

Downtown Albany is what it is today thanks to many legacy businesses. The entrepreneurial spirit and dedication of these families is inspiring. This is the second in a series of articles to share our legacy businesses with you.

For 25 years, Emma Downtown has been a pillar of Downtown Albany's retail scene, setting the standard for



Mandy, Eric, Peggy & Meritt

Emma Downtown opened in 2000 at 224

Beyond their store, the Emma Downtown team has championed downtown revitalization efforts for more than 25 years. Peggy played a pivotal role in shaping Albany's streetscape, helping bring the beloved holiday snowflakes and summer flower baskets to life. She also worked to introduce park benches, garbage cans, and the ParkWise parking program, ensuring a customer-friendly experience downtown.

When asked about her dedication to Downtown Albany and helping fellow business owners, Peggy simply said, "That's what community does."

For more than 30 years, Jordan Jewelers has been a cornerstone of Downtown Albany, offering fine jewelry, expert repairs, and exceptional customer service. Established in 1993 by Brad and Angie Jordan, the family-owned business has built a reputation for quality craftsmanship and trust, helping generations celebrate life's most meaningful moments.



Mya, Janelle, Sam & Brad

Jordan Jewelers offers the largest selection of bridal jewelry in the Mid-Valley, featuring engagement rings, wedding sets, and custom designs, along with timepieces, colored gemstones, and designer collections. Every purchase is backed by personalized service and expert guidance, ensuring each piece becomes a cherished heirloom.

Jordan Jewelers continues to be a trusted neighborhood jeweler, offering timeless designs and a commitment to excellence. As one of Albany's longest-standing jewelry stores, its legacy of quality and service will continue for years to come.



This month we want to highlight our Mixology Madness volunteers. This fundraiser is held by our Outreach Committee.

Our dedicated committee worked for months planning the event - Kristi Crawford, Billy Lanham, Jessica Pankratz, Beth Walker, Lonna Capaci, Austin LeNoue and Trina Henderson.

The committee and more than a dozen event day volunteers, including many from Altrusa, worked from 9 am to 9 pm on March 16 to make our fundraiser happen.

Setup & teardown: Kris Barnes, Josh Crawford, Julie Jackson, Andon Martin, Matt Wadlington. **Food & server team:** Amy Reed, Barb Bennett, Chuck Grato, Corrine Etzel, JJ Esposito, Jennifer Wehr, Jody Mancuso, Liz Craig, Marisa Massingale, Rebecca Bond, Sabrina Grato, Sonja Neperud, Terri Beattie, Wendy Brownell. **Music:** Lonna Capaci, Oren Streebny, Eric McKirdy. **Photography:** Josh & Kristi Crawford.

Thank you for your precious donation of talent, energy and time!



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

Our April parking winner is...
Al Severson
The Frame House

Through April 30th - Art Exhibit at City Hall and 1st Friday Reception

The Albany Arts Commission presents the work of artists Bobbie Casteel and Peggy Sharrow in the gallery at City Hall. View the exhibit during regular City Hall hours, 8 am-5 pm. A reception for the artists will be held Friday, April 4 from 5-6:30 pm. Light refreshments will be served. Exhibit continues through April 30. Free and open to the public.

This month features the work of Lori Garcy and Linda Herd. The monthly artist reception is on 1st Friday, April 4 from 6-8 pm. Exhibit continues through April 26. For more info, call (541) 971-5701 or visit gallerycalapooia.com.

Bring your friends Downtown for some 1st Friday fun! For more info, visit the ADA web-site albanydowntown.com/events. See story page 4.

April is National Poetry Month and to celebrate, Albany Regional Museum has invited Mid-Valley Poetry Society to read their poems in our community room. Join us as we explore the human experience through our community's talented poets. Admission to our exhibits during First Friday hours is free! 5-7 pm. armuseum.com.

Albany Civic Theater presents "Big Five-Oh." Whoever said life is better after fifty had better be right! George Thomas is turning fifty on Saturday, and it has been a terrible week. His dog is sick, his son is a slacker, and his daughter wants to marry a Republican. With a neurotic wife and a widowed neighbor providing more challenges than even George can overcome, this may be the worst week of his life. Through these trying days, George will discover the wonders of family, the responsibilities of parenthood, and the results of his latest physical. The Big Five-Oh is a hilarious, sometimes touching account of a grown man coming to terms with his age, his relationship with his son, and his future. It is the story of a middle-aged man finally growing up. Performances: April 4, 5, 6(m), 11, 12, 13(m), 17, 18, 19, 2025. Eves 7:30 pm, Matinee 2:30 pm. For tickets and info, visit albanycivic.org.

