



HALSEY HAPPENINGS



150 Years of Halsey – The Story of Our Library

Halsey's library has a long history rooted in community service, civic involvement, and the dedication of local women who believed that education and access to books could strengthen their community.

The Halsey Study Club

In 1907, a group of Halsey women organized a book club known as the "Gleaners." The purpose of the organization was "diffusing knowledge among the members, to become familiar with the best authors of the day, and the promotion of sociability."

The following year, the Gleaners became the Halsey Study Club, adopting the motto, "No nation can rise higher than its women." In addition to studying and reviewing books, the Study Club took an active role

in community betterment. Among its accomplishments was helping promote the establishment of electrical power in Halsey in 1911.

By 1925, the Study Club recognized that Halsey needed a permanent library building. The women organized bake sales, plays, socials, and other fundraisers to raise money for the project. Clyde Koontz donated land north of the M.V. Koontz store, and Albany architect Cleo Jenkins volunteered his services to design the building. The library was completed in 1929 at 773 W. 1st Street.

From Library to City Hall

For nearly fifty years, the building served as Halsey's library. Following the Columbus Day Storm of 1962, which destroyed Halsey's City Hall, the library eventually took on a new civic role. Library activities



Members of the "Halsey Study Club," founders of the original Halsey Library

ceased several years after the storm, and the former library building became Halsey City Hall sometime in the late 1970s. It continued to serve as City Hall until 2012, when the current City Hall at 100 Halsey Street opened. (Continued on Page 3)

Back to School Traffic Safety

School starts September 8th! As students return to Central Linn schools, the City of Halsey reminds everyone that our streets will soon be busier with children walking, biking, and traveling to and from school.

Give Yourself a Few Extra Minutes

Drivers should expect increased pedestrian and bicycle traffic—especially during the morning and afternoon commute. Please slow down, stay alert, and be prepared for children who may unexpectedly enter the roadway or cross the street. This is particularly important on the west side of Halsey, where there is no school bus service and more students may be walking or biking to school.

Know Your Speed

Residential areas in Oregon are generally 25 mph unless a different speed is posted. In designated school zones, the speed limit may be 20 mph when the school-zone conditions apply. Always watch for posted signs and flashing school-zone lights and

obey the speed limit in effect.

Watch for Young Pedestrians & Cyclists

- Put down the phone. Distracted driving can have serious consequences, especially around children.
- Look carefully at intersections and crosswalks. Children may be crossing from multiple directions.
- Watch for children between parked cars, driveways, and other places where they may be difficult to see.
- Be especially cautious during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up, when traffic and pedestrian activity increase.

Expect the unexpected. Children may not always judge vehicle speed or distance accurately.

A Safer School Year Starts With All of Us

Whether you're driving to work, taking your kids to school, or simply traveling through town, please take a little extra time to look out for our youngest residents.



FALL



CLEAN UP DAY

Save the date

October 24th

Details Coming Soon

★ FREE ★

HALSEY

Community

BBQ & MOVIE NIGHT

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

DETAILS ON PAGE 4

Mayor's Corner

Celebrating Halsey's 150th Anniversary

Greetings all and welcome to September!

September is an exciting month for our community as we look ahead to a very special milestone—the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Halsey. Halsey was legally incorporated by the Oregon Legislative Assembly on October 20, 1876.

For 150 years, Halsey has been a place where neighbors, families, businesses, and community organizations have worked together to make our City a great place to live. As we approach this anniversary, I hope everyone will take some time to reflect on our community's history and the people who helped build Halsey into the town we know today.

Annual Community BBQ & Movie Night

We have an opportunity to get together as a community at the upcoming Halsey BBQ & Movie Night on Friday, September 11th. Bring the family, invite a neighbor, and come enjoy an evening together. Events like this are a great reminder that being a small town is about more than where we live—it is about knowing our neighbors and spending time together. The fun starts at 5:30 pm with carnival games and activities, followed by dinner at 6pm, and the movie "Lilo & Stitch" beginning around 7:45 pm. Bring non-perishable, un-expired foods or a donation to benefit Sharing Hands Food Bank for a chance win a raffle basket!

