



## Administrator's Corner by S. Scott McDowell



The only thing certain about this year so far has been uncertainty. The Coronavirus Pandemic continues to be closely monitored by the world as everyone hopes for a viable vaccine. Significant treatment applications have been developed over the last six months to help patients who have contracted COVID-19. Health officials continue to ask everyone to wash their hands, practice social distancing and wear a mask for prevention purposes. The State of Oregon shows no signs of relaxing any restrictions put in place by Governor Brown until State officials feel the risk is tolerable.

Fire emergencies have rocked the State since Labor Day. Fire officials have said that fires will burn through December. Many have been evacuated and many more, still, have lost everything. It is very difficult to put out good, verified information. Officials responding to the fire are overwhelmed by the vast landscape that was ablaze all over Oregon. Brownsville was wrought with misinformation during the most recent emergency. The City has put together multiple sources to ensure that folks received accurate, verifiable information for life safety purposes.

The City made sure the City website directed folks to Facebook posts and the Central Linn Community Emergency Preparedness website, [www.clcepc.org](http://www.clcepc.org). This website is mobile friendly and has great resources for your use. State officials have been pleased with the Federal response to this fire emergency. So far, fourteen states have lent Oregon resources to help fight the fire and, ultimately, recover from massive devastation.

The City has three Council positions open for the upcoming election. The City received three applications for those seats, including incumbent Carla Gerber, Adam Craven and Michael Humphreys. Council continues to meet via teleconference due to State restrictions. Citizens can join all public meetings by phone, a computer is not required. Visit the City website for more information under the *How Do I* tab at [www.ci.brownsville.or.us](http://www.ci.brownsville.or.us).

City Hall is open for business. The State requires visitors to wear a mask and to sign in for contact tracing purposes. We are pleased to report that everyone has been respectful of the requirements and it has been a pleasure seeing citizens again!

The building rental spaces will remain closed until further notice to comply with State guidelines and restrictions for public spaces.

Staff continues to work on accomplishing necessary projects as we head into winter. Heavy smoke made it impossible to work outside recently due to exposure concerns. We are hopeful that we will be able to accomplish identified projects Council set forth this fall and winter.

Wishing you all the best! Stay safe out there.



**October 3rd is Clean Up Day in Brownsville!**

Details inside on page 2....



# October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 is Clean Up Day!

Sweet Home Sanitation will be holding the annual Brownsville Clean-up day, Saturday October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7:30 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. on Park Avenue between City Hall and the Rec Center. The event is for Brownsville residents only and proof of residence is required. Please bring driver's license or garbage bill for proof of residency. The method used will be the depot method of collection with bins available. Sweet Home Sanitation requests that materials be separated as much as possible when hauled into the collection site. Assistance from the City Staff may be available to assist residents through the process as quickly as possible, but Covid precautions and social distancing rules shall apply.

### Acceptable Items:

- ★ Old Lumber, bundled (smaller than 4 ft. length)
- ★ Old appliances
- ★ Scrap Metal
- ★ Yard debris (smaller than 4ft.)
- ★ Passenger & light truck tires (4 max per vehicle)
- ★ E-Waste, computers, monitors, TV's

### Unacceptable Items:

- ★ No Household Garbage
- ★ No loose Trash
- ★ No Liquid Waste, Paint, or Pesticides (empty paint cans ok)
- ★ No large Truck Tires

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY (HHW) is OCTOBER 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020



Sweet Home Sanitation customers pay a monthly HHW fee which allows them to drop off HHW at the October 10<sup>th</sup> event in Sweet Home for no additional charge. Be sure to bring a recent copy of your garbage bill showing that you are a current customer. Commercial customers will need to make special arrangements.

Examples of HHW: Gas, diesel, oil filters, maximum paint container is 5 gallons, cleaners, liquids, bleach, propane, mercury thermometers, pool chemicals, nail polish/removers, cosmetics, pharmacy

prescriptions & over the counter drugs. NO controlled substances.

Contact Sweet Home Sanitation with questions 541.367.2535.



## LINN COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM and MOYER HOUSE



When the doors of the Linn County Historical Museum and the Moyer House closed in mid-March, no one expected that, seven months later, they would still be locked tight. Summers are always the busiest season for the two facilities, but not during the pandemic. Although many Oregon businesses and attractions are re-opening, welcoming visitors to the Museum or Moyer House is stymied by unique challenges. Disinfecting hundreds of historical artifacts on a daily basis is nearly impossible and can permanently damage fragile objects. Social distancing and a one-way traffic pattern for visitors are difficult given the Museum's tight spaces and exhibit configurations. Museum staff and many volunteers are in the high-risk category as are most visitors.

