

Meet The Neighbors: Thankful for our Volunteers!

As the holiday season approaches, we pause to reflect on what we're thankful for—friends, family, and loved ones. At the Albany Downtown Association (ADA), we extend that gratitude to our incredible members, building owners, business owners, community partners, and especially our volunteers.

Our volunteers serve in various roles. We cherish the dozens of amazing activity and event volunteers. They are the backbone of our efforts.

We are indebted to our board of directors who steer ADA's future. Their commitment to our mission helps ensure the next 42 years are as bright for Downtown Albany as the last. Guided by our strategic plan and their insight, ADA is able to grow, adapt and keep our historic district thriving.

We are grateful for our committee members. ADA, like all Main Street organizations are based on Main



Downtown Clean Up

Street America's 4-point approach. Defined by four committees: Design, Economic Vitality, Promotion and Outreach. Each committee, with the help of volunteers, plays a vital role in enhancing the downtown experience.

DESIGN: The Design Committee works tirelessly to make Downtown Albany welcoming and enjoyable. Throughout the year, they lead initiatives that beautify our streetscape. This includes organizing Downtown



Hanging Basket Takedown

clean-up days, creating inviting parklets, installing the beautiful hanging flower baskets and facilitate the street banners program. During the winter season, they are also responsible for the street tree light program, festive Downtown snowflakes and the Community Tree, which have become iconic holiday symbols in Albany. These efforts help make our downtown a favorite destination for all.

ECONOMIC VITALITY: The Economic Vitality Committee works with building owners to find tenants, helps business-



Downtown Twice Around Parade

es relocate, and partners with the City of Albany's Economic Development and Community Development departments on location pre-planning and other business support. They host Downtown Connections educational sessions and plan our Building and Business Owner Mixers.

They also partner with Oregon Main Street to secure grants that help fund improvements for Downtown buildings. They champion the Excellence in Downtown Albany Awards, celebrating outstanding contributions to our community.

OUTREACH: The Outreach Committee focuses on recruiting and celebrating ADA volunteers and holding fundraisers. They host popular annual events like Mixology Madness and Craft Brew Smackdown, which bring together local enthusiasts and raise essential funds for our programs.

PROMOTION: The Promotion Committee leads the ADA's efforts to bring people downtown and encourage them to spend time at our locally-owned businesses.

They organize a packed schedule of events including 1st Friday, Chocolate Walk, Restaurant Week, and Crazy Daze. They also plan Downtown Unwrapped & Holiday Open House, Small Business Saturday, the Downtown Twice Around Parade and Community Tree Lighting and the Christmas Sweater Party. Through these events, they not only drives foot traffic to downtown businesses but also brings our community together, promoting a shared vision of a lively, thriving downtown.

At ADA, we're immensely grateful for each of our volunteers who give their time and talents to make Downtown Albany a special place. We're always looking for more people to join us, whether on our board, on one of our committees, or as volunteers at our events. With your help, we will continue making Downtown Albany a remarkable place to be.



Volunteer Spotlight Tracy Bertalotto

Tracy Bertalotto is a natural leader. He joined the Outreach Committee in Summer 2023 and was soon co-chair.

Tracy is always there to roll up his sleeves and lead by example. He asks the questions that need to be asked and isn't afraid to move in a new direction to accomplish committee and organizational goals. He is thoughtful in considering the suggestions of others and takes the time to recognize his peers.

He played a major role in the success of the two 2024 Outreach Committee fundraisers, Mixology Madness and Craft Brew Smackdown. His knowledge and connections make him an asset to the Downtown.

Currently serving on the ADA Board of Directors, Tracy's commitment to helping ADA goes back many years on projects for various committees.

Thank you, Tracy! We would be lost without you!



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

Our November parking winner is...

Corina Abbott
The Briggs Building

Downtown Events - November

Saturdays through November 23 - Albany Farmers' Market

Each week, head to the Albany Farmers' Market for fresh local produce, meats, baked goods, seafood, plants, flowers and more. Hours: 9 am-1 pm in the Albany City Hall parking lot (corner of 4th & Ellsworth). www.locallygrown.org.

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

Bring your friends Downtown for some 1st Friday fun! Look for sales, tasting, music, artist receptions and other fun. For more info, visit www.albanydowntown.com/events.

Friday, Nov 1 - Gallery Calapooia Artist Reception

Gallery Calapooia featured artists this month are Marilyn Lindsley and Nancy Anderson. The artist reception is 6-8 pm. The show will be displayed from Oct 29-Nov 23. For more info, call (541) 971-5701 or visit www.gallerycalapooia.com.

