



# DOWNTOWN ALBANY

February 2024

## Shop & Dine Downtown for Valentine's Day

Downtown Albany is the perfect place to shop for and celebrate Valentine's Day. With 35 options to Dine & Unwind and 46 shopping choices, you'll find a fantastic array of unique ideas, so you may want to celebrate all week long!

Here are just a few Valentine's ideas shared by our members:

**Urban on 1st Clothing & Decor** - Check out our Valentine's outfits, jewelry and gift certificates for loved ones.



The Quilt Loft

## 2024 Rotary Crab Fest set for February 10

The 23rd Annual Crab Fest will be held on Saturday, February 10 from 12-7 pm. The Greater Albany Rotary Club hosts this fundraiser each year on the Saturday of Super Bowl weekend at Calapooia Brewing at 140 Hill St. NE.

Each ticket includes fresh crab and pulled pork, or a vegetarian option plus



**Sybaris Bistro** - We've crafted a sumptuous 4-course experience for you and the one you love to enjoy together. Seatings are February 13, 14 (sold out) and 15th at 5 pm and 7:30 pm. Wine pairing is available. Reservations are required.

**Beloved Cheesecakes** - We have lots of fun Valentine's specials! We also have mini heart cheesecakes - perfect to split with your loved one!

**The Pix Theatre** - If you're looking for some sweet boxed chocolates for your Valentine, we've got boxes for two, four, six or 12 chocolate truffles. We also have greeting cards and Pix gift certificates. For a sweet night out, we've brought in classics Footloose Feb 9-13 and When Harry Met Sally Feb 10-13. One Love starting on Feb 14!

**Brigitte's Place Fine Fabrics** - Special pricing on sewing machines for the entire month of February. Special sale of 14% off fabrics on Valentine's Day. Gift cards are available.

The Depot's famous clam chowder, salad, rolls, cookies and all the fixin's. Soft drinks and coffee are free. Wine, beer and cocktails are sold by Calapooia.

Tickets are available for \$55 on the GARC website until Feb. 9 at noon. Tickets purchased at the door are \$60. Booze Barrel tickets are just \$10!

This year's live music lineup features The Bush Pilots on stage from 12:30-1:30 pm, the Albany German Band performing from 2:30-3:30 pm and Southern Crossing from 4:30-5:30 pm.

"Thank you to presenting sponsor Republic Services," said Rotarian Brian Oare.

For more information and to buy tickets visit, [www.greateralban Rotary.org](http://www.greateralban Rotary.org)



The Pix Theatre

**Stay Awhile Vintage Mercantile** - We offer Amethyst heart crystals and vintage Valentine's cards.

**1st Hand Seconds** - 20% off the boutique & 10% off fine jewelry all week \*excluding bridal

**The Quilt Loft** - Stop by to visit our selection of reds, pinks and purple fabrics - perfect for Valentine's Day.

**Jo Jo Macs** - Our Valentine's week special is Cherry Cheesecake Waffles, house-made waffles with cheesecake topped with cherry compote and crushed graham cracker.

For more on these specials and dozens more, visit the ADA's and the individual businesses' social media pages.



Urban on 1st

# Meet the Neighbors: Downtown Entertainment

Downtown Albany offers a variety of entertainment for a fun evening out.

## 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany

Throughout Downtown Albany  
Varies by the business. Many are 5-7 pm

Each month, businesses stay open late for 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany. Many retail shops offer specials, refreshments and live entertainment. Gallery Calapooia hosts a public Artist's Reception each month. (see story page 4)

## Calapooia Brewing

140 Hill St. NE • (541) 928-1931  
Sun-Wed 11:30 am-9 pm, Th-Sat 'til 10 pm

Known for live entertainment, house brews and classic pub food, Calapooia Brewing's husband and wife co-owners Caitlin Prueitt and Chris Neumann provide their customers with a diverse array of entertainment. Enjoy live music on most Friday evenings. Sunday Blues Jam is every week from 3-6 pm, and there is a Darts Tournament on 1st Friday. Dam Right Drag Night presents multiple events each year.



Photo by Christina Soot

The brewery/distillery hosts community fundraisers and other events throughout the year, so check their social media for updates.

