Monmouth, Independence, WOU: A Warm Community in Cool Oregon

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Abstract
Along with the cover of this issue, we have included the brochure from which it was derived. The brochure was created as part of an identity project that WOU students worked on for local communities during fall 2014.

About the brochure:
This brochure can be seen as a very important media and tool which introduces this community to everyone who may be interested, including students, business people, families, and travelers. The most important purpose of this brochure is to attract more people to the community and give them as much information about this community as as possible. Thus, the images are the key parts rather than the text information itself. This brochure uses many high quality pictures on almost every page. People will be attracted by beautiful pictures, then start reading the text beside those pictures. This brochure also uses a lot of blank spaces rather than placing all the information in a very crowded way. Therefore, readers will not feel so tired of reading, and of course, they will have more time to enjoin each beautiful pictures. Above all, the unity and variety is used in a comfortable balance in this brochure, which will make readers have more fun and interest while reading.

Keywords
Monmouth, Independence, WOU, Western Oregon University, design, tourism

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HISTORY

Monmouth, Oregon was settled by a group of immigrants from Monmouth, Illinois. No structures from those early days remain; the oldest private structure still existing in Monmouth today is the Craven House, located at east Main Street. The Western Oregon University campus is where you can find the second oldest existing structure, known as Campbell Hall, dating back to 1871.

Monmouth was settled by pioneers who made a point of allocating 640 acres to build both a city and a "college under the auspices of the Christian Church" and proceeds from the sale of these lands were used to found Monmouth University. For decades (until 2002), Monmouth was a dry town that banned the sale of alcoholic beverages in supermarkets, restaurants and bars.

FACTS

Monmouth is in Polk County, and is part of the Salem Metropolitan Statistical Area, about 15 miles west of Salem on OR 99W. According to the 2010 US Census, the city occupies a total area of 2.24 square miles. The population was 9,534, the racial makeup was 82.8% White, 13.4% Hispanic or Latino, 1.1% African American, 1.5% Native American, 3.3% Asian, 0.6% Pacific Islander, 10.7% from other races or from two or more races. The median age in the city was 23.7 years.
Historical Sites

Fort Yamhill State Park
9390 Hwy 22
Grande Ronde, OR 97347
(503) 879-5814

Built in 1856 to regulate the eastern border of the Grande Ronde Reservation and to ease tensions between settlers and natives, Fort Yamhill is one of the best preserved forts in the Pacific Northwest.

River Creek Covered Bridge
Hwy 223 • Kerker Road
Monmouth, OR 97361
(503) 623-8172

Named for pioneer Sebastian Ritter who arrived in Oregon in 1845, the bridge was constructed in 1926. One of the last covered bridges to serve on an Oregon highway, it was moved in 1976 to its current location.

Independence Historic District

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989, the historic district encompasses the entire downtown sector. The roughly 30-block district preserves approximately 250 homes and businesses of a prosperous riverside town of the 1880s. Between the 1890’s-1940’s Independence was dubbed the hop capital of the world.

You can obtain a map of the historic district from our Independence Heritage Museum:
Wednesday 1:00 - 5:00 pm
Thursday 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Friday 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Saturday 1:00 - 5:00 pm
Independence

Independence is a city in Polk County, Oregon, United States, on the west bank of the Willamette River along Oregon Route 51. Independence was founded in 1845 by pioneers who migrated from Independence, Missouri.

Independence thrived as a shipping point, by both rail and boat, for agricultural products and lumber until the 1950s. The city was known for its hops production from the 1890s through the 1940s. Thirty square blocks of the oldest part of town form the National Register of Historic Places-listed Independence Historic District.

The city has a total area of 2.82 square miles and the population was 8,590 at the 2010 census.
Monmouth is the home of Western Oregon University (WOU). WOU is a public liberal arts college with a student enrollment of approximately 6,200 students. It was originally established in 1856 by Oregon pioneers as Monmouth University. Subsequent names include Oregon Normal School, Oregon College of Education, and Western Oregon State College.

WOU was an inaugural winner of the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) award in 2012. This award recognizes universities and colleges that have demonstrated the highest level of commitment and action towards fostering a campus community that celebrates all the many facets of diversity. In 2014 WOU was recognized as one of the top 100 colleges or universities in America and the only one in the Pacific Northwest in adding economic value and benefit to its graduates.
Shopping & Dining

Our community has a rich abundance of shopping opportunity. Whether looking for flowers, gifts, clothes, or jewelry to local produce, bakeries, books, or hardware, we have what you need. Want to see a movie or enjoy a nice meal out, look no further. Monmouth and Independence offer a wide variety of dining options, including Thai, Mexican, American, Italian, Chinese, and many more. We also offer great places to grab a brew, sip on local wine, enjoy local baked goods, or delight in delicious ice cream.

