



What's happening in Linn County, Oregon October 2021

Welcome to
October — enjoy!

Welcome to October.

Kids are back in school, football season is in full swing and we continue to strive for normalcy. This month has a wide array of meaning to different people. To farmers it's the beginning of the end of harvest. To the federal government it's the beginning of the fiscal year. For my family it's the month with the most birthdays.



**Darrin
Lane**

Administrative Officer

For me personally, October is the beginning of the end of the year and the time when I have to think about putting away lawn furniture, stowing camping gear and winterizing the RV, etc.

I sincerely hope that for you, this month is a time when you can throttle back the hectic pace of summer and take a breather before we head full speed into the winter months and the family obligations and the expecta-



Linn County Veterans' Services staff members Lindsey Hart, office specialist, Rob McKibben, assistant service officer, and Dee Baley-Hyder, service officer, are reaching out to veterans throughout the county, letting them known about the benefits to which they are entitled.

Veterans' Services reaching out into Linn County communities

By Alex Paul
Communications Officer

New Linn County Veterans' Services officer Dee Baley-Hyder has one key job goal: To help local

veterans of all ages get the benefits they were promised when they enlisted in the military.

Although she started her new job in July, Baley-Hyder is not new to the Veterans' Services office, working for six years under Kim Grooms, who retired.

"This job means the world to me," Baley-Hyder said. "It is such a privilege to work with our veterans who served our country."

Baley-Hyder grew up in Lebanon and graduated from East Linn Christian Academy in 1993.

She worked at the Lebanon Walmart pharmacy for seven years, at Ray's

IGA and then the Corvallis Clinic before starting as an office specialist with Veterans' Services in 2015.

"It's amazing the stories our veterans can tell, although they usually don't want to talk about it," Baley-Hyder

said. "Our whole reason for being is to help them get the benefits they deserve, they are entitled to and not just for them, but their family members as

well."

Baley-Hyder said the role of a good leader is to show her co-workers — assistant services officer Bob McKibben and office specialist Lindsey Hart — how they can best serve others by being a team.

Baley-Hyder said Veterans' Services has purchased a new Jeep and is having it lettered so anywhere staff members go, people can see what they do. It

might encourage a veteran to ask a question simply because they saw the vehicle parked somewhere.

"We hope to be more visible in our communities," Baley-Hyder said. "We will gladly come speak at nursing homes or at civic group meetings. We want to participate in more community events throughout the county."

Baley-Hyder said Veterans' Services is also advertising locally.

Linn County has a list of about 9,000 veterans, but Baley-Hyder said there has to be more veterans than that.

"So many of our veterans don't know they have a voice or someone to help them," Baley-Hyder said. "They don't realize their hearing loss stems from them serving on the deck of an aircraft carrier. They did their job and came home."

Baley-Hyder said it's important to her that the office work more closely with Linn County Mental Health to provide support for veterans who may be contemplating suicide.

Veterans ... See P. 7



The Linn County Reporter is digitally published monthly by the Linn County Board of Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker.

Would you like to receive the newsletter, or do you have a story idea?

Please send your email address to Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer, apaul@co.linn.or.us or call 541-967-3825.

Michelle Duncan is new Linn County Undersheriff

By Alex Paul

Communications Officer

When Michelle Duncan was a teenager, her parents thought her interest in law enforcement as a career might just be a passing phase.

But the new Linn County Undersheriff said a high school career exploration program sealed the deal and after graduating from Santa Teresa High School, she enrolled in the criminal justice program at San Jose Community College.

"I've never looked back," Duncan said from her new office.

She succeeds former Undersheriff Paul Timm, who retired at the end of August.

Duncan, 47, is low key about the fact she is the first female undersheriff in Linn County.

"I have never wanted to be picked because I'm female, I wanted to be selected because I am the best person for the job," Duncan said.

Duncan said she has come to realize that "it's important that other women see that someone can progress in this field. It's exciting to be a role model for other



New Linn County Undersheriff Michelle Duncan has been interested in a law enforcement career since she was in high school in San Jose, California.

women who can see that with hard work you can do this."

Sheriff Yon agrees wholeheartedly.

"Michelle was chosen because of her years of experience with the Sheriff's Office, her excellent service and because she has very good decision-making and problem-solving skills," Yon said. "She has strong support from the entire staff."

Yon added, "She was promoted because of how she does her job."

