Remizer-Observer

Dallas Dragon Royalty Crowned

B2



Sports Wolves **Beat Ranked** Team See B1



Wednesday October 22, 2025 | Volume 150, Issue 43

www.polkio.com

\$2.00

Dallas names Matt Woolsey as new board member

The Dallas School District Board of Directors has appointed Matt Woolsey as its newest board member, filling the vacancy created by

The board



Matt Woolsey

Hernandez, Michelle Bleth-Weber, Walt Markee and John Beck during an open session on Oct. 13. After careful consideration, the board voted unanimously to appoint Woolsey, who was immediately sworn in and will serve the remainder of the term.

Jeffrey

"We are excited to welcome Matt to the board," said Superintendent Steve Spencer. "We appreciate his commitment to public education and look forward to the perspective and leadership he will bring as we continue our work.

The Dallas School District Board of Directors meets twice monthly and welcomes community participation. More information about board meetings and district initiatives is available at www.dallas.k12.or.us.

County assessor certifies 2025-26 tax roll Tax revenue up six percent

Staff REPORT

The Polk County Assessor's Office certified the 2025-26 Tax Roll to the county clerk. This authorizes Katlyn D' Agostini, county tax collector, to start the process of mailing tax statements and collection of taxes. Agostini started mailing statements Oct. 17, and taxes are due Nov. 17.

The assessor reports the total real market value in Polk County increased by over 1.5% from last year to \$17.6 billion. The overall assessed value of Polk County grew by approximately 4% over last year to \$8.3 billion. The total amount of taxes, special assessments, fees and charges to be collected for all districts in Polk County is approximately \$133.8 million for the 2025

See TAX PAGE A2

No Kings Protest



Barbara Moore, of Dallas, and another unidentified protester got silly, dressed as mythical creatures while protesting at the serious No Kings Rally Dallas. About 370 attended the rally at the corner of Ellendale and Main Street.

Soup competition serves up funds for food bank

By DAVID HAYES

A trio of friends took their competitive spirit to Benedetto's Vineyard last Friday, inviting the community to see who could brew up the best batch of soup. The results, besides bragging rights, would also go back to help the

"We invited people to make soup anonymously to raise funds for the Dallas Food Bank. Benedetto's hosted and provided raffle prizes," said Keara James, owner of New Morning

She and her two besties Linda Simpson and Lauren May have been battling between themselves over best baking bragging rights.

'We've done this for three years," Simpson said. "We're wine club members and we'd be like, hey it's fall. Let's have a fall chile cookoff."

"Just for fun," James interjected. "It grew and grew. We're a part of the community. Hey, this is getting

bigger. Let's create a fundraiser out of

it," May added. They decided to collaborate and consolidate their competitiveness at their favorite hangout, Firepit Friday at Benedetto. Meanwhile they figured it would be the perfect opportunity to

help a struggling food bank. "They've gotten federal grants that haven't been coming their way," May said. "We want to support them as much as we can through these times."

So, they went to social media, seeking participants and donations of non-perishable food donations, with each getting a raffle ticket.

"Soups get votes by cash donation," James explained. "You can try for free, but you put up to vote. But



PHOTO BY DAVID HAYES

Friends (from left) Linda Simpson, Lauren May and Keara James go in for one last cup of soup at the end of their fundraiser competition Friday at Benedetto's Vineyard. The event raised \$300 for the Dallas Food Bank.

you want to vote, because you want to help the food bank."

In their prior, private competitions, they battled over the best chile.

"We decided to do soup this year because Benedettos has done a chili cookoff in the past," James said. "Talking to them, we said let's make it a little different so there is not an overlap between what they do and this event."

In their trial run, they had eight submissions to be judged

anonymously. "Next year we're hoping to make it bigger and better. This is kind of the trial, to see what the community thinks. How the turnout is," James said. "Next year, we want to reach out to the restaurants in town and try to get them to put forth their favorite soups. Make it a little more involved with the business community."

For the eight soups in the competition, they received a wide variety, including gluten free and vegan.

"Honestly, there were more than I thought. I thought that I knew how many were coming, then more showed up. So I was happy," James

Only ground rules were that soups had to be scratch made and no overlaps. They coordinated with participants so there were only one of each

Here's the soup and how much revenue it generated by vote:

Zuppa Toscana: \$74 - Pumpkin Soup: \$53

- Brisket chile: \$25

See **SOUP** PAGE **A2**

Carlos **Barrientos** to challenge for county seat

By DAVID HAYES I-O Editor

Dallas City Councilman Carlos Barrientos has announced his candidacy for Polk County Commissioner

Position 3. Barrientos said while he has enjoyed working within local government on the city council, he is ready to take it to the next level with the county.



Carols Barrientos

"I feel like my efforts in city council could be well spent on a wider range of concerns, be it the economy, homelessness, both juvenile and adult, and continue the trend of making Polk County a place where people feel safe and secure and enjoy the environment," Barrientos said.

He and his wife have lived in the Dallas community for more than 23 years, where they raised their two children.

Barrientos said after moving to Dallas in 2002, he quickly learned that Polk County residents are social people who enjoy good conversations.

'I want to know what their life experiences are. I always try to find commonality in people. I find it's a great way to start a conversation," Barrientos said. "I always try to find a good balance of humor with each citizen's contact. Because if not, I may take myself too seriously and miss out on what makes other people

in Polk County so unique." As one of nine members on the Dallas City Council, Barrientos is the Chairman of the Public Works committee and past Chairman of the Public Safety Committee. He said there are a wide range of implied

duties on the council. "First and foremost is maintaining a budget each year and collaborating with others to provide services to the

citizens of Dallas," Barrientos said. He also volunteers on the executive board of the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency (MWVCAA). The agency is responsible for working with rural and urban communities throughout Marion-Polk counties, while offering limited assistance to other counties. He serves as an executive member of MWVCAA's Programs Committee. Barrientos said MWVCAA is a vital organization that provides programs such as improvement projects by weatherization for homes, providing nutrition, and care for children in Marion and Polk counties.

Barrientos brings to his leadership roles two decades of experience in law enforcement with the Oregon State Police (OSP), rising through the ranks as trooper, senior trooper, detective and sergeant. His career

See **COUNTY**, page A3

IN THIS ISSUE

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Weather

Tu

Steele Insurance Agency revives Classroom of the Month program

Steele Insurance Agency, a Farmers Insurance-affiliated office led by local agent Zachary Steele, has brought back its Classroom of the Month program - an initiative recognizing outstanding educators who go above and beyond for their students.

Each month, one classroom in the Dallas area will receive a \$200 classroom award to be used for supplies or educational materials chosen by the teacher. The program will continue monthly through June.

For September's Classroom of the Month, Steele Insurance selected Dave Lavier, a kindergarten teacher at Lyle Elementary School. Despite recent reductions in staff aides, Lavier has worked tirelessly to ensure his students continue to thrive in the classroom.

With his award, Lavier chose to purchase an assortment of "My First Reader" books to help his young learners build reading skills both in school and at

"We're proud to support teachers like Mr. Lavier who go the extra mile for

their students," said Steele. "Educators are the heart of our community, and this is one small way we can give back and say thank you."

Steele Insurance plans to honor one classroom each month through the end of the school year, celebrating the dedication and creativity of local teachers.

To nominate a classroom or to receive a quote on insurance, contact Steele Insurance Agency at (503) 751-1484 or go to www.farmersagent.com/zsteele.

SOUP From Page A1

- Roasted Chicken Vegetable: \$14
- Clam chowder: \$10 - Tomata vegetable: \$7
- Borscht: \$4
- Cuban black bean: \$3 Through the votes, cash and online donations, the event

Eileen Dicicco, from the Dallas Food Bank, was grateful for the trio's efforts.

raised an even \$300.

"The need in our community continues to rise. The food coming into the food bank has decreased. The food needs to stretch further. So, having an event like this and bringing in additional food is important to us," Dicicco said.

Looking ahead to the Food Bank's next project, Dicicco said they're seeking sponsors for their Thanksgiving dinner program, Turkey on the Table, that expects to feed 200 local families.

"Dallas is a wonderful community and very responsive to the needs within the community," Dicicco added.

The participants for the soup competition donated a total of 136 canned and other non-parishable food items for the Dallas Food Bank.

Between the three competitive friends, James reminded the other two she could have entered her restaurant's popular Hungarian Mushroom soup, removing all doubt who'd win the overall vote.

"Hungarian mushroom is a very popular soup that New Morning makes. So, if I really wanted to win, I would have just brought that. Hands down. People come here just for that soup," James said.

"You wanted to give people a chance," Simpson confirmed.

"Right, I didn't want to just blow everyone out of the water," James said.

"Next year we'll get the word out better, advertise more. Involve the businesses more," May said, neither confirming nor denying whether her winning Zuppa Toscana was a direct offshoot from a popular Italian restaurant (Olive Garden) where she may or may not have worked in her youth.

The trio's next fundraiser they've planned is a pajama party in January to support Sable House, where they'll be seeking donations of pajamas, hygienic items and blanks for the nonprofit that supports survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Give blood, platelets receive \$10 Amazon card

The American Red Cross asks donors to make an appointment now to give blood or platelets to support patients counting on a consistent blood supply to survive and heal. While emergencies often grab headlines, the need for blood is constant. Especially in October, as donation appointments can often drop quickly when people settle into busy fall routines and

make plans around upcoming school breaks.

Additionally, the threat of hurricanes persists this month. Because blood has a short shelf life and can only come from volunteer blood donors, any disruptions in the ability to collect lifesaving blood can have serious consequences for those seeking medical care.

Help patients this fall and make an appointment to give

blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App. All who come to give blood, platelets or plasma Sept. 22 - Oct. 19 will receive a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. For details, see RedCrossBlood.org/Fall. Those who give Oct. 20 - Nov. 16, will receive a \$10 e-gift

plus be automatically entered for a chance to win one of three \$5,000 gift cards.

Donor sites in Polk County include: Oct. 30, 12-5 p.m.,

Independence Elks Lodge, 289 S Main St., Independence p.m., Werner University

Oct. 30-1, 10:30 a.m. - 4 Center, 345 N Monmouth Ave. Monmouth

From Page A1

tax year, an increase of 6% over the \$126.3 million in 2024.

According to information submitted by the assessor's office, a significant number of property owners

will see an increase in their property taxes this year. Valerie Patoine, Polk County Assessor, explained that the law allows for a 3% increase in a property's assessed value each year, which could then cause an increase in the property taxes.

Patoine said the primary reason a property's taxes may

change more or less than the 3% is due to changes in a taxing district's bond repayment requirements and/or new local option levies.

card to a merchant of choice,

There are Urban Renewal Districts operating within the cities of Salem, Dallas, Independence and Monmouth.

"From these combined Urban Renewal Districts, \$6,193,597 in taxes will be collected from the Division of Tax and Levies that goes towards Urban Renewal projects" Patoine said.

The breakdown of the total

- Salem: \$3,603,767
- Dallas: \$371,417
- Independence: \$1,201,112

- Monmouth: \$1,017,302 Agostini explained that Measure 5, a constitutional amendment approved by Oregon voters in 1990, is still in effect. This amendment created a permanent limitation on property taxes of \$10 per \$1,000 of real market value for general government services and \$5 per \$1,000 of real market value for education services. Measure 5 reductions amounted to a \$271,440 loss in property tax revenues for the taxing districts this year, primarily for education services. Total compression loss is up 25% over last year's revenue loss of \$216,483.

When looking at the values portion of the tax statement, the real market value is the value the assessor believes a property would sell for on the open market as of Jan. 1, 2025. The assessed value is the value used to calculate your taxes.

The assessor encourages property owners to take this opportunity to review their tax statement for accuracy of information, such as the correct ownership, mailing and location address. If there are any questions or changes needed, contact the Assessor's Office at (503) 623-8391.

Anyone who disagrees with the real market value the assessor has placed on their property is encouraged to contact the assessor's office at (503) 623-8391 to have the value reviewed, free of charge, prior to filing an appeal. The assessor has seen the majority of value differences resolved during the value review process. Once this review is completed and property owners still do not agree with the value placed on their property, they can find instructions on the back of the tax statement on how to appeal to the Property Values Appeal Board (PVAB or previously known as BOPTA).

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You have the right to know what's happening in your community.

Public notices – information local governments are obligated to provide citizens – are required to be published in local newspapers to provide a public record that's accessible to everyone.

Public notices keep you informed about your government.

But, Oregon legislators are trying to keep public notices from appearing in local newspapers. This severely impacts government transparency and, in turn, limits the public's right to hold them accountable for their actions.

Let your state legislators know that you value being able to access notices in your newspaper and that they are worth the investment.

Protect public notices in newspapers and protect your right to know.

Itemizer-Observer

WOU alumnus Kevin Alejandrez champions community support, student success

By MAUREEN BRAKKE
WOU Public

Information Officer

Kevin Alejandrez's journey at Western Oregon University highlights resilience and the power of community support. Graduating in 2016 with a degree in sociology, he chose WOU for two compelling reasons: funding and familiarity. Coming from a family facing significant financial hardship, his household income during his senior year in high school was just \$13,000; he was determined to pursue higher education without incurring debt. Thanks to the Pell Grant and several scholarships, he

found a path to college that felt right.

His decision to attend WOU was also influenced by a desire for stability. With his father losing their home and planning to move to California, Alejandrez sought a familiar environment. Having participated in the Upward Bound program during high school, he felt at home at WOU, where he quickly integrated into the campus community.

"What stood out to me was how welcoming and inclusive the university felt," Alejandrez said. "The small class sizes and numerous support programs made it easy for me to connect with others."

One of his fondest memories from his time at WOU was participating in the Student Enrichment's Summer Bridge Program. Living in a tight-knit community of new students helped him acclimate to campus life and forge lasting friendships. He later served as a peer advisor for the program, a role he found rewarding as he supported fellow students in their transition from high school into college.

Western significantly shaped Alejandrez's educational and career goals. Initially uncertain about his future, he discovered his passion for mentoring youth and addressing social issues within his community. Encouraged by supportive professors, he began to consider graduate school, which was not something he had thought about previously. He credits Western with equipping him with the critical thinking skills and work ethic necessary to succeed, ultimately leading him to earn a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Kentucky.

"I owe my development as a scholar practitioner to my professors, especially Dr. Maureen Dolan," Alejandrez said. "She was pivotal in my journey, teaching courses on Chicano studies and coordinating a Latino mentorship program."

Driven by a desire to give back, Alejandrez is dedicated to empowering the next generation of students. He actively volunteers on various community boards, speaks at local events, and makes financial contributions to initiatives that support youth. In his professional role as the School Outreach and Engagement Advisor with the Oregon Health Authority, he ensures that students and families across Oregon have access to the information and resources necessary for healthy living. Additionally, he serves on the WOU Foundation Board

and is actively involved in the WOU community. Furthermore, he established the PODER Presidential Scholarship to help students facing financial challenges in their pursuit of a college education.

Alejandrez encourages prospective students to consider WOU, especially those seeking an inclusive campus environment.

"WOU offers a beautiful setting filled with people who genuinely want to see you succeed. It's a place where you can meet new friends, engage in various activities, and make meaningful connections," he

COUNTY

From Page A1

spanned from December of 2001 until June 1, 2022. Barrientos said he collaborated with others while working as a sergeant with OSP.