E-Bikes & Scooters

I have noticed that Scooters and E-bikes are becoming increasingly popular. I want to remind everyone to ride safely and be aware of pedestrians, vehicles and other riders. Oregon law recognizes electric-assisted bicycles as bicycles, but there are different classes of e-bikes and specific requirements for their operation. Oregon's current rules generally allow e-bikes to use bicycle lanes and paths, but e-bikes are not permitted on sidewalks under the state's current guidance. Electric scooters have their own requirements, including a 15-mph maximum speed under current ODOT guidance. Oregon has also enacted House Bill 4007, which makes significant changes to the rules for e-bikes, scooters and other powered micromobility devices. Many of those changes become operative January 1, 2027, including changes involving minimum ages, helmets, and local government authority to regulate these devices. Regardless of what the law requires, please remember the basics: slow down, wear appropriate protective equipment, obey stop signs and traffic signals, yield to pedestri-

ans, use lights when riding at night, and be predictable around traffic. Most importantly, please look out for our children, seniors, walkers, and bicyclists.

National Emergency Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month, making it a good time for every Halsey household to take a few simple steps toward being prepared for an emergency. You don't have to spend a lot of money or prepare everything at once. Start small:

- Keep flashlights and extra batteries where you can easily find them.
- Keep a supply of drinking water and non-perishable food.
- Have a battery-powered or hand-crank radio.
- Keep your cell phone and portable battery chargers charged.
- Put together a basic first-aid kit and learn how to use those supplies.
- Make sure you have necessary medications and important documents available.
- Know how to shut off your home's water, gas and electricity if necessary.
- Have a plan for communicating with family members if phone service is disrupted.
- Keep a small emergency kit in your vehicle.
- Remember your pets when preparing for an emergency.

These are simple things, but they can make a big difference during a power outage, severe storm, wildfire, earthquake or other emergency. FEMA's preparedness guidance similarly emphasizes basic supplies such as flashlights, batteries, portable phone chargers, nonperishable food and emergency contact information. Ready.gov is a wonderful resource.

As we approach Halsey's 150th anniversary, we have a wonderful opportunity to appreciate where we came from while thinking about the future we want to create. Thank you to everyone who contributes to our community—our volunteers, businesses, city employees, community organizations and, most importantly, our residents. Let's continue to look out for one another, participate in our community, and make the next 150 years of Halsey just as meaningful as the first.

As always, I remain YOUR Mayor, the Council and I work for you—so please help us help you. See you at the BBQ & Movie Night!

-Mayor Jerry

Safe Routes to School Planning

The City of Halsey is excited to announce that it has received a planning grant to develop a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Plan in partnership with the Central Linn School District. Safe Routes to School is a program designed to help communities identify and address barriers that make it difficult or unsafe for students to walk, bike, or otherwise travel actively to school. A strong SRTS plan can help communities identify improvements such as sidewalks and pathways, safer crossings, traffic-calming measures, bicycle facilities, improved connections, and other safety improvements near schools.

Building a Plan for Central Linn Elementary

Over the coming months, the City and Central Linn School District will be asking the community to share their experiences and ideas about how students travel to and from Central Linn Elementary School. An interactive community feedback map will be available to make it easy for residents to identify specific locations and provide comments.

Your Input Can Help Bring Improvements to Halsey

Community participation is an important part of developing a complete and accurate Safe Routes to School Plan. Your firsthand knowledge of Halsey's streets, neighborhoods, school routes, and traffic patterns can help identify needs that may not be apparent from maps or traffic data alone. The completed plan will also provide the City and School District with a stronger foundation for pursuing future funding. ODOT's Safe Routes to School construction grants are competitive and can provide significant funding for eligible safety improvements.

