

# 2022 AVA Photo Contest Winners Announced

The winners of the 15th Annual Albany Visitors Association Photography Contest have been announced.

Many Downtown locations were featured in the winning photos including Sybaris Bistro, Icarus Mural, bridge & river views and Albany Carousel.

There were over 200 entries including culinary, events, Historic Albany, landmarks, people, scenic and students.



"Can't Hardly Wait" by Jolene Thomson



"Icarus Mural" by Mikayla Chaffins

And the winners are:

- **Champion**  
"Summer Cousins," Hannah Darling
- **Reserve Champion**  
"Dahlia Field," Dave Maestas
- **People's Choice**  
"Water, Water, Everywhere," Dave Taube
- **Student**  
"Icarus Mural," Mikayla Chaffins

**Culinary:**

- 1st: "Can't Hardly Wait," Jolene Thomson
- 2nd: "Oregon Wine Country," Hannah Darling
- 3rd: "Tet Treats," Stephanie Low

**Events:**

- 1st: "Auto Show at Linn Co Expo Center," Dave Maestas
- 2nd: "Cumberland on the Move," Camron Settlemier
- 3rd: "Always Remember," Camron Settlemier

**Historic Albany:**

- 1st: "Snow at Central School," Melinda Martin
- 2nd: "Hoffman Bridge," Dave Maestas

- 3rd: "Tulips," Camron Settlemier

**Landmarks:**

- 1st: "Carousel & Museum," Dave Maestas
- 2nd: "Only in Albany," Stephanie Low
- 3rd: "Porky Departing the Station," Camron Settlemier

**People:**

- 1st: "Splash!" Stephanie Low
- 2nd: "Hug a Tree," Melinda Martin
- 3rd: "Fall in the Park," Katrina Wilson

**Scenic:**

- 1st: "Sunrise Over Downtown Albany," Loretta Robinson
- 2nd: "Timber Linn Park Pond," Ron Sanders
- 3rd – "Dapper Duck," Dan Bateman

The winning photographs and many more may be viewed on the AVA FLICKR site. A video of the winners may be viewed on YouTube and at the Pix Theatre before feature films. For links, visit [www.albanyvisitors.com](http://www.albanyvisitors.com).



"Willamette Sunrise" by Hannah Darling

## April Diaper Drive Set

In 2022, Albany Downtown Association is once again reaching out to the public to participate in the Family Tree Relief Nursery Child Abuse Prevention Month Diaper Drive the entire month of April.

Diaper donation boxes will be arriving in early April and be available through the end of the month. You may make a donation each week or just once. All donations of any quantity are welcome.

We will add the list of 2022 Downtown Merchants who have volunteered to be drop off sites on our website, [www.albanydowntown.com](http://www.albanydowntown.com).



## Downtown Easter "Egg" Hunt Starts April 1

You told us our poster hunts in 2020 and 2021 were such fun, we're continuing in 2022. Starting with the Downtown Easter "Egg" Hunt – a fun activity for the whole family with a little candy for all and a chance to win Easter Baskets!

Starting Friday, April 1, head to Downtown Albany and search for colorful paper Easter "Eggs" on windows throughout Downtown. Before you leave home, print and color your Downtown Easter Hunt entry form. Then stroll the sidewalks and record the eggs you find. Entry forms are also available at the Albany Downtown Association office.

Drop off your entry at the ADA office by Easter Sunday, April 17 (Midnight through the door slot) to be entered in a random drawing to win one of three Easter baskets featuring gift certificates from a Downtown family restaurant, a movie ticket, a carousel ride and treats! The basket winners will be announced on Easter Monday!

To receive a candy-filled Easter egg, turn in your entry in-person Mondays-Fridays, April 4-15 from 9 am – 5 pm ... a few lucky kiddos might even find a Carousel ride token hidden in their egg.

Happy Hunting!!

## March & April Events

**Thursday, Mar 24 - Riverfront Community Center Grand Re-Opening**  
Senior "Sneak Peek" 8:30-10 am. Community Celebration 2-4 pm. See story pg. 4

**Friday, Apr 1 - 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany**  
Mark your calendar for Albany's monthly 1st Friday celebration in Historic Downtown Albany. Look for sales, fun and music.

**April - Family Tree Relief Nursery Diaper Drive**  
The Diaper Drive is the entire month of April. See story this page.

**April 1-17 - Downtown Easter "Egg" Hunt**  
Head to Downtown Albany and search for colorful paper Easter "Eggs" on windows throughout Downtown. See story this page.