"I prefer to collaborate with others and let results speak for themselves. I am not typically an attention-seeking person. I would rather have a team or a collective win; instead of generating recognition for myself," Barrientos said. "Both career choices provide humbling life experience that are transferable to the

position in the Polk County Commissioner's Office."

Barrientos touts the leadership skills he acquired from OSP including a blend of strong communication, accountability, and support for officers, acting as a critical link between command staff and the field.

"I set high expectations, provided honest and transparent feedback, and built trust mentoring subordinates, fostering professional development, and upholding ethical standards," he said.

Barrientos also served more than 20 years in the U.S. Army, logging time on active

duty and in the Reserves and National Guard. He retired in 2010 as a master sergeant after deploying to Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) 2009-10, where he was assigned as the Assistant Inspector General (AIG) for the 41st Infantry BGD. Barrientos said the position involved providing the commander with a sounding board for sensitive issues with the command.

"The AIG acts as the eyes, ears, voice, and conscience of the commander. The role of the AIG is to determine and report on the economy, efficiency, discipline, morale, esprit de corps, readiness, and

the overall resources of the command," Barrientos said.

After his years in public service – spanning the military, law enforcement and local government – Barrientos said he strongly believes in civil communication.

"The most significant barrier to communicating is treating people with disrespect. Each person needs to be treated with dignity and respect. Regardless of their social or economic status, everyone in Polk County should be valued," Barrientos

He also strongly believes in a faith-based compassion,

which he derived from his family and my personal faith in God.

"My values of compassion, honor, integrity, dedication, and loyalty helped me to sustain a long career as an Oregon State Trooper and as a Master Sergeant for over 20 years," he said.

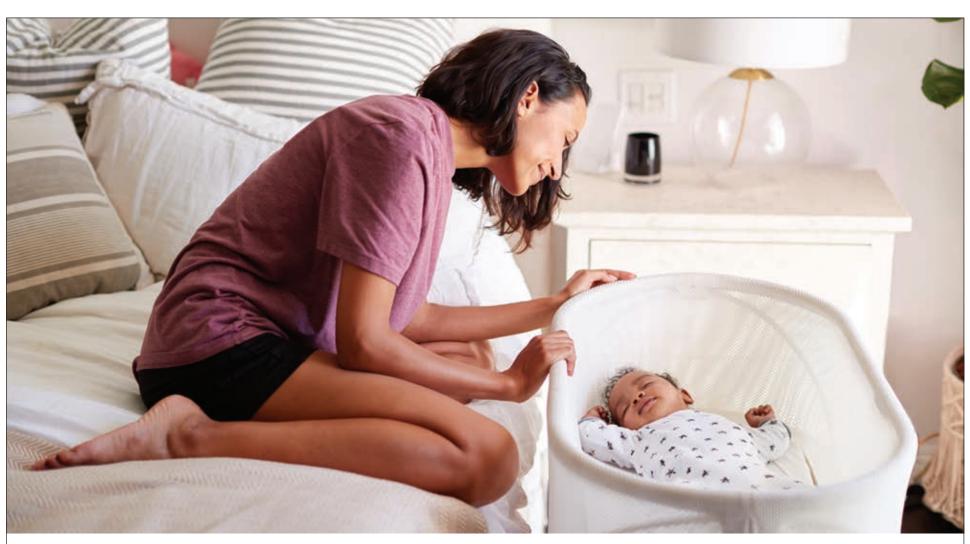
Barrientos said he will bring four top priorities if elected as commissioner:

- The safety and security of each citizen in Polk County.

- Continuing to have a stable general fund that maintains the overall quality of life in Polk County. - Ensuring that the Polk County policies, procedures and standards are fully adhered to and continue to be honored.

- Honoring veterans of the Armed Services.

"At times, these brave men and women find themselves in dark places due to their life altering experiences. Some can only relate to people who have shared experience. I pledge to help veterans by using my familiarity with the Veterans Administration System which at times is difficult to navigate," Barrientos added.



Five safe sleep tips for your baby

Ensuring your baby enjoys a restful and secure night is a top priority for any parent.

Here are a few safe sleep practices you can use to reduce risks and promote healthy sleep habits:

- 1. Always place your baby on their back to sleep. Position your baby on their back for sleep, both during naps and overnight. Data from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows this lowers the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).
- Use a firm sleep surface. Make sure your baby's crib or bassinet has a firm mattress covered with a fitted sheet.
- 3. Keep soft objects and loose bedding out of the sleep area. That includes pillows, bumper pads, stuffed animals and soft toys. These can increase the risk of suffocation and other sleep-related dangers. It is safe to place newborns in a swaddle or swaddle blanket, but avoid loose blankets.
- **4. Room-share, don't bed-share.** Have your baby sleep close to your bed in a crib or bassinet. By sharing a room, but not a bed, you reduce the risk of SIDS.
- **5. Avoid overheating.** Dress your baby in appropriate clothing for the room temperature, and look for signs of overheating, such as sweating or a hot chest.

By following these guidelines, you create a safe and nurturing sleep environment that supports your baby's health and well-being. Sweet dreams!

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Itemizer-Observer

OBITUARIES/NEWS



Ruth Feil April 26, 1925 - Sept. 11, 2025

Ruth Marie Feil, 100, of Sumner, Washington, died on Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025. She was born on April 26, 1925, in Dallas, Oregon, to parents Jacob and Elizabeth Reimer (née Schlichting).

Ruth graduated from Dallas High School in 1943. She first worked as a telephone operator in Dallas.

Ruth and Chester Feil were married on April 25, 1946, in Dallas. They had three children - Jack, Jane

In 1958 Chester moved the family to Seattle to work at Boeing. For several years Ruth stayed at home to raise the family. In 1962 Ruth started to work in the Highline School District as a cook. She worked as a head cook in multiple public schools including Highland High School in Burien, Washington, until her

Ruth has an interest in gardening and regularly grew flowers in her greenhouse and a large garden.

Ruth was a member of several churches and always involved in ministry. She and Chester supported several missionaries at home and

Ruth was preceded in death by her husband Chester.

Ruth is survived by her children Jack, Bruce Feil and Jane Tobin; along with four grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Burial at Washington Memorial Park took place on Sept. 24, 2025.



Ben and Louise Sanchez

Ben Sanchez (1945-2023) and Louise Sanchez (1945-2021) of Independence, Oregon, will be laid to rest together at Restlawn Funeral Home on Oct. 20, 2025. Ben and Louise worked hard in the communities where they lived. They were loved by family, friends, neighbors and their church community.

Special thanks to Bollman's Tribute Center and Restlawn Funeral

Home for the care of their final arrangements and their help to the family.

Fred Selby April 11, 1941 - Oct. 11, 2025

Fred Selby, 84, of Dallas, Oregon, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025.

Fred was born on April 11, 1941, in Dallas, Oregon, where he spent his entire life surrounded by family, friends, and the community he cherished.

He was married to the late Mickey Selby for 40 years before her passing. Fred later shared a devoted 18-year companionship with his partner, Frankie Williams. Fred was preceded in death by his son, John Evan. He is survived by his brother Doug and son, Scott Brian and April White; grandsons Brian, Christopher, Zack, Josh and Brad; as well as six great-grandchildren, Roman, Beau, Sawyer, Luke, William, and Aaliyah.

Fred dedicated his career to Weyerhaeuser Lumber Mill in Dallas, where his strong work ethic

and steadfast reliability earned the respect of his peers. He enjoyed woodworking, gardening, tending to his koi pond, and spending time outdoors fishing. Fred was known for his sharp wit and dry, sometimes mischievous sense of humor. A man guided by his Christian faith and conservative values, Fred lived with integrity, purpose, and quiet strength.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, Oct. 24, 2025, at 11 a.m. The service will take place at Bollman's Tribute Center, 287 SW Washington St., in Dallas, Oregon. There will be no viewing, and Fred will be cremated.

The family wishes to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Frankie for her loving care, companionship, and support throughout Fred's later years.

He will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Bollman's Tribute Center is caring for the family.

Curb upgrades coming to Independence, Monmouth

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) work is part of ODOT's ongoing effort to improve accessibility and safety across Oregon's transportation

When construction starts mid to late October, you can expect crews working during the day with lane and

ODOT and the cities plan to start work in mid to late October. You can expect:

- · Crews working during the day, Monday through
- Lane shifts as needed.
- Delays and construction noise saw cutting can be

tions, and learn more online at https://bit.ly/4ocjGPD.

Death Notices Barbara Barbknecht

July 7, 1944 - Oct. 8, 2025

Obituary located on www.Weddle-Funeral.com.

Funeral service at 11 a.m. Oct. 23 at Faith Lutheran Church, 200 Monmouth-Independence Highway

Laura Peddycoart

April 9, 1964 - Oct. 15, 2025

Laura Peddycoart passed away on Oct. 15, 2025.

is reviewing about 150 curb ramps in Independence and Monmouth to identify upgrades needed to meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. This system.

Traffic Impact

shoulder closures as needed. Please drive with caution and watch for workers.

Construction Impacts

- · Occasional work at night or on Fridays as needed.
- Shoulder and lane closures as needed.
- Flaggers helping direct traffic as needed.
- Businesses near the corners we're working on to remain open during construction.

You can sign up for project notifications, ask ques-

Transient sentenced for violent West Salem home invasion robbery, rape

James Kleinschmit, 55, was sentenced Oct. 9 to serve nearly 23 years in prison on 12 criminal counts, including rape, sodomy, unlawful sexual penetration, sexual abuse, burglary and strangulation arising out of a 2024 incident in West Salem.

Kleinschmit, a Salem area transient, was sentenced after a trial last month before Polk County Circuit Judge Monte S. Campbell, in which the court convicted him of first degree rape, first degree sodomy, two counts of first degree unlawful

sexual penetration, two counts of first degree sexual abuse, burglary 1, robbery 3, theft 1, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, strangulation and

Kleinschmit will not be eligible for any form of early release or sentence reduction. He will also be required to serve a 140-month term of post-prison supervision upon his release and register as a sex

At trial, the District Attorney's Office presented evidence that Kleinschmit broke into the victim's home while she was alone then brutally attacked, raped and strangled her. He then bound her before stealing her guns, jewelry and vehicle prior to being located by the Yamhill County Sheriff's Office. During sentencing, Judge Campbell described it as, "the most violent rape he has ever seen in his 33 years as a lawyer

The case was investigated by the Salem Police Department and prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Shannon Clausen of the Polk County District Attorney's Office.

Western Oregon University renames athletic facilities

By UNIVERSITY MARKETING and COMMUNICATIONS

Western Oregon University is celebrating the renaming of two of its athletic facilities. The Old PE Building has been Ruth Lautenbach Hall, while the New PE Building is now known as the Wolves Athletic Center, highlighting its role as the primary venue for training and competition for many WOU athletic teams.

The renaming of the Old PE Building honors Ruth Lautenbach, Ph.D., the pioneering female physical education teacher and advocate for women's sports at Oregon College of Education (now Western Oregon University). This renaming aims to recognize her legacy while also enhancing the visibility and prestige of the Wolves' athletic program.

Former OCE administrator, women's basketball coach, and athletic director from 1993 to 2010, Jon Carey '76 shares that Lautenbach's strong personality and devotion to what she knew was right led to a wide range of athletic opportunities for women at OCE. "This powerful foundation created the opportunity for female athletes and coaches at OCE, and her influence continues to be felt at Western Oregon University," Carey said.

Carol Brownlow, a former teacher and coach at OCE, and former student-athlete Sharon Baugh '75, '86, a proponent and advocate of women's athletics, explained that Lautenbach was instrumental in developing the Physical Education curriculum at OCE, setting a standard of

excellence for teaching and coaching.

Professor Emeritus Ruth Lautenbach was a trailblazing faculty member in health and physical education at Western Oregon University, serving for over 30 years. She began her career at OCE in 1940, becoming the sole PE teacher during World War II, and retired in 1974. Lautenbach was instrumental in establishing the health, physical education, and athletics departments, coaching volleyball, basketball, and bowling, and managing the swimming

"We are excited to rename Old PE in honor of Dr. Ruth Lautenbach, a pioneer in women's sports," said Randi Lydum, executive director of intercollegiate athletics. "This decision not only pays tribute to her remarkable legacy but also emphasizes our commitment to elevating Wolves athletics in today's landscape. By highlighting our history and identity in both building names, we are moving forward with pride and purpose."

A staunch advocate for women's sports long before Title IX, Lautenbach expanded participation opportunities when they were scarce. Upon her retirement, the women's athletic program budget had quadrupled to \$9,000. She played a crucial role in developing the curriculum for nearly 300 physical education majors, which helped support her induction into the NAIA District 2 Hall of Fame in 1974. An active supporter of WOU athletics, she established a

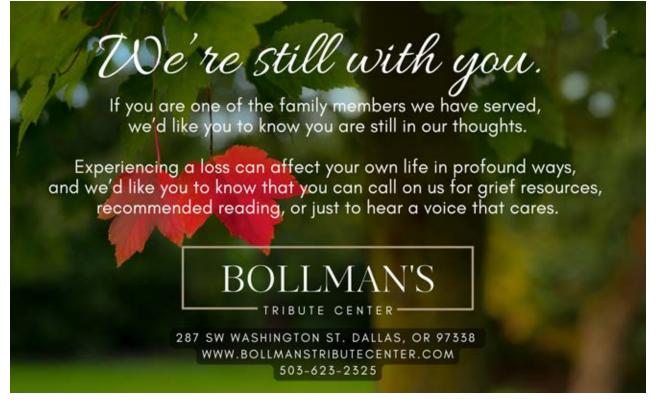
> scholarship endowment to benefit future generations of women athletes and was part of the inaugural Wolves Athletics Hall of Fame class in 2004.

Lautenbach's career spanned from the Old PE Building's construction in 1936 to the completion of the New PE Building in 1971.

"As we look to the future of our university, it's essential that we symbolize our progress and commitment to excellence," said Western President Jesse Peters. "Renaming these buildings not only honors the legacy of Dr. Ruth Lautenbach, but also reflects our desire to innovate and move forward as we enhance our vibrant community."

Itemizer-Observer

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NEWS & VIEWS

Letter to the Editor

Kudos to searchers of abandoned dogs

Horrified and angry, I saw the PCSO Facebook post of two dogs abandoned at Black Rock, in wilderness and mountains. Only ugly, mean, despicable people would dump two dogs knowing they had no chance of survival with exposure, pelting rain, predators, and no food. I was even more horrified that I knew who these two dogs were, and who they belonged to.

The PCSO, without a shelter, does not pick up abandoned animals. I asked what happens to lost or abandoned animals. The answer, sadly, is the dogs survive, die, or are rescued.

In Polk County, animal abandonment is a Class B misdemeanor under state law, defined as leaving a domestic animal without providing

minimum care, which includes food, water and shelter.

Katara, Jullien, Nathan, Joy, and I met searchers every day looking for the dogs, then learned Jellybean had been rescued, but Hondo, the 9-month old timid dog, was too afraid to come. After seven days and with a broken heart, I took down the big sign and came home, leaving Hondo out there.