Friday, Nov 1 - First Friday Art Show at City Hall

The Albany Arts Commission is proud to present the art of Brynn Carter, Carol Prologo, Helen Telgarsky and Savannah West. The artists' reception is 5-6:30 pm at City Hall. Enjoy light refreshments provided by the commission. Free and open to the public. The show will continue through October during the regular City Hall hours, 8 am-5 pm.

Tues-Mon, Nov 5-12 - 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 4.*

Thu-Sat, Nov 7-9 - Downtown Unwrapped & Holiday Open House

Save Thursday, Nov. 7 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.*

Saturday, Nov 16 - Carousel Holiday Art Faire

Albany Historic Carousel & Museum invites you for a festive day of delight and unique gifts for you and yours! Features handmade offerings from local artisans, many of which are your very own Carousel volunteers! 11 am - 4 pm. www.albanycarousel.com.

Monday, 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 Downtown. Starts at 11:11 am. www.linncountyveteransdayparade.org

Wednesday, Nov 13 - History Bites: Albany's Mayors

Albany Regional Museum speaker Dan Murphy will present an interesting lecture on the history of Albany's mayors. History Bites is free to attend. 12-1 pm. Light refreshments provided. www.armuseum.com.

Nov 29- Dec 21 - ACT presents White Christmas

Veterans Bob Wallace and Phil Davis have a successful song-and-dance act after World War II. With romance in mind, the two follow a duo of beautiful singing sisters en route to their Christmas show at a Vermont lodge, which just happens to be owned by Bob and Phil's former army commander. With a dazzling score featuring well-known standards including Blue Skies, I Love A Piano, How Deep Is the Ocean and the perennial title song, White Christmas is an uplifting, wholesome musical that will delight audiences of all ages. Performances are Nov. 29, 30, Dec. 1(m), 6, 7, 8(m), 12, 13, 14, 15(m), 20, 21, 2024. Evening performances start at 7:30 pm. Matinees at 2:30 pm. The Albany Civic Theater box office opens 45 min. before curtain. Info and tickets at www.albanycivic.org.

Saturday, Nov 30 - 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.*

Sunday, Dec 1 - Downtown Twice Around Parade & Community Tree Lighting

A favorite family tradition starting at 5 pm. *See story page 4*

Friday, Dec 6 - 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 or the 1st Friday Facebook page.

December Events

Sunday, Dec 10 - Christmas Parlour Tour
Sunday, Dec 24 - Whitespires Sing-a-long

For info on these and other events, visit AlbanyDowntown.com



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Downtown Halloween Draws Hundreds of Costumed Visitors

The sidewalks were filled with fun and scary characters for Downtown's annual Trick or Treat. Many stopped by to enter our 2024 Downtown Halloween Costume Contest.

The winners are selected by the public and are the contestants whose photos receive the most likes and shares on Facebook.

The 2024 winners by age group are:

Age 0-2: Charlie, 22 mo. Squirrel
2nd: Everly, 2, Raggedy Ann

Age 3-5: Cooper, 4, Willy Wonka
2nd: Flynn, 3, Monster Truck

Age 6-8: Kaleah, 6, Music Box Ballerina
2nd: Stephen, 8, TV Man

Age 9-11: Gabriel, 11, Napoleon Dynamite
2nd: Fiona, 10, Axyloto

Age 12-14: Nora, 12, Angel
2nd: Phobe, 12, Alecto

Age 15+: Elizabeth 15 Wolf Spider
2nd: Randall, Woody the Sheriff

Group: The Bloodgood Family, The Zodiacs
2nd: Howell Family, Woodland Creatures



The winner in each age group receives a Downtown Kid Meal, an Albany Carousel token and a ticket to The Pix Theatre. The runner-up receives a movie ticket. The 15+ winner will receive \$25 in Downtown Dollars. The group/family receives a Downtown gift basket. We had so many cute and creative costumes this year. Thank you to everyone who came down to participate. To view all the photos, visit our Facebook page.

Lots of families joined our Halloween Downtown Scavenger Hunt finding

posters in as many as 40 Downtown member businesses. Each poster found gave participants one chance to win.

The winner, selected by a random drawing from 442 entries, is Nikolai R., who will receive a \$25 gift certificate for a movie and treats with family at The Pix Theatre. Oliver P. was chosen in the second-chance drawing from those who colored their entries and will receive two carousel ride tokens.

Watch for our holiday poster hunt!

Twice Around Parade is Sunday, Dec 1

The 24th Annual Downtown Twice Around Christmas Parade is set to kick off on Sunday, Dec. 1, at 5 pm.

This festive event will feature a variety of parade entries, from the Albany Trolley and vintage trucks to floats and Caesar the No Drama Llama. And, of course, Santa will make a grand appearance, riding on Albany's Antique Fire Truck.

