



# Linn County Parks



# NEWSLETTER

What's happening at Linn County (Or.) Parks

July 2022

## Brian Carroll

*Parks  
Director*



Group Camping area at Cascadia State Park.

W elcome to Linn County!  
Now that July is here, it appears that summer has finally arrived.

This time of the year, the Linn County Parks Staff is focused on park operations and providing visitors with a positive recreation experience. The parks can be very busy this time of year and we anticipate that they will be even busier in July and August.

After some delays due to weather, labor shortages and material availability, we are pleased to announce that a new shower/restroom building has opened in the C-loop of Sunnyside County Park. We have also completed four new yurts in the Whitcomb Creek County Park Yurt Village (see map) which are now available for reservations on the Linn County Parks website ([www.linnparks.com](http://www.linnparks.com)) or by contacting the Parks Office by call 541-967-39127.

Here is some information about other projects we've been working on:

**BRIAN CARROLL ... See P. 6**

*It's official:*

## Linn County acquires Cascadia State Park

**A**LBANY — Linn County has managed and maintained Cascadia State Park for three years and July 14 the Board of Commissioners agreed to take over ownership of the historical spot east of Sweet Home from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

Parks Director Brian Carroll said the project has been in the talking and planning stages for almost 20 years.

“This has been a long time in the mak-

ing,” Carroll said. “I am very happy to bring this before you today.”

Carroll said that in 2013, the Legislature included a State Parks budget note that identified eight state parks that might be more effectively managed by their respective counties.

“Cascadia State Park was a poster child for this,” Carroll said.

He added that the county’s trial manage-

**CASCADIA PARK ... See P. 2**

**To make campsite reservations visit [www.linnparks.com](http://www.linnparks.com) or call 541-967-3917**



Soda Creek Falls at Cascadia State Park.

## CASCADIA STATE PARK ... *From P. 1*

ment over the last three years has been very successful. The state made a number of improvements to the park before the

“Since we acquired Clear Lake Resort several years ago and began managing the U.S. Forest Service campgrounds on the South Santiam River, our crews drive by Cascadia State Park every day,” Carroll said. “It just makes good sense for our taxpayers for us to do this.”

Linn County already has several campgrounds on Foster and Green Peter Reservoirs and has an on-site ranger at River Bend Campground at Cascadia.

Commissioner Sherrie Sprenger was in the State Legislature when the issue first came up.

“Brian, you are likely the only person who has been involved from the very start,” Sprenger said. “It is quite a feat in

your career and you should feel very good about this.”

Cascadia State Park sits next to the South Santiam River and is surrounded by an old-growth forest and is near the historical Cascadia Caves, used by Native Americans as a gathering spot for centuries.

The park is open for camping from May to September.

The park offers 22 first come, first served campsites, group tent sites and a picnic area.

A three-quarter mile trail leads to Soda Creek Falls. Ruts on the historical Santiam Wagon Road are still visible.

Carroll said an official “handing over” ceremony including State Parks officials will be held at the park some time this summer.

**CASCADIA PARK ... See P. 3**

Info about August 26 event at Cascadia State Park goes here.

transition and Linn County has completed improvements as well.

Carroll said the park was being maintained by State Parks employees who had to drive from Detroit or the Eugene area.

## CASCADIA STATE PARK ... *From P. 2*

### Benefits to Linn County Acquiring Ownership of Cascadia State Park

#### Linn County Parks and Recreation Department

- A single recreation provider in the South Santiam River recreation area. Linn County Parks manages Foster Reservoir, Green Peter Reservoir, Waterloo and McDowell Creek, River Bend, as well as the USFS recreation areas along the South Santiam River.
- Linn County Parks would be the one agency to go to with questions or comments about the above recreation areas
- Logistics
- Linn County Parks currently travels past Cascadia SP during their management of other nearby parks.
- Linn County Parks has Rangers and staff that live at River Bend Park and Sweet Home, approximately 10-15 minutes from Cascadia SP
- Manager level staff will be much closer to Cascadia SP than the current 1.5 hour drive.
- The proximity to nearby county park work locations would allow for faster response to sudden unforeseen or urgent situations by park personnel.
- Linn County Parks has a reservation system, which can handle reservations at Cascadia SP
- Linn County Parks staff has experience with the area, given their current recreation portfolio, and should be successful in providing quality information and services to the public.
- Linn County Parks is well suited to build on existing partnerships and community relations in the Cascadia area.
- Linn County Parks has close access to work crews and other county re-



sources to conduct more labor-intensive projects at Cascadia SP.