For now, the Linn County Parks and Recreation Department, which manages the Museum and Moyer House, is waiting until conditions for re-opening are safer. The County continues to maintain the buildings and monitor security. New carpeting is scheduled to be installed in the Museum soon and newly-minted historical reproduction wallpaper will freshen the Moyer House Ladies' Parlor walls.

To stay in touch with Linn County history, watch for the Museum Friends' booth frequently at the Thursday Farmer's Market at the corner of Park Ave. and Main Street. You will find your favorite books on Northwest history and natural history for children and adults, wooden toys, Museum sweatshirts and T-shirts, Pendleton fabric pouches, penny candy, and more. For more information on the Museum and Moyer House, go to [linnparks.com](http://linnparks.com) or find us on Facebook. *By Mandy Cole*

# Historical House Signs

By Joni Nelson



You may have noticed the black wooden signs on many of Brownsville's older commercial buildings and residences. These signs display the building date and the name of the builder or first owner.

This project began in the 1990's, when members of the Historic Review Board worked under the leadership of Linn County's historic preservation specialist Mary Gallagher on a cultural resources survey – a document required by the state to identify sites and objects of historic or cultural significance. The group went through the town, block-by-block and lot-by-lot, following the sequence of the town's development. All structures that appeared to be more than 50 years were identified.

Then came months of research. This was before the days of electronic records. At the County Courthouse huge old deed books and assessor's record books were lugged to study tables and pored over. Marriage and death records were consulted. The University of Oregon archives yielded copies of hundred-year-old Brownsville and Lebanon newspapers. Year-end editions were especially helpful, as they usually listed that year's local building projects and renovations. The OSU map room held a few copies of Sanborn Insurance Maps from the late 1800s and early 1900s. These maps indicated the location, "footprint", and height of buildings in some areas of town. The research group also spent some time crawling under houses and inspecting attics (with the owner's approval), finding clues to age such as square nails, hand-hewn beams and mortise-and-tenon joints. Personal interviews recorded under the WPA in the 1930s sometimes fleshed out the stories.

The first Historic House Signs were awarded as a "thank you" to owners who had opened their homes for a series of tours sponsored by the Museum Friends. Later, signs were offered to all owners of properties listed on the Cultural Resources Survey.

There is no cost to owners for the signs. The only requirement is that they be permanently attached to the structure near the front entrance and visible from the street.

Was your home built before about 1940? Does it retain much of its original appearance? If you do not have one, would you like to have a Historic House sign? If so, please contact City Hall.



## BRAIN TEASER

Start to Finish

Directions: For each clue, find a corresponding word that starts and finishes with the same letter. The first one is an example.

Spend time in front of a mirror: Pimp

Pioneer in Photocopying:

Intuitive Inkling:

Eskimo Canoe:

Deadly:

The Most:

Pie Type of Dessert:

Excessive:

Pizza Herb:

Water Storage Area:

Bitterly Sarcastic:

Temporary Loss of Memory:

48 Hours before Tomorrow:

Trepidation:

Gas in Some Signs:

Chinese Medicinal Root:

Where a Rubber Ducky Lives:

Pleasure Traveler:



## Calapooia Food Alliance By Don Lyon

**Building Community One Bite at a Time**-- Our motto has never been so true as it has been this summer with the pandemic keeping people close to home and, in many cases, out of work.

When the CFA heard that Deb Gruell and Sharing Hands Food Bank were overwhelmed with new clients we voted to donate fresh salad greens from Wepler Farms and since early summer the Community Garden has been growing lettuce, chard, cabbage, kale, beans, tomatoes, beets, zucchini and squash--lots and lots of squash-- for the Food Bank. Many volunteers have helped in this effort.

The Buyers Club has been busier than ever, too. Members place their orders with Azure Standard and Steve Brenner coordinates the monthly deliveries.

The Thursday Market has become a social center for the community during this time with more vendors and items for sale than ever before. Strolling musicians often add a festive air.

