



# DOWNTOWN ALBANY

November 2023

## Downtown Unwrapped & Holiday Open House Nov 2-5

Save the date for local shoppers' favorite holiday season kick-off event, Downtown Unwrapped & Holiday Open House. It all starts at 4 pm on Thursday, November 2nd and continues through the weekend.

Hundreds will head to Downtown Albany for an evening of shopping and to see the fun, beautiful, simple or elaborate and sometimes silly holiday windows "unwrapped."

As the date quickly approaches, merchants are busily planning and staging their creative holiday displays and hiding them behind paper-wrapped windows.

Attendees can't wait to see this year's windows. They'll vote for their favorites while enjoying holiday beverages and treats. The voting continues through the weekend. Ballots and voting boxes are at each participating business.

Adding to the fun, there will be Open House events at many Downtown retail and service businesses. Our Downtown restaurants participate by offering special holiday drinks and desserts.

For the list of participants, see the



Downtown Unwrapped brochure at participating businesses and the ADA website, [www.albanydowntown.com](http://www.albanydowntown.com).

## Downtown Uniform Displays Honor Veterans

The display of Veteran's Uniforms in Downtown Albany is a wonderful annual tradition sharing our history. The uniforms are sponsored by individual members and provided by the VFW.

Displays are up Tues.-Mon., Nov 7-13. Please take time to view the 20 uniforms located in 19 businesses and restaurants. The list is available at each location, on our website, Facebook and Instagram.



## Shop Small and Dine Small on Saturday, Nov. 25

Don't settle for a holiday shopping experience of endless lines at box stores or scrolling through countless generic gifts on your smartphone. Shopping in Downtown Albany is different. Shoppers can see it, feel it and get great advice from knowledgeable merchants.

Here, you'll find snowflakes on the light posts – an Albany tradition for over 20 years, our tree trunks twinkling with white

lights and the sounds of holiday music from the sidewalk inviting shoppers into our specialty shops and restaurants.

Join us on November 25 for Small Business Saturday, held each year on the Saturday after Black Friday. Shop Small Downtown, and you'll find great gift specials and some tasty treats. Then, come back all season long.

Restaurants join in the fun with local specialties, traditional fare and ethnic dishes for their take on Dine Small. There is something for everyone, with over 30 places to Dine & Unwind in Downtown Albany.

A list of businesses participating in Small Business Saturday will be available at each business and listed on Albany Downtown Association's Facebook event and at [www.albanydowntown.com](http://www.albanydowntown.com).





# Meet The Neighbors: Home for the Holidays

This is the time of year when we think of home and family. If you're finding your current space doesn't meet your needs, we have the real estate professionals to find you just the right fit. If your business needs a new home, they can help you there, too.

## Connected Real Estate

120 Ellsworth St. SW (541) 740-1466

With 28 years in mid-valley real estate, Jessica Pankratz has been a fixture in Downtown Albany serving on the ADA board and Organization Committee and organizing many Downtown fundraisers, including Mixology Madness and Craft Brew Smackdown.



If you're looking for residential or commercial property, Jessica will expertly guide you to your next home or business location. For sellers, her market knowledge will allow you to get the most for your property.

## Oare & Associates Reality

404 1st Ave. SE (541) 981-2359

An Albany resident for 45 years, Brian Oare stepped into real estate 18 years ago after running a small business in Downtown Albany. He is a true community serv-



ant spearheading Rotary projects like GARC Crab Feed, Craft Brew Smackdown and the Veterans Banner Program.

His knowledge of commercial properties positions him to help business owners locate in Downtown Albany, while his community familiarity benefits homebuyers in finding their first cottage or forever home.

Working throughout the Mid-Valley, Brian can provide the knowledge and options buyers and sellers are looking for.

## Fidelity National Title

317 1st Ave. W, Ste 100 (541) 924-0767

Located in the historic JC Penney Building, Fidelity National Title takes pride in title



and escrow services that meet customer demands for efficient and timely processing and quality products.