Kudos to the workers watching for Hondo, for the picture to the PCSO, Doug Eddy and fellow loggers who gave food, to Grant and Jeanie who rescued Jellybean, Ryan Wright, to the animal rescue team members, to Susan at Hampton Family Forests, and the wonderful people just out hunting for the dogs. You all are the "GOOD" in the good, bad, and ugly we have seen in the last week. Blessings on you.

Alice Pender Dallas



Commentary

The truth between two tyrants

By MICKY GARUS

Now that the smoke is beginning to clear in the Middle East, hostages are finally home, and there are fragile signs of peace, the world's attention is shifting back to the war between Ukraine and Russia. It's a conflict that has drained treasuries, divided allies, and tested the moral compass of entire nations.

But as the headlines return and the propaganda machine spins back up, it's time for a dose of honesty: neither government is righteous, neither leader is noble, and the only true victims are the citizens who have lost everything while their so-called leaders grow richer, louder and more ruthless.

For four years now, the Western media has portrayed Volodymyr Zelensky as a modern-day hero, a courageous freedom fighter standing against tyranny. But take a closer look at the record and the illusion starts to crack. Zelensky has banned opposition parties, imprisoned or assassinated political rivals, and outlawed churches that refuse to bend the knee to his regime. He has

silenced journalists, shut down dissent, and canceled elections to guarantee his continued rule. He banned Russian-language books and even criminalized speaking the native tongue of millions of his own citizens.

That isn't democracy. That's a dictatorship wrapped in the language of liberty, funded by the American taxpayer, and cheered on by politicians who know better but don't care.

Meanwhile, the same establishment that glorifies Zelensky continues to paint Russia as the eternal villain, as if their wickedness is hereditary. The truth is far less black and white.

while, innocent civilian pay the price – mother burying sons, children growing up in refugee camps, families fleeing with nothing but a back and a prayer.

Let's stop pretending

This war didn't appear out of thin air. It began when NATO and the United Nations broke their word and began courting Ukraine into their military orbit, inching ever closer to Russia's borders. That was a provocation no sovereign nation could tolerate. If China announced it was installing nuclear missiles in Tijuana, the United States would see it as an act of war. We'd call it a national threat, and

we'd be right. Russia saw NATO's expansion the same way. Expecting them to accept it quietly is pure hypocrisy.

That doesn't excuse Putin's aggression, nor does it justify the blood he's spilled, but it exposes the duplicity of the West. We pick and choose when sovereignty matters. We preach peace while funding wars. We condemn invasions while arming others to carry them out. And all the while, innocent civilians pay the price – mothers growing up in refugee camps, families fleeing with nothing but a backpack and a prayer.

Let's stop pretending our support for Ukraine is about freedom or democracy. It's about power. It's about money. It's about weakening Russia, feeding the military-industrial complex, and keeping global elites rich and relevant. This isn't a humanitarian crusade; it's a geopolitical investment. The politicians send billions overseas while Americans can't afford groceries, housing, or healthcare. The war is a business, and we are the ones footing the bill.

What should trouble every American who still believes in God, freedom and truth is this: when we align ourselves with corruption and call it virtue, we become part of the corruption. When we fund tyranny under the banner of democracy, we forfeit our moral standing in the world.

Scripture says,
"Righteousness exalts
a nation, but sin is a
reproach to any people."
That warning applies as
much to Washington as it
does to Moscow or Kyiv.

Both Putin and Zelensky are tyrants. Both have blood on their hands. Both will go down in history as pawns in a greater struggle – not just for land, but for truth itself. The question is whether America still has the courage to see through the lies.

The world may be trapped between two tyrants, but we don't have to lose our moral compass in the process. We can pray for peace, demand accountability, and refuse to let propaganda dictate our conscience. The citizens of both nations deserve better – and so do we.

Guest Column

Special Memories: Visit from an Angel based on a true story

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." – Hebrews 13:2

By GARY DEROWITSCH

In the late 80's I had a lot on my plate. I was working full time at the Post Office in Monmouth and endeavoring to build a home in West Salem. My daughter was six years old and my son was

After working a nine hour day I would eat a quick dinner, usually a sandwich to go, and drive 30 minutes to West Salem to work on our home. I normally would work until 10-11 p.m. and return home to go to bed. I would wake up at 4:30 a.m. and report to work at 5:30 a.m.. This schedule continued for one year at which time I finished the construction and we moved in.

Friday nights after work
I took a much needed break
from this routine by taking
my family to a smorgasbord
restaurant in West Salem
located near Safeway. Friday
night was shrimp night, all
you could eat. The booth we
chose was closest to the exit
which was a glass enclosed
structure about 10-feet by
10-feet. It had two doors, one
entering the restaurant and the
second exiting the building.

We had just sat down to eat our meal, my son sitting in a high chair at the end of the table, my wife and daughter across from me in the booth when I noticed at the far end of the restaurant an old rather heavy set man walking down the aisle toward us with the use of a cane. His walk was more of a waddle and very slow. I continued to

glance up watching him until he arrived at our table. He stopped and without saying hi or introducing himself, laid his hand on my son's head and blessed him in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost and then said something like God's blessing is upon this child.

I was very surprised while being intrigued at the same time. I thanked him and asked him if he lived here in Salem. He said no, that he lived at the coast at which point he continued toward the glass foyer to exit the building. I must stress that his walk was very slow and reaching the exit would take him at least a

I turned toward my wife and said I'm going to thank him again at which point I got up from the table and made my way toward him. At this point there was no way he could have reached the outer door so I would thank him in the foyer. When I opened the first door it was empty. I thought that rather odd so continued to the second door and then the sidewalk outside the building. He was no where to be found. The man just disappeared!

I looked everywhere, up and down the parking lot and sidewalk. There is no way he could have made it to the second door let alone outside the building at the rate he was walking. At first it didn't dawn on me but as I returned to my dinner I realized something extraordinary had just happened. I shared this with my wife who didn't seem to think it was such a big deal. I realized the person I went to

See MEMORIES PAGE A7

Weekly Online Poll

Which public rally deserves a bigger turnout in Polk County?

- Charlie Kirk Memorial 30.4%
- ☐ No Kings Rally 65.2%
- ☐ Neither 4.3%

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David Hayes | News Editor dhayes@polkio.com

NEWS DEADLINES

Social News | 5p.m. Thursday (Weddings, engagements, anniversaries, births, milestones) Community Events | Noon Friday (Community Notebook and Community Calendar Letters To The Editor | 1p.m. Friday Obituaries | 1p.m. Friday

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Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up. down and diagonally Unlisted clue hint: A ROPE TO CATCH CATTLE

Apollo Appaloosa Palazzo Plazas

Plows Salsa Slaw Soaps Spools Swallows Swoop Wallop

Walls Wasp Wools

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

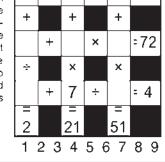
Clue: M equals S

MYVTT PVZGJJQ MOSRZWRZJ EWJ ZRVPWRM WAM YJMG SJERZHOT HJZY AQ GWR MRVMJQ: VOGOYQ VQG.

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GO FIGURE!

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive and top to bottom). Use only the only once.



= 13

at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is from left to right numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers

2575 King Fishtures Syndicate, Inc.

+

Super Crossword THE NIGHT BEFORE Q3 Nov. toortor DOWN 36 Word before 81 — maler 82 Adolescent 83 Be deteranticipated Yuletide 2 Seat of

Ireland's

County Kerry 3 Arrive at a

stop, as a

gear retailer 6 Conference

7 Einstein or Camus

8 Lost traction

9 Knightly title

bus

4 Tilted

ACROSS 55 1 Much-1 For the stock issue price 6 Low voices 12 Test version 16 Aykroyd of Coneheads 57 * Yuletide 19 Small wine or 59 Wray of "King Kong" oil containe

20 "Fighting" NCAA team 21 Ecochs 22 Logging tool 23 * Fourth-day gifts in a Yuletide song 25 ' Warmino

Yuletide drink 27 Earthen cooking pot 28 Bedazzled 29 Suffix with art 31 President Reagan 32 Flying Yuletide team

34 Leafy Yuletide door decoration 37 Tooth: Prefix 38 Fashion flair 40 Shared by us 41 Soften 45 Fed, e.g. 47 High trains 48 III. neighbor 49 Religious branches

54 Some toy

19

23 27

32

116

Out on a Limb

SO, TELL NE A LITTLE

Just Like Cats & Dogs

ABOUT YOURSELF, GREG

50 Figure skater Dorothy

Keeps pelling 66 Backup up for Yuletide 70 Jessica of "King Kong" 75 Roaring cat 77 Bombardier's

visitor

lights

60 Circular

ments and

square dance

maneuver

61 Actress Reid

evoking pity 84 In time past 85 * Phrase from the Yuletide 122 Spock's carol "Silent 125 Capital of Ghana lovely weath er for" in a Yuletide tune 127 Jenner of 128 Subtle

Night" 87 * What fit's 90 NFL scores 91 To a huge degree 92 Church cries 129 Detested

94 Be litigious 95 Buddy 96 Zesty taste 97 Intl. 1940s conflict 98 Misstep

100 Edge along 105 ' Yuletide tree, e.g. 108 ' Time off for Yuletide, say 110 "Scram!" add-on 64 Eat away (at) 114 — fire under (stirred up)

clues

frames

distinction

115 Make — for it (try fleeing) 116 * Scrooge in 10 Alternatives to escaroles 11 Spacek of a Yuletide Carrie 12 Scrooge's cry 13 Vanity 14 "Neon" fishes 119 Apt phrase spelled out by the first 15 Chichi scarf letters of the 16 Father, to a answers to the starred

wee tot 17 Skating jump 18 Adorkable pointy part 123 Toon sort, perhaps 24 Scot's denial 124 Tough trial 126 Seeded loaf

26 Wearing stilettos, say 30 Involving give-and-take 33 — for Murder (Hitchcock 34 Troubles 35 Totally spoil

while 39 Brewing fungi 42 Brazilian juice berry 43 Kind of poker 44 Canadian gas station name

mined by

84 Be a fan of

playful growl 89 "Yeah.

94 Transparent,

rock band

leeds the

museum

horror films

121 Sign of relief

by Gary Kopervas

YES, THREE BOOKS ARE

OVERDUE SO I OWE THE LIBRARY SIX DOLLARS AND

300K IG DUE BACK TUESDAY

IRTY CENTS, AND THE LAST

Mississippi

88 Texters

dude" 90 Rotate

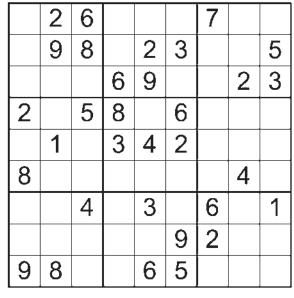
46 Smooth but unconvincing 49 Meanie's look 50 URL opener 51 Asia's — Sea 52 Actress for UC Davis Sorvino 53 One-named 99 Egg-holding capsule 101 Lake that

55 More reasonable 56 Oral health 102 Forthright org. 58 Pixar title fish 104 Group of 59 Book leaf 63 Rocket part 106 Sweater 65 Astrophysicist lypc 107 Parolee, e.g.

deGrasse 109 Vid recorder 110 Bar brew 67 Online journals 69 Wall Street 111 Auction site 112 Richard of 71 Circle parts 72 In tidy order 73 Chutzpah "First Knight" 114 Legal claim 117 Roth of 74 TV trophy 76 "Sorta" 118 Web feed format inits. 120 Dielary std.

queen 80 Jr.'s exam

Weekly **SUDOKU**



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

HOCUS-FOCUS

♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Finger is moved, 6. Vightgovm strap is moved. Pillow is behind edge of other pillow. 4. Picture is moved. Differences: 1. Cake slice is reversed. 2. Cup is a different shape.

• On Nov. 3, 1883, California bandit and stagecoach robber Black Bart, born Charles E. Boles and famous for his daring as well as his habit of occasionally leaving short poems at the scenes of his crimes, held up his last stagecoach. While he initially made a quick getaway, he was done in by the handkerchief with a laundry mark he'd inadvertently dropped and spent four years in San Quentin prison.

• On Nov. 4, 1928, Arnold Rothstein, a legendary New York gambler with a fortune estimated at about \$50 million, was shot during a poker game at Manhattan's Park Central Hotel. He died in the hospital two days later without revealing the name of his assassin, though the fellow gambler who'd invited him to the game was tried for the crime, and acquitted.

• On Nov. 5, 2024, former President Donald Trump was elected to a second term in office, becoming the first president to serve nonconsecutive terms since 1892.

• On Nov. 6, 1977, the Toccoa Falls Dam in Georgia collapsed just hours after a volunteer fireman inspected it and found everything in order, with 39 people dying in the resulting flood.

• On Nov. 7, 1943, Roberta Joan Anderson, now known to the world as Joni Mitchell and dubbed the greatest female guitarist of all time by Rolling Stone magazine, was born in Fort MacLeod, Alberta, Canada. She cemented her status in the music world as a composer rather than performer, with David Geffen of Geffen Records noting in 1994 that, "Even though we lost money on every one of her records, we always treated Ioni as one of the most important artists in the world.'

• On Nov. 8, 1970, Tom Dempsey, a professional football kicker, though he was born with no toes on his right foot. launched a 63-yard field goal in his custom shoe and set a new NFL record, beating the previous record by seven yards.

• On Nov. 9, 1956, French philosopher and author Jean-Paul Sartre, a long-time admirer of the Soviet Union, denounced both the USSR and its communist system following the Soviet invasion of Hungary. © 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

Rodriquez

1. COMICS: What is Thor's home

2. LITERATURE: Which of Charles Dickens' novels has a character named Miss Havisham?

3. ANATOMY: What is the largest muscle in the human body?

4. MOVIES: In the movie "Zombieland," what sweet treat is Woody Harrelson's character searching for? 5. ASTRONOMY: What is the larg-

est moon of Jupiter? 6. TELEVISION: How does George Costanza's fiancee die on "Seinfeld"?

7. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a quahog? 8. GEOGRAPHY: How many coun-

tries does the Amazon River and its tributaries flow through? 9. ENTERTAINERS: Where is Elvis

Presley's home, Graceland?

10. ŠCIENCE: What is the study of clouds called?

Answers

1. Asgard.

2. "Great Expectations." 3. Gluteus maximus.

4. Twinkies.

5. Ganymede.

6. Poisoned by licking cheap wedding invitation envelopes. 7. Type of clam.

8. Nine (Peru, Colombia, Brazil, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana). 9. Memphis, Tennessee.

10. Nephology.

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Puzzle answers on page B2

mericanisms "Halloween is not only

WELL, I HAVE FOUR

BOOKS OUT INTIHE

PAST TWO YEARS

I DON'T KNOW WHY IT WON'T

Work . Either this computer has

GOTTEN TOO OLD OR WE HAVE.

FOUR BOOKS?

THAT'S IMPRESSIVE

by Dave T. Phipps

about putting on a costume, but it's about finding the imagination and costume within ourselves."

- Elvis Duran © 2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc.



Amber Waves







by Dave T. Phipps

MEMORIES

thank was an Angel sent by God to bless my son.

Years later my son struggled with grades while in high school. In fact I was concerned he wouldn't graduate.

