

At the foot of Weston Mountain

The Blue Mountain Dispatch

Courtesy of the Weston Area Development Association

April 2023

Vol 2 No 4

Looking Back at Umatilla County Pioneers Association's Pioneer Picnic

Prospects Bright for Reunion

The Weston Leader, May 14, 1920

The twenty-eighth annual reunion of Umatilla County pioneers to be held at Weston June 4 and 5, promises to be the biggest, brightest and best in the association's history. The several committees have begun their appointed tasks with enthusiasm, and every feature is expected to prove a hummer.

The program promises well. Talent will be drawn upon from neighboring towns as well as from local sources. The musical people of Milton-Freewater have been especially kind in responding to requests for their assistance.

Friday will be "Pendleton day." The largest delegation that ever attended a reunion, led by commercial club members is expected from the county seat.

J.M. Bentley

The Weston Leader, March 12, 1915

J.M. Bentley, president of the Umatilla County Pioneers Association, has lived in the county 44 years and was one of the original residents of Happy Canyon. His 73rd birthday anniversary has just been celebrated at Pendleton by a party of pioneer friends, we hope he passes the century mark.

Planning Committee

The Weston Leader, June 18, 1915

President George Gross of the Umatilla County Pioneers' association has appointed the following members as an executive committee to look after the association's property and transact its business: J.M.

Ashworth, Lester O'Harra and S.A. Barnes. The committee has led the pavilion canvas to Helix for use during its Independence celebration July 5.

**Twenty-Fifth Annual
REUNION
Oregon Pioneers of
Umatilla County
Weston, Oregon
June 8-9, 1917**

Usual attractions. COME

GEO. D. PEEBLER, President
S. A. BARNES, Secretary

Pioneer Room

The Weston Leader, May 28, 1920

The home of Mrs. S.A. Barnes was the scene of a pleasant affair Tuesday afternoon when a number of ladies met together for the purpose of fashioning curtains and over drapes for the Pioneer room in Memorial Hall. Reminiscences of pioneer days and merry conversation added interest to the needlework. Those present were: Mesdames G. DeGraw, L.R. Van Winkle, H. Greer, W.S. Payne, Abbie



Chapin, Ella O'Harra, S.A. Barnes; Miss Anice Barnes.

Refund

The Weston Leader, May 9, 1919

By a vote of three to two, the city council decided Wednesday evening to refund for the two nights of the pioneer reunion, July 6 and 7, \$80 of the \$100 license which would be required by the ordinance relating to public dancing. This ordinance imposes a license of \$50 for each public dance held within the city limits of Weston.

Compliance Connections

Weston Area Development Association

WADA was organized as a nonprofit to assist in obtaining grants, appropriations, donations, and other types of funding to work on historic preservation, economic development, and more in the Weston area – not just downtown.

Weston is in need of funding to restore the downtown buildings as well as develop economic opportunities for the community. WADA will work cooperatively with local, state, and federal government resources.

For more information:

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Tax ID: 88-0783039

NOVEMBER 23, 2022

by [Oregon Heritage](#)

With over one hundred towns and cities in the Oregon Main Street Network it is no surprise that the Main Street America™ Four-Points Approach is having measurable impacts in Oregon’s downtowns. For the last year Oregon Heritage has been working on quantifying this strategy’s influence on communities throughout the state. In September of 2022, the anxiously awaited [Impact of Oregon’s Main Streets](#) report was released to help tell this story.

The impact report highlights the many ways local Main Streets are preserving, sustaining, and enhancing their downtown communities under the leadership of [Oregon Main Street](#). Some of the key findings in the report include:

- Oregon Main Street strengthens community connection and culture. The network recognizes each community’s history, works to preserve local character, and creates inviting gathering places for social interaction.
- Oregon Main Street bolsters the economy. Between 2011 and 2021, the Oregon Main Street network helped generate \$266 million in additional sales revenue throughout the state. As a result of this increased spending, 2,400 jobs were supported in or by Main Street businesses.
- Oregon Main Street helps generate tax revenue. Between 2011 and 2021, the State of Oregon invested \$1.8 million in Oregon Main Street administration and generated \$3.5 million in additional state tax revenues as a result of the on-the-ground work of Oregon’s Main Streets.

This impact report is a helpful tool for downtown revitalization organizations to be able to see the value of their stories and efforts reflected with an academic precision.