As to whether she would like to become the next Linn County Sheriff Duncan said, "I would be honored to serve the citizens as their sheriff at some point. Each time I have moved up through the ranks it has prepared me for the next step to come. I think having a proven leader as the sheriff is important for our office. However, until that time comes, I will focus on being the best undersheriff I can."

Duncan spent her early years in Linn County and attended the former Dixie School on Peoria Road. Her family moved to San Jose, California, when she was about 10 years old. She graduated from Santa Teresa High School and then earned a degree in criminal justice at San Jose Community College.

"My parents thought my interest in law enforcement might just be a phase, but it wasn't,"

Duncan said with a laugh.

Duncan knew she wanted to return to Oregon and landed a job in corrections at the Oregon State Penitentiary in Salem.

"I knew it wasn't long-term for me, because I always wanted to be on patrol," Duncan said.

Just over a year into the job, she was hired by Linn County. She was a resi-



Duncan joined the LCSO in 1997.

dent deputy in Mill City for seven years.

"I loved it up there," she said.

She was promoted to detective and worked narcotics for four years, targeting dealers on the streets.

"It was a blast," Duncan said. "I have always believed that drugs are the root cause of so many issues. They tear apart families and they are factors in property and personal crimes."

Duncan was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in 2008 and worked with the county's mountain patrol deputies.

"That's a unique job," Duncan said. "It's very rural and you know that many of the citizens you interact with are carrying a gun."

In 2015, Duncan was promoted to lieutenant in a newly created position of

dealing with contract cities as well as the marine and mountain patrols. She also was the Field Training Coordinator, which she enjoyed.

She enjoyed working with area communities, listening to their needs and working as a team to make things happen.

"I am a strong believer in field training," Duncan said. "It's important how we deal with someone whose home has been burglarized. It's such a personal crime. We must be sure we teach our new deputies to treat victims right and do everything we can to solve the crime."

In 2019, Duncan was promoted to Patrol Captain.

I have always believed that every one of our six divisions is important and wanted to know as much about how they work as possible," Duncan said.

The divisions are patrol, corrections (jail), detectives, corrections programs (work crew), civil and support services (dispatch).

At full strength, the LCSO employs 190 people and has a budget of \$36 million.

"I believe we work best as a team," Duncan said. "There is a great respect for each other in this office. People who transfer here from other places are amazed at how it feels like a family. We hold people accountable to do their jobs right but they also feel supported."

Duncan is married and has a son, 22, and daughter, 17.

She enjoys hiking, fishing, doing yard and garden work — she even enjoys pulling weeds — and football games.

"The word compassion is in our mission statement," Duncan said. "There's no reason to be condescending to people."

Editor's Note: Since this story was originally filed, Sheriff Jim Yon has announced he will not seek reelection. Undersheriff Duncan has filed to seek that office, as has LCSO Deputy Jonathan Raymond.

Linn County Board of Commissioners

Roger Nyquist



Sherrie Sprenger



Will Tucker



Call 541-967-3825

Call the Linn County Board of Commissioners at 541-967-3825

QUOTABLE

"The word compassion is in our mission statement. There's no reason to be condescending to people."

Michelle Duncan

LCSO promotions made

Several staff members at the Linn County Sheriff's Office have received promotions, according to Sheriff Jim Yon.

Brandon Fountain-Patrol Captain

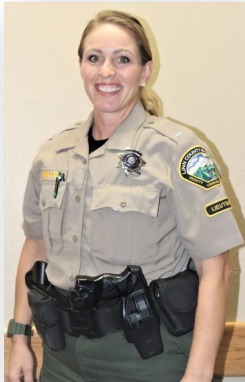
Brandon Fountain was promoted to patrol captain. Fountain started as a marine patrol deckhand and was quickly hired as a patrol deputy in 2008. He served as a mountain patrol deputy and as a detective specializing in narcotics, property and major crimes. In 2018, Fountain was promoted to patrol sergeant and then to patrol lieutenant in 2020. He has served on the Linn County Regional SWAT team and is currently the SWAT Commander. Fountain has received the Life Saving and Division Employee of the Year awards. "Brandon is hard working and dedicated to giving the citizens of Linn County excellent service," Yon said. "He has always gone the extra mile for his community and his LCSO family. Brandon will do a fantastic job leading the Patrol Division."