Help us build a Safe Routes to School Plan that reflects the real experiences of Halsey students and families—and helps position our community for future funding opportunities. Watch the city website and Facebook page for opportunities to participate in the planning!





Linn County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Academy

*A Message
From the Linn
County Sheriff's
Office*

Ever wondered what really sets a Sheriff's Office apart from a Police Department? What happens behind the scenes when someone dials 911? Curious about how the jail operates? If you've ever wanted an inside look at the Linn County Sheriff's Office, this is your chance!

Our Citizens Academy gives you a hands-on, behind-the-scenes experience with the people who keep Linn County safe. Open to any qualified, interested resident 18 or older (16 and 17-year-olds may apply if they attend with a parent or guardian), this 9-week program runs Tuesday evenings from 6:00-9:00 PM, September 15th through November 10th. You'll also join us for one Sunday field

trip to the firearms range and Animal Control.

You'll meet deputies and specialists from every division, get classroom instruction, and learn all about patrol, investigations, corrections, firearms, defensive tactics, narcotics, dive recovery, search and rescue, the District Attorney's Office, and so much more!

Classes are taught by the same professionals who do the work every day, and you can expect an atmosphere that's both informative and genuinely fun.

Questions? Reach out to Community Services Specialist Michael Mattingly at mmattingly@innsheriff.org.

Scan the QR Code or visit www.linnsheriff.org/volunteer-programs/citizens-academy/ to Apply!



The Citizen's Academy includes a field trip to the firearms range.

Library History *Continued From Page 1*

Bringing the Library Back Home

With the opening of the new City Hall, the community began working toward returning the historic 1929 building to its original purpose: a library once again. Countless individuals and organizations contributed money, materials, and volunteer hours to make the vision a reality. A special collection of plaques just outside the library entrance recognizes many of

those who donated funds to the project.

Physical work began in the summer of 2014, relying almost entirely on volunteers. In August, a community "painting party" brought volunteers together to paint the exterior of the historic building. Book donations were collected to fill the shelves, and on August 25, 2015, the Halsey Public Library celebrated its grand reopening.

Today, the Halsey Public Library continues the legacy begun by the Gleaners more than a century ago. Through books, activities, programs, and opportunities for community connection, the library remains a place where knowledge is shared, friendships are formed, and Halsey's community spirit continues to grow.

As Halsey celebrates 150 years, our library reminds us that some of the community's most lasting contributions begin with people coming together around a simple idea—and believing it is worth building for the future.



The Library Building Interior Early in the Renovation Process



Volunteers work to paint the exterior of the Library during the "Paint Party" in August 2014

CALENDAR

Upcoming Events

7
SEPTEMBER
LABOR DAY
City Hall Closed

BBQ & MOVIE NIGHT
Halsey Memorial Park, 6 pm
11
SEPTEMBER

15
SEPTEMBER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
City Hall, 7 pm

PARKS & LIBRARY COMMITTEE
Library, 5:30 pm
17
SEPTEMBER

17
SEPTEMBER
UTILITY SHUTS OFFS
Delinquent Accounts Only

UTILITY PAYMENTS DUE
25
SEPTEMBER

LABOR DAY



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH
CITY HALL CLOSED



★ **FREE** ★



HALSEY *Community* **MOVIE NIGHT**



FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 11, 2026



HALSEY MEMORIAL PARK
300 W O STREET, HALSEY

KIDS ZONE



GAMES,
ACTIVITIES &
FACE PAINTING

5:30 - 7:30 PM

BBQ



BURGERS & HOT
DOGS (WHILE
SUPPLIES LAST)

6 PM

MOVIE



"LILO & STITCH"
BRING A CHAIR
OR BLANKET!

7:45 PM



SHARING HANDS FOOD DRIVE

DONATE SHELF STABLE FOOD OR CASH TO SHARING HANDS
FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A PRIZE BASKET! (ONE ENTRY PER FAMILY)

RAFFLE