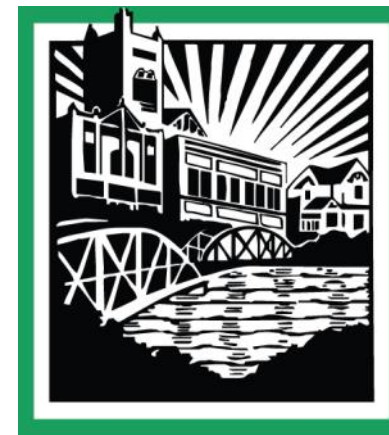
The parade route begins at 1st Avenue and Broadalbin Street, heading west toward the Carousel, before turning left onto Calapooia Street, left again onto 2nd Avenue, and another left onto Broadalbin, looping back to 1st. Then, the route repeats for a second lap. No cars will be parked along the route.

After the parade, attendees and participants can make their way to the Community Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Two Rivers Market lot. Glenn's Mobile

DJ will set the holiday mood with festive music, and the South Albany High School Choir will lead carols to add to the celebration.

Mayor Alex Johnson II will lead the tree-lighting ceremony, joined by a special guest and Santa himself to officially light up the tree for the season.

For more information, read the December issue of our newsletter or visit our website, www.albanydowntown.com.



DOWNTOWN ALBANY

November 2024

Downtown Unwrapped & Holiday Open House is Nov. 7-9

Downtown Albany's beloved holiday season tradition, Downtown Unwrapped & Holiday Open House, is set to begin Thursday, Nov. 7, at 4 pm and run through the weekend.

Shoppers are invited to stroll through the downtown area for festive fun, including the unveiling of holiday window displays - a favorite event featuring everything from whimsical to elegant scenes.

Attendees can vote for their favorite displays while enjoying seasonal drinks and treats, with voting continuing throughout the weekend. Ballots are available at participating businesses.

In addition to the window displays, many Downtown shops and restaurants will host special Open House events, offering exclusive holiday drinks, desserts, and discounts.

For a full list of participating businesses, pick up a brochure at participating locations, visit our ADA office or website, www.albanydowntown.com.

Shop Small on November 30

This holiday season, skip the big-box stores and experience the charm of shopping and dining in Downtown Albany. With festive snowflakes on the light posts, twinkling tree trunks, and the sounds of holiday music filling the air, Downtown offers a uniquely welcoming atmosphere.

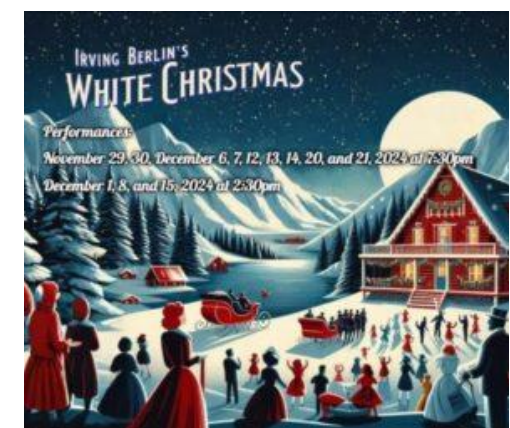
Start your holiday shopping on Small Business Saturday, November 30. Support local businesses and find one-of-a-kind gifts at participating shops, where you'll enjoy personalized service and special discounts.

Many Downtown restaurants will also join the celebration with delicious offerings for Dine Small, featuring everything from local favorites to ethnic specialties



White Christmas runs Nov 29 – Dec 21

The holiday classic, White Christmas, will grace the stage at Albany Civic Theater Friday, Nov. 29 thru Saturday, Dec 21.



In the show, Veterans Bob Wallace and Phil Davis have a successful song-and-dance act after World War II. With romance in mind, the two follow a duo of beautiful singing sisters en route to their Christmas show at a Vermont lodge, which just happens to be owned by Bob and Phil's former army commander.

With a dazzling score featuring well-known standards and the perennial title song, White Christmas is an uplifting, wholesome musical that will delight audiences of all ages.

For more information and tickets visit the Albany Civic Theater's website, www.albanycivic.org.

Downtown Uniform Displays Honor Veterans

The annual display of veterans' uniforms in Downtown Albany returns to honor those who served. Sponsored by individual ADA members, the uniforms are on loan from the VFW 661 Uniform Display Museum and showcased throughout the Downtown.

The displays will be available for viewing Tuesday, Nov. 5, through Monday, Nov. 11. A total of 19 uniforms will be featured at 18 participating businesses and restaurants.

A list of locations can be found on the Albany Downtown Association website, www.albanydowntown.com and on our Facebook and Instagram pages.



A list of participating businesses will be available at each location, on the ADA's Facebook and Instagram pages and at www.albanydowntown.com.

Enjoy great deals, unique products, and exceptional service this holiday season — all in Downtown Albany.