- **Oregon Parks and Recreation Department**
- Though Cascadia SP is of statewide significance in terms of quality recreation and outstanding natural beauty, the transfer would allow Southern Willamette MU to focus work on other worthwhile properties where the return on the investment may be higher.
- The transfer would reduce fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions due to fewer miles driven to manage the park.

- The transfer would increase safety of OPRD staff by reducing travel to Cascadia during inclement weather, in addition to overall travel.
- The transfer should save OPRD money, despite the loss in revenue. Also, the revenue/operations ratio should be higher for Linn County Park

**How can we do a better job?**

**Please take our Linn County Parks survey at:**

**<https://linnparks.com/survey/>**

# Hands-On History Day Aug. 27 at Linn County Museum

By Alex Paul

Communications Officer

**B**ROWNSVILLE — Families are invited to step back in time to the 1850s during the annual Hands-On History Day at the Linn County Historical Museum on Saturday, August 27, according to organizer Wendolyn Molk.

The event was held in 2018 and 2019 and the went on hiatus in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Virtually everything is outdoors except for talks by Kalapuya elder Esther Stutzman,” Molk said.

Stutzman recently published the Kalapuya Dictionary. She will speak to small groups at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. at the Kirk Room of the Brownsville Library.

All activities are free — although there will be items available for purchase — from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Brownsville park next to the museum.

“Most activities are participatory and very hands-on,” Molk said.

The program was conceived after Molk described her previous work at a living history program in Ohio to Mandy Cole of the Linn County Historical Museum. “Mandy thought it would be wonderful to have visitors be able to do something with their hands or to make something and carry it home with them,” Molk said. The first event was funded in part by a \$1,000 grant from the Linn County Cultural Coalition.

“Randy Tripp heard about this and has generously provided us with a \$10,000 annual grant,” Molk said. “I feel like it has kind of taken on a life of its own. At the end of the day of our last event, when everyone was tired, they kept talking about what they planned to do next year. It was energizing for me to hear those comments.”



*Learning to make corn husk dolls and panning for gold are just two of the many fun activities in store for kids and adults at the annual Hands-On History Day at the Linn County Historical Museum on August 27.*



**Hands-On History ... See Page 5**

## Hands-On History Day August 27 ... *From Page 4*

### ACTIVITIES FOR HANDS-ON HISTORY DAY

**Beeswax Candle Dipping:** the Selby Family

**Cider Pressing:** Donald Lyon, Paul and Sheryl Lewis

**Cordage Making:** Stephanie Craig, Kalapuya

**Corn Husk Doll Making:** Mandy Cole and Rhoda Fleischmann

**Cross-cut Sawing:** Paul Winther and Jeff Brown

**Flint Knapping:** Don Day, Kalapuya Garden, pioneer era plants: Melissa Selby

**High Wheel Bicycle:** Jerry Grulkey

**Music:** The Crazy Weasels (Judy Arter and Loren Ford), 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Antiquity String Band (Matt Neely and friends):** 1-4 p.m.