## The Garage

229 3rd Ave SW • (541) 704-0312  
Mon-Th 3-9 pm, Fri & Sat 12-11 pm, Sun 10 am-9 pm

Owner Danny Gerard and his staff are ready to pour your choice of cocktails or 46 craft brews on tap including beer, wine and cider to enjoy as you watch the your favorite teams on six screens (one outside for summer). Every Monday is Trivia Night, followed by Open Mic Comedy on the first Monday of the Month. Soul of Wit presents Stand Up Comedy every Thursday, bringing regional and national talent to the stage in Downtown Albany.

## Greyhound Tavern

220 2nd Ave. SW  
Grand Opening Feb 22, 2024

The long-anticipated Greyhound Tavern will open later this month. Look for arcade games, woodfire pizza and live entertainment from the producers of the highly successful Albany Downtown Block Party.

Stop in to meet co-owners Michelle & Kody Roth and Tyler Porter. Follow Greyhound Tavern on social media for opening details and upcoming entertainment.

## Albany Civic Theater

111 First Ave. W • (541) 928-4603  
Ticketed performances at 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm

Now in its 73rd season, Albany Civic Theater is an all-volunteer, non-profit community theater "that entertains and enriches audiences through a variety of productions that enhance the cultural life of our community."

From comedies and musicals to dramas and historic themes, ACT offers a wide selection of high-quality performances to entertain theatergoers throughout the year. Tickets are available at [albanycivic.org](http://albanycivic.org).



## The Albany Pix Theatre

231 2nd Ave. SW • (541) 926-PIXX  
Open 7 days. Showtimes vary.

The Pix is our pick for the best place to enjoy first-run movies in Albany. They offer reasonable ticket prices and concessions served up by co-owners Rod and Denise Bigner and their friendly staff. You'll find popcorn with real butter, homemade frozen bananas and more. Food choices include a cheeseburger, El Jefe sandwich and pesto quesadilla. Beverages include beer, cider and wine. The cafe is open and welcoming to anyone during movie hours. For show times and tickets, visit [www.albanypix.com](http://www.albanypix.com).

## No Rails Ale House

115 1st Ave. E • (541) 497-2137  
Sun, Tue-Thu 3-9 pm, Fri & Sat 'til 10 pm

No Rails Ale House owner James Van Deusen offers guests 50 taps of craft beer and cider plus 500+ selections in the bottle shop, with many brews you won't find elsewhere in the Mid-valley.

Check out Tuesday Night Trivia where teams of up to six test their knowledge, have some fun and, of course, beer.



## Deluxe Brewing

635 Water Ave. E • (541) 928-7699  
Mon-Fri 3-9, Sat 12-9, Sun 12-8

Bingo Sundays. Monday night is Acoustic Jam. Tuesday brings Board Game Night. Thursdays is a mixed line up with Karaoke, Music Bingo and Open Mic Night depending on the week. Watch for Dance Parties and other events on their Facebook page.



## ALBANY DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION

**Lise Grato**  
Executive Director  
[director@albanydowntown.com](mailto:director@albanydowntown.com)

**Chloe Wallace**  
Front Office Admin  
[chloe@albanydowntown.com](mailto:chloe@albanydowntown.com)

**Jenna Johnson**  
Front Office Admin  
[jenna@albanydowntown.com](mailto:jenna@albanydowntown.com)

**www.AlbanyDowntown.com**  
[Facebook.com/AlbanyDowntownAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/AlbanyDowntownAssociation)  
[Instagram: AlbanyDowntown](https://www.instagram.com/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**  
President - Civil West Engineering

**Hannah Darling**  
Vice President - CopyScripted

**Julie Jackson**  
Secretary - Republic Services

**Caitlin Prueitt**  
Treasurer - Calapooia Brewing

Gabe Anderson - Margin Coffee Roasters  
Tracy Bertalotto - Cadwell Realty Group  
Kristi Crawford - The Squeaky Cork  
Barbara Doolan - Member At Large  
Jena Metting - Merrime Bridal  
Taylor Rooka - Varitone Architecture  
Beth Walker - La Belle Boutique

Board Liaisons

Sophie Adams - CARA / Economic Dev.  
Rebecca Bond - Albany Visitors Assoc.  
John Pascone - LEDG  
Marilyn Smith - Albany City Council  
Janet Steele - Albany Area Chamber of Commerce





## Volunteer Spotlight: Taylor Roosa

Taylor Roosa is relatively new to the Albany Downtown Association but has made a significant impact already!

Taylor, a Senior Interior Designer at Varitone Architecture, joined the Economic Vitality Committee in October 2022 and immediately jumped in to help plan our Building & Business Owner Mixers.

