

# CITY OF INDEPENDENCE

## RIVER CITY BRIEFS

JANUARY 2022  
VOLUME 20, ISSUE 7



### DOWNTOWN HAPPENINGS!

#### Love Local Scratch-it Promotion

The City of Independence is bringing scratch-its back!

Visit downtown Independence February 1st-February 28th and WIN \$\$\$! Stop by and support any of the participating downtown businesses with a purchase and receive a Love Local scratch-it worth \$1, \$5, \$10 or \$25 to be used towards a future purchase at any of the participating businesses. EVERY SINGLE SCRATCH-IT is a winner!

Eat local, shop local, love local and help support our amazing local businesses all month long.

More details and info about participating businesses can be found at <https://www.ci.independence.or.us/ed/page/love-local-scratch-it-promotion>



The **City Council** is scheduled to meet on January 11th and January 25th at 6:30 pm. *For agendas and more information, please visit our website, [www.ci.independence.or.us](http://www.ci.independence.or.us).*

**GLOW lights** will be lit through January 9th!



City Hall will be closed Monday, January 17th in observance of the Dr. Martin Luther King holiday.

#### FIND US AT:

City Hall:  
503-838-1212

Police Dept:  
503-838-1214

Website:  
[www.ci.independence.or.us](http://www.ci.independence.or.us)

Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/IndependenceOregon](http://www.facebook.com/IndependenceOregon)

Twitter:  
[@IndependenceOR](https://twitter.com/IndependenceOR)



Independence Downtown Association's  
**WALK OF HEARTS  
FUNDRAISER**



ORDER YOUR HEART JANUARY 1ST- 28TH

PROCLAIM YOUR LOVE WITH MORE THAN CHOCOLATE THIS VALENTINE'S DAY!

EXPRESS YOUR SENTIMENT ON A BRIGHT RED HEART HUNG ON LAMP POSTS THROUGHOUT DOWNTOWN INDEPENDENCE. YOUR CREATIVE EXPRESSION WILL HELP SUPPORT THE INDEPENDENCE DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION'S EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN A WELCOMING AND VIBRANT DOWNTOWN.

THE COST OF A MESSAGE IS \$30 PER SIDE. THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ORDERS IS FRIDAY, JANUARY 28TH HEARTS WILL BE HUNG BY VALENTINE'S DAY AND WILL BE DISPLAYED FOR ONE MONTH.

DID YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE WALK OF HEARTS IN THE PAST AND WANT TO USE THE SAME MESSAGE? YOU CAN SELECT THE "EXISTING HEART" OPTION BELOW TO RENEW YOUR HEART (ONLY AVAILABLE FOR MESSAGES FROM LAST YEAR).

YOU CAN ORDER YOUR HEART ONLINE HERE:  
[WWW.MEMBERPLANET.COM/S/INDEPENDENCEDOWNTOWNASSOCIATION/WALKOFHEARTS](http://WWW.MEMBERPLANET.COM/S/INDEPENDENCEDOWNTOWNASSOCIATION/WALKOFHEARTS)  
OR

MAIL IN THIS FORM WITH A CHECK MADE OUT TO THE INDEPENDENCE DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION,  
TO P.O. BOX 446, INDEPENDENCE, OR 97351

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE#: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

HEARTS CAN HAVE UP TO THREE LINES WITH THE FOLLOWING CHARACTER COUNT:

- LINE 1 - UP TO 5 CHARACTERS
- LINE 2 - UP TO 9 CHARACTERS
- LINE 3 - UP TO 8 CHARACTERS

YOU CAN ALSO USE SYMBOLS: JOHN <3 MARY VS. JOHN LOVES MARY

EXISTING HEART:

LINE 1 \_\_\_\_\_ (UP TO 5 CHARACTERS)

NEW HEART:

LINE 2 \_\_\_\_\_ (UP TO 9 CHARACTERS)

LINE 3 \_\_\_\_\_ (UP TO 8 CHARACTERS)



FROM ALL OF US WITH THE INDEPENDENCE DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION, THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

## DEVELOPMENT UPDATE



*We hear a lot of concerns about parking in Independence.*

Parking is complex. Everyone likes a convenient place to park. But there are some considerations that often are overlooked.

These considerations include the facts that:

1. Land is limited, and land for parking often displaces or spreads out land for buildings. If we seek abundant parking, especially in downtown, it will spread out our downtown.
2. Providing free parking costs money. The provision of park-

ing is not free, regardless of who constructs the spaces. City staff recently conducted a study of a property sold in Independence and found that purchasing and constructing a surface parking lot on the land would cost approximately \$12,000 per spot. If a private developer develops the property and some parking, they will incur a similar cost per spot, but will fold it into the overall cost of the project, driving up future rents. Like a "free lunch," there is no such thing as a "free parking spot."

*Studying the issue has shown us the complexity of parking. The Planning Commission will study the issue further over the coming year. We would love to hear your thoughts about how best to proceed. The Planning Commission meets the first Monday of every month at 7:00 pm. You can also contact Community Planner Fred Evander, at 503.837.1168 or at [fevander@ci.independence.or.us](mailto:fevander@ci.independence.or.us) to share your ideas.*

**CHERRIOTS** December 2021

### Help Cherriots Plan a 20-Year Ride!

Help draft our first ever 20-year transit plan! Our region is growing, and so is the need for more convenient transit service. A long range transit plan will guide how we:

- Decide when and where to add routes, stops, and trips.
- Support transportation options like walking and biking.
- Determine new and lasting ways to make the plan come to life.

