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SPORTS, 1B

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Santiam Bicycle closes its doors for good



Santiam Bicycle was a beloved and longtime institution in downtown Salem and closed Sept. 2.

PHOTOS BY ABIGAIL DOLLINS/STATESMAN JOURNAL

Business joins other outdoor shops that have closed in Salem

Zach Urness

Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Santiam Bicycle, a beloved and longtime institution in downtown Salem, announced it had permanently closed on Sept. 2.

The local bike shop not only sold bikes and did tune ups, but also offered group rides, helped build local mountain bike trails and was a major part of the local riding scene for decades.

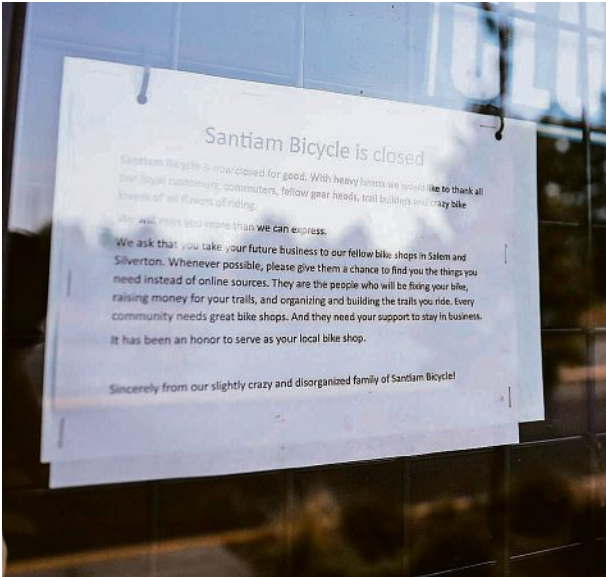
"With heavy hearts, we share that Santiam Bicycle has permanently closed its doors," the company posted on its Facebook page. "We are deeply grateful to our loyal customers, commuters, fellow gear heads, trail builders, and all the passionate riders who have supported us over the years. We will miss you more than words can express."

The loss of Santiam, located on the corner of Center and Commercial streets, is another major blow to the network of local outdoor shops in the capital city. Salem Summit Company, an outdoor gear shop that specialized in hiking, climbing, camping and winter recreation, closed in 2023.

The shop began as Santiam Bicycle Way of Life on Commercial Street SE but moved into the Center Street location in 1998.

In their post saying goodbye, the owners asked people to support remaining local bike shops. Some of those include The Bike Peddler, Scott's Cycle, The Northwest Hub and Northwest BMX.

"As we say goodbye, we ask that you continue to support the amazing local bike shops in Salem and Silverton," the post said. "Whenever possible, please choose your local bike shop over online sources. These are your neighbors, the people who will fix your bikes, fundraise for your trails, and dedicate countless hours to building and maintaining the places we all love to ride. Every community needs great bike shops and



those shops need your support to thrive."

The shop offered free semi-guided bike rides to members of the community and hosted other community events. The shop owners and employees played a major role in establishing mountain bike destinations, such as Black Rock in the Coast Range.

"It has been our greatest honor to serve as your local bike shop," added the post, which was signed "with gratitude, Your slightly crazy, wonderfully disorganized family at Santiam Bicycle."

Phone calls and emails seeking additional details were not immediately returned.

Zach Urness has been an outdoors reporter in Oregon for 18 years and is host of the Explore Oregon Podcast. He can be reached at zurness@StatesmanJournal.com or (503) 399-6801. Find him on X at @Zach-sORoutdoors and BlueSky at oregonoutdoors.bsky-social.

OREGON SPECIAL SESSION

Senate vote on transportation tax increases delayed

Anastasia Mason and Dianne Lugo

Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

The special session of the Oregon Legislature has been delayed two weeks because Sen. Chris Gorsek, D-Gresham, remains excused for medical reasons and needs to be present to ensure a package of transportation funding bills passes.

A third reading and debate on the bills sponsored by Gov. Tina Kotek was paused on Sept. 2 until Sept. 17. The Oregon Senate will convene on Sept. 3 to formally reschedule votes on the bills.

"The postponement will allow our esteemed colleague to join us in passing the transportation measure he has worked so long to shape," said Senate Majority Leader Kayse Jama, D-Portland. Gorsek is recovering from complications after a planned medical procedure in August.

He was co-chair of the transportation committee during the regular session before he resigned after a confrontation with Rep. Shelly Boshart Davis, R-Albany.

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Marion County DA to retire, chief deputy to run for top job in 2026

Isabel Funk

Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Marion County District Attorney Paige Clarkson will retire in 2026 and her chief deputy will run for the position.

Brendan Murphy, who has worked in the Marion County DA's office for 18 years, announced his candidacy Sept. 2. Murphy began his career at the DA's office as a law clerk, working his way up to chief deputy DA, according to a news release.

"When other places have turned a blind eye to crime and blight, Marion County remains insistent on accountability and solutions," Murphy said in the release. "As District Attorney, I will continue that tradition by prosecuting criminals, supporting law enforcement, exploring creative and cost-effective ways to improve livability, all while fighting for victims."

Murphy will also continue supporting treatment courts and diversion programs to give low-level offenders an opportunity to make change, according to his campaign website.

Clarkson was appointed by former Gov. Kate Brown

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Murphy



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