He had no desire to excel in his studies and brought home a lot of D's and F's on his papers and assignments. He did graduate by the skin of his teeth and then something remarkable began taking place. He became interested in his Sunday school class and became an avid reader of the

Bible. He even taught some classes in church.

We were attending the First Church of the Nazarene and had been for many years. He enrolled in a bible college in Portland and graduated with honors. He then began working on his master's degree and also graduated with

honors. From there he began writing and authored three books which can be found on Amazon.

While writing the books he was a youth pastor in Washington and ultimately a senior pastor in Oregon where he preaches and leads a flock of believers. He has

traveled all over the world to teach other pastors and recently earned his Doctorate in Divinity from Liberty University in Virginia.

Now as I look back I can see the entire picture. I'm amazed and thank God for his faithfulness and blessings. What is impossible with man

is possible with God and it all started with the blessing from an Angel.

Gary Derowitsch retired from the Post Office in Monmouth after 33 years. He still lives in Monmouth.

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988 Oregon is answered locally by Lines for Life and Northwest Human Services.

Fall weather brings the end of fire season

By OREGON DEPART-MENT OF FORESTRY

All Oregon Department of Forestry districts have terminated fire restrictions as of Oct. 17, marking the end of the 2025 Oregon fire season declaration.

"Through aggressive initial attack and the dedication of our firefighters, we had a season with significantly fewer acres burned compared to last year even with more fire starts," said Kyle Williams, ODF Deputy Director of Fire Operations. "This year had the potential to be similar to last year, but ODF firefighters showed up every single day to make sure that did not happen."

Combined, lightning and human-caused fire brought roughly 100 more fire starts on ODF-protected land compared to the 2024 fire season. In response, the departments protection districts and division took on the challenge.

"Due to the agency's aggressive approach to initial attack to preserve natural resources, protect communities, and increase firefighter safety, many fire starts that

happened this year were never heard about," said Michael Curran, ODF Fire Protection Division Chief. "In 2025, 94 percent of fires on ODFprotected lands were put out at 10 acres or fewer."

Year to date, there have been 1,135 fires on ODF-protected lands resulting in 24,275 acres burned.
ODF Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMT) have been mobilized six times to wildfires this year. The assignments were to the following incidents:

- Rowena Fire
- Elk Fire
- Marks Creek Fire
- Grizzley Complex
- Flat Fire

• Kelsey Peak Fire Statewide to date, regardless of jurisdiction, there have been 2,965 fires that have burned 338,740 acres.

The start and end of fire season restrictions and regulations are set by each forest protection district based on the conditions in their area including drought, climatic forecasts, and seasonal trends. These restrictions and regulations are on activities prone to

start wildfires, such as debris burning and certain equipment use, and are intended as preventative measures during times with elevated wildfire risks. The arrival of steady soaking rain, coupled with cooler temperatures and shorter days, usually triggers the closure of fire season.

The end of fire season removes ODF imposed fire restrictions on ODF-protected lands. However, many structural fire departments in Oregon still require a permit for debris burning, and slash burning requires a permit year-round, so check with your local fire department or ODF office before starting a

As Oregon transitions to fall and winter, ODF districts across the state are shifting their attention to wildfire prevention, fuels reduction, mitigation and planning efforts.

For more tips on how to keep yourself, your loved ones and your property safe from wildfire at any time of year, visit ODF's Fire Prevention website or Keep Oregon Green's website, https://keeporegongreen.org.



Visit our website, www.polkio.com
for local news, sports
and community events.

Hear What Your Neighbors Are Saying!







"My dad has called Heron Pointe home for nearly two years. He enjoys a comfortable, wellkept environment and the independence that comes with small-town living, something that's very important to him.

The staff is not only caring, but they also bring fun and warmth to everyday life. The activities are engaging, creative, and truly bring people together. He's made several good friends, which has made such a positive difference for him.

Best of all, being close to family means we can visit often, and we always feel welcome when we do. We are so grateful to have found a place where he feels happy, supported, and truly at home."

- Patti D. Resident Family

"I've lived in Monmouth for over 80 years, and I remember watching Heron Pointe being built. When it came time to leave my home, I was nervous, but moving here turned out to be the best decision. I was so excited to recognize familiar faces from growing up in the area, and I've made so many new friends since I moved in. It truly feels like home."

- Wanda K., Resident

"I enjoy living at Heron Pointe Senior Living and especially love the central location, being close to my family and within walking distance to Bi-Mart is a big plus.

The staff is wonderful, very nice and always accommodating."

- Harriet F. Resident

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SPORT

Prep Scoreboard

Oct. 14 Volleyball

Central 3, Woodburn 0 West Albany 3, Dallas 0 Chemawa 3, Falls City 0

> **Boys Soccer** Central 6. Dallas 0

> Girls Soccer
> Dallas 1, Central 0

Oct. 15 Volleyball

Perrydale 3, Jewell 0 Perrydale 3, C.S. Lewis 0

Oct. 16 Volleyball

Lebanon 3, Central 0
Jewell 3, Falls City 1

Boys Soccer

Silverton 8, Central 0 Crescent Valley 8, Dallas 0

Girls Soccer

Silverton 8, Central 0 Crescent Valley 6, Dallas

Oct. 17 Football

Central 21, South Albany
0
Willamette 42, Dallas 27
Perrydale 66, Country

Christian 12 Falls City 22, Alsea 19

Prep Calendar

0 4 22

Oct. 23 Volleyball

Crescent Valley vs.
Central, 6 p.m.
Dallas at South Albany,
6:30 p.m.

Boys Soccer

Central at Lebanon, 7 p.m. McKay vs. Dallas, 7 p.m.

Girls Soccer

Lebanon vs. Central, 7 p.m.

Dallas at McKay, 7 p.m.

Friday

Cross Country
Central at Hoka 2-Mile,

Time TBD

Football

Central at Lebanon, 7 p.m. Silverton vs. Dallas, 7 p.m.

See **PREP**, page B8

Wolves upend No. 13 Texas Permian Basin

By WOU ATHLETICS

The Western Oregon football team appeared to be at least heading to overtime with 13th-ranked Texas Permian Basin as the Falcons drove into the red zone trailing the Wolves 31-28 in the fourth.

But you know that saying, big players make big plays at big moments.

UTPB fired a ball over the middle and a receiver caught it inside the 10 before all-conference Wolves' linebacker Malcolm Liufau punched it out and teammate Tamaaulelei Ma'alona was there to jump on top of it with 25 seconds remaining to secure WOU's first win over a nationally ranked opponent since 2016 when the Wolves beat Humboldt State, 48-42.

The Wolves (5-2 overall, 4-1 LSC) jumped out to a 17-0 lead in the contest before a late UTPB score in the second quarter followed by a quick score to start the third quarter quickly cut the WOU lead to 17-14.

The score remained that way until the fourth when WOU bolstered its lead to 24-14 on a 23-yard touchdown reception from Jordan McCarty to Keyvaun Eady.

UTPB – which was ranked No. 6 in the nation last week before losing at home to Central Washington – answered with back-to-back touchdowns in a four-minute span, the last coming with 6:46 left to make it 28-24 Falcons - the first time WOU trailed in the contest.

The Wolves didn't panic, however, as they put together a nine-play, 65-yard drive that took 4:51 off the clock and was capped by a McCarty 10-yard rushing touchdown to make it 31-28 with 1:55 left in the contest.

UTPB looked prime to at least tie the game, if not take the lead, before the big play by Liufau and Ma'alona.

McCarty finished 19-for-28 passing for 166 yards and two touchdowns while rushing for a team-best 74 yards and another score. Jermaine Land rushed for 40 yards on seven



PHOTO BY SMY PHOTOGRAPHY

Wolves quarterback Jordan McCarty scrambles downfield before scoring the decisive touchdown Saturday against No. 13 Texas Permian Basin, securing a 31-28 win.

carries while catching four passes for 56 yards and a

Defensively, Liufau finished with four tackles, a sack, an interception and the game-clinching forced fumble. Aden Murphy led
WOU with nine tackles, Tyler
Copeland had six and Daron
Ulrich Jr. and LJ Imo each
finished with five with Imo
adding 1.5 tackles for a loss, a
half sack and six QB hurries.

Joe
with term with Imo
adding 1.5 tackles for a loss, a
half sack and six QB hurries.

Joseph Northcutt was also a terror for UTPB, finishing with four tackles, a sack and six QB hurries.

The Wolves hit the road next week to take on Texas A&M-Kingsville.

Lessons learned in Dragons' first loss to undefeated Wolverines

By LANCE MASTERSON For The Itemizer-Observer

Last week's matchup against undefeated Willamette, a Class 6A powerhouse, was more than just another non-league test for the Dragons football team.

It also was a chance for the home team to compare itself against one of Oregon's elite programs. And despite coming up short 42-27, Dallas coach Andy Jackson came away encouraged by what he saw on the field.

"I always tell the guys that any loss is on me, that I've got to do a better job preparing them," Jackson said.
"But we were up against a really good opponent with a lot of Division I players, and I thought our kids competed really well."

The Dragons came within inches of a touchdown on their first play from scrimmage, a half-back pass, and were literally a second short from possibly scoring before halftime. Two moments that

hinted to how much closer the game could have been.

"These were golden opportunities that we didn't take advantage of," Jackson said. "We wanted to compete against a high-quality opponent, and I think we did. We just made mistakes that you can't make against great teams."

Willamette's roster featured several top college prospects, including defensive end/tight end Tony Cumberland (6-5, 285 pounds), the player Jackson described as "probably the best player in Oregon, regardless of classification."

Despite the talent gap, Dallas proved to be competitive enough to come away feeling good about themselves.

"Our kids realized we can play with anybody," Jackson said. "But they also saw that we didn't capitalize on some opportunities. That was a winnable ballgame."

Jackson praised his offensive and defensive lines,

many of whom played both

"Our O-line played well enough to win, and our defensive line did a great job against the run. The big difference came when their quarterback (Zeke Thomas) extended plays. Once he started scrambling, his receivers adjusted routes, and that's tough to defend against

Division I talent."
The Dragons' coaching staff adjusted to the
Wolverines' defensive pressure by using hard counts and shifting formations to slow down the pursuers.

"We knew how fast and aggressive they were, so (offensive coordinator Tristan Ringhouse) changed cadences and motioned a lot to keep them honest ... our offense played well enough for us to win that game," Jackson said.

Aidan Galusha powered his way to 82 yards and two touchdowns on nine carries for the Dragons, who also got 130 yards and one score from Landon Holbrook. Quarterback Tommy Hess completed 11-of-17 passes for 145 yards and a scoring strike to Chase Ericksen, who added 59 yards on four receptions.

The going proved rougher for the defense.

"We have to do a better job getting our kids ready. You can't give up 42 points and expect success," Jackson said. "But our kids never stopped fighting. I'm proud of that."

Israel Mabry led the defense with nine tackles, including four for losses. Hunter Rivers and Bertram Latta added eight each, and Galusha seven.

Latta and Nathan Cunningham combined for three sacks.

Don't expect life on the gridiron to get much easier with Willamette leaving town, as the Dragons face perennial powerhouse Silverton at home Friday. The league contest begins at 7 p.m.

"Our kids are tough. We've got a lot of work to do but we'll be ready to attack Silverton," Jackson said. The third-ranked Dragons are 4-0 in league, 6-1 overall; second-ranked Silverton is 3-1, 6-1. The Foxes fell 34-28 to Lebanon (4-0, 6-1) on Oct. 17.

"Silverton's a great ball club. They're physical, well-coached, and very disciplined. They've been a dominant program for a long time," Jackson said. This week, "we'll focus on ourselves, clean up our mistakes, and get healthy. That's our priority."

The coach added Willamette was perfect preparation for the stretch ahead, including his team's regular-season finale against Lebanon on Oct. 31.

"It gave us confidence that we can compete with anybody, but it also showed us where we need to be more disciplined," the coach added.

Jackson highlighted Ericksen, Rivers and Jacoby Morrison for their play on both sides of the ball.

Stingy defense leads the way in Panthers win

By LANCE MASTERSONFor The Itemizer-Observer

The Panthers defense turned in its best performance of the season, and it couldn't have come at a better time.

Central blanked South Albany, 21-0, on the RedHawks' home turf on Friday. The win keeps the Panthers, ranked 14th by the OSAA, in the chase for a postseason berth.

"Our defense played lights out," said Joel Everett, the Panthers' head coach. "Shutout on the scoreboard as well as two defensive touchdowns. It was a pretty dominant game."

Scores came on fumble recoveries by Emmanuel Najar and Owen Baker, in the end zone.

Also, Josiah Vela and Mason Vela combined for 23 tackles, while Hudson Heise and Najar added seven tackles each.

South Albany had the ball for 36 minutes, yet managed only 192 total yards. The RedHawks also turned the ball over three times on downs.

Central's offense racked up yardage, netting 259 total yards, but rarely found pay dirt. The Panther's only touchdown came in the fourth quarter on a 23-yard pass from JT Girod to Ryan Perkins.

Girod finished with 226 passing yards, completing 18 of 25 attempts on no picks.

Joe Mendazona caught five passes for 110 yards, while Perkins finished with 102 yards on seven receptions.

The run game was almost nonexistent, however, as the Panthers netted only 47 yards.

"It was good to get a grind-it-out win on the road against an always tough and physical South Albany team," Everett said. "Our offense was able to move the ball, but struggled to finish drives. Too many penalties and mental mistakes towards the end of

drives that we can't have this far into the season."

With the win, Central is 2-2 in league play, 4-3 overall. But two tough outings remain on the schedule: Friday at fifth-ranked Lebanon (4-0, 6-1); and Oct. 31 against eighth-ranked West Albany (1-3, 4-3 overall) at home.

Two wins will help Central solidify its playoff positioning.

"We're looking forward to a playoff type atmosphere as we look at the final two games knowing there isn't much room for error if we want to make the playoffs," Everett said.

Kickoff is 7 p.m. for each of the remaining games.

What's YOUR neighbor up to?

Find out in the Itemizer-Observer. You may find your neighbor, your boss, your friend or yourself in the pages of the Itemizer Observer. Local stories on local people—that's our specialty.

Itemizer-Observer

PAGES OF THE PAST

50 years ago

Wednesday, Oct. 22, 1975

Sign code becomes effective on Nov. 1

As many as 30 Dallas businesses could be in violation of a new city sign ordinance that goes into effect Nov. 1 that bans projecting signs and limits the square footage and animation signs may have. About half of the businesses who have not made sign changes, however, have contacted the city about doing so.

About 15 percent of all Dallas businesses have yet to conform to the new code.

City Manager Howard
Brandvold said the city doesn't
expect all of the businesses
to be able to meet the Nov. 1
deadline. He said because of
the last minute rush it looks
like sign companies will be too
busy to service all the Dallas
businesses.

Marijuana seized in county's largest raid

Three of four persons arrested in connection with the seizure by Polk County narcotics agents of \$480,000 worth of marijuana near Pedee Thursday are currently being lodged in the Polk County Jail in lieu of bail. The fourth is out on \$20,000 bail.

The raid is the biggest of its type in Polk County history. It took place on a farmhouse about 1 ½ miles south of Pedee. Polk County Sheriff's Detective Lee Miller said the confiscated marijuana included 1,000 dried plants and 2,200 plants growing in an acre plot near the house. He said the \$480,000 value is based on street-sale prices.

