that they really enjoy reading the stories,” Ray remarked, noting how nice it is to know that the stories are being read and enjoyed.

Unlike most library services, staff aren’t always around to see the effect of the story. “One of the biggest surprises for me,” shared Isaac, “has been seeing how many people of all ages enjoy the Storywalk. I had gone into this project assuming that our main audience would be families with young children, but when switching out the stories I’m often approached by people who want to express their gratitude, and most of these have been adults who say they look forward to reading the story themselves!”

This past month, the Library received a lovely letter from community member Lori Herington, who reminisced about a treat she remembered eating

as a child in Venezuela. “In Late October we were walking through the park, when I saw the librarian putting out the latest story - I thanked him as I passed and we chatted about our favorites... the beach adventure with the family which had been there in summer, or the one where the Cat is supposed to get a bath but is smarter than everyone else in the house,” reminisced Lori. “But November’s book is about bread- and baking together as a family.” Lori snapped a photo of the recipe for arepas at the back of the book and fried them up at home. “These flat little cornmeal pancakes are delicious! And they are them! The flavor is what I remember from my childhood! Thank you, Happy Valley Library, for Storywalk. This 55-year-old kid finally solved one of her greatest childhood mysteries.”

You too can enjoy a new story each month. The Storywalk starts at the south end of the park, by the all-abilities playground. At the end of the book is a QR code to scan to enter a chance to win your own copy of that month’s featured book. For a complete listing of featured books, go online (go.lincc.org/hvstorywalk).

PROGRAMS

All Ages Programs

All Together Now programs are designed to be intergenerational, bringing people of all ages together to create and play.

Chess Meet Up

Saturday, Jan. 3 & Feb. 7, 10:15-11:45 a.m.
Meeting Room

Calling chess enthusiasts of all ages and levels, it’s a morning of chess-playing fun at this friendly meetup! Some boards are available.

Let’s Build

Saturday, Jan. 24, 2-3:30 p.m.
Community Room A & B

Drop in for some free building fun with LEGO and Duplo blocks.

Adult Programs

RSVP for programs at <https://go.lincc.org/hvRSVP>

English Classes

Community Room B
Intermediate: Mondays, 10:15 a.m.
Advanced: Mondays, 1:00 p.m.

All are welcome to drop in on this weekly class. Each student will receive a free textbook to use in the classes.

Mah Jongg

Fridays, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
Community Room A

Those who enjoy playing American and/or Chinese Mah Jongg are invited to join our fun and friendly group! For those playing American Mah Jongg, be sure to bring your current National Mah Jongg League cards. Contact the library if you would like to learn to play.

Spanish Conversation Group

Sunday, Jan. 11, 2-3 p.m.
Community Room A

Practice your Spanish conversational skills through fun role-playing scenarios and conversation topics with other language learners. Please note this is not a Spanish class, but a conversation group. Participants should have at

least a beginner’s level of conversational Spanish. Registration required.



Green Burials

Sunday, Jan. 18, 2 p.m.
Community Room A

In this presentation, green burial advocate Elizabeth Fournier will discuss natural burial, backyard burials, and other eco-friendly disposition options available in Oregon. She will discuss the history, regulations in Portland, and current green practices, highlighting the value of going out in green style. RSVP available.

Bookbinding Workshop

Thursday, Jan. 22, 6-7 p.m.
Community Room B

Learn the basics of bookbinding using everyday materials. Together, we’ll create three unique mini-books: one crafted from a repurposed paper bag and two made from envelopes. Registration required.

Puzzle Exchange

Sunday, Jan. 25, 2-4 p.m.
Community Room A & B

Do you love jigsaw puzzles? Come to our puzzle exchange to get some new-to-you puzzles! Bring and take as many puzzles as you like. You’ll find a wide variety of puzzles on the tables — all sizes, piece counts, shapes, styles, and degrees of difficulty. No puzzles with missing pieces, please!

Crochet Club

Tuesday, Jan. 27, 6-7 p.m.
Community Room A

All levels are invited to bring their crochet projects for a social sit-and-stitch! This friendly group offers an opportunity to share ideas, get help with complex projects, and connect with other crochet fans. You bring your supplies, and the Library will provide hot water, tea, and a cozy atmosphere. RSVP available.



Romeo & Juliet: Abridged

Saturday, Jan. 31, 2:30 p.m.
Community Rooms A & B

The Oregon Practice Shakespeare Festival presents “Romeo & Juliet: Abridged” using the original practice techniques of Elizabethan England: limited rehearsal, scrolls in hand, audience interaction, and an onstage prompter. It’s a classic like you’ve never experienced! RSVP available.

Youth Programs

Storytimes

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

Giờ Sinh hoạt Gia đình / Family Time

Sunday, Jan. 4 and Feb. 1, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Community Room A

Giờ gia đình vui chơi tại thư viện! Hãy đến cùng vui chơi, ca hát, đọc sách và làm thủ công với các gia đình khác.

It’s family time at the library! Join us for songs, games, reading, and crafting with other families.

