

First Wednesday

DANCING
IN THE
STREET

STORY BY MOORE KRUEGER | SPECIAL TO THE STATESMAN JOURNAL

If the long-awaited sunny weather makes you want to dance for joy, you're not the only one.

The streets of downtown will teem with tapping feet Aug. 4 from 5 to 8 p.m. during this month's First Wednesday event, "Dancing in the Street."

Live music and dance performances in a variety of styles will take center stage for the evening as Salem celebrates the pinnacle of summer. Be prepared to break out the dancing boots on Chemeketa Street between Liberty and High Streets, which will shut down while Western swing band The Oregon Valley Boys open up with their eclectic mix of blues, country, jazz, rock and pop.

In the Reed Opera House, Premiere Dance Academy will conduct ballet performances, while Macedonia Greek Cuisine will host Greek family dancing on the first floor. On the corner of Liberty and Court Streets, Mz Jitterbug will show off several dance styles starting at 5:30 p.m., followed by Tango 4 Salem at 6:30.

Other First Wednesday highlights include:

- **Irish cultural dance:** The Ceili of the Valley Society will demonstrate Irish dance from 6 to 8 p.m. Formed in 2006, the nonprofit group aims to educate the public about Irish culture.
- **Nia demonstrations:** Beginning at 6:15 p.m., Indigo Wellness Yoga will demonstrate Nia, which combines muscular movement with introspection, visualization and expression for mind-body-spirit healing.
- **Cabaret-style show:** Back by popular demand, The Razzle Dazzle Theatrical Group will entertain visitors in Salem Center Mall with music, tap, costumes and skits. The group, founded in 2006, features performers ranging in age from 55 to 95.
- **Line dancing:** Another First Wednesday favorite, The Emerald Point Jewels senior dance team, will perform line dancing and the arm-chair hula.



Above: The Oregon Valley Boys will perform on Chemeketa Street between Liberty and High Streets.

Below: Evangelina Trevino, center, and others play with Hula Hoops in Downtown Salem.



The details

"Dancing in the Street"

First Wednesday

Featuring live music, dance and art downtown.

When: 5 to 8 p.m. Aug. 4

Where: Chemeketa Street between Liberty and High Streets, and throughout downtown

Cost: Free

Contact:

www.gofirstwednesday.info