Fishermen win in Kansas overtime

Friday's CVL encounter between the Dallas Dragons and the Astoria Fishermen was two different stories. For the hosting Fishermen, it was like a fantasy come true.

FLASHBACK



This week's Flashback is from Wednesday, Oct. 22, 1975: HEALTH NURSE VISITS - These third grade students in Mrs. Cattanach's class are visiting with the Lyle grade school health nurse, Mrs. Margaret Agnew, a public health nurse from Polk County. She visits the school regularly talking with the students of the school about proper care of teeth, diet and cleanliness. Shown visiting with Mrs. Agnew are (seated on floor) Shannon Miller, and (from left) Dennis Fletcher, Amy Lile and Christine Jones. (I-O File Photo)

They not only won the game 22-21 in overtime over a more powerful team, but they did it on a night when they were honoring past coach John Warren (1928-1934, 4 state championships, runner-up in 1929, 9 all Staters).

For the favored Dragons, the game was a horror story. The loss, unless there is an eighth wonder of the world, knocked them out of any post-season playoff opportunities.

40 Years Ago

Wednesday, Oct. 23, 1985

Friday strike vote possible

A strike may loom as soon as Nov. 5 in the Dallas School District.

The 144 members of the Dallas Education Association may be asked to approve a strike in a vote Friday afternoon, according to Cecil Dillard of the DEA negotiating team.

A strike cannot be called sooner than 10 days following its approval by the union membership.

"We won't have a strike unless well over 90 percent of our members approve it," DEA President Penny Purkerson told the I-O Monday.

County tax bite increases

Taxpayers can probably look toward a larger tax bite this year since most budget levies increased while property values fell for the fourth year in Polk County. However, Dallas city residents will find their rate fell slightly when their opposite rate (the addition of all taxing districts) went from \$20.99 down to \$20.91 for 1985.

Dallas School District patrons will see a 10 cent reduction in their rate which dropped to \$12.26 from last

Primarily the difference was due to property value assessments, slightly larger tax offsets and a levy up marginally over last year to make the difference in the Dallas school rate.

Community Achievement

Dragon royalty crowned



Seniors Liz Walker and Noah Rautio are crowned Homecoming King and Queen during the halftime festivities Friday night at the Dallas football game against Willamette. The rest of the students voted onto the Homecoming Court were freshmen Breyden Thomas and Maya Baknov; sophomores Amelia Brown and Kody Simpson; juniors Madek Nolan and Payton Crowe; and seniors Annabelle Foster, Kameron Tullock, Guinevere Blasch, Matthew Anderson, Lily Butler and Gabe Decker.





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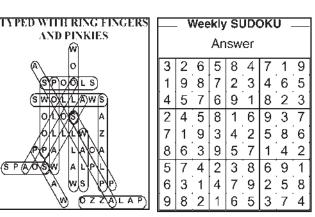
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answer

Small cartoon superhero who reaches his most powerful form in the fall season: Autumn Ant.

——— Go Figure! ———					
answers					
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+		+		+	
6	+	2	×	9	-72
÷		×		×	
5	+	7	÷	3	= 4
2		21		51	





Community Calendar Oct. 22 - 29

Wednesday, Oct. 22

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center

8:30 a.m. - Mayor of Independence Office Hours, stop by and share your thoughts, ideas, and questions, City Hall, 555 South Main St.

9 a.m. - Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior

Community Center 10 a.m. - Resource Navigation, Dallas Area Senior Center

10 a.m. - Tai Chi with John, Monmouth Senior Community Center

10 a.m. - 4-Handed Pinochle/Card/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center

10:30 a.m. - Little Bitty Storytime, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.

10:30 a.m. - Story Time with Miss Jo, Independence Library, 175 Monmouth St. 11 a.m. - Mah-Jongg,

Dallas Area Senior Center 11 a.m. - Lunch with Meals on Wheels, Monmouth Senior

Community Center 12 p.m. - Watch Repair & Knife Sharpening, Monmouth Senior Community Center

1 p.m. - Ten Minute Writing, Monmouth Senior Community Center

1 p.m. - Birthday Celebration for members with October birthdays, Dallas Area Senior Center

4 p.m. - Connecting Loose Threads for Charity, Monmouth Senior Community Center

5 p.m. - MINET Board of Directors meeting, Monmouth Public Works, 401 N Hogan

5:30 p.m. - Municipal Court Arraignments, City Hall, 555 South Main St., Independence

Thursday, Oct. 23

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center 10 a.m. - Cards/table games, Dallas Area Senior Center

10 a.m. - Calvary Chapel Dallas Sewing and Craft group meeting, 628 SE Jefferson St.

10:15 a.m. - Low Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center

10:30 a.m. - Bounces & Rhymes, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S.

11 a.m. - Friends of the Monmouth Senior Center Soup & Pie Sale, Monmouth Senior Community Center

11:10 a.m. - Low Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center

11:30 a.m. - Lunch Bunch, Dallas Area Senior Center 12 p.m. - Bridge, Dallas Area Senior Center

1:30 p.m. - 10-Minute Writing, Dallas Area Senior Center

2 p.m. - Medicare 101, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S.

5 p.m. - Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale, Pre-Sale for members, Dallas Civic Center, 945 SE Jefferson St.

6 p.m. - Trivia & Vino at Elysium, Elysium Botanicals Wines and Vineyard, 8175 Buena Vista Road, Independence

Friday, Oct. 24

7:30 a.m. - Seniors Hiking Club trip to Silver Falls State Park, meet at Monmouth Senior Community Center

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center 9 a.m. - Stretch exer-

cise, Monmouth Senior Community Center 9 a.m. - Dallas Retirement

Village silent and live auction, 377 NW Jasper St. 10 a.m. - Brunk Farmstead

Tours, 5705 Salem Dallas Hwy NW 10 a.m. – Pottery

Workshop/Cards Dallas Area Senior Center

10 a.m. - Drawing for fun/ writer's workshop/Pottery Class w/Elinor, Monmouth Senior Community Center

10 a.m. - Gardening Class, Dallas Area Senior Center

12 p.m. - Watch repair clinic, Dallas Area Senior Center

1 p.m. - Tai Chi with Cheryl/Lunch & Learn, Monmouth Senior Community Center

1:30 p.m. - Jewelry making, Monmouth Senior Community Center

2 p.m. - Free English Second Language classes at the Dallas Library, 950 Main

6 p.m. - Live Music: Mitch Lies, Grand Opening of Elysium Botanicals Wines and Vineyard, 8175 Buena Vista Road, Independence

4 p.m. - Youth Coding League, Independence Public Library, 175 Monmouth St. 6 p.m. - Costume Contest, with magical games and prizes, for all ages, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.

6:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Friday Night Meeting, Salt Creek Baptist Church, Dallas

6:30 p.m. - Acoustic Music Jam, Guthrie Park, 4320 Kings Valley Highway S. 7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics

Anonymous Speaker Meeting, Dallas Church, 450 SE Washington St.

Saturday, Oct. 25

10 a.m. - Brunk Farmstead Tours, 5705 Salem Dallas Highway NW

6 p.m. - Live Music: Midnight Express, Elysium Botanicals Wines and Vineyard, 8175 Buena Vista Road, Independence

7 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Saturday Night Live, Faith Lutheran Church, 200 Monmouth-Independence Highway, Monmouth

Sunday, Oct. 26

8 a.m. - Yoga in the Park, Main Street Park, 120 Main St. E., Monmouth

2 p.m. - Live Music: Beth & Friends, Elysium Botanicals Wines and

Vineyard, 8175 Buena Vista Road, Independence

7 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Monmouth Big Book Study, Faith Lutheran Church, 200 Monmouth-Independence Highway, Monmouth

Monday, Oct. 27

7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Serenity at 7, Life Center Foursquare Church, 437 D St., Independence

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center 9 a.m. - Stretch Exercise,

Monmouth Senior Community Center 10 a.m. - Rotating Pinochle, Dallas Area Senior

Center 10 a.m. - Alzheimer's Support Group, Dallas Public

Library 10 a.m. - Hand & Foot/ Cribbage Monmouth Senior Community Center

11 a.m. - Lunch w/Meals On Wheels, Monmouth Senior Community Center

12 p.m. - Bridge, Dallas Area Senior Center 12 p.m. - Movie

Matinee: "The Wizard of Oz," Monmouth Senior Community Center 12 p.m. - Alcoholics

Anonymous Noon Step Study, Grace Baptist Church, 1855 E Ellendale Ave., Dallas 1 p.m. - Tai Chi/

Cheryl, Monmouth Senior Community Center 4 p.m. - Youth Coding

League, Independence Public Library, 175 Monmouth St. 4 pm - Karaoke, Dallas Area Senior Center

4 p.m. - Dallas Safety Committee meeting, City Hall, 187 SE Court St.

4 p.m. - Dallas Public Works Committee meeting, City Hall, 187 SE Court St. 5 p.m. - Independence Library Board meeting, 175 Monmouth St.

6:30 p.m. - New Horizons Orchestra, Monmouth Senior Community Center

Tuesday, Oct. 28

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center 9 a.m. - Wii Bowling/ Intermediate Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center

9:30 a.m. - Walking Club, Monmouth Senior Community Center

10 a.m. - Financial Education, Dallas Area Senior Center 10 a.m. - Cards/Table

Games, Dallas Area Senior Center 10:15 a.m., - Low Impact

Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center

10:30 a.m. - Children's Storytime, for ages 5 and under, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.

10:30 a.m. - Family Storytime, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols Street S 10:30 a.m. - Circle of Friends, Dallas Area Senior

Center 11:10 a.m. - Low Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center

12 p.m. - Pinochle, Monmouth Senior Community Center

1 p.m. - Healthy Soul, Dallas Area Senior Center 1 p.m. - Monmouth Senior Advisory Board meeting, Monmouth Senior Community Center

3:30 p.m. - Senior Advisory Board meeting, Monmouth Senior Community Center

4:30 p.m. - Dia de los Muertos Storyteller Event with Valentina Otiz, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St. 5:30 p.m. - Alcoholics

Anonymous Tuesday Grace, Grace Baptist Church, 1855 E Ellendale Ave., Dallas 6 p.m. - Monmouth

Historic Commission meet ing, City Hall, 151 Main St. 6:30 p.m. - Community

Dance Class, Monmouth Senior Community Center

6:30 p.m. - Independence City Council meeting, City Hall, 555 S. Main St.

7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Old Guthrie Park, Guthrie Park Community Center, 4320 Kings Valley Highway, Dallas

Wednesday, Oct. 29

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center 8:30 a.m. - Mayor of Independence Office Hours, stop by and share your thoughts, ideas, and questions, City Hall, 555 South Main St.

9 a.m. - Beginning Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center

10 a.m. - Resource Navigation, Dallas Area Senior Center

10 a.m. - Tai Chi with John, Monmouth Senior

Community Center 10 a.m. - 4-Handed Pinochle/Card/Table Games,

Dallas Area Senior Center 10:30 a.m. - Little Bitty Storytime, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.

10:30 a.m. - Story Time with Miss Jo, Independence Library, 175 Monmouth St.

11 a.m. - Mah-Jongg, Dallas Area Senior Center 11 a.m. - Lunch with Meals on Wheels, Monmouth Senior Community Center

12 p.m. - Watch Repair & Knife Sharpening, Monmouth Senior Community Center

12:15 p.m. - Better Together, Monmouth Senior Community Center 1 p.m. - Ten Minute

Writing, Monmouth Senior

Community Center 1 p.m. - Birthday Celebration for members with October birthdays, Dallas

Area Senior Center 4 p.m. - Connecting oose Threads for Charity, Monmouth Senior Community Center

5:30 p.m. - Municipal Court Arraignments, City Hall, 555 South Main St., Independence

Community Briefs

SW Polk Fire District hosts levy info

forums Oct. 22, 23 The SW Polk Fire District is renewing its operating levy for enhanced fire and emergency medical services. Interested in learning more? Bring your questions to one of the forums. The first is at 7 p.m. Oct. 22 at the Salt Creek Community Fire Station, 15455 Salt Creek Road, Dallas. The second is at 7 p.m. Oct. 23 at the Bridgeport Community Fire Station, 6045 Kings Valley Highway, Dallas. For more information contact (503) 925-4275 or go to www.swpolkfd.org/levy.

MINET hosts board meeting Oct. 22

The Monmouth-Independence Network (MINET) Board of Directors Meeting is 5 p.m. Oct. 22. The public is invited to attend at Monmouth Public Works, 401 N Hogan Road, Monmouth or watch virtually. For agenda and virtual link details go to

https://minetfiber.com/ board-of-directors.

Senior Center hosts a Soup & Pie Sale Oct. 23

The Friends of the Monmouth Senior Center hosts a Soup & Pie Sale from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Oct. 23 at 191 Warren St. S., in Monmouth. Join them for the most delicious fundraiser. Soup and Pie is available

in-person and to-go. Soup is \$5, pie is \$5 per slice or \$15 for a whole pie.

4-H offers free self defense workshop Oct. 25

Oregon 4-H Polk County hosts a self defense workshop from noon to 1 p.m. Oct. 25 at West Salem Shao-Lin Kempo: 735 Edgewater St NW, in West Salem. This free event is for youth ages 5-14 who would like to gain confidence in their self defense skills. Pre-registration is requested: https://beav.es/ DEFENSE.

Fairgrounds Friends hosts benefit dinner auction Oct. 25

& Family Ties benefit and

The Polk County Friends of the Fair presents Apple Pies dinner auction at 5 p.m. Oct. 25 at the fairgrounds. The event's goal is to raise funds to bring in brand-new bleachers for the rodeo and show arenas (and some other muchneeded improvements to the fairgrounds). Tickets are \$30 before Oct. 25 or \$40 at the door. Purchase a table for six at \$175. There will be a silent and live auction. RSVP in the office or by calling (503) 623-3048.

Independence hosts Civic Leadership Workshop Oct. 25

Rural Development Initiatives invites the community for a comprehensive day of civic engagement and community connection at a City Government 101 Workshop from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Oct. 25 at the Independence Event Center, 555 S Main St. Discover how local government works and explore your role as an active citizen

in this free hands-on, fullday workshop designed for emerging and aspiring community leaders. Registration is required online at https://bit. ly/4mWMzyg.

MICC hosts community Halloween party Oct. 25

The Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce hosts a Community Halloween Party, from 6-9 p.m. Oct. 25 at 355

Pacific Ave. N., Monmouth. This party for adults 21 and older features dinner, dancing, costume contests and more. Tickets are \$20. To purchase, go to https://bit.ly/4nwXOyJ.

4-H Polk County hosts Self Defence **Workshop Oct. 25**

The Oregon 4-H Polk County offers a Self Defence

See BRIEFS B5



olumbia Bank in Independence has been named by the → Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce as the Member of the Week.

Columbia Bank is a new name for a very long-lived institution, and one known for its friendliness and clear, confident and thorough help for its customers.

What is this bank's history? The building, which started construction in 1891, has never held anything but a bank. The original cost to build this High Victorian Italianate style commercial building at 302 S Main St in Independence was \$12,000. Conversion of this 1891 value to 2025 reveals an adjusted modern cost to build of \$427,221.