Despite its academic approach the report is digestible, enjoyable, and accessible for even the most tangential audience. This approachability along with its mind-blowing statistics caused downtown leaders to quickly and creatively go to work sharing this report. Organizations were able to share it with their respective



organizational staff, boards, and membership. The report made it to the desks of city commissioners and other city partners. It landed on social media streams and was shared by proud downtown associations whose impacts were directly measured in the report.

“We see the difference our Main Streets are having in building stronger and more resilient communities,” said Sheri Stuart, state coordinator, Oregon Main Street. “This report helps us quantify that impact as well as tell the story of the amazing work local government, volunteers, and staff are having in creating vibrant and vital community centers based on local history and culture.”

Ultimately, the leaders in these communities are now able to visualize and leverage what they’ve known all along: investing in Main Street is definitely worth the effort.



**Be sure to “Like”
Our Facebook page
@WestonOregon2022**

Keep up to date on what’s happening, important notices, etc. Be sure to invite your friends and family to “Like” our page, too.

Available Grants for Historic Preservation & More

If you own an historic building you may be eligible for one or more of the following grants. If you would like assistance to apply for these grants, WADA is more than happy to help you.

Your building does not have to be on the National Register for most grants. Some grants will cover the expense of nominating an historic property to the National Register.

Being ready with your project is the key: your narrative, photos, cost estimates, and other details are required.

Oregon Parks & Rec grant information listed below is just the basics. Complete information on the grants and what is needed to apply can be found online at: <https://tinyurl.com/yehe886t>

Diamonds in the Rough 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). These grants are part of the SHPO's Preserving Oregon Grant Program. Grants may be awarded up to \$20,000. These grants are funded in part by the Oregon Cultural Trust. **Deadline:** May 8, 2023 (11:59 p.m.)

Preserving Oregon Grants The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) offers matching grants for rehabilitation work that supports the preservation of historic resources listed in the National Register of Historic Places or for significant work contributing toward identifying, preserving and/or interpreting archaeological sites.

- Letter of Intent to apply is REQUIRED and must be submitted by the deadline.
- Letter of Intent Deadline: April 11,

2023 (11:59 p.m.)

- Once the letter is approved, you will be able to work on the application in the same online program.
- Application Deadline: May 8

Historic Cemetery Grants provide funding in the following categories: Protection and Security, Restoration and Preservation, Education and Training, Research and Interpretation in support of cemeteries listed with the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries. **Deadline:** April 12, 2023 (11:59 p.m.)

The Oregon Museum Grant supports Oregon, public and non-profit, museums in projects for the collection and management of heritage collections, for heritage-related tourism, and heritage education and interpretations. **Deadline:** April 12, 2023 (11:59 p.m.)

American Express Backing Small Businesses Grant Program To back underrepresented small business owners as they navigate the pandemic and plan for long-term success and resilience, American Express partnered with Main Street America on a \$1.65M grant program called Backing Small Businesses*. Launched in 2021, this program builds on American Express' ongoing Backing Small initiative to provide economically vulnerable small businesses with financial support and other resources to address their critical needs and challenges. More than 300 grants of \$5,000 each were awarded in four cycles over 12 months to small businesses located in older or historic commercial districts across the country, with priority given to businesses that have been disproportionately impacted by the pan-

demical and preference given to businesses owned by underrepresented groups, including members of the LGBTQ+ community, people with disabilities, Veterans, women and people of color. [Read about the latest grant recipients here.](#) *The next grant cycle will open on March 20, 2023.*

Oregon Cultural Trust Cultural Development Program Oregon Cultural Trust's Fiscal Year 2024 Cultural Development Program (funds to be awarded summer of 2023) recognizes and supports significant projects through four program funded categories: Access; Preservation; Creativity; and Capacity. In 2022 the Cultural Trust awarded more than \$3.4 million in grants Statewide. Cultural Development Program grants represent one third of the annual funding the Cultural Trust provides to Oregon's cultural nonprofits. Other funding includes grants to the Trust's five statewide partners – to support their mission goals and respective funding programs – and to 45 county and tribal cultural coalitions that fund local initiatives, projects and programs.

- FY2024 Cultural Development Program grants are for projects and activities that will occur between Sept. 1, 2023, and Aug. 31, 2024. Deadline is Friday, May 5.
- <https://culturaltrust.org>

Support
Historic
Preservation
in Weston!

