

# MI Trolley Sneak Peek Event Draws Great Attraction

## River City Briefs

December 9, 2022

The City of Independence, Oregon | 555 S Main St, Independence, OR 97351 | 503 838-1212

[Para La Versión En Español](#)

### MI Trolley Sneak Peek Event Draws Great Attraction



Last month, MI Trolley, the new public transit system serving the communities of Monmouth and Independence, made its debut during a sneak peek event that included Representative Paul Evans, Senator Deb Patterson, Independence Mayor John McArdle, and Monmouth Mayor Cec Koontz.

While serenaded by members of the Western Oregon University marching band, the elected officials traveled from the Oregon State Capitol in Salem to the Independence Heritage Museum and later to Western Oregon University in Monmouth. The trek ended at the City of Monmouth's public works department where speeches were made, and residents received a first-hand look at the interior and exterior of the new trolley.

Starting from a vision he had as Mayor of the City of Monmouth back in 1999, representative Evans helped secure significant funding for the project through legislative allocation during the American Rescue Plan Act. MI Trolley will be a free public transit service intended to make the cities of

Monmouth and Independence safer, more accessible, and altogether more connected.

MI Trolley will begin service in early 2023.

[Watch Video Here](#)

## Grow Your Marketing Skills Through New Business Support Program

NEW BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAM BEGINNING  
**JANUARY 23 2023, SAVE THE DATE!**

# MARKETING MONDAYS

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GROWING YOUR MARKETING SKILLS ONE MONDAY AT A TIME

FREE marketing classes happening the 4th Monday  
of every month, January 2023-June 2023

More info, including full course schedule, coming soon! Email Courtney  
at [cwilliams@ci.independence.or.us](mailto:cwilliams@ci.independence.or.us) to be added to the invite list!



In partnership with the City of Monmouth, the City of Independence is hosting a new business support program for business owners in both cities called Marketing Mondays!

This program will offer free, easy-to-follow marketing classes to help you maximize your time and marketing budget. The first class will occur on Monday, January 23, 2022. It will focus on Social Media Marketing, including content creation, general page management, ads, and mastering the power of understanding your analytics.

To learn more, be added to the invite list, and get notified when program registration opens, email the City of Independence Downtown Manager Courtney Williams at [cwilliams@ci.independence.or.us](mailto:cwilliams@ci.independence.or.us).

[Reserve Your Spot](#)

## Last Call for Models in Downtown Photo Shoot



Want to be part of a photo shoot showcasing downtown Independence in all its glory?

Join us on Wednesday, December 14, 2022, from 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM, for a promotional photo shoot highlighting our city's holiday lights and date night atmosphere. All ages and couples are welcome!

If you, or someone you know, would like to attend, please contact our Downtown Manager Courtney Williams at [cwilliams@ci.independence.or.us](mailto:cwilliams@ci.independence.or.us).

[Email Courtney](mailto:cwilliams@ci.independence.or.us)

## Food Bank Hosts Successful Giveaway Event

On a cold and windy day during the week of the Thanksgiving holiday, a group of volunteers from the Ella Curran Food Bank hosted a drive-through

food giveaway event that helped feed over 360 families (over 1,400 people) in Independence and the surrounding areas.

Families were provided a choice of turkey or chicken, a bag of thanksgiving groceries, 10 pounds of produce, and a puzzle from the Thoughts and Gifts project. Additionally, some folks chose a bag of groceries to make chili.



Over 50 volunteers helped run the event by distributing the food, translating for families, and controlling the flow of traffic. All the food was provided through donations from the Independence-Monmouth community and the food bank's partnership with Marion-Polk Food share.

The Independence public works crew provided and set up traffic cones to help direct traffic.

"To see the community and all the volunteers come together to help our neighbors truly shows the generous spirit of our community," said the Director of the Ella Curran Food Bank, Patty Nevue.

Helping our neighbors, and doing it with a smile, is just one of the cornerstones that makes Independence a special place to call home.

## Independence Awarded Financial Achievement Certificate

(Chicago, Illinois)—Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to City of Independence for its annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. The report has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report.