**April 1-2, 8-10, 15-17, 21-23 - ACT presents Clue**  
It's a dark and stormy night, and you've been invited to a very unusual dinner party. Each of the guests has an alias, the butler offers a variety of weapons, and the host is, well . . . dead. So whodunnit? Join the iconic oddballs known as Scarlet, Plum, White, Green, Peacock, and Mustard as they race to find the murderer in Boddy Manor before the body count stacks up. Directed by: Christi E. Sears. Performances: April 1, 2, 8, 9, 10(m), 15, 16, 17(m), 21, 22, 23. For tickets, call the Albany Civic Theater box office at (541) 928-4603 or visit [www.albanycivic.org](http://www.albanycivic.org).

**Saturday, April 9 - Downtown Spring Clean Up**  
Join ADA and members of the community for this family-friendly event.

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



## Parking Update

### More Customer Parking Available

On February 23, Albany City Council approved a proposal presented by Ron Irish, Transportation Systems Analyst, on behalf of the ParkWise Advisory Board to adjust times on 27 street parking spaces in Downtown.

Most 10-minute zones are being removed including those in front of the Old Wells Fargo and banks along Ellsworth and Lyon. Some customer spaces will be 30-minutes while others are set to be 3-hour and All Day. All Day spaces are also available to employees and residents with a valid ParkWise permit. There were five additional spaces added where there were formerly loading zones.

Please watch for the new parking sign starting on March 14 and through the spring.

~ ~ ~

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

Our March parking winner is...

*Michelle Leach*

Pure Beauty Aesthetics



Photo by Robert Zuniga

New sign installed at Margin Coffee Roasters.

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

**Owen Muller**  
Front Office Assistant  
[assistant@albanydowntown.com](mailto:assistant@albanydowntown.com)

**www.AlbanyDowntown.com**  
[Facebook.com/AlbanyDowntownAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/AlbanyDowntownAssociation)  
Instagram: AlbanyDowntown

**Albany Downtown Assoc.**  
126 Ferry Street SW  
Albany OR 97321  
**(541) 928-2469**

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

Board Members

**Rod Bigner**  
President - The Pix Theatre

**Hannah Darling**  
Secretary - At Large

**Bob Moore**  
Treasurer - Willamette Community Bank

Barbara Doolan - At Large  
Stephanie Gutierrez - Keller Williams  
Julie Jackson - Republic Services  
Matt Wadlington - Civil West Engineering  
Beth Walker - La Belle Boutique

Board Liaisons

Rebecca Bond - Albany Visitors Assoc.  
Matilda Novak - City Council  
John Pascone - AMEDC  
Seth Sherry / Sophie Dykast - CARA  
Janet Steele - Albany Area Chamber of Commerce



# Riverfront Community Center Grand Re-Opening March 24

The Riverfront Community Center Grand Re-Opening is set for Thursday, March 24.

There will be a Senior “Sneak Peek” from 8:30-10 am. The Community Celebration, hosted by T-Mobile, is 2-4 pm.

“Join us for facility tours with our staff, refreshments and great prizes,” says Rose Lacey, APR Recreation Manager. “We will have activities for the kids during the Community Celebration and free fun for all ages!” she added.

Owned and managed by Albany Parks & Recreation, the Riverfront Community Center is a vibrant place where people of all ages, interests and abilities can gather for lifelong fitness, learning, socializing, recreation and celebration.

“The Riverfront Community Center is a safe and welcoming environment that promotes community participation through intergenerational activities and culturally diverse programs that enrich the lives and values of citizens and visi-

tors to Albany,” says Kim Lyddane, Director of Albany Parks & Recreation.

At 10,000 square feet, the Riverfront Community Center features many amenities including 4,000 square feet of event space, private classrooms, meeting rooms and more. There is a beautiful outdoor space along the riverfront. The center features a new coffee shop and gathering areas.



Visitors are welcome Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm. The Riverfront Community Center is located at 489 Water Ave. NW, adjacent to Monteith Riverpark and one block from the Albany Historic Carousel and Museum.

For more information and event space reservations, call (541) 917-7760 or visit [cityofalbany.net/parks/community-center](http://cityofalbany.net/parks/community-center).

## Albany Waterfront Construction to Begin in Summer 2022

According to an update at the February 26 meeting of the Albany Revitalization Agency (ARA), construction of the Albany Waterfront Project will begin this summer with Phase 1. This phase includes railroad crossings, utilities and parking lot improvements by Albany Civic Theater.

