

Polk County Itemizer-Observer

Salem

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Central club advocates for more focus on school maintenance

By DAVID HAYES
I-O Editor

Like a dog that won't give up a favorite bone once it's in its teeth, a group of students at Central High School have latched onto a problem at the school that they hope will finally see change.

Members of the newly formed Advocacy Club have taken on as their first project the leaky roofs at the 76-year-old building.

"We formed this year to combat very large concerns of students and faculty in our district," said Junior Aaron Villeneuve, a leader in the Advocacy Club. "We hope that a new and larger student voice representation in our school district will help ease some of these problems or at least the gaps in knowledge of them."

They have 15 members so far. Villeneuve said the topic of the leaky roofs is not a new one.

"We've heard of this being an issue for five or six years now that students started talking about long before the seniors I knew graduated. It's just gotten worse in a lot of students' minds as time has gone on," Villeneuve said. "Another concern is our maintenance team may not have enough resources to combat this issue. With funds they have, they're doing what they can. But it's not enough to stem that problem."

Central was built in 1950 with several renovations and additions over the years. A band room and cafeteria were added in 1982, a new gymnasium in 1995 and new classrooms in 1992. Most

See CLUB, page A8



PHOTO BY DAVID HAYES

Junior Aaron Villeneuve points out to his fellow Advocacy Club members a roof leak in a hallway at Central High School that has caused water stains from ceiling to floor.

DHS expands professional trades program

By DHS STAFF

Dallas High School officially launched its Professional Trades Program last week, marking a significant expansion of career-focused learning opportunities for students. The after-school class meets weekly from 4-6 p.m. and currently serves over 20 students who are earning valuable, industry-recognized certifications alongside their traditional high school coursework.

The Professional Trades Program offers students hands-on training and certification opportunities in high-demand fields, including ODOT Flagging, OSHA 30 Safety, Real Estate Licensure, Insurance Sales, Tax Preparation, QuickBooks Certification and Commercial Drone Pilot Licensing. These credentials are designed to give students a competitive advantage and a direct pathway into the workforce upon graduation.

Under the guidance of CTE Coordinator Bill Masei, the program's mission is to ensure students graduate with employable skills that supplement their high school diploma.

"We are excited to see this program double from last year," said Masei. "More seniors are graduating wanting to enter the workforce as soon as possible. My goal is to have them workforce ready when they graduate."

See DHS, page A7

Polk County Fairgrounds welcomes new kennel

By DAVID HAYES
I-O Editor

On the farthest southeast corner of the Polk County Fairgrounds sits a new, unassuming trailer. Forgive the proprietors if they're happy if it never gets used.

However, Sheriff Mark Garton and Capt. Jeff Isham know regardless how careful or reckless pet owners are, there's a good chance that a canine escapee will now end up in the county's new dog kennel.

The kennel opened in the beginning of November and has had 17 guests so far with about eight returned to their owners.

The county recently expanded its outreach collecting strays when it took over animal control from the city of Dallas in 2023.

"This is not a money-making business," Garton said.

"License fees and stuff doesn't even come close to covering the cost of running the program, so they opted out."