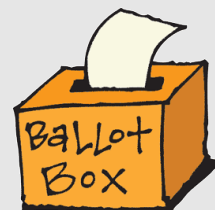
Recently your CFA staged an outdoor *Munch Night* at Natalie Wade's Bramble House with a mushroom themed dinner and a showing of *Fantastic Fungi*. We hope to do it again.

Of course, we are following *COVID 19* protocols at all events. You can learn more about the CFA at our website--[gocfa.org](http://gocfa.org). Board Members are Donald Lyon, Peggy Purkerson, Kathleen Swayze, Steve Brenner, Lynlee Bischof and Natalie Wade.



## NOVEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

If you are a registered voter, you will receive a ballot in the mail for the upcoming election. Brownsville City Hall is a designated drop off location to receive your ballot. Ballots may also be returned by USPS mail. City Hall will be open extended hours on Election Day, from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.



## LIBRARY NEWS by Sherri Lemhouse



Your Library is open with normal Library hours!  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Thursday 1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
and Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m..

When you come into the Library be prepared to wear a mask, sign the contact tracing form, and wash your hands!

Story Time is held online weekly. Follow the links for Songs Rhymes and More with Librarian Sherri on our website:  
[www.brownsvillecommunitylibrary.org](http://www.brownsvillecommunitylibrary.org) or follow our Library Facebook page.

**DEAL OF THE DAY!** Our Friends of the Library have set up an extra Book Sale in the Kirk Room. Paperbacks are \$0.50 everything else is \$1.

### Answers to Brain Teaser Puzzle on Page 3

primp	reservoir
xerox	caustic
hunch	amnesia
canoe	yesterday
lethal	stress
extreme	neon
tart	ginseng
high	river
oregano	tourist



# What's Happening at the Brownsville Art Center?

## Reopening of the Art Center

*By Chris Seale*

Members of the Brownsville Art Center were excited to reopen in June. To kick things off, we wanted to see what our artists had been creating while we were all staying home. So, our first show was entitled "Art in Isolation" and it was great. Our show wall was filled with amazing artwork in every medium: metal, rock, watercolor, oils, acrylic, paper and glass. We had it all, and we thank all our participating artists.

## Current Show

The annual Junk Art Show kicked off August 1st. This year's theme was "plastic", so several artists focused on that. As you walk through the gallery, you will see an apron and diaper bag made with plastic as well as some pictures that have incorporated plastic bottles. But you have to look closely to see how it was done. All very creative. Other entries include fiber, metal, ceramics, wood, and so much more. It is truly worth walking through to see how amazing "junk" can be.

## Barbizon Brownsville Plein Air Painting Event

*By Jerry Ross*

Several years ago, as a member of the Brownsville Art Association (BAA), I began organizing for an annual plein air event for artists that would take place in conjunction with the Stand By Me festival in Brownsville. In addition, last year I also began to talk about a possible sister city relationship between Brownsville, OR and Barbizon, France as a means of branding Brownsville as a "city of artists" and as an arts destination. A meeting with the Mayor and City Council and a separate meeting with the Chamber of Commerce were undertaken. The coronavirus pandemic led to the cancellation of the annual festival and much of the work of BAA related to these efforts. However, I am pleased to report that the 2nd Annual Barbizon Brownsville Paintout did happen on July 22 and 23, 2020 with eight painters representing the surrounding region participating: Dominique Bachelet, Paul Bourgault, Roger Hamilton, Penny Jennings, Tara Kemp, Diane Lang, Sally Schwader, and Jerry Ross (that's me). The painters fanned out throughout the town, but favorite locations were the Hanson House, the Moyer House, Randy's Cafe, the Hardware Store, and Main Street. An online catalogue (virtual exhibit) can be found at this link : <https://www.jerryrosspittore.com/BBP2020.pdf>

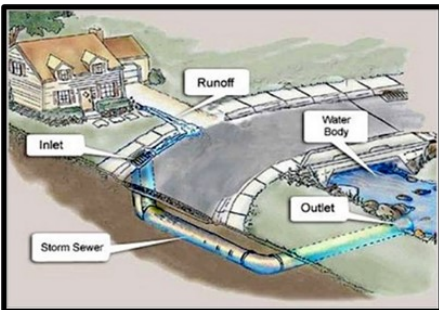
## Future Activities

*By Cris Kostol*

During the month of October, each gallery artist will update items in their individual display, and move to a new location as the art center transitions to the Holiday Show. Beginning in November, you can plan on shopping locally for holiday gifts and cards created by talented local artists and craftsmen. Along with fine art paintings and prints, you will find pottery and ceramics, small sculptures, metal work, jewelry, photographs, calendars, cards, gift tags, soaps, aprons, honey, and herbs.