The popular Mother's Day Flower signs will go on sale at noon online at albany-downtown-association.square.site and sell out fast. The cost is \$50. *See story page 1.*

Head to Downtown Albany and search for colorful paper Easter “Eggs” on windows throughout Downtown.

Ever wonder why the most elegant cars were built during the Great Depression? Speaker, Dr. Michael Henich, will answer this question during his History Bites Presentation. 12-1 pm. Light refreshments provided. Albany Regional Museum. armuseum.com.

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). locallygrown.org.

A new Downtown opportunity featuring unique locally crafted goods. Hours: 9 am-1 pm Broadalbin St SW & 4th Ave SW, next to the Albany Farmers' Market. The Artisan Faire Market is seeking local artisans who handcraft their own items. Those interested in becoming a vendor can contact Stephen Poole via email at scdmpoole@peak.org. He will respond within 24-48 hours with details. *See story page 1.*

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. monteithhouse.org

Join us to pull spring weeds and clean up downtown. Meet at the ADA office at 9 am for clean-up assignments. Bring your gloves and don't forget a hat and sunscreen. To volunteer, please sign up at [tinyurl.com/DowntownVolunteer](https://www.tinyurl.com/DowntownVolunteer) or call (541) 928-2469.

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, our Facebook page or visit the ADA website albanydowntown.com/events. See Wine Walk story page 1.

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



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Living and Doing Business in Downtown Albany

Downtown Albany is a great destination to Eat Shop Play, but it is also a great place to live and do business!

Looking for a hassle-free lifestyle? Live in the center of it all. With shops, services, entertainment and over 35 places to “dine and unwind,” Downtown Albany has much to offer.

Within easy walking distance of the Dave Clark Trail and Monteith Riverpark, you'll find there's always something happening in Downtown Albany.

Downtown Albany offers history, architecture and a sense of place. Choose to live in the heart of Downtown Albany.

Our website features available listings for Downtown lofts and apartments like Foundry Lofts, The Opera House, The Fortmiller Building, B-Still Lofts, Reid Apartments, The KP Building and more.



Downtown’s 1st Friday is Spring Fling!

Join us for First Friday on April 4 and enjoy a night of shopping, dining, and fun with a "Spring Fling" theme!

1st Hand Seconds Unique Boutique - It's time for our spring dollar sale. Stop by for great deals. (5-7 pm)

Albany Arts Commission - artists reception featuring Bobbie Casteel and Peggy Sharow in the City Hall gallery. Light refreshments. (5-6:30 pm).



Downtown Albany blends historic charm with a growing mix of unique businesses in a charming setting. A strong Downtown association, a City committed to the Downtown district and a growing population create renewed energy and make it a great place to do business.

Downtown Albany is centrally located to growing populations in Linn and Benton counties. With a population of over



60,000 and more than 100,000 in a 20-mile radius, Downtown Albany is positioned to serve a broad customer base.

Contact us at (541) 928-2469 for information on doing business in Downtown Albany and a copy of our Welcome Brochure and information packet. Check our website for commercial spaces for sale and lease as well as residential: albanydowntown.com/spaces.

Beloved Cheesecakes - celebrate the season with their tasty Almond Joy — stop in for a slice! (10 am-7 pm)

Gallery Calapooia - Artist reception and show will feature the art and jewelry of Lori Garcy and Linda Herd. Stop by to meet the artists. Refreshments. (6-8 pm)

The Historic Carousel - You can now purchase individual tokens OR a \$10 ride bracelet for unlimited rides! Gift shop and café specials. (4-7 pm)

The Natty Dresser - Discover your discount by flinging a ball at our Spring Fling Target! Plus 20% off Easter hats, bow ties and all candy. Original live music by Groovenheight 22, refreshments. (5-7 pm)

Sweet Red Bistro & SweetEasy - Try “Spring Fling,” a tropical, refreshing, gin cocktail with bright citrus, nutty depth and warm exotic spice. (4-10 pm)

Sugar J's - Chamomile ice cream with chunks of honeycomb candy. A perfect spring treat. (3-9:30 pm)

May's 1st Friday will be “Wine Walk.” Visit albanydowntown.com/events.



