

December Parent Newsletter

Low-Cost & Free Holiday Activities

The holidays are a cheerful time of year. Holidays are also complicated. You might throw all the kids (runny noses and all) into the car and drive two hours to see family. It could mean feeling guilty because you work on Christmas day or can't afford what your child wants. Even so, there are many special moments during the holidays, such as baking a treat or watching traditional holiday movies.

For some families, there is a lot of pressure to do and give a lot during the holiday season. Thankfully, Linn, Benton & Lincoln counties have many low-cost or free holiday activities.

Linn County



Children's Christmas Party

Noon-3:00pm, December 15, 2018
1215 Pacific Blvd SE, Albany

Our volunteers are starting to gather toys for the children to hand out at the annual Children's Christmas Party. This party is for our veterans and their families but we also invite our community families. Everyone needs a gift of kindness. If you can share, please let us know.

Pioneer Christmas Party for Children

3:00pm, December 2
Monteith House, 518 2nd Ave SW, Albany

Celebrate the Christmas season the way the pioneers would have done in the 1800s by joining the festivities at the Monteith House.

Children ages 5-16 are invited to join. Children will make pioneer Christmas crafts, decorate the Christmas tree at the Monteith House, sing carols, eat Christmas cookies, and have the option to ride on the horse drawn wagon in the "Twice Around Downtown Christmas Parade" at 5pm. The cost is \$15 per child and \$10 for additional siblings. Reserve your child's spot today by calling the Albany Visitors Association at (541)928-0911. Space is limited.

Book Exchange!



Reading is important and enjoyable!
You can buy inexpensive books at second-hand stores, order free books from (that one website), or create books with construction paper.

Christmas Storybook Land

Linn County Fair & Expo Center, Cascade Livestock Building, 3700 Knox Butte Rd, Albany

A free family-oriented holiday presentation open annually the first 2 weeks of December. Visitors experience an enormous indoor Christmas forest wonderland with over 110 scenes of characters from Mother Goose rhymes, children's fairy tales and family movies, two elaborate model train displays, a Victorian Village and the North Pole with Santa TOO! Although admission is free, a donation of canned foods for Fish of Albany food pantry or a new, unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots is gladly accepted.

Friday, November 30
 Saturday & Sunday
 Monday through Thursday
 Friday, December 7th & 14th

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
 10:00 am - 8:30 pm
 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
 2:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Benton County

Philomath Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration

December 3
1101 Main St, Philomath

Join us on the lawn at the Benton County Historical Museum for the Philomath Community Christmas tree lighting celebration. Come enjoy music, hot chocolate and cookies, and special guest appearances from the Philomath Frolic and Rodeo Queen and Santa!



Philomath Frolic & Rodeo Holiday Craft Fair

9:00am-5:00pm, November 3
 9:00am-4:00 pm, November 4
 Philomath Elementary School, 239 S 16th St

Pastega Christmas Light Display

November 24 - December 31
 Livestock Building, 3700 Knox Butte Rd, Corvallis



Holiday Ingredients in a Jar



Watch your child open their favorite treat ingredients. A pretty jar gives the gift a fun twist.

Community Christmas Parade

7:00pm, November 24
Downtown Corvallis

The annual Community Christmas Parade is a holiday tradition in Corvallis, complete with music, floats, hot chocolate and more.

Lincoln County

Aquarium to Illuminate Central Oregon Coast with Annual Sea of Lights Celebration

6:00-9:00pm, November 30 & December 1
2820 SE Ferry Slip Rd, Newport

\$2 with donation of 2 non-perishable human or pet food items, \$10 without donation, free for members (donation encouraged)

Newport's Lighted Boat Parade

5:00pm, December 1
2820 SE Ferry Slip Rd, Newport

Come down to the bayfront and enjoy the start of the holiday season with the Lighted Boat Parade.



Holiday Themed Art at the Museum

Noon-4:00pm, December 15
The North Lincoln County Historical Museum

Kids of all ages are welcome. Each participant will receive one canvas and will have access to art supplies to draw and paint museum artifacts and photos with a holiday theme. Parents/guardians must accompany their children for this event. It's FREE! Funding by the Mildred and Marie Children's Fund! FMI call 541-996-6614



Design a Scavenger Hunt or Look at Christmas Lights

Hide clues around the house to find with your kiddos. Maybe they will find a new book or a trip to a holiday event. One option is to bundle up and walk around the neighborhood when its bright with Christmas lights.

Draw a Coloring Book or Make a Homemade Movie Night

Who is your child's favorite superhero or favorite animal? Help them create a coloring book and give it to a sibling to color on Christmas Day. You can also film your kiddos acting out a movie, edit it on your phone, and create a homemade movie theater on the TV.



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