Fountain

Beth Miller-Patrol Lieutenant

Beth Miller has been promoted to Patrol Lieutenant. Miller was hired as a patrol deputy in 2001 and has been involved in search and rescue, was a field training officer and was also a member of the traffic team. In 2005, Miller was assigned to the Detectives Division specializing in sex crimes. Her dedication to helping victims earned her the rank of Detective Sergeant in 2017, Yon said. She continued her career as a patrol sergeant before being promoted to lieutenant. "Lieutenant Miller has a knack for con-



Miller

necting with people and is known for getting the job done," Yon said.

Amanda Catullo-Dispatch Supervisor

Catullo started with the LCSO Dispatch Center in 2012 after serving as a dispatcher at the Central Lane Dispatch Center. She received an office challenge coin in April 2021 after receiving a 911 call from an hysterical mother stating her infant child was not breathing. Catullo walked her through the steps of clearing her infant's mouth. She calmed the mother down and the mother was then able to clear the obstruction.

Catullo was working the night of the 2020 Labor Day fires and received a Joint Service Commendation for her efforts.



Catullo

In 2019, she was named LCSO Dispatcher of the Year.

"Amanda is a vital asset to the Linn County Sheriff's Office family and we know she will continue to excel in her new role," Yon said.

Steve Frambes-Patrol Sergeant

New Patrol Sergeant Steve Frambes started with animal control in 2011 prior to coming over to the Sheriff's Office as Dog Control Officer in 2014. In February 2015, Frambes was sworn in as a patrol deputy and was assigned to south county.



Frambes

He became a Field Training Officer in March 2019 and in January 2020, he transferred into the Detective Division and worked property/major crimes.

Frambes was promoted to Patrol Sergeant on September 1, 2020. He will supervise Mountain Patrol, Marine Patrol and is the contract city liaison. He is also a firearms instructor.

"Steve is a hardworking and dedicated employee," Yon said. "He has done a great job at everything he does."



Cultural encampments held

Two Native American Cultural Encampments were held at Sunnyside County Park and Cascadia State Park this summer. The public was invited to learn about Native American lifestyles, music, crafts and food.

Photos courtesy Karla Burcham

Malone is new Linn County engineer

New Linn County Engineer Daineal Malone has been involved in the planning and execution of numerous road projects — from Courtney Creek Drive near Brownsville to Mill City — during her 14 years with the Linn County Road Department.

"I'm looking forward to the new challenges, although I'm going to have to delegate some of the things I'm used to doing," Malone said.

Malone, 46, has worked at the Road Department since 2007, after spending two years with Reece and Associates, Inc. in Albany.

Malone grew up in Hermiston and moved to Utah during her freshman year of high school, graduating from Bingham High School in South Jordan, Utah, in 1993. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Oregon State in 2005.

She was hired by Reece and Associates, Inc. as a land development designer in the Fall of '05 and joined the Linn County Road Department two years later.

"I enjoy the people I work with," Malone said. "We work well together."

Malone has helped design many of the major Road Department projects over the years including the Brownsville Gateway project, the Old Salem Road sidewalk project, the Quartzville corridor project and the multi-faceted bridge and roadwork underway in Mill City.

The Mill City project includes a \$9.3 million TIGER grant which includes renovating the North Santiam River Bridge, rehabilitation of a historic pedestrian bridge and Broadway Street road improvements. The project is expected to wrap up in December.

Malone and her husband David, a land surveyor for Benton County, live in Albany. They have a daughter, Aisling, 19, and a son, Aneurin, 16.

Malone enjoys playing golf, is a former belly dancer and enjoyed playing rugby in the late 1990s. She also coached the Linn-Benton Lions Mid-



Daineal Malone

dle School Girls' rugby team in 2019.

The Road Department employs 69 full-time people and seven to 10 seasonal workers. The department is responsible for 1,139 miles of road and 326 bridges. The main office is in Albany, with satellite facilities near Halsey, Scio and Sweet Home.

Roadwork maintenance is divided into four districts.

"Linn County is a certified local agency," Roadmaster Wayne Mink said. "That means we are certified to complete state-level contracts, work closely with federal funding and administer our own contracts. Daineal has been instrumental in facilitating that all along."

Mink said that Malone is a licensed civil engineer and has worked closely with former County Engineer Chuck Knoll on many projects.

"She has the competence and skillset needed for this position," Mink said of her promotion.

Knoll has retired, but is working part-time until the end of the year completing some high-level projects.