**Shannin Stutzman Kalapuya Song Keeper:** in conjunction with her mother, Esther's Kalapuya stories, 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., Kirk Room at the Brownsville Library

**Wandering Minstrel (Truman Price):** three hours midday

**Old-Time Photography:** Jeff Smith and Nolan Streitberger

**Oregon Black Pioneers:** Gwen Carr

**Panning for Gold, Mid-Valley prospectors:** Roy House and friends

**Phonograph:** old Edison wax cylinder phonograph, demonstrations on genealogy table, Kathy Rogers

**Pioneer Dress from 1867:** Sandy Grulkey will be wearing this and available to talk with folks

**Sourdough bread interpretation and sales:** Wild Yeast Bakery, April and Craig Hall-Cutting

**Spinning and Carding Wool and Weaving:** Barbara Andersen and friends

**Storytelling:** Firelight Stories, Gordon Munro 1-4 p.m.

**Kalapuya Stories:** Esther Stutzman, Yoncalla Kalapuyan and Coos Elder enrolled at the Siletz Tribe with her daughter, Shannin Stutzman, 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. in Kirk Room of the



Wagon rides and learning how to dip candles.



Brownsville Library

**Treadle Sewing Machines:** Mari Vanderstelt

**Wagon Rides:** Lizzy and Leslie Belgian Draft Mules, drivers Tom Marquette & Linda Walker

**Wash Day:** Joni Nelson and Stephanie Graves

**Wheat Grinding** on the stone quern, **Thompson's Mill State Park Wood Carving** and turning on a foot-powered pole-lathe, wooden bowls, cups and spoons, Kiko Denzer

Thank you for visiting our Linn County Parks.  
Please be careful with fires.

**To make campsite reservations visit [www.linnparks.com](http://www.linnparks.com) or call 541-967-3917**

**BRIAN CARROLL ... From P. 1**

**Upper Whitcomb Boat-in Camping Area**

The Upper Whitcomb Creek Boat-in Campground is now open. This area currently has five (5) campsites available for overnight use on a reservation only basis. The campsites on Green Peter Reservoir will only be accessible by boat.

The Upper Whitcomb area is on the Quartzville Arm of Green Peter Reservoir and will be very primitive this year. The boat-in area has a vault toilet available for sanitation, several trashcans, and five campsites with picnic tables and metal fire rings.

Boaters wishing to camp at Upper Whitcomb need to park at the main Whitcomb Creek County Park overflow parking lot and pay a \$15 per night fee and \$7 per night for extra vehicles.

For reservations go to the Linn County Parks website, [www.linnparks.com](http://www.linnparks.com) and search Upper Whitcomb Boat-in Campground.