November also brings us NaNoWriMo, or National Novel Writing Month, an annual Internet-based creative writing project. Participants attempt to write a 50,000-word manuscript between November 1 and November 30. Well-known authors write "pep-talks" to keep them motivated throughout the process. The Brownsville Art Center hopes to sponsor a small group of participants and provide support for this intense writing activity. If you are interested, contact us! Or if interested in a local writers' group, not necessarily novel-focused, let us know.

Hopefully, by December, we may be able to hold our popular "Holiday Art Market." If so, look forward to Santa, and a showcase of special booths with Christmas decorations, gifts, and wonderful artwork.

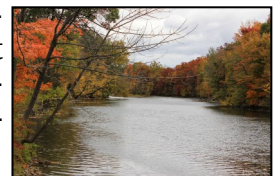


## TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL)

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) under the direction and requirement of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are concerned about non-point source pollution. Pollutants such as herbicides, pesticides, and other residues runoff into water sources such as the Calapooia River. Pollutants are harmful to the watershed and river system. The DEQ requires cities to monitor certain parameters to ensure a healthy river system.

The City of Brownsville's Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requires the City to monitor activities that would potentially cause harm. Activities include monitoring bacteria, temperature, mercury and illegal discharges. There are ways you can positively affect river quality. You can use one of the several pet waste station in the park to clean up after your pet. You can plant trees and other types of native species that help remove unwanted pollutants. You can make sure that any erosion on your property is repaired to limit the amount of sedimentation that would potentially get into the river system. You can report any illegal dumping into ditches or sewer manholes.

Make sure that your downspouts are attached properly to your home and your internal storm drainage system. Homeowners are encouraged to keep storm water on sight either through retention or detention ponds or swales. The City requires new construction to eliminate practices that would cause excess runoff, sedimentation and other unwanted effects from directly entering waterways. Remember, all drains go to the river.



## Are You Prepared For An Emergency? By Karl Frink, Public Works Supervisor

Here is a list of some important items you should know that can make a difference in the event something goes wrong around your house:



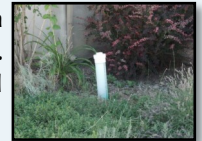
### Water Shut-Off Valve



The City provides a customer water shut-off valve located in your water meter box, usually a handle on the house side of the water meter that you simply turn 90 degrees and the water is off. Not all water services have this valve, so you may want to check to see if your water service does. If you do not, you may want to consider having a shut off valve installed and know where it is. This is something that we don't think about until a leak has occurred and you don't know where to turn your water off at.

### Sewer Clean-Out

It is important to know where the sewer clean-out is located for your house. When sewer back-ups occur, they are very unpleasant and can be very expensive to unclog if you do not have a clean-out. If you do not have a sewer clean-out, we highly recommend installing a two-way clean-out near your house in the event it is needed. In Brownsville, property owners are responsible for their own sewer lines, so it is better to be prepared ahead of time.



### Natural Gas Shut-Off Valve

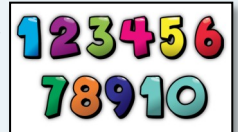


EMERGENCY

It is also important to know how to shut off the natural gas to your house in the event you develop a leak. Natural gas is highly flammable and deadly if an excessive amount is inhaled. The emergency number for Northwest Natural Gas is (800) 882-3377. Please save this number if you have natural gas!

### House Numbers

It is vital that your house number is visible from the street! Your house address should be clearly visible from the street. This is important so emergency, delivery and utility services can locate your address in the event of an emergency or other service requests. You may experience undesirable delays from emergency services if your house address is not clearly visible from the street. In some cases, such delays are the difference between life and death. We highly recommend investing in large numbers placed in a location that your residence may be found as quickly as possible in the event a life threatening emergency arises. This is very important for everyone, and planning ahead can make a huge difference.



### Electrical Breaker Panels



It is also important to know where your electrical breaker panels are located in your house. Often times breaker panels are covered up or obstructed by items, making it difficult to locate or access when needed (usually in the dark). We recommend that you locate your breaker panels, familiarize yourself with them, and make sure the breakers are labeled. Again, planning ahead can save a lot of frustration and expense down the road when you least expect it. It is also a good idea to keep a working flashlight in a key location so you know where it is as well in the event it is needed.