Fall has definitely arrived in the mid-valley. Leaves are changing colors, much-needed rain is falling and the grass is greening up.





County Administrative Officer Darrin Lane and Deputy County Attorney Jodi Gollehon during website development meeting.

Linn County website update

Work on a proposed new Linn County website continues.

Over the past few months, the project committee members have met with department heads and elected officials to gather information about their office or department's needs in a new site.

The county received 15 Requests For Proposals to develop the new site and on Sept. 29, committee members Steve Braaten, Karen Guilford, Vicki Slover of the IT Department, and Communications Officer Alex Paul, along with Administrative Officer Darrin Lane and Deputy County Attorney Jodi Gollehon reviewed each of the proposals, narrowed the list to three and then one.

That information will be presented to the Board of Commissioners and if approved, the winner will be announced and the process of building the new website will begin.

Thank you to everyone involved and your comments are still welcome.



Website committee members Vicki Slover and Karen Guilford.

Transportation guru Mark Volmert retires

Linn County Transportation Coordinator Mark Volmert was recently recognized by the Board of Commissioners for his 17 years service.

Volmert has retired.

Chairman Nyquist praised Volmert for "connecting all of the dots" in the ex-

tremely challenging field of transportation funding and Commissioner Tucker added that Volmert has done an excellent job reviewing mounds of government regulations and presenting board members with clear, concise information.

Ken Bronson of Sweet Home will succeed Volmert.



Linn County Commissioner Will Tucker toured the north Santiam Canyon earlier this summer.

County has waived \$71,000 in building fees for Santiam Canyon wildfire victims

By Alex Paul
Communications Officer

On Labor Day 2020, wildfires fueled by 60 mile-per-hour winds devastated much of the Santiam Canyon, burning hundreds of thousands of acres, homes and outbuildings.

The Linn County Board of Commissioners quickly determined that to aid families, they would waive fees associated with building permits for dwellings and a year later, that has amounted to more than \$71,000 according to Planning Manager Alyssa Boles.

"It's going very well," Boles said of the effort.

Boles said there have been 13 permits for stick-built homes, 10 for manufactured homes and 18 for accessory buildings.

"This started shortly after the fires," Boles said. "We put a program together quickly and that included providing temporary RV permits so people can live in an RV while they are cleaning their properties and getting new homes started."

Boles said families often tell Planning and Building Department staff about their experiences during the fire and show them photos.

"They thank us for the Linn County Sheriff's Office response and how they appreciate how the county has reached out to them," Boles said. "So many people lost everything they had."

Boles said the permits will be good for five years.

"The permits are for dwellings only," Boles said. "They still need permits for shops and other outbuildings."



Alyssa Boles

Boles encourages people to call the Planning and Building office at 541-967-3816 and staff can answer questions pertaining to the permit process.

"They do not have to build on the same footprint to qualify," Boles said. "We're here to help them."

Commissioner Roger Nyquist called the project, "the right thing to do."

"Waiving the permit fees was the right thing to do and we are happy that people are on their way back to recovery from the catastrophic events of the fires," Board Chair Roger Nyquist said.

The Beachie Creek, Lionshead and P515 fires, collectively called the Santiam Fire, burned more than 402,000 acres in Linn, Marion, Jefferson and Clackamas counties starting on Labor Day 2020.

More than 1,500 structures were destroyed in Marion and Linn counties.

Five people were killed.



Signs of Hope

Hillary Kosmicki, left, of the Albany Fire Department and Nova Sweet of Linn County Mental Health, hold signs of encouragement and support for people who may be contemplating suicide as part of the nationwide Signs of Hope campaign Sept. 9 in Albany. There are about 24 suicides per year annually in Linn County. The signs remain standing on the courthouse lawn near 4th and Ellsworth. Of those lost to suicide, men make up approximately 78% of the deaths by suicide in Linn County. 24-49 years of age makes up the largest grouping of deaths by suicide. Linn County Mental Health has a walk-in crisis clinic open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at 445 Third Ave SW Albany and a 24-hour crisis line at 541-967-3866 extension 1.

Keeping things running at Clear Lake Resort

By Alex Paul
Communications Officer

CLEAR LAKE — When asked what he likes most about his job as a co-ranger at Clear Lake Resort, J.R. Erspamer looks out the window of the lodge and asks in replay, “Who wouldn’t like it here?”

Erspamer grew up in the busy San Francisco Bay area and has worked for Linn County Parks for two years.