Spotlight On Weston's Historic Buildings

Building No. 3 Reynaud Building 107 East Main Street, Weston, Oregon

Common name: Reynaud Building
Date of construction: c. 1895
Style: Italianate
Significance: Primary

Description: Two story brick masonry building of locally manufactured brick, rectangular in plan. Approximate frontage on Main Street is 30 feet. Facade is organized into three bays on the west with a separate, unaltered second story entrance bay on the east which is shared in common with the neighboring Prutsman Building. The six-panel door appears to be original. The ground story fronts of adjoining Reynaud and Prutsman Buildings are among the few in the district to have remained entirely unaltered. This shop front is traditionally organized with display windows with wood paneled bulkheads on either side of a central, recessed entrance.



The lintel is carried by two cast iron columns. The upper story has three elongated window openings with segmental arch heads which are fitted with double-hung sash with one over one lights and fixed top lights. The second story opening over the upstairs entrance is identical. Horizontal divisions of the upper wall are articulated by stacked string courses.



The west side of the facade and the upstairs entrance bay are set off by beveled pilasters running continuously from foundation to parapet. The same kind of pilasters divide the facade of the adjoining Prutsman Building into three bays.

Historic Weston, Oregon

A Town Rich in History



www.HistoricWestonOregon.com

Blue Mountain (Kees) Cemetery

www.BlueMountainCemetery.com

Information on Burials including photos of headstones, some obituaries, and other related historical information can be found on this website. There is also a map on the website. The original website was a labor of love by Bob Gilliland. It was a miracle that it could be recovered from an archive website with only a few items not recoverable as the domain expired.

The parapet is distinguished by an inset panel of brick and a corbeled corn.

History:

If I remember correctly, there were showers in the back for the pea workers to use to wash off all that pea juice. One barber was Frenchie, and another was Bobby Reynolds. Bobby had a hunchback. We never thought much about it, That was just Bobby. So to reach your hair, Bobby would work from a raised platform. It worked!

Memories:

Bob Gilliland remembers -When I was a child, Willmuth Reynaud lived on the second story, and on ground level were a Barber Shop on the left and a Beauty Shop on the right. The barber at the time was Frenchie. I didn't realize the connection he had. He owned the building with his wife, the lady upstairs. Willmuth left a wealth of old photos, and many are displayed in the Weston Public Library.

I always enjoyed getting a haircut, because when I was through, the barber would slip me a nickel to run across the street, to the D and F Cafe, or

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Do You Own a Weston Historic Building?

Do you own one of the historic buildings in Weston? While we are targeting the Historic Commercial District, if you own an historic building in Weston, we want to talk to you.

Does your building need repairs and/or restoration work? Do you know what work needs to be done or do you need help to assess the building's needs. If you have a list, is it current or from a few years ago? Have you ever obtained cost estimates for the work?



We want to chat with you about your needs. WADA is going to be starting a database of what each building requires. Are there buildings that need repointing of brick? Are there buildings that need roof work or foundation work? With this information about each building, we can start working on grants for each building or perhaps a way to combine similar projects into one project. Repointing of brick seems to be one of the needs of

most of the buildings. Roofs are probably a close second. There may be other needs that should be on the list.

WADA is actively looking for grants to assist building owners. Don't feel that you should not be asking for assistance for your building! There are grants out there that come open throughout the year. The key is to make sure that your project is "shovel ready" so that we can easily apply for funds.

WADA wants to develop a list of buildings that need work so that we can plan in advance for the needs of each property. We may also prioritize the projects according to immediate danger of being lost.



Granted, this will not be an overnight process. Deferred maintenance takes time to correct. Yes, it can be expensive. Don't let the price of restoration stop you from saving your building. Most grants require a match but that can usually be remedied through in-kind match plus other funds.

To date, WADA has submitted four grant applications for historic preservation. We should hear back around June or early July. There are a couple more grants due in May, with a couple more federally-funded grants opening this summer. Fall and Winter bring another round of grant opportunities.

Let's chat about your building! Let's work on getting your project shovel ready. It's time to stop leaving money on the table!

Continued from page 4
next door to the Crummet Hut, for an ice cream cone, and they was always so good!

Helen Callaway remembers that in 1957 she began renting the Beauty Shop to do ladies hair. Thirty years later, she was still there.