Visit www.misco-org and view the Chamber Directory to see a listing of local businesses and the goods and services they provide.

Wineries

The surrounding countryside plays host to a number of local wineries. To locate all of the local wineries, visit www.google.com, click the “Maps” link and enter “Wineries Independence, Oregon.”

Monmouth and Independence are located in the heart of the Willamette Valley in the historic hop capital of the world. We are a less than 30 minute drive from both Salem and Corvallis, and a mere hour from Eugene, Portland, and the Oregon coast. Visit a festival, listen to music in a park, enjoy local wineries and breweries, or spend the day shopping in our historic downtown.
Farmers Markets

Featuring fresh produce, cheeses, herbs, breads, cut flowers, local artisan products, and more.

Polk County Bounty Market:
Monmouth
May — September
Tuesdays 10:00 am — 3:00 pm
120 Main Street E
Monmouth, OR 97361

Independence Farmers Market
April — October
Saturdays 9:00 am — 2:00 pm
302 S Main Street
Independence, OR 97351

Independence Riverview Market
April — October
Saturdays 9:00 am — 2:00 pm
50 C Street
Independence, OR 97351

Farms & Nurseries

Lavender Lake Farms
3395 S Pacific Hwy
Independence, OR 97351
(503) 838-2620

Lavender Lake farms grow both true (English) lavender and French Grosso lavender which flower at different times providing flowers for viewing and picking throughout the summer. Visit the gift shop for specialty products.

Dancing Oaks Nursery
17900 Prism Road
Monmouth, OR 97361
(503) 838-4058

Dancing Oaks Nursery features an extensive garden filled with unusual trees, shrubs, bulbs and perennials from around the world, as well as water features, sculptures, and garden ornaments.
Festivals

Monmouth 4th of July
Yearly celebration including music, vendors, and fun for the entire family!

Western Days
Independence Oregon celebrates its namesake with a 4-day celebration. Spend one 4th of July with us, and you will find it hard to celebrate anywhere else. Two nights of fireworks are displayed over the Willamette River, as event-goers watch from Riverview Park.

Hep and Heritage Festival
The “original” Hep Festival, also known as the Hep Fiesta, began in the early 1930’s. The festival grew out of the end-of-harvest celebrations in the migrant camps at the hop fields. Today the festival is a great success featuring vendors, music, activities, and cultural displays from 1856 to 1956. The festival takes place the last full weekend in September.

Halloween Spectacular Event
Downtown businesses in Monmouth and Independence host a Halloween Spectacular event in which many Main Street businesses in both communities hand out candy to trick-or-treaters. The cities’ public libraries host games and chalk art activities for children.

Hometown Holiday Festival
The two-day celebration features the lighting of the giant Sequoia on the campus of Western Oregon University, the “sip-and-shop” event in downtown Monmouth, and concerts at Rice Auditorium. All events are free and open to the public.

Independence Holiday Parade of Lights - Bring out the whole family to enjoy a “home-grown” parade filled with sassy floats and decorative lighting. The parade traditionally starts at 5pm from the parking lot at the First Baptist Church.
Song | MONMOUTH - INDEPENDENCE - WOU

Parks & Playgrounds

Main Street Park
120 Main Street E
Monmouth, OR 97361

Riverview Park
50 C Street
Independence, OR 97351

Sarah Helmick State Recreation Site
11545 Helmick Road
Monmouth, OR 97361

Horseback Riding

Happy Trails Horse Barn
225 James Howe Road
Dallas, OR 97338
(503) 999-4802

Circle T Ranch
5679 Wallace Road NW
Salem, OR 97304
(503) 949-7679

Zippo's LadyHawk Ranch
16195 Ellendale Road
Dallas, OR 97338
(503) 623-7087

Golf Courses

Cross Creek Golf Course
13935 Hwy 22
Dallas, OR 97338
(503) 623-4444

Oak Knoll Golf Course
6335 Hwy 22
Independence, OR 97351
(503) 378-0344

Skate Park

Monmouth City Skate Park
410 Hogan Road
Monmouth, OR 97361

Casino

Spirit Mountain Casino
27100 Salmon River Hwy
Grande Ronde, OR 97347
(503) 879-2350

Casino & gaming, entertainment, restaurants, lodge, and kids area.