When Chair Stephanie Gutierrez moved out of town in May, Taylor stepped into the co-chair role with Bob Moore. She took the reins of Economic Vitality's Downtown Connections events. In July, the committee brought building and business owners together with City Partners to learn about permits and historical review. In November, she brought together a panel of local Design Professionals. She joined our board of directors in June 2023.

Taylor was key in planning and hosting the 2023 Excellence in Downtown Albany Awards held in September.

Thank you, Taylor, for your contributions to the ADA and our Downtown business community.

## Downtown Newsletter Subscriptions

Want to hear about all of the fun happening Downtown? Keep informed of new businesses and important news? Subscribe to the Downtown Albany newsletter to learn about activities, events, sales, businesses, volunteer opportunities, grants, parking and more.

Email subscriptions are FREE. Just send your name and email address to [director@albanydowntown.com](mailto:director@albanydowntown.com) Mailed subscriptions are \$6/year to help cover postage. Payment can be made by phone or at our office.

## Downtown Events - February/March

### through Feb. 10 - ACT presents: The Great Gatsby

Albany Civic Theater presents The Great Gatsby. Jan 26, 27, 28(m), Feb 2, 3, 4(m), 8, 9, 10. Eves 7:30 pm, Matinee 2:30 pm. For info, visit [www.albanycivic.org](http://www.albanycivic.org).

### Friday, Feb. 2 - 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany - Chocolate Walk

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). See story page 4.

### Friday, Feb. 2 - Gallery Calapooia: Big Show of Little Art - Artist Reception

Gallery Calapooia presents the Big Show of Little Art, the Annual Community Open Exhibit of 8" x 8" artworks. The artist reception is 6-8 pm. For more info, call (541) 971-5701 or visit [www.gallerycalapooia.com](http://www.gallerycalapooia.com)

### Sunday, Feb. 4 - The Miracle on First Avenue

Book signing with "The Miracle on First Avenue" authors Jennifer Moody and Wendy Kirbey and editor Dianne Negray at the carousel. Books are on sale in the gift shop. 11 am-2 pm. For more information, visit [www.albanycarousel.com](http://www.albanycarousel.com) or call (541) 497-2934.

### Saturday, Feb. 10 - Giving a Hoot: Downtown Clean up

Grab your gloves, shovels, weed whackers and leaf blowers and meet Giving a Hoot at the ParkWise parking lot across from Sid Stevens Jewelers. The team will work from the intersection of Springhill & Hwy 20 over the bridge into Downtown Albany for cleanup projects down Lyons and Ellsworth Streets. Youth volunteers age 10+ are welcome. Volunteers under 18 must be accompanied by an adult 25+. 8-11 am.

### Saturday, Feb. 10 - Monteith House Living History Activities / Oregon's Bday

Step into 1850 with them on the second Saturday of each month at the Historic Monteith House. Exciting activities like woodworking, pioneer doll making and so many other family-friendly activities! Each time will be something new, and you'll learn a little more about this important piece of Albany's history. 12-2 pm. [www.monteithhouse.org](http://www.monteithhouse.org)

### Wednesday, Feb. 14 - History Bites

The Albany Regional Museum will host a fascinating discussion. Check ARM's website for updates on this month's presenter. Free, 12-1 pm. For info, visit [www.armuseum.com](http://www.armuseum.com).

### Sunday, Feb. 25 - Dr. Seuss's Birthday & Read Across America

Celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday at the Albany Historic Carousel & Museum with Altrusa International! There will be games, character hide n' seek, and crafts and all kids will get to take home fun new books (while supplies last).

### Friday, Mar. 1 - 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany: Pot 'o Gold

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.

### Saturday, Mar. 2 - Little Royalty Tea Party at the Carousel

The Albany Carousel cordially invites all princesses, princes, kings and queens, to a Little Royalty Tea Party. Party Perfection Princesses will attend, along with their face painters. A professional photographer will take photos with a princess! Refreshments and make your own crown! 11 am-1 pm. Tickets go on sale on Feb. 14 and are \$25 per person. For more information, visit [www.albanycarousel.com](http://www.albanycarousel.com) or call (541) 497-2934.

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



## Parking Update

In mid-January, parking consultants Walker Consulting presented stakeholders initial data from their daylong in-person survey from early December. Some adjustments will be made to take in account restaurants on 2nd Avenue that were closed or under construction at the time of the survey.