“I like everything about this job,” Erspamer said. “My office view is beautiful.”

Erspamer said his goal is to help “facilitate a family atmosphere” for guests.

“That’s what I want for my family and it’s what I want for everyone who comes here,” Erspamer said.

Erspamer said his goals are to keep things fixed and the resort “clean and neat” for guests who come from as far away as Japan to enjoy the crystal clear waters and beautiful central Oregon scenery.

Most work days there is a work crew of four people and during peak season that can grow to six with a total seasonal staff of 10 to 12.

Erspamer said cabin rentals are always brisk, although mid-week openings start popping up when kids get back to school.

“It has gotten to the point people need to book cabins a year in advance,” Erspamer said.

Erspamer said winter is also a good time to book a cabin and use it as a base camp for skiing at nearby Hoodoo Ski Bowl or to go snow shoeing.

The restaurant is not open in the winter, he added.

“There’s so much to do here in the summer,” Erspamer said. “Hiking or fishing here, but people can also go mountain biking, or to the hot springs or explore caves. It’s just amazing place.”

He added that the crystal clear — and frigid — water attracts scuba divers like bees to honey.

The restaurant is open from 7 -11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday.

“We offer biscuits and gravy, pancakes, a charizza burrito and of course burgers and fries and our special cinnamon rolls and pies,” Erspamer said.

Erspamer said he never has to remind himself how lucky he is to work in such a beautiful place “because all of our guests tell me on a regular basis.”



Although work can get a bit hectic at times, Clear Lake Ranger J.R. Erspamer says he never tires of his beautiful surroundings.

Erspamer said he would like to see the resort move toward solar power someday. Currently, power is provided by two large generators.

“I would like to reduce our carbon footprint if possible,” he said.

Name: J.R. Erspamer

Age: 39

Occupation: Clear Lake Resort Ranger

Family: wife, Candy; two children ages 23 and 10

Hometown: San Francisco Bay area

Education: Associate’s Degree from Santa Rosa Community College in digital media and website development

Hobbies: Photography, hiking,

Erspamer said he is proud to work for Linn County Parks & Recreation.

“I think we have one of the best parks systems around,” he said. “Everyone helps each other out. I also like teaching the seasonal staff new things. In the winter months, we do a lot of maintenance.”

Erspamer said that although it can be

challenging keeping up with the daily schedule during the busy season, he receives “so much positive feedback on a daily basis from our guests.”

Erspamer said the resort has both regular guests who come for fishing or hiking, but also entertains visitors from around the world.

“We get a lot of people from Japan and other Asian countries and a lot of Russians,” he said.

Although he lives at River Bend near Cascadia, Erspamer works year-round at Clear Lake Resort.

“It’s a new adventure every day,” Erspamer said. “There is always something going on.”

Parks Director Brian Carroll said Erspamer, “has done a great job for Linn County Parks at Clear Lake. He is so friendly and really has a wonderful rapport with visitors.”



Erspamer answers a radio call from one of his summer crew staff members.



The summer crew

These good folks have kept Linn County’s beautiful Clear Lake Resort up and running this summer. Only 44 miles east of Sweet Home, it’s a treasure for picnics, fishing, boating or overnight stays in rustic or more modern cabins. Don’t miss out on tasty pies or giant cinnamon rolls with a cup of hot coffee. Don’t have a boat? Don’t worry, there are plenty to rent. Row one, left to right: Madison Kobol, Breanne Perkins, Marni King, Hadley Collins. Back row – Park Ranger J.R. Erspamer, Rusty Grey, Ben Norman and Sydney Beers. Far background: Chris Jernigan. Photo courtesy J.R. Erspamer.

HistoriCorps brings new life to Clear Lake picnic shelter

By Alex Paul

Communications Officer

CLEAR LAKE — The sound of hammers at work filled the air on a recent cool summer day at Clear Lake Resort as staff and volunteers with HistoriCorps made repairs to the log picnic shelter that has stood through rain and snow for more than 90 years.

A Civilian Conservation Corps project from the 1930s, the shelter is showing its age.

It now boasts a new hand-split cedar shake roof, a refurbished lava stone fireplace and some new logs to replace those that had been battered by time.

Jason Benson, who hails from northwest Washington, and Remy Buxton of Corvallis, are the only paid staff members on this project. The others over coming weeks are all volunteers.