Their Albany team is Tara Riesterer, AVP, Branch Manager / Escrow Officer; Heidi Junge, AVP, Sales Executive; Mary Simmons, Escrow Officer. Mary provides bilingual escrow services in Spanish and English.

FNTIC provides title insurance, underwriting, escrow and closing services to residential, commercial and industrial clients, lenders, developers, attorneys, real estate professionals and consumers.



## Windermere Real Estate

331 2nd Ave SW (541) 791-4663

Gerald Furgala and Vanessa Sarabia are the dynamic duo at Windermere Real Estate's Downtown Albany location.

Vanessa started her real estate career four years ago and spends her time helping clients find the best land and residential properties to meet their needs. A top producer for the past three years, Gerald has been a broker since 2019 and specializes in commercial and residential.

At family-owned Windermere, we believe in relationships, not sales quotas.

## Ticor Title

220 6th Ave. SW (541) 926-2111

The team at Ticor is ready to help your real estate transitions go smoothly. Danielle Hayden, Escrow Officer; Ashley Epperley, Escrow Assistant; Daniella Martinez, Escrow Officer; Robin Sullivan, Escrow Officer; Branch Manager; and Auggie, Sales Executive, are committed to providing customers with a level of satisfaction unparalleled in the title insurance industry.



## ALBANY DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION

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[www.AlbanyDowntown.com](http://www.AlbanyDowntown.com)

Facebook.com/AlbanyDowntownAssociation  
Instagram: AlbanyDowntown

## Albany Downtown Association

126 Ferry Street SW  
Albany, OR 97321  
(541) 928-2469

Subscription: Email free. Mail \$6/yr.

### Board of Directors

#### Matt Wadlington

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#### Hannah Darling

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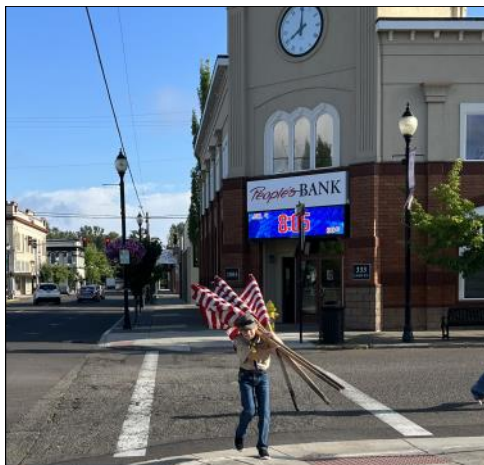
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### Board Liaisons

Sophie Adams - CARA / Economic Dev.  
Rebecca Bond - Albany Visitors Assoc.  
John Pascone - LEDG  
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## Volunteer Spotlight: The Scouts

The Scouts have had a longstanding partnership with the Albany Downtown Association. Current partners include Scout Troop 322, Scout Troop 100 and Cub Scout Troop 7100.

For over ten years, The Scouts have partnered with ADA to install the Downtown American Flags. The team shows up early in the morning to install nearly 100 flags on the streets of Downtown Albany. Late in the day, they return to retire the flags, tightly furling each one and carefully placing them in storage. On certain flag days, when flags are set to half-staff, The Scouts perform an official flag ceremony.

The Scouts also help at Movies at Monteith and Movies by Moonlight. They aid with screen setup, take down and clean up. Their movie night concession stand featuring Pix Theatre popcorn, ice cream novelties and sodas delights attendees and helps the Scouts fundraise for BSA Camp.

Troops 322, 100 and 7100, you are truly appreciated. We couldn't do it without you!



Each month ParkWise awards a month of free parking to a leased space or employee permit holder.

Our November parking winner is...