We all want a livable community, and public transit plays a crucial role. Help us understand what you value:

**What's next**

- **This winter:** We'll use your feedback to help draft the 20-year plan.
- **Next spring:** We'll show you the draft plan and ask what you think.

Join our email list:  
503-588-2877  
[info@cherriots.org](mailto:info@cherriots.org)

Visit the online open house starting December 15. Learn more and answer questions to help guide our planning from Dec 15, 2021 through Jan 27, 2022: [cherriots.org/LRTP](http://cherriots.org/LRTP)

Be one of the first 50 participants and we'll send you a \$20 Fred Meyer gift card! If you prefer to answer the questions on a printed survey, call 503-588-2424 and we will mail you one.

For more information: **Ted Stonecliffe** Deputy Project Manager  
503-588-2424 | [ted.stonecliffe@cherriots.org](mailto:ted.stonecliffe@cherriots.org) | [cherriots.org/LRTP](http://cherriots.org/LRTP)

## SIPS & SCIENCE

The Luckiamute Watershed Council presents a Virtual "Sips 'n' Science Pub Talk" in January.

*Logging the Luckiamute: Ramifications of Splash Dams and Log Drives*

Date: Tuesday, January 11, 2022

Time: 6:30 - 8:00pm

Speaker: Stephen Dow Beckham

Cozy up with your favorite "sip" and join us for this free presentation from the comfort of your own living room! The Luckiamute Watershed Council is honored to welcome Stephen Dow Beckham as the speaker for our first Sips 'n' Science event of 2022. He will share historic photos and first-hand experience of the fascinating history and environmental impacts of using splash dams and log drives to float large amounts of timber down rivers to mills in our region. Find details or register for this free event at:

<https://www.luckiamutelwc.org/splashdamming.html>

## LATEST FROM THE LIBRARY

**WE'RE EXTENDING OUR HOURS!** Starting in January, the library is open to the public Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11 am-6pm and Saturdays from 10am-2pm. Curbside Pickup will continue to be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3pm-6pm, as well as during scheduled open hours. Computers are also available by appointment on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am – 2:30 pm.

The library will be closed January 1<sup>st</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Friends of the Library Booksale – Saturday January 8, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm at the Old Library – 311 Monmouth St.**

Library programs will continue to be held virtually. Programs are posted onto the Library's Facebook page starting the day of the program:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndependencePublicLibraryOregon>.

### STORY TIME / CUENTOS EN ESPAÑOL

Join Miss Jo each *Wednesday* for stories, songs, crafts, and more. *6 y 20 de Enero*, visite nuestra página de Facebook para ver los programa con el Sr. Martinez.

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

***Grab and go kits will be available for some of these programs. Call the library or watch our Facebook page for details!***

*January 10* – Kid's Craft Fun: Mitten People. Miss Jo will teach you how to transform mismatched mittens into cozy little mitten dolls.

*January 24* – Kid's Maker Monday: DIY Suspension Bridge. Using household materials, learn how to create a model suspension bridge with basic properties of physics.

*January 31* – Kid's Craft Fun: Melted Snowman Cookies. Learn how to turn sugar cookies into "melted snowman" cookies.

### TEEN/ADULT PROGRAMS

*January 7* – Teen and Adult DIY: Coffee Cup Cozies. Join Miss Jo as she teaches you how to make these cute coffee cup cozies.

*January 18 at 4:00 pm* – Mystery Book Club. Join us on Zoom as we discuss *Murder in the Rue Du-mas* by M.L. Longworth. Call the Library to register and we'll send you a link to the Zoom meeting on the morning of the program.

### SANDBAG STATION

Should we experience a high water/flooding event, our Public Works Department has created a sandbag station with bags, sand and shovels at the northeast corner of the Independence Cinema parking lot.

You may use the supplies provided for emergency purposes to protect your property from a high water event.

## FREEZING WEATHER TIPS

Here are a few basic tips for preparing for or recovering from freezing weather:

- Insulate pipes that may be vulnerable to the cold, or that have caused problems before.
- Open cabinet doors to expose pipes to warmer room temperatures.
- Crack open a faucet the farthest away from the place where your water enters the house. Running water - even a trickle - helps prevent pipes from freezing because the temperature of running water is above the freezing level.
- Much of your plumbing is located in the crawl space under your home—be sure the foundation vents are closed. Replacement styrofoam inserts can be purchased from most hardware stores/hardware departments.
- Keep your water meter box lid closed to help keep the meter from freezing. Report broken or missing lids by calling 503-838-1212.
- Remove, drain and store your garden hoses. Wrap or cover the spigots.
- Keep your thermostat set to the same temperature day and night. Keeping your house a little warmer at night may increase your heating bill, but it will help avoid costly repairs due to a burst pipe.
- Keep your garage doors closed, especially if there are water supply lines inside (to a water heater or washing machine, for example).
- DON'T use your oven to heat your home. The same is true for a charcoal or wood barbecue—the smoke contains carbon monoxide and can be fatal.
- If you plan an extended vacation during cold weather, call City Hall (503-838-1212) to have the water meter turned off. Then, drain your water pipes and turn off your water heater and other water-using devices.