Disc Golf

Riverview Park
50 C Street
Independence, OR 97351

Fishing Holes

Buell Park
Mill Creek Road
Sheridan, OR 97378

Buena Vista Park
Park Street
Buena Vista, OR 97351

Nasmith Park
Adjacent to the Polk County Fairgrounds
(520 Pacific Avenue S)
Rickreall, OR

Social Security Hole
Halls Ferry Road
Independence, OR 97351

*For park programs and event schedules, call (541) 623-4176 or visit www.co.polk.or.us/parks.

Celebrate time together

FAMILY FUN

PHOTO BY ZICHENG SONG

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PURE Insights

Volume 4, Issue 1
Movies

Independence Cinema 8
Featuring 3-D screenings of new releases you won’t want to miss.
Visit their Website for show times and prices:
www.independencecinema8.com
Bike Trails

Adair/Independence/Monmouth
Independence, OR
34.4 miles; Moderate

Berry Creek Loop
Monmouth, OR
5.7 miles; Moderate

Black Rock Mountain Bike Area
Falls City, OR
Different trails of varying difficulty

Buena Vista Ferry
Independence, OR
57.0 miles; Challenging

Monmouth — Amity Loop
Monmouth, OR
64.0 miles; Challenging

Monmouth to Buena Vista
Monmouth, OR
27.5 miles; Moderate

Mt. Brown Benzie Loop
Falls City, OR
4.6 miles; Varying levels of difficulty

*For more information on these trails or others, go to http://rideoregonride.com/riders.*

Hiking Trails

Baskett Slough Wildlife Refuge
10995 Hwy 22
Dallas, OR 97338
1.5 — 5 miles; light to moderate

EE Wilson Wildlife Area
29555 Camp Adair Road
Monmouth, OR 97361
16 mile loop; all skill levels

Willamette River Trail
50 C Street
Independence, OR 97351
5k loop; all skill levels

*Some trails may be closed during winter months.*

Rafting & Kayaking

Buell County Park to
Yamhill River
7 miles; Class I & II

Upper Bridge to
Mill Creek County Park
5.6 miles; Class III & IV
Grand Ronde to
Sheridan
15.3 miles; Class II & III

Buena Vista to
Independence
11 miles; Class I & II

Independence to Salem
12 miles; Class I & II

*For more information on these or other trails, go to www.alltrails.com or www.riverfacts.com.*

Outdoor Adventure
ARTS AND CULTURE

BE INSPIRED

Visual Arts

Cannon Gallery of Art
Campbell Hall, WOU
8am-5pm Mon.-Fri.
(503) 838-8607
boothp@wou.edu

WOU Campus Gallery
Spaces:
Hamersly Library, 2nd and 3rd Floor galleries
Werner University Center Gallery (near bookstore)
President’s Hallway, Administration Building

River Gallery
84 S. Main St., Independence
(503) 838-6171 • www.rivergalleryart.com

Rick’s Place
Coffeehouse
123 East Main - Monmouth 97361
503 838 6912 • ricksplacecoffee@yahoo.com

Java Crew
139 S Monmouth - Monmouth 97361

Crush Wine Bar & Tasting Room
105 Main St. E - Monmouth, OR 97361
503 949 0160 • www.cruskonmain.com

Ash Creek Arts Center
Gallery @ MaMere’s
MaMere’s Bed & Breakfast

212 Knox St. N - Monmouth 97361
503 838 1514 • mameresbandb.com
www.ashcreekarts.org
www.facebook.com/AshCreekArtsCenter

Performing Arts

Central High School
Theater, Music productions
1530 Monmouth Street, Independence
(503) 838-0480

Smith Fine Arts Series
Rice Auditorium, WOU
503-838-8333 • finearts@wou.edu
www.wou.edu/president/advancement/smith/

WOU Theater/Dance Performances
Rice Auditorium, WOU
503-838-8461 • eliass@wou.edu
www.wou.edu/les/creativearts/

WOU Music Recitals/Concerts
Smith Hall, WOU
(503) 838-8275 • lcaligo@wou.edu

Independence River’s Edge Summer Series
The River’s Edge Summer Series includes concerts, movies in the park, and a car show.

Annual Events

The Summer Solstice Art Benefit
An annually occurring PCL fundraiser
Contact PCL at 503-838-2603, or visit auction.pclpartnership.org

*For more info contact the Monmouth Arts and Culture Commission (732) 212-1890*
For more info:
Monmouth - Independence Chamber of Commerce
& Visitors Center
355 Pacific Avenue N, Suite A
Monmouth, OR 97361
(503) 838-4268

A WARM COMMUNITY IN COOL OREGON

M.J.
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