The structure originally housed The Independence National Bank, incorporated in 1889 by Henry Hirschberg. After a merger it became First National Bank of Independence. Banking evolution brought other names to this building -Citizens Valley Bank, Key Bank of Oregon, Sterling Savings Bank, Umpqua Bank, and today, Columbia Bank. A bank it has always been, and a bank it will continue to be on the corner of Monmouth and Main in Independence. Rich

in history and a long success in the banking industry, the

to name Columbia Bank the Member of the Week.

Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce is pleased





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Condos

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THIS LOVELY 3bd/2 bath one owner home is spacious with open floor plan, nice room sizes and well cared for all around. Large kitchen is convenient with lots of counter space and storage. \$159,900.00 (#833655)



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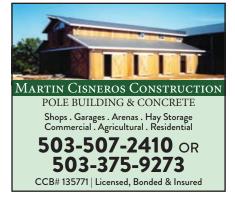
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PUBLIC NOTICES

PCIO25-1379 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Polk Čase No. 25PB08805 In the Matter of the Trust Administration of the Theodore A. O'Connor Trust dated October 4, 2017 Notice is hereby given that Michael K. O'Connor, as Trustee of the Theodore A. O'Connor Trust dated October 4, 2017, presents this Notice to Interested Persons as follows: All persons having claims against the Settlor, Theodore A. O'Connor, or the trust estate are required to present them to the Trustee at 3001 Stone Creek Street. Caldwell, Idaho 83605, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice or said claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding are advised that additional information may be obtained from the records of the Trustee, or the attorneys for the Trustee. Michael K. O'Connor Trustee of the Theodore A. O'Connor Trust dated October 4, 2017 Sherman, Sherman, Johnnie & Hoyt, LLP Attorneys for the Trustee 693 Chemeketa Street NE Post Office Box 2247 Salem, Oregon 97308-2247 Date of first publication: October 22, 2025, Second and third publication: October 29, 2025; November 05, 2025

PCIO25-1377 Notice of Regular Meeting Clinical Advisory Panel Tuesday, October 28, 2025 7:30 - 8:30 am The Willamette Health Council is the community governance body for? PacificSource Community Solutions, Marion County and Polk County Coordinated Care Organization (Marion-Polk CCO). The Clinical Advisory Panel brings together diverse local health care provider perspectives to advise on best clinical practice, health care quality, and health information technology initiatives. The CAP is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, from 7:30 - 8:30 am. The meeting is open to the public and will be held online via Zoom video/conference call. For additional meeting information, visit? https://

willamettehealthcouncil.
org/our-work/clinicaladvisory-panel/. A request
for accommodation for
persons with disabilities,
or for interpreter services,
should be made at least
24 hours before the
meeting to? ohouck@
willamettehealthcouncil.org.

PCIO25-1376 NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE Monmouth Mini Storage (503)838-0803, 555 Gwinn Street E, Monmouth, OR 97361 Units to be auctioned off verbally on Nov 8th at 10am. All units sold as a whole. Unit 332 Shelbi Taylor, Unit 148 Dennis Dixon

PCIO25-1374 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SOLID WASTE COLLECTION RATE INCREASE PURPOSE OF THE HEARING: The Polk County Hearings Officer will consider an annual request for Valley Recycling and Disposal for a rate adjustment for solid waste collection. Valley Recycling and Disposal serves the solid waste collection franchise area in northeastern Polk County and is requesting an increase in rates for all collection services. DATE AND TIME OF HEARINGS: Polk County Hearings Officer October 30, 11:00 a.m. LOCATION OF HEARING: 850 Main St., Polk County Courthouse, Dallas, Oregon 97338. STAFF CONTACT: Christina Tisdell, Environmental Health Supervisor Phone (503) 623-9237 The location of the hearing is handicapped accessible. Please advise the Community Development Department, 503-623-9237, if you will need any special accommodations to attend or participate in the meeting. The staff report will be available for inspection at no cost and copies may be obtained at reasonable cost. A copy of the staff report will be available for inspection seven days prior to the hearing. The staff report will also be available on the Polk County website at www.co.polk. or.us. Any person desiring to speak for or against this requested rate increase may do so either in person or by representative at the public

hearing. Written comments may also be directed to the Environmental Health Division of the Polk County Community Development Department, 850 Main St., Polk County Courthouse, Dallas, Oregon 97338-1922. Written testimony may be submitted prior to the hearing in the Polk County Community Development Department. Oral and or written testimony may be rendered at the public hearing

PCIO25-1373 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Monmouth Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., to consider amendments to the Monmouth Comprehensive Plan and adopt the Transportation System Plan. The Planning Commission will make a recommendation to the Monmouth City Council regarding the adoption. The City Council then makes the final decision. A second public hearing before the City Council will be held on November 18, 2025. Individuals may attend the meeting virtually or in person. Additional information regarding how to attend the meeting will be posted with the agenda on the City's website at: www.ci.monmouth.or.us. The public hearings will be conducted in a manner that permits testimony from interested parties. Any person desiring to speak either for or against the proposal may do so in person or by authorized representative at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted prior to the hearing. Written comments must be received by the City 48 hours in advance of the meeting and may be submitted by mail (151 Main St. E., Monmouth, OR 97361), or email to: ccraig@ci.monmouth.or.us. A copy of the Transportation System Plan is available for inspection at City Hall. For more information, contact Carter Craig at (503) 751PCIO25-1378 The West Valley Housing Authority (WVHA) is amending its 5-Year and Annual Agency Plan. The amendments pertain to the agency's ability to utilize a non-competitive process for the award of project-based vouchers in projects within which the agency has an ownership interest (now allowed under provisions set forth in the Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act (HOTMA)). The amended plan shall be available for review as of October 22, 2025. The public is invited to review and/or provide comment on this plan. The amended plan is available on our website at wypha. org and copies may also be obtained from the WVHA's Main Office. Comments will be received up through the public comment review hearing to take place on December 9, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at our main office (204 SW Walnut Ave., Dallas, OR 97338). Written comments on the plan may be mailed to the attention of Executive Director, West Valley Housing Authority, 204 SW Walnut Ave., Dallas, OR 97338 or emailed to wvpha@ wvpha.org. The meeting location is wheel-chair accessible. Call (503) 623-8387 during business hours if other accommodations are required.

PCIO25-1375 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CHANGE TO Independence Development Code LA 2025-06 The Independence Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 3, 2025 (7:00 pm) to consider a code amendment to address recent changes to Oregon state law. The proposed amendment would allow single room occupancies (as defined in House Bill 2138) more broadly in the City of Independence and permit residential development to occur in commercial areas under certain circumstances. Details about the proposed amendments are available at www.ci.independence. or.us/ongoing-developmentprojects. No ordinance number has been assigned

Process: If the Planning Commission recommends that the City Council approve of the change following the public hearing, the Independence City Council will consider the recommendation during a public hearing on Tuesday, January 13, 2026. The Council hearing will start shortly after 6:30 pm. Contact: If you have questions, please contact Fred Evander, Community Planner, at the Independence Civic Center, 555 S. Main Street, Independence, OR 97351, (503) 837-1168, or fevander@ci.independence. or.us. Hearing Locations: Both hearings will be held at the Independence Civic Center at 555 S. Main Street, Independence, OR 97351. The meeting location is accessible to people with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired, or for other accommodations, should be made at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to Myra Russell, City Recorder, 503-838-1212 / TTY: 800-735-2900. The City is an Equal Opportunity Provider. Information Available: Information about the proposed change is available online. Paper copies of the materials are available for inspection at no cost at the Independence Civic Center. A staff report for the proposal will be available at least seven days prior to the hearings (per Independence Development Code Section 11.025(A) (7)). Physical copies of the documents may be obtained from the City for a minimal cost. Submittal of Testimony: Anyone wishing to present written testimony may submit the testimony prior to or at the public hearings. Oral testimony may be provided at the hearings. Appeal Process: Individuals that would like to reserve their right to appeal the proposal should comment or submit a letter, along with any concerns, by the close of the public hearings. Failure to raise an issue in person or by letter, or failure to provide sufficient specificity

ability to raise the issue at a subsequent time on appeal (before the Independence City Council or before the Land Use Board of Appeals).

PCIO25-1368 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF POLK Probate Department In the Matter of the Estate of: JOHN HERBERT KAUPPINEN, Deceased. Case No. 25PB08497 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed and has qualified as the personal representative of the Estate of John Herbert Kauppinen. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present their claims, with proper vouchers attached, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the personal representative Thomas R. Kauppinen, 989 Grayson Ln., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 or claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, at the address set forth above.

PCIO25-1362 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE -10-31-25, at 10:00 am at the Polk County Sheriff's Office, located at 850 Main St. Dallas, OR. 97338, the defendant's interest will be sold, subject to redemption, in the real property located at 264 NW Howard Ln. Dallas, OR. 97338. The court case number is 24CV46004, where SELCO COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION, an Oregon State Chartered Credit Union is plaintiff, and DAVID J. YBARRA is defendant. The sale is a public auction to the highest bidder for cash in hand or cashier's check made out to Polk County Sheriff's Office. For more information on this sale go to: http:// oregonsheriffssales.org/

BRIEFS

From Page **B3**

Workshop from 2-3 p.m. Oct. 25 at the West Salem Shao-Lin Kempo, 735 Edgewater St. NW. It is for youth ages 5-14 who would like to gain confidence in their self defense skills. Pre-registration is requested. Sign up online at https://beav.es/DEFENSE.

DDA Fall Clean up is Oct. 25

The Downtown Dallas Association's Fall Clean up is from 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 25. Meet at 184 SE Oak St. to help rake, do some trash pickup and freshen up some scarecrows.

Synergize Auto hosts a Trunk or Treat Oct. 26

Synergize Auto hosts a Trunk or Treat from 2-4 p.m. Oct. 26 at 201 NE Polk Station Road, in Dallas. There will be rows of vehicles set up with candy and goodies for the kids, coffee and hot chocolate, a photo backdrop and some fun surprises.

Dallas library hosts Día de los Muertos storyteller Valentina Ortiz Oct. 28

Join the Dallas Public Library to celebrate Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) with renowned

Mexican storyteller Valentina Ortiz at 4:30 p.m. Oct. 28. Through story and music, Valentina will share traditions including how the ancient Aztecs honored death with months of dance, food, and celebration, and discover how La Catrina, Mexico's iconic Lady of Death, was born in Veracruz during a grand fiesta. Follow characters Juan and Maria as they explain the altars of Día de los Muertoseach element filled with deep purpose and symbolism. Ortiz is an acclaimed storyteller and musician, celebrated across Mexico and around the world for her vibrant performances that bring indigenous stories to life with joy and depth for audiences of all ages. This free, family-friendly event is made possible through the generous support of the Friends of the Dallas Library. For more information, contact the library at (503) 623-2633 or visit facebook.com/ dallaslibraryoregon.

Rickreall Grange hosts Spooky Halloween Bingo Oct. 29

The Rickreall Grange presents Spooky Halloween Bingo at 5 p.m. Oct. 29 at 280 Pacific Highway in Rickreall. There will be a Costume Contest, Halloween edition bingo, Halloween themed snacks/drinks for purchase and prizes for Best Costume.

Mid-Valley Community Arts hosts kids Halloween party Oct. 30

GLOW-A-WEEN Kid Party, hosted by Mid-Valley Community Arts and Valerie Robyn Keith, is 6-8 p.m. Oct. 30 at 939 S Main St., in Dallas. Drop off the kids for a night of fun and glowing creativity. Tickets are available at https://bit.ly/4nCYySt.

Dallas LDS hosts Trunk or Treat Oct. 31

The Dallas Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints hosts a Trunk or Treat Party Oct. 31 from 6-8 p.m. at 1401 SW 13th St. Entry is free as are all the activities, food, and candy. Cars wishing to participate in the actual Trunk or Treat need to be parked no later than 5:50 p.m., and will not be able to move until 8 p.m. Please RSVP to https://bit.ly/47lRZyf.

for the change to date.

DDA hosts Halloween Around Downtown Oct. 31

The Dallas Downtown Association presents Halloween Around Downtown at 3 p.m. Oct. 31. Visit participating downtown businesses on Halloween for no tricks, just free treats.

Sign up for Turkey Shoot Golf Tourney by Oct. 31

to afford the decision-maker

the opportunity to respond

to the issue, precludes the

Cross Creek Golf Course is now accepting applications for their 27th Annual Turkey Shoot Golf Tournament Nov. 9. For further information and/or an application visit or call the pro-shop at (503) 623-6666, or go to the Cross Creek Facebook page or website www.crosscreekgc.com.

Service Club hosts Holiday Bazaar Nov. 21-23

The GFWC Polk County Service Club's annual Holiday Bazaar is Nov. 21 from 3-8 p.m., Nov. 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Nov. 23, 3-8

p.m. with Santa visiting each day, at 340 S. Third St., Independence. This year GFWC Polk County Service Club's will be helping Santa by providing a book for each child who visits Santa. GFWC Polk County Service Club also will be coordinating efforts to end hunger and will have a barrel from Ella Curran Food Bank so donations can be brought to the event. This will help with providing food for those in need in the area especially during the Holidays.





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PUBLIC RECORD

Information for the report comes from law enforcement agencies. Not all calls for service are included. The status of arrests reported may change after further investigation. Individuals arrested or suspected of crimes are considered innocent until proven

Dallas Police Department

Friday, Oct. 10

At 8:16 a.m., a motorist from Independence was cited for speeding 44 mph in a 20-mph school zone (Faith Christian School) on Miller Avenue.

At 9:02 a.m., officers performed a welfare check on a resident on Ashley Street and found all was fine. However, they cited and released Michael Smith on a failure to appear warrant from Salem.

At 9:22 a.m., a motorist from Dallas was cited for speeding 41 mph in a 25-mph zone on Gerlinger Place.

At 10:49 a.m., Jason and Shyanne Isitt, of Monmouth, were arrested on Court Street for failure to appear warrants out of Dallas. Both were lodged at Polk County Jail.

At 1:57 p.m., a motorist from Salem was cited for speeding 35 mph in a 20-mph school zone on Miller Avenue.

At 8:20 p.m., a report of a possible road rage incident at Dallas City Park. Officers were unable to locate the vehicles involved.

Saturday, Oct. 11

At 11:59 a.m., a barking dog complaint on Cascade Mountain Drive was forwarded to Code Services.

At 1:39 p.m., a subject called in a late theft report that occurred on Dimick

At 2:35 p.m., a barking dog complaint on Lalack Street was forwarded to Code Services.

At 3:21 p.m., an officer located a theft suspect on Fairview Avenue. But the officer lost visual after attempting to catch up to the vehicle.

At 3:58 p.m., a subject turned in four rounds of ammunition to police for destruction.

At 10:47 p.m., a motorist on Uglow Avenue was cited for operation of an unsafe vehicle. The driver said his right rear tire blew out on Highway 22. He drove on the rim to a friend's house on Southeast Miller Street to borrow his jack. He was also warned for an expired trip permit.

Sunday, Oct. 12

At 12 p.m., an officer responded to an alarm tripped on Woods Lane. The reporting person said she had accidentally tripped the alarm and was okay.

At 2:05 p.m., officers arrested Danny Fierro on La Creole Drive and lodged him for trespass 2.