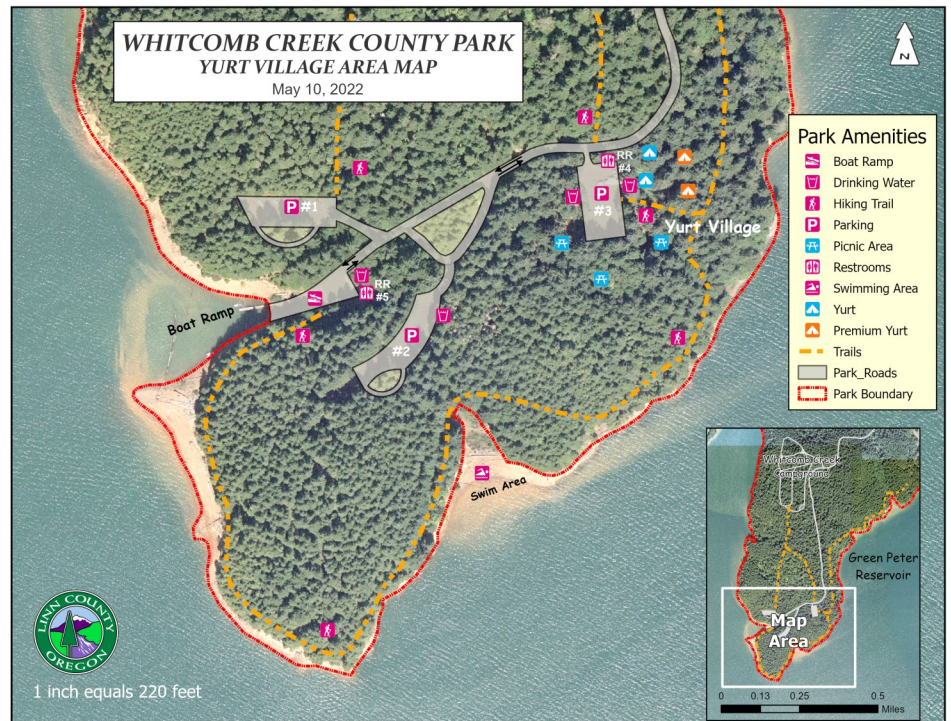
**Waterloo County Park Improvements**

Linn County received a grant from Oregon State Parks & Recreation to fund a new restroom, improve sidewalks and expand parking at Waterloo County Park. The project is funded with a combination of RV licensing fee funding and Linn County Transient Lodging Tax funding. The project is scheduled for construction in the fall of 2022 and winter of 2023. We plan to have the new restroom available for visitor use in the spring of 2023. The new restroom will replace one of the parks' 50-year old restrooms and will be in the Santiam section of the park near the new playground.

Waterloo County Park has seen several improvements over the past three years including a new public water system completed in 2019 and a new playground completed in 2021. The new water system included drilling a new well, adding a storage and treatment system, as well as new distribution lines. The new playground replaced the previous 25-year old playground, which was heavily vandal-



The new restroom and shower building has been installed at Sunnyside County Park.



ized. The new playground is larger and is more accessible for children with disabilities. The area also includes improved lighting a small picnic shelter and a security system to help deter vandalism.

**River and Reservoir Water Levels**

We have seen record amounts of spring rain this year, which has led to the fullest reservoir levels for this time of the year that we have seen in 25 years. The Willamette and Santiam Rivers are also flowing at very high levels for this time of

**BRIAN CARROLL ... See P. 7**



# Fishing Derby fun!



More than 100 young people had a grand time at the Roaring River County Park Fishing Derby June 18. Everyone took home fish, plus numerous prizes donated by Sportsman's Warehouse.

Organizer Commissioner Sherrie Sprenger said Linn County Parks staff also had an information booth and fielded numerous comments potential improvements to the park's pond.

**BRIAN CARROLL ... From P. 6**

the year, which can lead to serious safety issues.

Floating debris in both the reservoirs and rivers are serious concerns for visitors boating on the reservoirs and people floating the rivers. Anyone on the water right now should be very mindful of logs and other woody debris that maybe hiding in the water whether it is floating or hung up on the banks. This debris can be very hard to see and the end and branches may extend out from the main trunk below the water surface.

Please use caution, give any debris you see a wide berth and control your speed. We will do our best to keep boat ramps clean of debris for launching and retrieving, but the depending on the wind the debris can move around quite quickly.

Whether you are coming to Linn County for hiking, fishing, water sports, or just sitting around the campfire, we hope your stay is relaxing and pleasurable. While you are here, please take advantage of all the wonderful recreational opportunities and the many friendly business services available in Linn County.

## Native Encampments planned



**July 29-31**

*Sunnyside County  
Park*

**August 26-28**

*Cascadia State Park*

# Campfire Cookin'



## Berry cobbler

By **LINDSAY FUNSTON**

*Courtesy DELISH*

You can cook cobbler over a fire—and it even browns like the real thing. Stupid-easy to prep, this bubbling fruit skillet is impossible to mess up. Change up this recipe with your favorite fruit (6 cups total). We love raspberry-plum, cherry, and apple.

## Ingredients

### FOR THE BERRY-PEACH FILLING

3 c. sliced peaches (if using frozen peaches, thaw and drain first)

2 c. raspberries

1 c. blackberries

3/4 c. granulated sugar

3 tbsp. cornstarch

Juice and zest of 1/2 lemon

1 tsp. pure vanilla extract

Pinch kosher salt

### FOR THE TOPPING

1 c. all-purpose flour

2 tbsp. granulated sugar, plus more for topping

2 tsp. baking powder

1/4 tsp. kosher salt

1/2 c. (1 stick) butter, cold, cut into 1/2" pieces

1/2 c. buttermilk

1 tsp. pure vanilla extract

Vanilla ice cream, for serving

## Cooking directions

Prepare a grate placed over a campfire. (Or preheat grill to medium heat.) In a large bowl, toss together filling ingredients then transfer to a large cast iron skillet.