### Fire Extinguishers and Smoke Detectors.

Nothing seems to cause more panic than fire, the ones we aren't expecting! Being prepared is crucial, because once a fire breaks out; there is no time to waste. Keep fire extinguishers in key locations around the house so you know right where they are and how to use them. Check your smoke detectors, and change those batteries! They only save lives if they work, in many cases this can make the difference of life or death of yourself or other loved ones. Fire departments are useful resources for such information. Remember, not planning ahead may have severe consequences.



Just remember that unexpected things happen in our homes, and being prepared can make a big difference, whether it be minimizing damage from a water leak or having a medical emergency and having the tools in place so an ambulance or fire and rescue can find you as quickly as possible. Unexpected things always happen when least expected, and at very inconvenient times, so being prepared is vital in determining the outcome of such events.

Please, be prepared, check on the items listed, and have these tools in place **before** an emergency arises.

## OCTOBER IS ARBOR MONTH CELEBRATION



Brownsville has been a Tree City USA Member & Celebrating Arbor Day since 2006. Now more than ever, is the time to support reforestation efforts. For more information on how you can participate, please visit the Arbor Foundation website at [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org). You will also find great educational tools (i.e. tree identification, planting & care) and lots of "tree swag" (i.e. coffee, apparel, gift cards, stationary).

## Are You Prepared For An Emergency? By Kneil Stucky, Emergency Preparedness Committee

Check out [www.clcepc.org](http://www.clcepc.org) for more information!

### GET A KIT

You may need to survive on your own after an emergency. This means having your own food, water, and other supplies in sufficient quantity to last for at least three days. Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone immediately. You could get help in hours, or it might take days. In addition, basic services such as electricity, gas, water, sewage treatment, and telephones may be cut off for days, or even weeks or longer.



### RECOMMENDED ITEMS TO INCLUDE IN A BASIC EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger

### ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO CONSIDER ADDING TO AN EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

- Prescription medications and glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container
- Cash or traveler's checks and change
- Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or information from [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding in fall and winter
- Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing, during winter
- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper – when diluted nine part water to one part bleach, bleach can be used as a disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners
- Fire Extinguisher
- Matches in waterproof container
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, paper towels
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

Find out how to keep food safe during and after an emergency by visiting, [www.foodsafety.gov](http://www.foodsafety.gov)



### Accessory Structures: 200/10 Over & Under Rule

If your accessory structure is **OVER 200 sq. ft.** & exceeds 10ft high from the finished floor to the top of the top plate, a permit from both Linn County (TBD) & the City(\$30) are required. If your single-story, non-habitable accessory structure is **200 sq. ft. & UNDER**, a permit from the City only is required.

Contact Elizabeth Coleman for details. Monday through Thursday, 8:30am – 4:30pm.

Fence Permits \$30 – Call Elizabeth at City Hall for details



**City of Brownsville**  
 255 North Main Street  
 P.O. Box 188  
 Brownsville, OR 97327

PRSR STD  
 ECRWSS  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 EDDM RETAIL

LOCAL POSTAL PATRON  
 Attn: City of Brownsville Residents

**For more information check out our website at:**  
**[www.ci.brownsville.or.us](http://www.ci.brownsville.or.us)**  
**Emergency Situation: 911**  
**City Hall: 541.466.5880**  
**Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**  
**After Hours Public Works Emergency: 541.409.3700**  
**City Library: 541.466.5454**

**COURT CLERK HOURS**  
 The Brownsville Municipal  
 Court Clerk  
 is available on  
 Tuesdays and Wednesdays  
 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



The City of Brownsville website is a wealth of information! You can make an online utility bill or court payment, find agendas and meeting minutes, the Brownsville Municipal Code, Staff directory, a building or room reservation module, permit applications, and much, much more.

This website, along with our Emergency Preparedness website ([www.clcepc.org](http://www.clcepc.org)) are also places where you can find information that is current, such as information for the recent Wildfire event that just swept through our area. We have been providing you with current information as soon as we get it, and hot links that will take you directly to pertinent websites.

Staff has worked diligently to provide all the support and guidance we can to our community members during this emergency event. It has been wonderful to see the community pull together and support each other during these traumatic times. We truly live in a beautiful part of the world!

