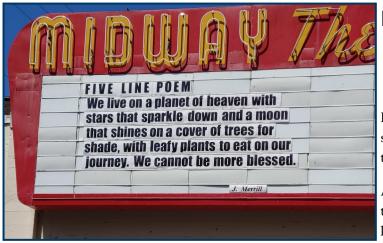


# Albany Old Times



#### Midway drive-in sign in Corvallis; courtesy of Mike Franklin

## Let's All Go to the Drive-In!

#### **Cathy Ingalls**

Museum Board Member

Bill Maddy, Mike Franklin and Barbara Wallace Cullicott still have fresh memories of going to drive-in movie theaters while growing up in Albany and Corvallis.

And now a new generation of young and old is heading to the impromptu drive-ins setting up in business parking lots around the country.

The trend gives people the chance to escape from the confines of their homes during the pandemic, and it allows property owners to make extra money.

Small businesses are taking advantage of the drive-in craze and so are the larger stores, such as Walmart, which is expected to have 160 drive-ins ready to show feature films.

Maddy, of Albany, recalls heading to the drive-in when it was on Santiam Highway. It opened in 1953 and closed in 1968. The Bi-Mart store and the Sizzler restaurant are located there now.

(continued on p.4)

# **Annual Meeting Canceled**

# **Update on Annual Membership Meeting & Future Events**

We have not had a calendar of events in any of our newsletters this year. In-person events are a casualty of the pandemic and appear to remain out of reach until well into 2021. After some discussion, the Board & Executive Director have concluded that our Annual Membership Meeting, normally held in January, will be canceled. In the first newsletter of 2021 a written annual report will be sent out to update our membership and community on the status of the Museum.



We appreciate your understanding in this. We look forward to sharing the history of our community and the triumphs of the Museum in person with you as soon as it is safe.

### From the Directors Desk...



Keith Lohse, Executive Director

Thank you for reading our third newsletter of 2020. For those readers who keep an eye out for the latest edition I apologize that this one has taken so long. I am sure we are all tired of hearing this, but 2020 is not like most years. It is not an easy year, and many things have gone wrong. When I first started writing my column for this edition, I had just come off Labor Day weekend and a nice vacation to eastern Oregon with my family. We rented a house, enjoyed the outdoors, and stayed away from others like we are supposed to, while still getting away and experiencing something new. For a brief few days things felt very normal.

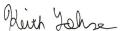
Then the fires and smoke settled in around us and my focus was drawn away. We kept the Museum closed for the health of our employees, volunteers, and guests. We kept the building as shut tight as we could to prevent ash and smoke from entering and contaminating the collection. To preserve is the first goal in our mission and we take that to heart. The closure also meant our staff and volunteers could focus on family, friends, and the community. I spent time serving coffee and food with the Salvation Army at the fairgrounds and took in pets for friends that evacuated to a space that did not allow animals. I know other staff and volunteers assisted our neighbors and community in myriad ways. I am grateful that as an organization we can do this; we love our community, and are so happy to give back.

While 2020 has been rough with a pandemic, unrest, and fires, it is easy to forget that we are very fortunate.

On the whole Albany is faring far better than many of our neighbors and it is easy to forget to be grateful for that. To help us through this year we need to share the positive and keep up a hope for better things to come. At the Museum, we have several things to be positive about. Our work this year has been focused on preservation. Thanks to object sponsors and past grants, we have been able to move, reorganize, and rehouse many objects improving their longevity. We completed a collections assessment with two outside consultants that came back very positive regarding the state of our collection and the projects we have in the works to improve the storage space.

In very exciting news we have received a large grant from the State of Oregon for COVID-19 relief, covering losses to our rental and event income due to the closures. This is a huge boon as we are now projected to leave our reserves untouched for the year. I am grateful to the sound management of our board, both past and present. We are strong, stable, and will be here for years to come. We could not have done this without the support from the community. That support remains as important as ever. We do not know what the next few months will bring and we certainly don't know what the next year will be like. If you want us to return to our past levels of services, we need you to be a member. If you want to see new exhibits

and more programs, we need you to donate. We need you to show your support, to sponsor an object, to purchase a book. In whatever way you can contribute, you will help us not only remain strong and stable, but allow us to improve and grow. Be safe, be well, and thank you!



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Services Coordinator
Kathwren Hayes, Member & Visitor
Services Assistant



# **My First Salon Experience During Covid-19**

#### **Kathwren Hayes**

Member & Visitor Services

After a long-overdue and much needed haircut--four months for me, but who's counting?—I was one of my hairstylist's first clients to acquire an appointment when Phase I of Covid-19 opened in Linn County on May 15, 2020. I headed out with a head of freshly shampooed hair and a mask covering my nose and mouth, now a requirement for hair appointments.

My masked hairstylist met me at my car. Most often your stylist will call you from within the salon on your cellphone and let you know it's time to come into the salon. Upon entry, I was asked to hold up one foot at a time and it was sprayed with

disinfectant. Then I immediately went to the restroom and washed my hands for 20 seconds.

I sat in my usual barber chair that was encased in a cubical of clear plastic. I was draped in a fresh clean cape that would be cleaned after each client. I was most curious how she was going to cut, color, wash and then style my hair with my mask on!

While I was in the chair, Brenda Herbst shared with me that she had some concerns about returning to work. She was encouraged to take the Barbicide Covid-19 Certification Course for the Professional Beauty Association, a course dedicated to infection control for salons and spas.

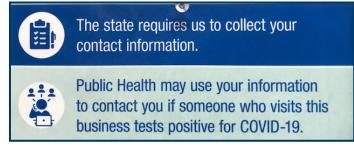
She took the ends of my elastic bands that were looped around my ears and anchored them with a clip at the back of my neck. Yes, that was all there was to it. Brenda, who is an independent contractor, successfully achieved and exceeded my expectations. Yay, Brenda!

When I left, the contents encased within the plastic cubicle were all wiped down, including my credit card, and it was then ready for the next client.

On March 27, 2020, President Trump expanded the CARES Act giving states the option of extending unemployment compensation to self-employed, contract and gig workers through the Covid-19 Pandemic.

After recruiting and training, on April 28, 2020, the Oregon Employment Department started providing unemployment benefits through the CARES Act: Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program.





Due to Cost of Covid-19 PPE, prices are increasing 12% per service effective immediately.



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# Let's All Go to the Drive In (continued from Page 1)



In 1970, a drive-in opened on Cinema Way near Tangent. The screen was torn down in 1986, and today the projection/concession stand is all that remains.

He also saw movies at the Midway drive-in at 5995 N.E. Highway 20.

The complex that opened in 1949 was torn down in the 1980s, and now the land is worked by Autumn Seed Co.

The Midway sign announcing films was restored and hung on the former Great Harvest Bread Co. building on First Street in downtown Corvallis. Instead of announcing movies, poetry and limericks appear on the board.

Maddy called going to drive-ins with his brothers and friends a "big adventure."

"The drive-in had double and sometimes triple features so if we could stay awake for all of them that meant that we would get home very late at night," he said.

James Bond films were Maddy's favorites.

"When the admission fee was based on a per person basis, part of the fun was to hide a friend or brother in the trunk," he said. "When the fee was only \$5 per car, we still tried to get as many people as possible in the car. The practice, Maddy said, enabled everyone to have enough money left over to pay for popcorn and other treats offered at the snack bar.