Benson has been fixing up old things since he was 5 years old and helped his parents rehabilitate a 1914 farm.

He earned a degree in botany, did trail work and then became a preservationist with the National Park Service. He has been restoring historic structures up and down the West Coast for 20 years.

Benson said he is a “carpenter/preservationist” and this is his first season with the program.

Buxton loves being in the outdoors, for work or pleasure.

He has a degree in anthropology from the University of Georgia at Athens and joined HistoriCorps in 2021 after volunteering in 2020.

Recent volunteers included Eric Acosta, Jeunilyan Stenske and David Freeman with Northwest Youth Corps in Eugene.

HistoriCorps spokeswoman Charlotte Helmer said HistoriCorps’ mission is to inspire a preservation ethic by engaging volunteers to save historic places.

“We prioritize experiential, hands-on learning above all else,” Helmer said.

The program relies on a small cadre of paid staff members and a large contingent of volunteers across all age groups and possessing a variety of skill levels.

The concept for HistoriCorps sprang from a project to restore building in the Pike-San Isabel National Forest from 2002-2007. In 2009 the U.S. Forest Service approached the Colorado Preservation Inc. with the idea of forming a “corps” much like the original Civilian Conservation Corps and since then dozens of special places have been saved for future generations.

Helmer said HistoriCorps works like a traveling road show, popping up on public lands across the country every year.

“Each project is made possible by government partners, generous donors, and passionate volunteers,” Helmer said.



HistoriCorps volunteers install new hand-split cedar shakes on the picnic shelter at Clear Lake Resort.



HistoriCorps staff member Jason Benson, left, talks about the Clear Lake picnic shelter project with Linn County Parks Director Brian Carroll.

The restoration of Clear Lake picnic shelter involves the Willamette National Forest, Linn County Parks, Friends of Fish Lake, Northwest Youth Corps, corporate sponsors such as Bon Tool, and 25 volunteers.

HistoriCorps will complete at least 40 projects this year in 15 states, with eight crews active from March to November.

There are five projects slated from Northern California to Central Oregon.

“We get every type of volunteer, from retirees to people who take a week’s vacation from work to do this,” Benson said.

Benson said.

The Clear Lake project crew is camping at nearby Fish Lake.

“It’s great fun,” Benson said.

Benson said the Clear Lake project will take about five weeks, plus one week of set-up. Most volunteers work a week at a time.

Recently the Northwest Youth Corps participants were busy installing a new cedar shake

roof and Buxton was busy preparing the chimney for a stone mason.

Benson said his crews often repair log structures and guard stations.

HistoriCorps recently completed projects to restore Longbow Group Camp in Linn County and several Odd Fellows cabins at Paulina Lake. They will work at the Santiam Pass Ski Lodge in September and October.

“The types of structures vary by region,” Benson said. “In eastern states, many buildings were masonry oriented.”

Benson said it takes some getting used to working with a new crew of volunteers every week, but volunteers are provided with considerable information before they leave home. They camp out, but meals are provided.

“Volunteers get to learn how to use traditional tools, such as a draw knife to remove bark from logs,” Benson said. “They learn that often, the traditional tools are the best tools.”

Volunteer Eric Acosta called the project, “Super cool. It’s so unusual to get to work on a project with so much history behind it.”

Linn County Parks Director Brian Carroll praised the HistoriCorps volunteers.



HistoriCorps staffers Jason Benson, left, and Remy Buxton, work on the picnic shelter’s rock chimney.

“The restoration of the historic Clear Lake shelter is such a terrific project,” Carroll said. “Having HistoriCorps there to perform the work, with the help of volunteers, has provided visitors an opportunity to learn about the restoration process.”

About HistoriCorps

People from all walks of life can volunteer with HistoriCorps.

No prior construction experience is necessary, but it helps to have a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

Projects range in skill levels and degree of difficulty, from easy to difficult, so participants can choose for themselves.

HistoriCorps provides meals, lodging, tools, training, safety equipment and materials.

Lodging ranges from tent camping to indoor facilities.

Travel and access information is available for each project — some projects can only be reached by hiking) or by four-wheel-drive vehicles.