Oregon Heritage Preservation Grant Applications Open

While we anxiously await the news regarding the Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant, there are other state grant opportunities for building owners to get assistance to restore their historic Downtown properties.

There are two grants currently open to Albany owners that are part of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Preserving Oregon Grant Program.

Diamonds in the Rough Grants
These grants are to restore or reconstruct the facades of buildings that have been heavily altered over the years. The purpose is to return them to their historic appearance and potentially qualify them for historic designation (local or national). Grants may be awarded up to \$20,000. The deadline is Wednesday, May 7.

Preserving Oregon Grant
SHPO offers matching grants for rehabilitation work that supports the preservation of historic resources listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Letter of Intent to apply is required and must be submitted by Wednesday, April 9. A pre-application work description submission is required. If you are interested in applying, submit the description by creating an application on the OPRD Grants Online System.

Once you have submitted a letter of intent, you may be contacted to discuss the project and to perhaps schedule a site visit. Once the letter is approved, you will be able to work on the application in the same online program. The application deadline is Wednesday, May 7.

For more information, examples of prior winning projects and how to register to apply, visit oregon.gov/oprd/oh/pages/grants.aspx



DOWNTOWN ALBANY

April 2025

Albany Downtown Wine Walk set for Friday, May 2

It's almost May, which means it is nearly time for the much-anticipated annual Albany Downtown Wine Walk!!

The event is on Friday, May 2, so you will enjoy the added fun of our monthly 1st Friday happenings.



Rotary Club of Albany's wine walk will feature over 22 wineries at 22 locations throughout Downtown Albany.

Tickets are just \$20 and include entry to the event, a wine glass and five tasting tickets. Hours are 4-8 pm.

Advance tickets as well as extra tasting tickets are available at the Albany Visitors Association, 122 Ferry St. SW, on weekdays from 9 am-5 pm through noon on Friday, May 2. The AVA accepts cash/check only. Advance ticket holders get the Express Line at check-in!

Event day tickets and extra tasting tickets are available starting at 4 pm at the Rotary tents in the Bank Lot (1st & Ferry). Cash and cards will be accepted.

The Albany Downtown Wine Walk is an opportunity to taste great local Oregon

wines in Albany, Oregon's historic downtown area while supporting the Rotary Club of Albany.

For more information, visit their website rotaryofalbany.org and check out the Albany Downtown Wine Walk on [Facebook](#).

Albany Artisan Faire Market Launches Saturday, April 19

Starting April 19, in addition to the Albany Farmers' Market, a new Albany Artisan Faire Market will launch nearby, creating even more opportunities to shop local.



The Market will be located on 4th Street, between Broadalbin and Ferry streets.

The Artisan Faire Market is seeking local artisans who handcraft their own items. Those vendor inquiries can be sent to Stephen Poole at scdmpoole@peak.org.

Soon, visitors and locals alike will be able to shop for homegrown produce and fresh flowers at the Farmers' Market then scroll across the street for unique locally crafted goods—perfect for personal use or thoughtful gifts.

“We’re excited to welcome this new addition, celebrating the creativity of local craftspeople,” said Lonna Capaci, Albany Visitor's Association. “Come explore, shop and support local artisans!”

Mother’s Day Flowers Go On Sale Sat., April 5

Each year, a sign of spring is the cheery Mother's Day flower signs in Downtown Albany. Albany families are invited to celebrate Mom by sponsoring a personalized sign.

Signs include Happy Mother's Day or Día de las Madres, mom's name or



nickname, a sentiment and the names of the family members who are honoring her. The cost is \$50.

The signs go on sale on Saturday, April 5 at noon online at albany-downtown-association.square.site and sell out fast.

The “flowers” will hang on Lyon and Ellsworth streets from April 28 - May 17.

After the signs come down, they can be picked up at the Albany Downtown Association office at 126 Ferry Street SW starting Wednesday, May 21, for mom's continued enjoyment.

Proceeds benefit ADA's Design Committee projects, including hanging baskets, parklets, snowflakes, community Christmas tree and more.

For more info, call (541) 928-2469 or visit albanydowntown.com.