*Brandy Harwell*

Reds Boutique

## Downtown Events - November

### Saturdays thru Nov. 18 - Albany Farmers' Market

Each week, head to the Albany Farmers' Market for fresh local produce, meats, baked goods, seafood, plants, flowers and more. Kid's POP program weekly. Visit with OSU Extension Master Gardeners and Master Food Preservers on 3rd Saturdays. Hours: 9 am-1 pm in the Albany City Hall parking lot (corner of 4th & Ellsworth). [www.locallygrown.org](http://www.locallygrown.org).

### Thu-Sun, Nov. 2-5 - Downtown Unwrapped & Holiday Open House

Save Thursday, Nov. 2 for local shoppers favorite holiday season kick-off event, Downtown Unwrapped. Vote for your favorite holiday window, enjoy treats and some sweet deals. The voting and specials continue through the weekend. *See story on page 1.*

### Thu-Sat, Nov. 2-4 - ACT presents: She Kills Monsters

Albany Civic Theater presents She Kills Monsters, the story of Agnes Evans, a young woman grieving for her deceased sister. The Evans sisters never were especially close, but after Tilly's death, Agnes receives a notebook containing a game scenario created by her sister. She discovers that Tilly was a well-known Dungeons & Dragons player, and that she was passionate about online fantasy gaming. In order to unlock more secrets about her mysterious young sibling, Agnes recruits a "dungeon master" named Chuck to help her understand and grieve Tilly. Chock-full of supermodel elves, dominatrix warrior women, and nasty ogres, She Kills Monsters is a surprisingly sweet tale of friendship, loss and acceptance. Performances: Nov. 2, 3, 4. For info and tickets, visit [www.albanycivic.org](http://www.albanycivic.org).

### Friday, Nov. 3 - 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany: Shop Local

Bring your friends Downtown for some 1st Friday fun! Look for sales, treats & tastings, music, a special event at the Carousel and other fun. For more info, visit the ADA website [www.albanydowntown.com/events](http://www.albanydowntown.com/events) or the 1st Friday Facebook page.

### Friday, Nov. 3 - Gallery Calapooia: 1st Friday Artist Reception

November's featured artists are Bill Thompson and John Mikkelson. Their work will be showcased up front at the gallery and in their featured artist window from October 31 to November 24. Reception is 6-8 pm. For info, visit [gallerycalapooia.com](http://gallerycalapooia.com).

### Wednesday, Nov. 8 - History Bites: Oregon's Trail of Tears

The Albany Regional Museum will host local artist Nolan Streitberger for its November History Bites lecture. Join them as Nolan discusses his reasons and process of documenting Oregon's Trail of Tears. His photographic display is still in progress, but several pieces are showing at the Museum alongside the borrowed exhibit "This IS Kalapuyan Land". 12- 1 pm. History Bites is a free event, to explore the new exhibits is a separate fee. Light refreshments available. For info, visit [www.armuseum.com](http://www.armuseum.com).

### Tues-Mon, Nov. 7-13 - Veterans' Uniforms on Display

A wonderful annual tradition of sharing our history. Take time to view the 20 uniforms located in 19 businesses and restaurants in Downtown Albany. *See story on page 1.*

### Saturday, Nov. 11 - Veterans Day Parade

Downtown Albany is proud to be the home of the largest Veterans Day Parade west of the Mississippi. The flags will be out and thousands of visitors will be in Downtown.

### Monday-Sunday, Nov. 27-Dec. 3 - Festival of Wreaths Auction

Albany Historic Carousel & Museum invites you to "attend" their Annual Festival of Wreaths Auction. Stay in, curl up with some cocoa – or wine – and do some bidding with their trusted online auction platform, 32 Auctions. Bidding begins on November 27th at 9 am and closes December 3rd at 7 pm. View pictures and descriptions of each item online or stop by the carousel Wednesday - Friday during the auction from 11 am-4 pm to view the auction items in person. Learn more at [www.albanycarousel.com](http://www.albanycarousel.com)

### Saturday, Nov. 25 - Small Business Saturday - Shop Small

Shoppers and diners are invited to come to Downtown Albany to Shop Small & Dine Small on Small Business Saturday and all season long. *See story on page 1.*

### Friday, Dec. 1 - 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany: Sweater Party

Bring your friends Downtown for some 1st Friday fun! Look for sales, tasting, music, a special event at the Carousel and other fun. For more info, visit the ADA website [www.albanydowntown.com/events](http://www.albanydowntown.com/events) or the 1st Friday Facebook page.