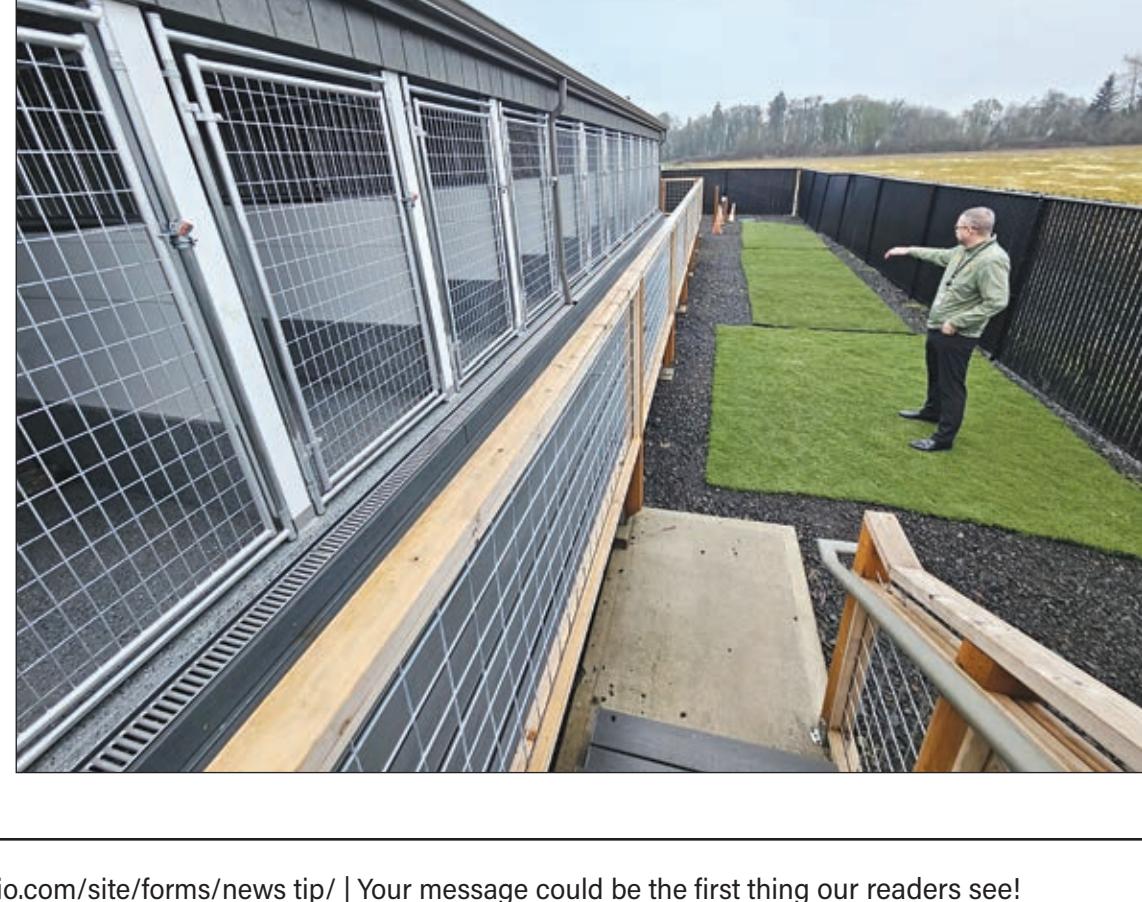
Dallas was able to opt out because Polk County has an Animal Control District established by the county commissioners decades ago, Garton added.

Salem also doesn't have a program, so they've sent stray dogs out to Polk County as well.

Isham anticipates the cities of Monmouth and Independence may also follow suit.

Before the kennel was built, Polk County either took the stray dogs to the Humane Society or to a tiny pound the city of Dallas had out next to its shooting range that had a dilapidated, two-dog kennel, Isham said.

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Salem Symphonic Winds presents Tales the Winds Remember Jan. 25

Salem Symphonic Winds presents Tales the Winds Remember, a concert weaving together legends, literature and cultural landscapes through the power of symphonic sound.

Featuring musicians from Polk and Marion counties and led by Artistic Director John Skelton, the Salem Symphonic Winds performance is at 3 p.m. Jan. 25 at Rose Auditorium, South Salem High School, 700 SE Howard St., Salem.

The musical program includes:

“La Llegenda de Kagsagsuk” by Josep M. Martínez, which brings to life an Inuit legend from Greenland, where a mistreated orphan boy gains supernatural strength through a mystical encounter with the mythical Amarok. This descriptive symphonic poem is a powerful tale of transformation and resilience.

“Capriccio Espagnol” by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, closes the first half of the show with a dazzling celebration of Spanish dance. From the lively Alborada to the fiery Fandango Asturiano, this orchestral showpiece bursts with color, rhythm, and virtuosity.

“Los Libros Olvidados” by Johan de Meij, which



Tales the Winds Remember
A concert weaving together legends, literature, & cultural landscapes through the power of symphonic sound

Salem Symphonic Winds receives support from the Oregon Arts Commission, a policymaking and advisory body within the Oregon Business Development Department

Salem Symphonic Winds gratefully acknowledges the support of the Autzen Foundation.

draws inspiration from Carlos Ruiz Zafón’s acclaimed literary saga, “The Cemetery of Forgotten Books,” set in postwar Barcelona in 1945. This evocative work captures the mystery, melancholy, and magic of lost stories waiting to be rediscovered.

De Meij’s music brings the characters and culture to life, including a Cobla, a traditional Catalan folk band that plays traditional dance music.

“La Mezquita de Córdoba” by Julie Giroux closes the program with a majestic tribute to the

iconic mosque cathedral of Spain. Rich in texture and drama, the piece evokes the architectural splendor and spiritual depth of Andalusia’s historic crossroads of cultures.