Phase 1 lays the groundwork for Phase 2 and includes inground infrastructure and upgrades to a parking lot. Phase 2 will bring dramatic changes to Monteith Riverpark and a 3 block span to the east along Water Avenue. Phase 2 work is set for summer 2023 and includes the new stage, playground and splash pad.

### Phase 1 Scope:

- One city block from Ellsworth to Lyon
- (4) Improved rail crossings at Lyon St., Montgomery St., Thurston St. and a private crossing by Lafayette St.
- (2) Closed rail crossings at Ellsworth St. and Baker St.
- Parking lot improvements between Ellsworth and Lyon St.
- Water line project
- Undergrounding utilities

### Phase 2 Scope:

- General park improvements
- New stage

- New playground and splash pad
- Entrance Plaza
- Renovated piers
- Riparian restoration along Dave Clark Trail
- (3) blocks of Plaza Street
- (5) Railroad crossing improvements
- Undergrounding utilities
- (X) Remaining blocks of Greetstreet upon available funding

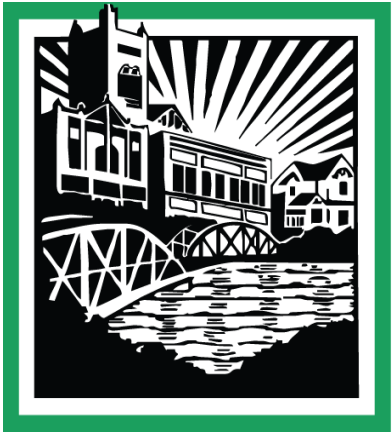
For more information on the project, including budget, timelines, concept drawing, maps and architectural plans, visit [www.albanywaterfront.net](http://www.albanywaterfront.net).



Plaza Street—Daily



Plaza Street—Event



# DOWNTOWN ALBANY

March 2022

## Sybaris’ OER Station Project Selected to Compete for Grant

The Albany Downtown Association recently selected Sybaris Bistro as our partner to apply for the 2022 Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant (OMSRG).

The project will save a deteriorating historic landmark, bringing the Oregon Electric Railway Station back to its former glory as a gateway to the heart of Downtown Albany.

Plans will include stabilizing brick walls, making roof repairs and addressing other key issues. An important upgrade is making the building handicap accessible.

Beyond the grant, the overall vision includes preserving the trees, landscaping the blighted corner and creating an outside dining space. This project will also create new jobs through expanded seating in the new restaurant space. This is a big plus for the Hackleman District.

Once selected, Matt and Janel Bennett, Sybaris’ owners, spent four weeks working with the ADA grant team, contractors, advisors and community volunteers to prepare Albany’s OMSRG application. Fourteen letters of support were submitted including ones from Mayor Alex Johnson II and Linn County Commissioner Roger Nyquist.

“There was an excellent variety of very worthy projects submitted,” said Lise Grato, ADA’s Executive Director. “We wish we could partner with each of them for this grant, but Albany can only select one project to submit for statewide consideration.”

The selection committee was comprised of ADA board members, committee members and community partners.

“An extremely hard decision was made over the course of three lengthy meetings and dozens of additional hours of independent research and study by committee members,” added Grato.

The OMSRG is a competitive grant offered by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for up to \$200,000 in matching funds for downtown revitaliza-



tion efforts in communities participating in the Oregon Main Street Network such as Historic Downtown Albany. The application was submitted on March 15. The winners will be announced on May 12.

In 2019, the last time this grant was offered, only 63% of the projects submitted from across Oregon were awarded. Albany Downtown Association hopes this project will be among those chosen for 2022.

## 2022 Albany Taps & Caps a Success

The 4th Albany Taps & Caps, held March 5, was a grand success. The Downtown brewery and tap house crawl raised over \$3400 for Furniture Share, helping families in crisis, and Beds for Kids.

ADA wishes to thank the 2022 locations for their support and wonderful door prizes - Calapooia Brewing Co./Vivacity Spirits, Deluxe Brewing Co./Sinister Distilling, The Growler Garage & Tap House, and No Rails Ale House - and our amazing volunteers.

Door prize winners were:

- Angel Miller - Growler Garage
- Daniel Salazar-Garcia - No Rails Ale

There are other SHPO grants available, and ADA will work with Downtown building owners to create competitive applications for those later this spring.

Albany Downtown Association, celebrating its 40th year, is a “Performing Main Street” level community, one of just 8 statewide to maintain this status. There are a total of 66 member Main Streets statewide and 1,200 across the country.

- Julia Labahn - Calapooia Brewing Co.
- Rob Markson - Deluxe Brewing Co.