## December Events

Sunday, Dec 3 - Downtown Twice Around Parade & Community Tree Lighting

Sunday, Dec 10 - Christmas Parlour Tour

Sunday, Dec 24 - Whitespires Sing-a-long

For info on these and other events, visit [AlbanyDowntown.com](http://AlbanyDowntown.com)





## Downtown Trick or Treat & Costume Contest, Character Hunt

Hundreds of families came downtown on a beautiful fall Saturday to wander the sidewalks for Downtown Trick-or-Treating on October 28.

Some 40 Downtown merchants handed out goodies to over 2,000 Albany kids in fun, scary, cute and creative costumes.

There were 167 entries in the costume contest. The winners were announced on the ADA's Facebook page and website on November 1.

And the winners are...

### Age 0-2:

- 1st: Everly - Cabbage Patch Doll - Age 1
- 2nd: Charlie - Bumblebee - Age 10 mo.

### Age 3-5:

- 1st: Kaleah - Hubba Bubba Bubblegum - Age 5
- 2nd: Captain Cooper - Pirate - Age 3

### Age 6-8:

- 1st: Annie - Peacock - Age 6
- 2nd: Tyler - Backhoe - Age 6

### Age 9-11:

- 1st: Nora - Viking - Age 11
- 2nd: Layne - Clown - Age 9

### Age 12-14:

- 1st: Bradley - Travis Kelce - Age 13
- 2nd: Liam - Security - Age 13

### Age 15+:

- 1st: Chun Li - Street Fighter
- 2nd: Nicole - Bank Robber

### Group

- 1st: Bradley, Logan and Liam - Travis Kelce & Taylor Swift with Security
- 2nd: Bloodgood Family - Alice in Wonderland, Victorian Era

A big thank you to our costume contest and office volunteers Amy, Hillary, Beth, Julie & Kim and Brigitte & Greg!

The **Downtown Halloween Character Poster Hunt** was great fun. Thirty-nine businesses displayed playful posters throughout our Downtown.

This year's winner by random drawing is McKenna S, age 4, of Albany. She wins a Pix Theatre Movie Night prize basket.

## Albany Takes Top Honors at Oregon Main Street Awards

Downtown Albany was well represented at the Oregon Main Street Excellence in Downtown Revitalization Awards. The statewide awards were presented on October 4 during Oregon Main Street's annual conference in Independence.

Our statewide winners are:

- **New Business of The Year**  
Sybaris Bistro
- **Leadership on Main**  
Stephanie Gutierrez

Congratulations to all our winners!



Matt & Janel Bennett receiving their award.



Albany award attendees are all smiles (L-R) Jena Metting, ADA Board; Steph Newton, Albany City Council; Barbara Doolan, ADA Board; Lonna Capaci, AVA Board; Rebecca Bond, AVA Executive Director; Lise Grato, ADA Executive Director; Janel & Matt Bennett, Sybaris Bistro; Hannah Darling, ADA Vice President; Beth Walker, ADA Board; Taylor Rossa, ADA Board, Tracy Bertalotto, ADA Board, Matt Wadlington, ADA President.

## Volunteers Needed for Holiday Events

### Wednesday, November 22

It's time to Shop Small and Dine Small. On Wednesday, help distribute materials and balloons to participating Downtown businesses for Small Business Saturday.



### Sunday, December 3

Families will gather together in Historic Downtown Albany to make memories at the Downtown Twice Around Christmas Parade & Community Tree Lighting Ceremony.

We need volunteers to help with parade safety, flow and traffic control.

To volunteer or for more information, please call (541) 928-2469.