The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

*Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) advances excellence in government finance by providing best practices, professional development, resources, and practical research for more than 21,000 members and the*

Independence Public Library Hosts  
Giving Tree for Seniors

**A GIVING TREE**  
*for our Seniors*



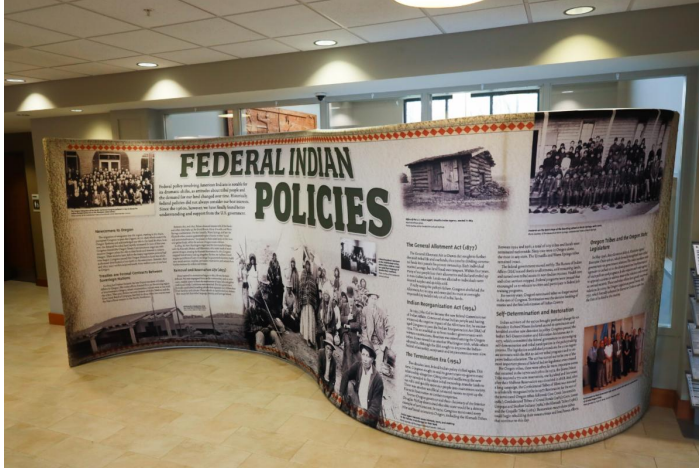
**Take a tag off the giving tree  
& bring your unwrapped gifts  
back to the Library before  
Dec. 17th. They will be  
delivered to Independence  
Health & Rehabilitation  
Center and make Christmas a  
little brighter for our seniors!  
Thanks for your support!**



[Visit Library Website](#)

Independence Heritage Museum Unveils  
Two New Exhibits

The Independence Heritage Museum has unveiled two new exhibits on display through the months of



December and January.

"Oregon Is Indian Country," an exhibit on loan from the Oregon Historical Society, represents a groundbreaking project that brought together all nine federally recognized Oregon Tribes to present never-before-

assembled information in one display on contemporary indigenous cultures. The exhibit features three 20-foot panels located at the museum, the library, and the Independence Civic Center.

"Pedal Power: Bicycles in the Willamette Valley" is an in-house created exhibit available for viewing at the museum for the month of December. This exhibit explores the innovative thinking behind Oregon's Scenic Bikeway, highlights a local bicycle collector, and provides take-home information about bicycle safety. Additionally, every child that enters the museum during the month of December will be provided with a free bike helmet coupon from Salem Health, which will be redeemable for a free helmet. \*while supplies last.

Stop into the heritage museum to see these exhibits and more!

The museum is always free and open Tuesday - Thursday, 10 AM - 6 PM, and Friday & Saturday, 10 AM - 4 PM. They are closed Sundays & Mondays.

[Visit Museum Website](#)

## Now Hiring: Engineering Technician - Inspector

### NOW HIRING

#### *Engineering Technician - Inspector*

The Engineering Technician-Inspector is responsible for duties as assigned on a full range of civil works projects and technical studies. The position requires frequent interaction with other staff and the public, and also good project oversight and inspection, problem solving and independent judgment and decision making appropriate for a Engineering Technician-Inspector position.

Learn more and apply at:  
[www.governmentjobs.com/careers/independencor/](http://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/independencor/)



**INDEPENDENCE**  
*Oregon's Story Begins Here*



The City of Independence is hiring for an Engineering Technician - Inspector to assist in various duties for our Public Works Department.

The Engineering Technician-Inspector is responsible for duties as assigned on a full range of civil works projects and technical studies. The position requires frequent interaction with other staff and the public, and also good project oversight and inspection, problem-solving and independent judgment and decision-making appropriate for an Engineering Technician-Inspector position.

The Engineering Technician-Inspector assists the Public Works Director with division budget and finances, safety, and long and short-term planning related to division services.

Learn more and apply by clicking the button below.

[Apply Here](#)

## Polk County Community Connect Event



**POLK COUNTY**

# COMMUNITY CONNECT

**JAN 24TH**

**10AM-6PM**

**A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT & RESOURCE FAIR**

**30+ COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS OFFERING RESOURCE CONNECTION AND FREE SERVICES INCLUDING:**

- HAIRCUTS
- FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES
- FOOD
- HEALTH SCREENINGS
- DENTAL CARE
- OHP ASSISTANCE
- EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION

**FCO FAMILY & COMMUNITY OUTREACH**  
All People Are Empowered & Healthy

**THE POLK COUNTY COMMUNITY CONNECT IS AN OPEN HOUSE STYLE, ONE-STOP, FREE EVENT THAT WILL SHOWCASE THE MANY AGENCIES THAT ASSIST INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN POLK COUNTY**

**DALLAS EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH**  
**1175 SE HOWE ST. DALLAS, OR**

**FREE TRANSPORTATION TO THE EVENT!**



**OR CALL 503-623-9664 EXT. 2592**

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 503-623-9664 EXT. 2592 OR EMAIL [KRAMER.AMBER@CO.POLK.OR.US](mailto:KRAMER.AMBER@CO.POLK.OR.US)

[Learn More Here](#)

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**INDEPENDENCE**  
*Oregon's Story Begins Here*



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