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

Our February parking winner is...

*Raquel Rodriguez*

Taqueria Alonzo

# Downtown 1st Friday Chocolate Walk is February 2

Isn't everything better with chocolate? Well, we think so. Join us for our annual 1st Friday Chocolate Walk on February 2 in Historic Downtown Albany.

This free event will delight those with a sweet tooth and cocktail lovers alike. Chocolate sampling for customers includes candy, cheesecake and mini chocolate cocktails.

Chocolate Walk participants include:

- **1st Hand Seconds Unique Boutique** - Chocolate stuffed purses with the chance at getting a golden ticket for an additional 20% off their sale of 20% off boutique and 10% off fine jewelry \*excluding bridal (5-7 pm)



*Beloved Cheesecakes*

- **Beloved Cheesecakes** - Chocolate cheesecake samples. For Keeps Permanent Jewelry by Lindzee. (5-8 pm)
- **Gallery Calapooia** - The Big Show of Little Art artists' reception, beverages and small bites. (6-8 pm)
- **Historic Carousel & Museum** - For just \$5 per person, you get unlimited rides, plus a fun activity or craft for the family, along with gift shop specials and a great deal on a tasty treat at the Carousel Café. (5:30-8 pm)
- **La Belle Boutique** - Paradise Cheesecake will have samples and freeze-dried candy. Live music, raffles and wine (5-8 pm)
- **Merrime Bridal** - Special appearance and chocolate sampling by Hilda Horvath of The Velvet Touch, Albany's famed chocolatier! 15% off all Voluspa Candles. (5-7:30 pm)
- **The Natty Dresser** - Live music with James F. Wright, chocolate martinis, chocolate sale, 20% off anything red. (5-7 pm)
- **Reds Boutique** - Chocolates from Victorian Chocolate and mudslide cocktails. (4-7:30 pm)



*The Squeaky Cork*

- **The Squeaky Cork** - Featuring a special Scotch & Chocolate Pairing \$39 (4-10 pm)
- **Urban Ag Supply** - Highlighting their chocolate selection. Oregon chocolates from Bees & Bean, Ranger Chocolate Co. and Chomp Chocolate plus Honey Hot Fudge from Sugar Pine Drive-In. Samples. (5-8 pm)
- **Urban on 1st Clothing & Decor** - Grand Opening & Chocolate Kisses (10:30 am-7:30 pm)

## Albany Explore Highlights Pioneering Black Women

To learn about some remarkable Albany women, download Albany Visitor Association's Albany Explorer app and check out the "Albany Pioneering Women in History" tour. February is Black History Month, so we're sharing the stories of two Black women from Downtown Albany.



### Amanda Garner Johnson

Amanda Garner Johnson was a slave given to Lydia Corum as a wedding present when she married Anderson Deckard. In 1853, the Deckards decided to come to Oregon and offered Amanda her freedom if she wanted to remain in Missouri. She instead elected to travel over the Oregon Trail with the family. While 20 years of slavery in Missouri may have

limited Amanda Johnson's sense of self-determination, her relationship with the Deckards, their interdependence on one another, and their lifelong connection provided a different kind of empowerment that sustained her throughout her life in the West. She lived near Downtown Albany at 7th and Elm Street SW.

### Bessie Wyatt Hale

Pioneer business woman Bessie Wyatt Hale, born in 1899, was the first Black woman to own a business here in Albany. Bessie, a former housekeeper, and her chauffeur husband, Rufus Hale, moved to Albany in 1931. Rufus worked as a mechanic until they opened the De Luxe Shoeshine Parlor on 1st Avenue in 1939, where the Venetian Theatre now stands.



Make sure to mark your calendar for 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany. Here are the dates and themes for the remainder of 2024.

- March 3 - Pot o' Gold
- April 7 - Spring Fling
- May 5 - Wine Walk
- June 2 - Summer Vacation
- July 7 - Red, White & Blue
- August 4 - Craft Brew Smackdown
- September 1 - Art & Artists
- October 6 - Fall Kickoff
- November 3 - Shop Local
- December 1 - Sweater Party

Head Downtown on the first Friday of every month for extended hours, sales and promotions, food and beverages, live music and more.

For more info visit, our social media, website, [www.albanydowntown.com](http://www.albanydowntown.com), or call Albany Downtown Association at (541) 928-2469.

*Albany Explorer research and photos were provided by the Albany Regional Museum.*