Learn more about HistoriCorps by watching the documentary, “Saving Places”, call 720-287-0100 or visit <https://historicorps.org/>





Rolling out COVID-19 vaccinations

Linn County's new mobile clinic van has been busy in recent weeks. It has traveled to Sweet Home, Brownsville, Scio and Mill City. Individuals who cannot come to a clinic site, can still call the Linn County Health Department and staff will bring the mobile unit to their residence. The county is also holding drive-through clinics from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. every Tuesday and Wednesday on the back side of the Fair & Expo Center. First and second doses of all three major vaccines are being given. Appointments are suggested, but walk-ins are welcome. Booster shots are available, but people whose first shots were the Pfizer vaccine must be six months past their last Covid shot. The county is not providing Moderna boosters yet.

Veterans Services ... From P. 1

"We need to be able to offer them face-to-face support when they need it," she said.

Baley-Hyder and her husband Jason have seven children, ranging in age from 18 to 27.

They live in Albany and enjoy working on their 1965 Mustang and having family barbecues.

"I want our veterans to give us a call so we can thank them for their service," Baley-Hyder said.

The Veterans Services office is at 330 3rd Ave. SW and is open from 8:30 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Call 541-967-3882 or 800-319-3882.



Dee Baley-Hyder

How can Linn County Veterans Services help?

- Claims with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- Compensation for service-related disabilities
- Pensions for non-service-connected disabilities
- Medical treatment at a VA clinic or hospital

- Home loan information
 - Assistance to widows and other dependents
- Media contact:** Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer, 541-967-3825 or email apaul.co.linn.or.us.



Do you have a story idea for the Linn County Reporter?

Is something interesting happening in your department? Is there a big project on the table, or a new hire or retirement?

Please contact editor Alex Paul by calling 541-967-3825 or email apaul@co.linn.or.us.

Wanted



Linn County camp hosts for 2022
Call 541-967-3917 for more information

Mill City bridge project nearing completion

MILL CITY — The 136-year-old Mill City pedestrian bridge — officially the Mill City Southern Pacific Rail Bridge — will soon sport a new coat of paint to go along with an extensive structural renovation overseen by the Linn County Road Department.

Workers from FD Thomas Painting, based in Medford, have been busy setting up containment materials under and around the former rail-road bridge that was recently added to the National Register of Historic Places.

“They have been working on this bridge since March,” said Dan Leard, a Linn County senior engineering technician.

Leard said rotted wooden decking has been removed and replaced and



Above: Staff from FD Thomas Painting install debris containment materials on the Mill City pedestrian bridge.

Right: Senior engineering tech Dan Leard has been keeping on eye on the bridge project.

QUOTABLE

“This bridge is very important to this community, It’s the focal point.”

Dan Leard

steel tressles have been installed.

Abutments on either end of the bridge have been upgraded and new concrete decking poured.

The project’s general contractor is Farline Bridge Company of Stayton.

The bridge renovation is part of a three-pronged project that includes work on the traffic bridge over the North Santiam River and upgrading Broadway Street. It is being paid for in part by an \$8.1 million federal TIGER Grant (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery.)

“This bridge is very important to this community,” Leard said. “It’s the focal point.”

Painters will use an abrasive to remove debris and rust and then

spray two coats of primer and a coat of new paint.

The 120-foot bridge was constructed in 1885 in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania and spent the first several years of its existence in San Jose, California. It was moved to Lake Oswego in 1901 and to Mill City in 1919.

In its heyday, the bridge — which is of a wrought-iron Phoenix Column style — was the main way timber and lumber products were transported out of the bustling Santiam Canyon.

The last time it carried a train was 1971 and in 1991, it was converted to pedestrian use only in 1991.

Community members raised \$400,000 toward its renovation.



Clear Lake Resort roadwork planned

CLEAR LAKE — Linn County Parks will perform road maintenance and repairs to the Clear Lake Resort cabin loop road in coming months that will result in some periodic closures or delays.

Sept. 27 — Oct. 1: There will be temporary cabin road closures between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Oct. 4 — 8: There will be temporary cabin road closures between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Oct. 11 — 14: Due to the grading and placing of rock, the cabin road will be

closed between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. No cabin road traffic. Cabin guests must access the cabins by foot during work hours. Cabin guests will need to park in the main parking lot.

Oct. 18 — 21: Due to finish grading and placing of rock on the cabin parking areas, the cabin road will be closed between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. No cabin road traffic. Cabin guests must access the cabins by foot during work hours. Cabin guests will need to park in the main parking lot.

If you have questions about the Clear Lake Resort cabin loop road, email: parks@co.linn.or.us or call the Linn County Parks Office at 541-967-3917.