Stretch, Dance, Play

Thursday, Jan. 8, 10:15-11 a.m.
Community Room A

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

Sign & Sing

Friday, Jan. 9, 10:15-11 a.m.
Community Room A

For 2-5-year-olds and their caregivers. Sing, dance, and sign with Shira Fogel of Tiny Talkers.

Craft Time with Kenny / Kenny 雙語手工時間

Saturday, Jan. 10, 2-3 p.m.
Community Room A

Join Kenny on the second Saturday of every month to learn about and integrate the creativity of various cultures into our daily lives through crafts. Through crafts, we can make our lives more joyful, fulfilling, and beautiful.

歡迎在每個月的第二個星期六，跟著 Kenny 一起，透過不同文化的手工，了解並將各種文化的創意融合入日常，讓我們透過手工，讓生活更加地歡樂、充實、美好。

欢迎在每个月的第二个星期六，跟着 Kenny 一起，透过不同文化的手工，了解并将各种文化的创意融合入日常，让我们透过手工，让生活更加地欢乐、充实、美好。

Playtime

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 10:15-11:45 a.m.
Community Room A

For children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. No storytime today, but you can still visit the library! We’ll bring out Duplo and toys for indoor playtime.

Homeschool Club: Meet Up!

Thursday, Jan. 15, 10:15-11:30 a.m.
Community Room A

Hey homeschool families! Bring the whole family for a morning of fun with crafts and games.

On the Move!

Saturday, Jan. 17, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Community Room A

For 3-5-year-olds and their caregivers. Join Maria Fe Picar for a special story, songs and games that encourage creative movement.



OBOB Practice Battles

Saturday, Jan. 24, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Community Rooms A & B

Local 3rd-5th-grade teams are invited to compete to practice answering OBOB questions. Note: this is not a drop-off event; caregivers must remain in the Library. Registration required: Please register once per team.

Tweens & Teens

For teens in grades 6-12.

Manga and Anime Club

Thursday, Jan. 8, 6-7 p.m.
Community Room A

Hang out with fellow manga and anime fans! Chat about favorites, eat snacks, make crafts, and play games. Drop-ins welcome. For teens in grades 6-12.

Tween & Teen Hangout

Friday, Jan. 30, 3-4:30 p.m.
Community Room B

Board games, video games, puzzles and crafts, just for tweens and teens, ages 10+.



ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Clackamas High School



Adrienne C. Nelson HS



Samantha Lindeman Senior
Swimming

Samantha Lindeman has qualified for the state swim meet both her sophomore and junior years as a member of three relay teams. She has served as team captain for the past two seasons and has lettered every year, beginning her freshman year. In addition to her competitive success, Samantha consistently supports her teammates by driving swimmers in need to and from daily practices. She also swims year-round to maintain and continually improve her skills.

Congrats, Samantha! Go Cavs!

--- Proudly Sponsored & locally owned by David & Dawn Golobay ---



Amaya Clark Senior
Varsity Dance

This is Amaya's first year on the team and first you're dancing. She has pushed herself inside and outside of practice to always be growing and getting better. Amaya has helped her team earn two 1st places, four 2nd places & three 3rd places just in the fall season. She has also been named dancer of the game by her team during football season.

Way to go, Amaya! Go Hawks!

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Syruis Owens Senior
Basketball

Syruis delivered an outstanding performance for the Cavaliers stepping up against two tough opponents-West Salem and Corvallis. Known as a double-double machine, he averaged 16 points and 15 rebounds across both games, helping lead Clackamas to back-to-back victories. Beyond his dominance on the boards, Syruis electrified the crowd with multiple rim-shaking dunks. His relentless rebounding and ability to ignite the fast break were key factors in the team's success. Syruis Owens continues to set the tone for Clackamas with his energy, athleticism, and clutch play.

Congrats, Syruis! Go Cavs!

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Sam Bailey Junior
Swim

Sam Bailey had a PR in the 100 Fly.

Way to go, Sam! Go Hawks!

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Barbara Sherman Senior
Dance

Barbara is a senior Cavalette who has been an incredible leader for her team this year. She has stepped into an advanced role within the team and continues to impress both her teammates and coaches with her "yes" attitude! Way to be a role model, Barbara! We're so proud of you.

Congrats, Barbara! Go Cavs!

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Jaydon Schregardus Junior
Varsity Boys Basketball

Jaydon had 24 Points, 5 steals vs. Lake Oswego and 12 points, 5 Assists, 4 steals vs. Caldera.

Way to go, Jaydon! Go Hawks!

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Jake Nguyen Junior
Wrestling

Jake Nguyen, a junior wrestler at CHS, turned in an impressive performance at the David Douglas duals last week, going a perfect 3-0. A state qualifier last season, Jake continues to build on his strong reputation, showcasing grit and skill as he battled through several tough opponents at 144 lbs. His steady improvement and ability to rise to the challenge highlight his dedication to the sport and make him a key contributor to the Clackamas wrestling lineup.

Congrats, Jake! Go Cavs!

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Carter Lockhart Sophomore
Varsity Boys Basketball

Carter had 19 Points, 11 Assists, 5 Steals, 4 rebounds vs. Caldera and 12 points, 3 rebounds vs. Lake Oswego

Way to go, Carter! Go Hawks!

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