

NEWSBERG



U.S. Representative Andrea Salinas speaks at a Town Hall at Newberg High School on August 6, 2026. (Branden Andersen / Newsberg)

U.S. Rep. Andrea Salinas Visits Newberg for Town Hall

Topics during the hourlong question-and-answer session ranged from local economic development to federal policy issues

By Branden Andersen
Founding Editor

NEWBERG, Ore. — On Thursday, August 6, U.S. Rep. Andrea Salinas, D-Ore., who represents Oregon’s 6th District, walked on stage in the Newberg High School Auditorium to hear from constituents and answer questions about happenings at the federal, state, and local levels.

Newberg-Dundee School Board Chair Aubrey Nichols welcomed the approximately 100-person crowd, followed by Newberg City Councilor Elise Yarnell Hollamon’s introduction, then remarks from Wayne Mercado and Ruthann Couch, the president and vice president, respectively, of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association.

After their remarks praising the congresswoman for her efforts in passing the Social Security Fairness Act in January, Salinas approached the podium and spoke for 7 minutes before inviting questions.

Salinas’s opening remarks focused on cost of living and affordability for Oregonians, as well as the impact of national politics on local pocketbooks.

“I talk to Oregonians every day,” Salinas said. “One thing that I do hear repeatedly is that costs are really high right now.”

She highlighted her work in Congress on affordability, including backing a new law to boost housing supply by cutting red tape, pushing bipartisan legislation to lower power bills through expanded geothermal energy, and supporting wind and solar development.

“Whatever challenges confront us, know this: I’m looking through pretty much one lens,” she said in closing her speech. “Does it lower your costs, and does it protect your rights here at home, or does it put you at greater risk? And that’s the test I apply every day in Washington D.C.”

Questioners were selected using a raffle system: Attendees received tickets, and

Yarnell Hollamon drew them at random.

Audience questions ranged widely but clustered around economic security, public services, and democratic norms. Constituents pressed her on the federal administration’s moves to dismantle the U.S. Department of Education and the strain of voucher programs on public school budgets.

Zane Silverly, who said he retired from the National Weather Service after a 30-year career, asked Salinas about the reduction in force of federal employees at agencies such as the National Weather Service, U.S. Postal Service, and U.S. Department of Agriculture.

“We all rely on these workers,” Salinas said. “While I am all for if there are efficiencies that can be gained, if there is waste and fraud, let’s get it out. We don’t need that in government either, but that’s not what this is.”

Others focused on direct family impacts: A local parent of kindergarten-age twins asked Salinas for stronger national action on gun safety, while Newberg councilor and military parent Robyn Wheatley asked about assurances that active-duty service members and TSA agents would be paid during government shutdowns.

“They should never go without pay, whether there’s a shutdown or not,” Salinas said. “I’d love to see a contingency fund and, frankly, to not see shutdowns at all, because there’s too much gamesmanship, and nobody benefits ultimately, nobody.”

Several questions addressed civil rights and the integrity of U.S. democracy. One constituent asked Salinas about the federal SAVE Act, saying it selectively disenfranchises certain American citizens and asking what could be done ahead of the November election.



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Newberg’s Camellia Trail Brings Painted Murals to Downtown Storefronts

Public Art Council project invited hundreds of residents to help paint community-designed murals celebrating the city’s official flower

By Branden Andersen
Founding Editor

NEWBERG, Ore. — After two years of hauling four-foot square wooden panels to various community events, the Newberg Public Art Council has officially unveiled a series of community-painted murals downtown as part of the Camellia Trail, a paint-by-number project celebrating the camellia, Newberg’s official city flower.

“It’s really rewarding to see the project out in the community after all the work that went into it,” said Crystal Trice, the Newberg Public Art Council public art manager. “We still have a few panels that we can put up, but getting the trail established has been a big undertaking, and we’ve learned a lot along the way about navigating the processes involved with public art.”

The council commissioned six local artists to create original camellia-themed paintings, according to the Newberg Public Art Council website. Volunteers digitized each painting into a paint-by-number design, traced and numbered the outlines onto 4-by-4-foot plywood panels, and brought the panels to community events for residents to paint. The finished mini-murals now hang at downtown businesses along the trail.



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MORE HEADLINES

“Pásale Pásale” Braves Summer Heat, Smoke on Opening Weekend

Newberg Poet Draws on Two Decades of Work for ‘Of a Certain Age’

Newberg VFW Post to Hold Flag Folding Ceremony for Scott Leavitt

Community Wellness Column: Community as Art

Kotek Data Center Advisers Won’t Say ‘Moratorium,’ Want More State-Local Partnership, Transparency

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is neighbor
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Support

DJ, Caviar, and
300 Guests: DOSE
Debuts as a New
Willamette Valley
Bubbles Party

Dundee-based and other Wil-
lamette Valley Winemakers
saw an opportunity to bring a
party to the local wine scene
and learned the industry may
be looking for opportunities to
loosen their collars.