Walking tour link:
<https://www.theclio.com/entry/163813>

Information from the National Register for Historic Places — Weston Commercial Historic District

Support Historic Preservation in Weston!

Help support our work to create lasting change for real people.

Weston Area Development Association is guided by the principle that historic preservation is about more than saving old buildings; it's about creating real change for our community. It is about helping the local economy.

This work is not possible without support from our donors, and our work is saving history to build a stronger and more equitable future for Weston.

We are just getting started so donations are very important for us right now to be able to save our historic buildings.

We have made a commitment to Weston preservation projects that will continue to create impact in the years ahead of us. Your investment will help us to meet those goals.

A gift today helps support our important Weston brick-and-mortar preservation projects that we have planned for 2023 and beyond!

We are a 501 (c) 3 Nonprofit. Donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law. Tax ID: 88-0783069

Support Weston's Historic Preservation!



Donations may also be mailed to:
Weston Area Development Association
PO Box 256
Weston, OR 97886
or online at:

<https://tinyurl.com/yckn3uv7>

Celebrating Historic Preservation Month during May



Every year in May, local preservation groups, state historical societies, and business and civic organizations across the country celebrate Preservation Month through events that promote historic places and heritage tourism, and that demonstrate the social and economic benefits of historic preservation.

Preservation Month began as National Preservation Week in 1973. In 2005, the National Trust extended the celebration to the entire month of May and declared it Preservation Month to provide an even greater opportunity to celebrate the diverse and unique heritage of our country's cities and states

Historic place-savers like you pour their time, energy, and resources into protecting places they care about, often without recognition. This May, our Preservation Month theme of "People Saving Places" will be a national high-five to everyone doing the great work of saving places—in ways big and small—and inspiring others to do the same.

As every preservationist knows, saving places becomes even more crucial when a special old place is threatened. Stay tuned for these big announcements in May, in which we spotlight endangered places across the country and lift up the people and groups working to protect them.

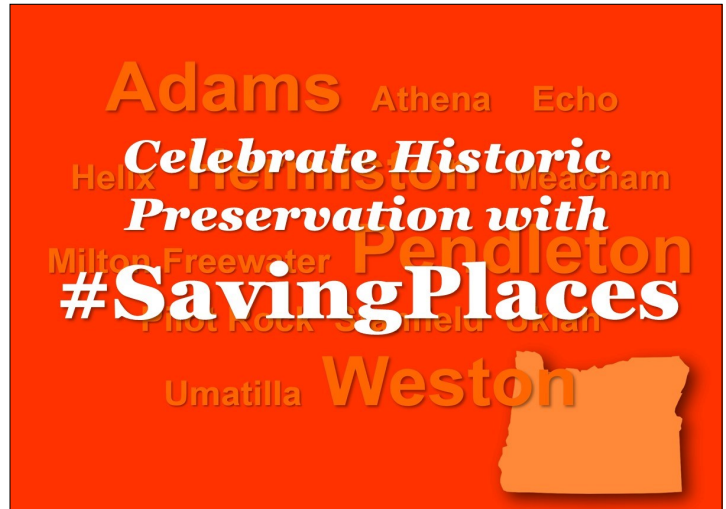
Weston Area Development Association is planning several activities locally. They will be posted on our website and on our Facebook page. One of the activities includes a walking tour brochure of downtown Weston. We encourage you to take a walk around downtown and really check out the buildings.

Check back next month for details on celebrating Historic Preservation Month in Weston during May or contact us at 541-204-0874 WADA97886@gmail.com

Check back next month for more information on historic preservation and how it helps with economic development in the community.

- ◆ Celebrating Historic Preservation Month will be "People Saving Places."
- ◆ Pioneer Picnic coming up in June!
- ◆ Researching your house history.
- ◆ And more...

This newsletter is published online at www.WestonOregon.com and on Facebook: @WestonOregon2022 and @CommunityofWestonOregon



Walking Tour is Online at: www.WestonOregon.com

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Available on the App Store and Google Play

Weston Area Development Association (WADA) was organized as a nonprofit to encourage restoration and revitalization in downtown Weston and the general area that results in economic development and a positive sense of community.

We have a vision to preserve and enhance the historic charm and uniqueness of the history of Weston.

www.WestonOregon.com

WADA is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization. All donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law. We recommend that you consult your CPA or Tax Attorney regarding donations. Tax ID: 88-0783069