In a medium bowl whisk together flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt. Add butter and use your hands to incorporate until butter pieces are pea-sized. Add buttermilk and vanilla and stir until just combined.

Spoon mixture on top of fruit and sprinkle with more sugar. Cover skillet with a lid or with foil.

Place over campfire (or grill) and let cook until biscuit mixture is cooked through and fruit is bubbling, about 20 minutes.

2022

11-7  
PICNIC & FOOD  
VENDORS

WALKING  
TOURS

GEOCACHE  
CHALLENGE

KIDS GAMES

11-3  
CRUISE IN

12-1  
STAND BY ME  
SINGERS

1-2  
FAN FORUM

3  
COSTUME  
CONTEST

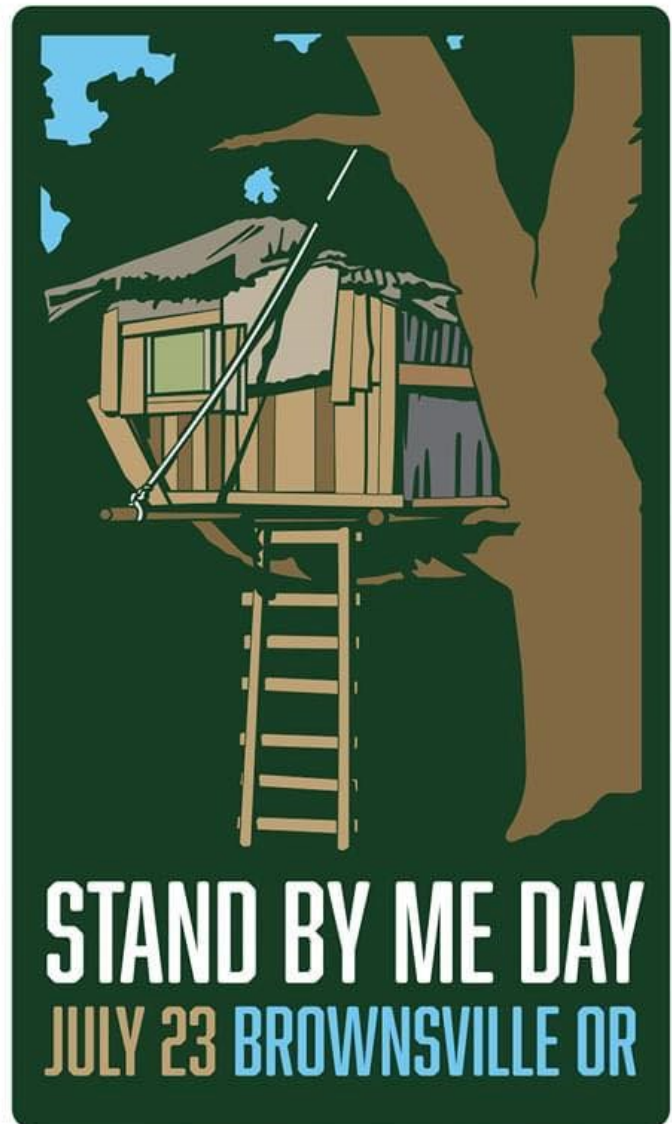
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PIE EATING  
CONTEST

4-6  
LIVE MUSIC  
WITH  
UNCAGED  
LOCALS

7-9  
SOCK HOP  
WITH  
EASY TARGETS

9  
LIVE MUSIC  
WITH  
JUST CUZ

9:30  
MOVIE &  
POPCORN



VERNO BURGERS • BLUEBERRY PIE • TRACTOR CHURNED ICE CREAM • FOOD TRUCKS • POPCORN • SNOCONES

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