By Branden Andersen
Founding Editor

MCMINNVILLE, Ore. — A new, in-
formally organized sparkling wine
party in a downtown McMinnville
alley popped corks and drew an es-
timated 300 people on July 25, with
a promise of industry-priced spar-
kling wine bottles, a live DJ, cavi-
ar bumps, and a party atmosphere
focused on celebrating Oregon’s rise
as a bubbles behemoth.

“Everyone was just completely
blown away and had the best time of
their life,” said co-organizer Anna
Sweet, who owns Dundee’s Artist
Block Wine. “Immediately people
were asking, ‘When can we have
the next one?’”

The event, called DOSE, took
over McMinnville’s Art Alley adja-
cent to The Pub at 326 NE Davis
St. Admission was \$25 and includ-
ed a souvenir glass, with organiz-
ers encouraging attendees to share
bottles rather than pay by the pour.
Attendees purchased food, bottles,
and experiences once in the alley.

The price, Sweet said, was inten-

tionally approachable.

“We wanted to offer industry
pricing,” she said. “We wanted to
offer a moment for all those people
who had worked so hard and pro-
vide a moment for everyone to not
only get together and party, but to
be able to taste each other’s wines in
an informal way.”

Sweet said the idea for her event
came together in about six weeks
after she and a group attended Le
Printemps des Champagnes in
April, an annual champagne cele-
bration that takes place on the
streets of Épernay, France.

“There was a party that was prob-
ably the best party I’ve ever been to
in my life, and it was on the street,”
Sweet said. “Everyone was very in it
to just enjoy this thing that they had
all come together and created, and
so when we got back, we had such
FOMO for the Willamette Valley
to have something similar.”

Sweet said she organized the
event alongside seven other wom-
en, including three wine industry

professionals who sourced bottles
for the party: Kate Payne Brown,
head winemaker at Dundee’s Ar-
gyle Winery; sommelier and owner
of Arden Kelsey Glasser; and Jess
Arnold, associate winemaker at So-
ter Vineyards. Sweet credited the
involvement of established wine-
makers with helping the event gain
traction with wineries that might
otherwise have hesitated.

“Being on the Willamette Val-
ley Marketing committee, our sole
mission is to drive traffic to the
valley,” Sweet said. “I feel like the
biggest thing we’re missing is that
international weekend blowout of
events. So it made sense.”

The party ran the same day as
Method Oregon’s Grand Tasting,
a three-day, ticketed weekend that
drew more than 50 producers to
Domaine Willamette in Dayton on
Highway 99W.



Read the rest of the
story at
newsberg.org

Melon Collie Ep. 100

Created by Joseph Hampton



The Logoff

A Phone-Free Hang
“Leave it at the door”



The Allison Inn & Spa
August 19, 2026 / 6 - 8 p.m.

Food, Drinks, Live DJ, Games, Community

tickets at newsberg.org/the-logoff

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

AUGUST 12

4 p.m. — Newberg
Wednesday Market
Downtown Newberg, 116 S
College St

5:30 p.m. — Sports Injuries
from Athlete to Weekend
Warrior

Chehalem Valley Chamber of
Commerce, 112 N Garfield St
Suite 103

AUGUST 13

4 p.m. — Wine Tasting Event
with Copper Mountain
Vineyards

The Wine Bar at Fairfield
Newberg, 900 North Brutscher

6 p.m. — Pásale, Pásale
Musical presented by Gather
Repertory Theatre

Chehalem Cultural Center
Forecourt, 415 E Sheridan St

AUGUST 14

3 p.m. — Wine Tasting with
CJ & Elise McCollum of
McCollum Family Vineyard

Good Company Cheese & Wine
Shop, 602 E 1st St Suite A

5 p.m. — GeminiTourist
Album Release Party
Barley & Vine Tavern, 408 East
1st Street

AUGUST 15

10:30 a.m. — First Time
Home Buyer Workshop
Lyrics Cafe, 808 East
Hancock Street

11 a.m. — Silobration NW
Abbey Road Farm, 10501
NE Oak Springs Farm Rd,
Carlton

11 a.m. — Sounds of Joy
Bauman Auditorium at GFU
1009 E North St

1 p.m. — August Mixology
Class
Duck Pond Cellars, 23145
OR-99W, Dundee

5:30 p.m. — Concert 3:
Mozart, Montgomery,
Liang and Ravaei
Archery Summit, 18599
Northeast Archery Summit
Road, Dayton

6 p.m. — Pásale, Pásale
Musical presented by
Gather Repertory Theatre
Chehalem Cultural Center
Forecourt, 415 E Sheridan St



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to see all
events.