At 8:42 p.m., an officer found a plastic toy gun on a curb on Main Street. The officer took it for disposal.

Monday, Oct. 13

At 1:33 a.m., a motorist from Monmouth was cited for speeding 11-20 mph over the speed limit (35 mph in a 20-mph zone) on Main Street near Southwest Academy

At 1:45 a.m., officers investigated a report of a female

yelling on Virginia Street. It turned out to be juveniles fighting/arguing. They were apparently spitting on one another and one said the other was hitting him in the back of the head. An officer gave suggestions to both boys when they calmed down enough and

At 3:21 a.m., Keegan Poole, of Dallas, was arrested on Jefferson Street and lodged at Polk County Jail where he was charged with driving under the influence of an intoxicant and reckless

At 2:14 p.m., a motorist on Godsey Road was cited for no operator's license, failure to register vehicle, and failure to carry proof of insurance.

At 2:51 p.m., a motorist from Monmouth was cited on Godsey Road for speeding 40 mph in a 25-mph zone.

At 3:02 p.m., a motorist from Falls City was cited on Miller Avenue for driving while using a mobile electronic device, and received a written warning for failure to register vehicle and for improper display of registration stickers.

At 4:02 p.m., a motorist on Miller Avenue was cited for driving while suspended - violation and received a written warning for speeding.

Tuesday, Oct. 14

At 10:02 a.m., a motorist on Miller Avenue was criminally cited for driving while suspended - violation and failure to carry proof of insurance, was cited for failure to carry and present an operator's license and was warned for speeding.

At 11:18 a.m., a report that two different customers left debit/credit cards at a location on Ellendale Avenue. Police are waiting for calls back to attempt to return them to

At 2:15 p.m., a motorist from Monmouth was cited for speeding 39 mph in a 20-mph school zone on Godsey Road.

At 2:32 p.m., officers cited and released Marcus Self on Hillcrest Drive for failure to carry/present operator's

At 2:39 p.m., a vehicle drove past an officer on Miller Avenue with a backpack on top of its roof and the backpack was sliding. The officer stopped the vehicle and provided the driver with the backpack which she had forgotten was on top of the vehicle. The diver was appreciative and thankful.

At 8:14 p.m., an unidentified suspect stole three backpacks on Church Street. Officers later located Nathen Mendenhall on Court Street who was wearing the same clothing as the suspect who stole the backpacks. Mendenhall was arrested and lodged where he was charged with theft 3.

Wednesday, Oct. 15

At 4:25 a.m., a motorist was cited for failure to obey a traffic control device at Levens Street and Ellendale

At 7:55 a.m., a red, Wipeout children's bike was found in the creek off La Creole Drive. Police found it returned as not stolen and it did not meet the impound threshold. Public Works retrieved it and took it with

At 11:34 a.m., police investigated a report of possible

drugs in children's shoes which were from a donation location on Clay Street. They found a cigarette.

At 3:45 p.m., two subjects were trespassed from a location on Uglow Avenue due to threatening comments made.

At 6:22 p.m., a report of two dogs found on Academy Street. The complainant was going to keep them overnight and post them on Facebook.

Thursday Oct. 16

At 8:21 a.m., a motorist from Salem was cited for speeding 41 mph in a 20-mph school zone on Miller Avenue.

At 8:35 a.m., a motorist from Monmouth was cited for speeding 37 mph in a 20-mph school zone on Godsey Road. The driver also received a written warning for no operator's license.

At 11:06 a.m., a resident on Main Street reported an attempted scam call involving a child at the school who was said to be kidnapped. An officer advised this was a scam and no one was out any

At 12:34 p.m., a subject reported he misplaced his wallet yesterday while at Papa Murphys. He was informed that no wallets were turned in.

At 2:24 p.m., a motorist from Salem was cited for speeding 37 mph in a 20-mph school zone on Miller Avenue.

At 2:30 p.m. officers arrested Robert Norton on Ellendale Avenue and lodged him on a detainer.

At 3:55 p.m., a juvenile motorist from Dallas was cited for speeding 43 mph in a 25-mph zone on Kings Valley Highway.

At 4:01 p.m., Kyle Pennington was cited and released on Brookside Avenue for failure to appear warrants out of Dallas Municipal and Salem Municipal Court.

At 5:18 p.m., Nathan Hockett II was arrested on Edgewater Street and lodged on two outstanding warrants.

At 6 p.m., a complainant reported thinking there was a skimmer on the scanner at Center Market. An officer checked the scanner and found no sign of a skimmer.

At 6:08 p.m., a juvenile on La Creole Drive was referred

for criminal mischief 2. At 6:27 p.m., officers arrested Ryan Groling, Jr. on Levens Street and lodged him on a felony Polk County

At 10:32 p.m., officers arrested Christopher Smith on Main Street on an outstanding

Independence **Police Department**

Wednesday, Oct. 8

Motorists placed several calls to 911 who observed a woman standing in traffic in the 100 block of Monmouth Street, crossing the road multiple times and acting erratically. The arriving sergeant observed Victoria Shafer continuously stop traffic and cause cars to swerve to avoid hitting her. Upon being contacted Shafer refused to identify herself so she was transported to jail where she was charged with disorderly conduct 2.

Thursday, Oct. 9

At 12:09 a.m., a resident on Corvallis Road reported seeing a suspect crouched by their cars then run off into the thick bushes and over a neighbor's fence. Officers checked

the area and the neighbor's trail cam security footage, but were unable to find further signs of the suspect.

At 5:09 a.m., a resident on Picture Street reported hearing a knocking on a bedroom window. Officers cleared the backyard and did not discover any signs of anyone.

Friday, Oct. 10

At 4:35 p.m., deputies responded to a report of trespassing by an ex-husband on Picture Street. It turned out the adult children had invited him there. The officer worked with the family to find ways to prevent further issues.

At 10:24 p.m., officers investigated a broken glass alarm triggered on Monmouth Street. They found no glass broken and the building

Saturday, Oct. 11

A business owner on Main and B streets noticed a man loitering outside of her business at a very early time in the morning. An officer drove by and recognized Jordan Jessie, who was found to have warrants out of Salem Municipal Court and Marion County. Jessie was cited and released on the two outstanding failure to appear warrants.

At 9:41 a.m., officers assisted Polk County Deputies take Mesdrain Esquivel into custody on Williams Street. Esquivel was transported to Polk County Jail where he was charged with nine counts of violating a restraining

At 12:30 p.m., officers assisted Monmouth Police with taking a subject into custody on Catron Street for domestic violence crimes.

Sunday, Oct. 12

At 4:46 a.m., a report of a stolen vehicle from a residence on Osprey Lane.

At 7:05 p.m., Jordan Jessie called 911 on himself to report recent drug usage. The responding officer called Jessie's parole officer who decided to issue a parole violation detainer. Jessie handed the arresting officer marijuana then was transported to Polk County Jail.

Monday, Oct. 13

An officer spotted Alan Ulery and knew he had a probation violation warrant. Ulery was taken into custody without incident and booked into jail where he was charged with parole violation.

At 4:31 p.m., officers responded to a report of a runaway who refused to come home on 9th Street. From talking with the child's guardian, it was a possible case of custodial interference as well. The child was entered into LEDS as a runaway.

Tuesday, Oct. 14

At 1:09 a.m., an officer warned two individuals for being in a park off C Street after hours.

At 7:16 p.m., an officer took a late report of the theft of a firearm from a vehicle on E Street. There are no suspects at this time.

At 7:41 p.m., a motorist reported while driving on G Street an unknown male subject struck his windshield, causing significant damage.

Wednesday, Oct. 15 During a Domestic Violence Sweep home visit in

the 1300 block of Williams

Street, Kayin Carrillo was found to be in violation of his probation by possessing multiple marijuana related paraphernalia and alcohol. He was transported to jail where he was charged with probation

During the Domestic Violence Sweep, officers attempting to serve a warrant on another individual at a residence in the 200 block of Gun Club Road. They contacted Kevin Chavez who was found to have a failure to appear warrant out of Marion County for driving under the influence. Chavez was cited with a court date and released.

A concerned community member observed a vehicle parked in a driveway in the 500 block of Picture Place with the engine running for hours on end. Two people were seen exiting the vehicle to the house, then returning out to the car, yelling, honking the horn and perceived to be under the influence of drugs. When contacted by an officer, Selena Luke had drug paraphernalia in her hand and mouth and strewn about the vehicle. The substance initially tested positive for presence of fentanyl or amphetamines. Luke was issued a criminal citation for unlawful possession of a schedule 2 controlled substance.

Monmouth Police Department

Thursday, Oct. 9

Assist Other Agency: A resident reported someone tapped on her back window. The backyard was searched, and a neighbor was spoken with, but nothing suspicious was found.

Citizen Contact: A person called reporting a lost dog. Public safety found the dog on campus but it ran.

Arrest: An individual was arrested and charged with failure to perform duties of a driver, criminal mischief, reckless driving and driving Under the Influence. The individual was transported and lodged at Polk County Jail. The car was parked and keys were left for parents to pick up.

Emotionally Disturbed Person: A person reported suicidal comments made by her wife. Texts were received regarding overdosing on medications. A ping was started on the wife's phone, and she was located. The wife advised she was fine, and no observations of self-harm or impairment were made. Resources were offered but declined. The wife wanted to speak with the other person in person, and they were observed civilly talking.

Citizen Contact: A bus company requested police presence on school mornings from 7-3:30 a.m. due to drivers "blowing by" the buses, especially the Route 20 bus that stops in front of PCL for pickup. The complainant advised even when the bus has their flashing lights on and stop sign out, drivers still speed by them. Disturbance: A report of a

physical disturbance between tenants/guests and the landlord. The landlord reportedly pushed his way into their apartment, pushed a tenant, and closed the door on her. The tenant and landlord had left prior to police response. The tenant later reported the landlord pushing her out of the door and slamming her in

the doorway with the door as she was trying to get inside to grab her purse. The tenant showed a bruise on her arm. Follow-up will occur.

Arrest: A phone interview was conducted with an individual currently at a facility. The individual was arrested/ referred for eluding (felony), unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, and reckless driving from an incident that took place in August 2024.

Arrest: An individual was interviewed for a domestic incident from the previous night and referred for assault (domestic violence) and

Emotionally Disturbed Person: A person reported that he and his sister had a disagreement, and she left on foot. The person was worried because his sister is autistic and had made suicidal comments in the past. His sister's mom called and informed him his sister had returned, and he no longer needed assistance.

Domestic Dispute: A person called after hearing water on and yelling at her kids. The person said a department told her to call if it sounded like any of the kids were being waterboarded. The other person refused to answer the door but could be heard inside talking to the kids. A video was provided of the person yelling at the kids; nothing sounded criminal, but the yelling was vulgar. A report was taken to be sent to a department.

Domestic Dispute: A verbal domestic was reported in a parking lot. Two individuals were contacted. Nothing physical occurred. One individual provided a fake name but was later identified as having a parole board warrant. Officers searched for her but were unable to locate her. Her vehicle is still in the parking lot, and she has the keys and the other individual's phone.

Friday, Oct. 10

Harassment: A person reported her neighbor had been at her house twice today, leaving notes about ordinance violations, and the second note was typed out and reflected a letter from the police department. The person described ongoing issues with the neighbor yelling about loud trucks. The person was upset about the notes as she had tried talking with the neighbor and didn't want issues, but the neighbor left these notes when her kids were home and the person was at work. The person requested the neighbor be trespassed from her property. An attempt was made to call the neighbor, and a voicemail was left. The neighbor still needs to be formally

trespassed. Theft: A person reported her license plate was stolen off her motorcycle. She was unsure if it was stolen in one city or another. The plate was cut off from the bike. She has already obtained a new plate. No suspect information. The stolen plate was entered into a system.

Hit & Run: A person reported a late hit and run that occurred at her apartment complex. Her vehicle appeared to have been hit while parked. Minimal damage, and a report was needed

See **BLOTTER PAGE B7**

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BLOTTER From Page B6

for her insurance. No suspect information.

Check Welfare: A person called wanting a check on another person who texted him saying to call 911. The other person also called 911, and medics responded as she had fallen. Medics confirmed it was just a lift assist and there were no further concerns.

Arrest: An individual was stopped at a store. He had two warrants and was cited.

Saturday, Oct. 11

Suspicious Activity: A person reported receiving several calls and texts from different numbers. He answered the first number, and a male answered, and told him he was the leader of an escort company and the person had an appointment for \$5,000 and canceled so he needed to pay them back. The male threatening to kill his family and mentioned them by name. The person reported receiving more phone calls from different numbers that were coming up from Texas and Miami. It was explained that this was likely a scam, and not to send any money, which the person seemed to understand. A report number was provided. The person reported additional numbers sending him more threatening text messages and pictures of dead bodies. The last number was called, and a Spanishspeaking male answered and kept hanging up; he sounded like he was in a loud room with other people talking. Information was added to the report. The person advised he would be changing his phone

Domestic Dispute: A physical domestic occurred between two individuals where one reportedly took the other's phone to delete videos of their argument and was shoving her to prevent her from getting it back for the purpose of calling police. One individual was arrested and charged with domestic violence harassment and interfering with making a report. The individual was transported and lodged.

Citizen Contact: A person called asking if his blue Dodge truck was towed as it had broken down on him early this morning. It was updated that it was entered into a system as towed through the Polk County Sheriff's Office.

Sunday, Oct. 12

Sex Offense: A person reported that a week ago her boyfriend pushed her against a window and she fell down. She also reported that about two months ago her boyfriend assaulted her and has been touching her breasts and other areas without her consent about three times a week. She said he tried to tie her hands with chargers when he's mad. The person was unsure if she wanted to press charges and was planning on getting a restraining order. She is willing to speak with a detective.

Runaway: A minor ran away again and was lodged at a county detention facility at the authorization of a police officer. A report is to follow.

Harassment: Officers responded to a disturbance involving two individuals over canning in the garbage. During this altercation, according to one individual, the other hit him with a stick. There was no sign of obvious injury, and the other individual denied doing this and stated the first individual was the aggressor. The first individual did not want to pursue charges.

Monday, Oct. 13

Follow up: A person was arrested and charged with violation of release agreement and theft.

Animal: A report of a German shepherd mix dog found running through the neighborhood. The dog's owner had already contacted the person who found the dog and was coming to pick it up. The owner arrived and took custody of the dog. Police warned the owner that due to the history of the dog running loose, he would be cited if it happened again.

Warrant: An individual was cited and released on an outstanding warrant for failure to appear warrant for theft out of Marion County.

Theft: A person reported that he runs a canning business and several of his "customers" have dropped off cans at his vehicle. He said three separate times in the last two weeks the cans were gone when he went to get them. The person suspected another male stole them but he didn't have any evidence. He said he asked a church for help reviewing cameras but they said they wouldn't help. The person wanted help from officers but didn't want to pursue charges. He was suggested to continue working with the church to see if they could help.

Tuesday, Oct. 14

Arrest: A motorist was stopped for speeding, showed signs of impairment, and was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended license. During a search, an unopened syringe and a pipe were seized.

Citizen Contact: A person reported being blackmailed by an ex-partner for money, with threats of disseminating explicit photos and text threads. The person was advised of their options.

