



Yamhill County Economic Development Newsletter

August 26, 2025

Business Information:

- The Northwest Native Chamber is offering a virtual course “Embedding Native Values into your Business”. This self-paced program is for Native-owned or Native-serving businesses in Oregon and Washington. You can learn more about the program [here](#).
- The Northwest Native Chamber is also offering a capital readiness for food and ag businesses on September 11, 5:30-7:30pm at Barbie’s Village. You can register and learn more [here](#).
- CO-by the US Chamber of Commerce is hosting the CO-100 Small Business Forum on October 8th, in-person or virtually. Informative presentations from industry leaders, policy leaders and panelists, exploring latest trends shaping small business and strategies to grow your business. You can learn more [here](#).
- The IRS has verified social media accounts, and you can follow them on FB, X, Insta, YouTube, and LinkedIn. You can learn more [here](#).
- CO-by the US Chamber has an email marketing campaign guide for small businesses. Email marketing is a cost-effective strategy to increase sales, expand brand recognition and build customer loyalty. You can find the guide [here](#).
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) shared the latest jobless rates for July 2025. Oregon saw an increase in unemployment – 4.2% in July 2024 and 5.0% in July 2025. The nationwide unemployment rate is 4.2%. You can read the report [here](#).
- The USPTO (US Patent and Trade Office) is hosting “Invention-Con on September 9-10 (virtually) from 1-3:30pm ET, daily. Learn how to turn big ideas into bold brands; ask the experts on advancing your ideas into protected assets; and key strategies for the innovation journey. You can learn more and register [here](#).
- The FTC (Federal Trade Commission) shared this [article](#) on how to cut down on spam calls. You can register your phone number for free in the [National Do Not Call](#)

[registry](#); hang up on robocalls and report them at [DoNotCall.gov](https://www.donotcall.gov); block calls via your phone's built-in features; and research and consider adding a phone app that filters calls.

- The Federal Reserve Chair, Jerome Powell stated after the Fed's meeting in Jackson Hole, WY, with job market downturn rising the central bank's policy makers "may warrant adjusting in their policy stance". The Chair said the bank may cut the federal funds rate when its policy committee (FOMC) meets in September.
- The FOMC announced approval of updates to its statement on Longer-Run Goals and Monetary Policy. The statement articulates the Committee's approach to monetary policy and serves as the foundation for its policy actions. You can read more [here](#).
- Governor Kotek issued a [transportation funding proposal](#) for the legislature to consider this weekend. It includes a \$.06 cent tax on gas; increases to vehicle registration fees; increases to title fees and a .01 increase in payroll taxes. You can read the press release [here](#).
- ODOT issued a bulletin regarding scammers posing as ODOT through text messages about unpaid toll fees and traffic violations. The messages are fake and designed to get your personal information. ODOT recommends deleting or ignoring the messages and blocking the texts or emails. ODOT does not have a toll program. You can read the bulletin [here](#).
- The Manufacturing Institute will launch nominations on September 2 for the Women MAKE awards for individuals in the manufacturing industry that exemplify leadership, mentorship, and excellence through their companies, across the industry and their communities. You can learn more about it and nominate a candidate [here](#).
- Nominations opened on Monday August 11th for the **2025 Coolest Thing Made in Yamhill County**. The nomination deadline for the competition is **Friday August 29th**. Local sponsors will select a group of finalists and News-Register subscribers and others will vote on a final selection of our "Coolest Thing 2025". Voting will run Wednesday September 10th to Monday September 29th. Nominate your favorite thing made in Yamhill County here: <https://newsregister.com/coolestthing2025>. The winner will be announced at the McMinnville Economic Development Partnership Annual McMinnovation Awards on Wednesday October 15th.

Grants and Funding:

- Business Oregon’s Business Development Fund is a revolving loan fund that provides fixed-rate term financing for land, buildings, equipment, machinery, and permanent working capital. It is designed to provide gap funding in conjunction with traditional lending. Traded-sector businesses focused on manufacturing, processing or distribution are potential candidates for the loans (with maximum amount of \$2M). The project must be based in OR and must create or retain jobs. You can find more information [here](#). You can contact Business Oregon [here](#) (or contact Gioia – see contact information below - to connect you personally with the local Bus OR Regional Development Director). Current 10yr fixed interest rate is 5.42%.
- ENTHUSE is hosting their 7th Annual Pitch Competition. Applications are due September 22. They Enthuse Foundation is a non-profit organization investing in women entrepreneurs. You can learn more [here](#).
- [The Future of Capitalism](#) is a startup tech competition for founders who think differently. The competition offers an investment opportunity for tech startups in the early stages of development. Nine start ups will be selected to pitch to a panel of expert judges in London, UK for a chance at \$1M investment. Applications are due September 26, 2025.
- AT&T and #She’s Connected are seeking applicants for a small business contest for a chance to win \$50k towards your business, one full year of AT&T service and involvement in feature content with an AT&T #She’s Connected athlete. You can learn more [here](#).
- [The Ivory Prize](#) is an annual award recognizing ambitious, feasible, and scalable solutions to housing affordability. Nominations and applications forms will be available on September 3, 2025. Deadline for submission is October 31, 2025. There are three categories of award: construction and design; finance; policy and regulatory reform. The award is \$300k and winners receive high quality connections, exposure and access to press coverage, newsletters, and social media campaigns; sponsored summer interns; and pro-bono support. Learn more [here](#).
- The Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development has opened a grant program for [Community Green Infrastructure](#) projects. The grant supports green infrastructure projects such as planting or building green infrastructure, growing and supplying native plants and seeds, and creating green infrastructure master plans. Eligible applicants are local governments and other public bodies; federally recognized tribes; non-profit and faith-based organizations; local workforce

investments boards; watershed councils; native seed banks and native plant nurseries; and manufacture dwelling park non-profit cooperatives. You can learn more [here](#). A [recorded webinar](#) is available on YouTube.