Stolen Vehicle: A truck was reported stolen from a residence overnight, with keys left inside. The owner signed a stolen vehicle report, and the truck was entered as stolen. No suspects were identified.

Welfare Check: A citizen reported a male yelling and spitting at cars near an intersection. The area was checked, but the individual was not located

Crash: A two-vehicle rearend crash occurred. The driver of the second vehicle was distracted and rear-ended the first vehicle. The second vehicle sustained significant damage, while the first had minor damage. A passenger in the second vehicle complained of chest pain but declined transport. Both drivers had minor complaints of pain but declined evaluation. A crash report was generated.

Driving Complaint: A complaint about a driver unable to maintain a lane and drinking from a glass bottle. Contact was made with the vehicle's owner at their residence, who denied drinking from a glass bottle, stating it was a plastic water bottle. No indicators of

impairment were observed.

Citizen Contact: A person reported being assaulted weeks prior and was concerned about further issues with a family involved in a past landscaping job. The person was informed about the option of applying for a restraining order and advised to call if feeling

Theft: A wallet found near a highway was returned to its owner. The owner reported a driver's license and debit card missing, which were entered as stolen. The owner had

already replaced both cards.

Agency Assist: Fire department responded to a bark dust fire. Employees and fire personnel extinguished the fire. A delivery driver reported seeing embers upon arrival.

Wednesday, Oct. 15

Shots Fired: A caller reported hearing two to three gunshots and yelling in an area while driving through town. No people or vehicles were seen, and no other calls were received. The area was searched without locating anything.

Sex Offense: A nurse from a hospital called requesting a case number for a kit related to an incident that occurred the previous day. The patient intended to make a report during business hours. A kit was later picked up.

Emotionally Disturbed
Person: A person called to
report feeling distressed and
considering self-harm after an
argument with their sister. The
person declined to cut themselves at that time and was
offered a crisis hotline number.

Theft: A report of a black work bag with a laptop inside stolen from a car overnight. No suspect information was available, and a case number was needed for work.

Noise Complaint: A resident complained about neighbors having several loud cars running for an extended period in the morning. The resident had previously attempted to speak with the neighbors without success. The complainant was advised to call when the noise was actively happening. An attempt to contact the neighbor was unsuccessful. A person was later formally trespassed from the neighbor's residence.

Animal Complaint: A person reported two loose dogs attacked and killed their cat. The dogs were located, and one had a collar with a phone number belonging to an individual. The owner was cited for dogs at large and dangerous dog procedure. The dogs were released to the owner.

Crime: A person was arrested, charged with a release agreement violation and lodged at a detention center.

Arrest: A person was located and arrested on a county warrant for reckless driving and lodged at a detention center.

Theft: A wallet was stolen from a car between two dates. No suspect information was available, and a driver's license was entered as stolen.

Citizen Contact: A person reported an unknown transient male frequently loitering around a pub, making staff uncomfortable. Staff had not asked him to leave but wanted to know if he was recognized. A photo was sent, and the individual was not recognized. The reporter was advised to call if the behavior continued.

Agency Assist: An officer observed a fire department responding to a hit and run where the victim was unsure of the location. After reviewing camera footage, it appeared the incident did not occur in the city.

Warrant: A person was located and arrested on an outstanding misdemeanor warrant for hit and run while assisting with checks. The person was

lodged at a detention center.

Driving Complaint: A report about a vehicle with two occupants engaging in inappropriate activity and failing to maintain a lane. The vehicle was not located and appeared to have left the area before law enforcement was notified.

Trespass: A transient person was reported sleeping on a wheelchair ramp. The person was not located in that specific spot but was found sleeping near a senior center without causing problem.

Polk County Sheriff's Office

Wednesday, Oct. 8

At 4:39 a.m., deputies responded to a report of a female screaming on Joe Day Way where the complainant heard someone saying help. They located a female subject outside on the property where she was sitting on the ground yelling. She appeared impaired. Deputies assisted in getting back to her trailer.

At 6:29 a.m., deputies responded to a report of a person slumped over in a vehicle on Orrs Corner Road. They contacted Jennifer Shaw in her vehicle, who said she was sleeping. However, they observed a meth pipe in her hand. Medics checked on her but did not transport. Shaw

was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance. They also obtained consent to search the vehicle and found prescription pills that did not belong to Shaw and a street sign. She was additionally charged with theft and transported to Polk County Iail

At 10:58 a.m., a male subject entered through an open gate on Mill Creek Road around 4 p.m. the previous day. He said at 6:30 p.m. he tried to leave and realized the gate was locked behind him, adding only after he saw the gate shut did he see the posted "walk in only due to fire restriction" sign. He was cited for trespass 2.

At 12:18 p.m., a ranger reported contacting a male subject who was leaving from the Mill Creek gate at 10:30 p.m. on Sunday. A deputy contacted the subject who was honest about getting stuck behind the gate and not seeing the sign saying closed for fire season. He was criminally cited for trespass 2.

At 2:53 p.m., a resident on Carey Court reported someone stole her trash cans.

At 3:36 p.m., a motorist on Laura Lane reported she'd locked her keys in her car with her 3-year-old nephew and needed assistance getting into her car. A deputy advised her to call a tow company, but made several attempts with a coat hanger to unlock the car. It was too new to unlock. She decided to wait for a locksmith whom she'd contacted. The kiddo was fine, playing on his phone.

At 4:04 p.m., a hunter reported being at a Red Perry Road location hunting around 6 p.m. on Oct. 4. He left one of his rifles inside the car while he scoped the woods. When he returned, the gun was gone. He reported the theft to his boss, who owned the land he was on. The boss's daughter acted suspiciously after the gun was reported stolen, making her a suspect. The subject was unable to get the gun listed as stolen as he did not have its serial number.

At 7:59 p.m., deputies investigated a report of a suspicious vehicle on Salmon River Highway. The inside of the vehicle looked to be ripped and torn apart, and the driver side door was left cracked open. There was a note in the windshield wiper stating the person ran out of gas, and would pick it up. It did not state a time of when they would pick it up. There was also a phone number on the note, to which a deputy called but there was no answer.

At 11:14 p.m., multiple callers reported fireworks in the Ellendale Avenue area. One caller believed the fireworks were from a homeless camp near Robb Mill and Ellendale. The caller reported seeing mortars going off from what looked like near the camp. Deputies checked around the RV and found no signs of fireworks going off. The deputy drove through the area and found/heard nothing.

Thursday, Oct. 9

At 4:17 a.m., a log truck driver reported two or three loose dogs on Black Rock Road. A deputy drove the area and was unable to locate any dogs or any people camping nearby.

At 6:48 a.m., a report of a two-vehicle blocking roll over crash on Pacific Highway. Deputies responded and shut the highway down for OSP, then assisted with traffic control until the roadway was open.

At 7:46 a.m., a report of a t-bone crash involving a log truck versus Tahoe. There were no injuries, but there was blocking. Deputies held the scene and pushed the Tahoe out of the roadway. OSP handled the investigation.

dled the investigation.

At 8:35 a.m., the DA's office requested assistance with grabbing a juvenile victim and witness from Falls

City for a grand jury. A deputy

found them at their house and took them in. The deputy released them afterwards to their mother in the parking lot.

At 11:07 a.m., deputies investigated a report of an RV and an SUV parked on a public right of way on Corvallis Road with someone slumped over a steering wheel. A deputy saw a female subject who appeared to be slumped over the steering wheel. Turns out she was putting her face in her steering wheel to use her phone and not have to deal with the sun's glare.

At 1:07 p.m., a report of approx 10 bags of trash found on Gold Creek Access Road, containing some building materials, some old clothes.

At 6:36 p.m., reports of lots of smoke near a barn off Pacific Highway. A deputy observed a burn pile that was approximately 10 feet from a structure. The fire appeared unattended and the residence appeared abandoned. The fire department was called in to attend the fire. The property owner was contacted and denied being aware of a burn pire.

At 10:38 p.m. a report of a road struck deer blocking Highway 223. A deputy was unable to locate the deer.

Friday, Oct. 10

At 9:12 a.m., the two loose dogs were spotted again on Black Rock Road.

At 12:42 p.m., a report of a suspicious vehicle parked at the pull out at McCaleb and Matney roads. The owner associated with the vehicle is currently in Polk County Jail. A deputy knocked on the door and there was no answer. He placed a 24 hour tow notice on the motor home as abandoned.

At 1:55 p.m., a male subject was arrested on Glen Creek Road and was charged with disorderly conduct then lodged at Polk County Jail.

At 2:06 p.m., Oregon State Police requested deputies to be on the lookout for a vehicle involved in a shooting near Highway 20 and Elk City Road. Deputies responded to the area and monitored traffic for a while but were unable to locate the suspect/suspect vehicle.

vehicle.
At 3:22 p.m., deputies investigated a report of CPR on a 77-year-old male found by his children outside face down by his home on Sunnyside Road. Medics arrived on scene and pronounced him deceased at 3:36 p.m. Deputies conducted a DOA investigation. It appeared the male had a medical event and fell off his tractor, where he was not found for two days.

At 5:03 p.m., a report of a suspect who punched another customer of the Fort Hill Lounge and then fled.

At 7:13 p.m., a report of bales of hay reportedly blocking a lane of travel. A deputy arrived and some of the hay had been dispersed. The deputy cleared the lane of travel the rest of the way.

At 8:32 p.m., a deputy investigated a report of gunshots and/or fireworks on Second Street in Falls City. The deputy remained on scene for 20 minutes and heard no sounds resembling gunshots or fireworks.

Saturday, Oct. 11

At 3:50 a.m., a report that a vehicle was blocking the southbound lane of Highway 99. OK Towing was dispatched to remove the vehicle.

At 4:13 a.m., a report that hunters were entering the Valsetz Road area between 4-5 a.m. the last few days. A deputy got to that area around 4 a.m. and drove around, but saw no signs of anyone entering early.

At 5:48 a.m., a report of a crashed vehicle found on Zena Road. A deputy saw no plate on the vehicle, even though the reporting party saw a plate on the vehicle an hour prior. The vehicle was abandoned and the deputy called TRS Towing for a hazard tow. Report taken due to the

possibility of the vehicle being unreported stolen.

At 9:41 a.m., Mesdrain Esquivel was arrested on Williams Street in Independence, transported to Polk County Jail and charged with nine counts of violating a restraining order.

At 5:11 p.m., a complainant reported that people were shooting what sounded like hunting rifles out in the county off Clay Street. A deputy spoke with the complainant in person and advised her that as long as they were doing so safely, they are allowed to shoot on their property.

At 6:23 p.m., a deputy checked all around the intersection of Highways 223 and 22 but did not see any reported cattle or evidence they had been in the road.

At 10:35 p.m., a motorist found a dog wandering in the highway off Rickreall Road. It had a tag identifying his name and address. No one appeared to be home but the house had a large fenced yard with the gate slightly ajar the dog apparently escaped from. The deputy put him in the back yard and secured the gate.

At 11:44 p.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 87 mph in a 55-mph zone.

Sunday, Oct. 12

At 12:12 a.m., a deputy picked up a suspect from Marion County Jail who had an outstanding warrant from Polk County.

At 2:59 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 93 mph in a 55-mph zone.

At 3:21 a.m., Keegan Poole, of Dallas, was arrested on Jefferson street and charged with driving under the influence of an intoxicant and reckless driving. At Polk County Jail he provided a BAC sample of 0.10%.

At 4:42 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 85 mph in a 55 mph zone, driving uninsured, and for no operator's license.

At 10:53 a.m., a resident reported hunters trespassing on her parent's property on Ronco Road and had harvested a deer on their private property. A deputy responded and the hunters advised they passed a gate but didn't know they were on private property. Oregon State Police responded and ultimately issued to two of the three hunters criminal citations for hunting on the property of another, shooting across the road and trespassing with a

At 1:31 p.m., a report of a single vehicle rollover accident on Maxfield Creek Road, involving a motorist with one passenger. When the motorist veered towards the eastbound shoulder and touched gravel, he over-corrected, lost control of the vehicle. It rolled through a fence and landed face up in a field. A message was left for the property

At 6:30 p.m., a complainant reported a subject she had a restraining order out against was seen driving around her apartment complex on Ecols Street. The subject was gone by the time deputies arrived. They told the complainant that she could call in again if she saw the subject in the area again.

At 5:10 p.m., a resident on Wallace Road reported two dogs had attacked her chickens and chased her. Her husband was able to identify the dogs' owners and returned them. The resident did not want to press charges, only have the incident recorded for if it happened again.

Monday, Oct. 13

At 1:11 a.m., Andrew Neal for a traffic violation on Wallace Road and was arrested for an outstanding parole board warrant.

At 3:15 a.m., a report of theft/attempted theft of mail from several mailboxes both in the city and in the county,

More BLOTTER ON B8



on Orchard Heights Road. There were a few identifiable victims but no suspect information.

At 9:29 a.m., a subject reported losing his firearm in the woods while hunting off Murphy Road, Highway 18, out of Grand Ronde.

At 2:36 p.m., a deputy investigated a report of a vehicle parked illegally on Riddell Road. The owner said she is having a friend deliver a car battery to replace the one that had been stolen by a "friend" who took it out of revenge.

At 4:13 p.m., a resident on Independence Highway

reported confronted a homeless subject trespassing on his property. The subject pulled a knife on the resident, admittedly after the resident was belligerent to the subject. The resident only wanted deputies to try and find him to admonish him for trespassing.

At 4:59 p.m., a resident on Church Street in Falls City wanted it documented that her ex's girlfriend was in her driveway trying to sell a shotgun to the neighbors.

At 11:07 p.m., a motorist on Pacific Highway reported a possible crash at the Highway 99 overpass after seeing spinning headlights and smoke. Deputies checked the area but were

unable to locate a crashed vehicle.

Tuesday, Oct. 14

At 2:18 a.m., deputies located a vehicle at Wallace Marine Park and contacted its two occupants who said they were just "talking". The male subject had two outstanding warrants out of Marion County. Upon searching his coat, deputies found a small plastic container with a white crystalline substance. A field test determined it was methamphetamine. The subject was arrested for his warrant and also charged with possession of a controlled substance - meth.

At 4:05 a.m., a motorist was stopped for speeding on Brush College Road. The driver was cited for

having no operator's license.

At 7:54 a.m., a motorist on Highway 22 was cited for speeding 81 mph in a 55-mph zone.

At 9:33 a.m., a resident on Ellendale Avenue reported her neighbor for theft of services by throwing his trash in with hers.

At 5:37 p.m., deputies initiated a stop on Harmony Road with the take down/high risk stop of a suspect and assisted with a search warrant. They located several firearms and significant amounts of ammunition.

At 6:11 p.m., a resident on Perrydale Road called in requesting extra patrol as he reported erratic driving, mainly by students, that occurred during arrival and departure hours at Perrydale School.

At 7:41 p.m., a motorist reported while headed westbound on G Street and made a turn onto South 4th Street, an unknown male struck his windshield causing substantial damage.

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From Page B1

Mohawk vs. Perrydale, 7 p.m. Falls City at Reedsport, 7

p.m.

Oct. 28

Boys Soccer

Central at West Albany, 7 p.m. Dallas at Woodburn, 6:30 p.m.

Girls Soccer

West Albany vs. Central, 7

Woodburn vs. Dallas, 7 p.m.

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