Tickets are general admission, and seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis the day of the concert.

For More Information contact John Skelton at (503) 362-0485 or JohnSkelton@ SalemSymphonicWinds.org or go to www.SalemSymphonicWinds.org.

Special Moments: Full Moon’s a natural wonder

By GARY DEROWITSC

The Moon is a mysterious ball of light floating in space. More accurately it is a ball of rocks and minerals orbiting the earth and sun, held in position by gravitational forces.

I’ve always been fascinated by a full moon. In my grade school days I remember often looking up at the moon on a partially cloudy night as the wind orchestrated its celestial theatre, moving clouds in front of it away from its full luminous glow. You could almost hear the ghostly music playing in the background as the moon appeared and then disappeared over and over. Conversely, you could also enjoy it in total silence as nature creates painting after painting of darkness and light before your very eyes all with an eerie punctuation.

The moon has many strange influences over our planet and people alike. There are those who believe a full moon can change a normal man into a wolf-like creature often referred to as a Werewolf. Literature and folklore are full of such stories. Who is to say if such a thing is possible or not. The universe is full of mysteries that can’t be explained and many that can. On a more practical

level, the moon possesses the ability to calm one’s anxieties just by looking at it.

Have you ever laid back on a summer night and just stared at the Moon or listened to the call of an owl, silhouetted against a full moon, his hoots echoing through the dark forest, while a spectral glow illuminates the nearby meadows?

Both examples are very calming to the soul. Such images are found all over the media during the Halloween season. In fact a full moon is probably the most popular display during Halloween other than the Jack-o-lantern. There is even a rare occurrence of a blue moon which happens on Oct. 31.

People from Brittany, the northwestern region of France, known as the Bretons believed that mischievous fairies appearing on the nights of a full moon would dance around ancient stone structures, luring humans to join in, which unfortunately could trap them for centuries by their spells.

The ancient Celts practiced a festival of Samhain during a full moon, known as hunter’s moon, to prepare for the cold winters soon to come following the harvest season. The moon wasn’t just an object in the sky

for ancient peoples, it was considered a deity, goddess, or some other mythical entity and to be treated as such.

Scientifically it is true that the moon has a gravitational pull on the earth and tides of the ocean. Some believe it even has an influence over our bodies both physically and mentally.

There are scientists who believe the Moon is hollow. Nov. 20, 1969 Apollo 12 deliberately crashed the Ascent Stage of its Lunar Module onto the moon’s surface. The moon rang like a bell for almost an hour leaving many to believe it was hollow like a bell. This might support some who believe the moon is a spaceship or satellite placed in position by Aliens to observe earth. Regardless of the truth, the moon is certainly a mysterious and romantic placement in space.

So the next time there is a full moon on Feb. 1, take a few minutes, step outside your home and gaze up at its remarkable splendor and beauty.

Maybe, just maybe, you will have a new born appreciation of this remarkable wonder.

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

Investigating the Bible: Big Decisions

BY DAVID CARLSON
PASTOR

A new year brings new choices and resolutions for change. The gospels include a story about a big decision in the life of a young, rich ruler. It demonstrates three steps

needed to follow Jesus. The young man took two, but stumbled on the third.

Search.

“And as [Jesus] was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him...” (Mark 10:17, English Standard Version used throughout).

Matthew said he was young; Luke wrote that he was also a ruler. So even with power, wealth, and the luxury of youth, this man realized there was more; he ran to Jesus for an answer.

Ask.

Then the young ruler asked Jesus his big question.

“Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” (Mark 10:17).

Jesus listed the commandments against murder, adultery, stealing, lying, defrauding others, and honoring his parents. The young man confidently claimed, “...Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth.” (Mark 10:20).

Another rich man in one of Jesus’ parables never bothered to search or ask. The rich man’s harvests were so plentiful, that he tore down his barns and built larger ones. And then he said to himself, I “... have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.” But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required

of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’” (Luke 12:19-20).

Actor and comedian Jim Carrey stated, “I think everybody should get rich and famous and do everything they ever dreamed of so they can see that it’s not the answer.”

Trust.

Jesus looked lovingly at the man “...and said to him, ‘You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.’”

Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.” (Mark 10:21-22).

Jesus warned, “...Truly I say to you, only with difficulty will a rich person enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 19:23-24).

Some say Jesus meant a low and narrow entrance to the city, which required camels to be unburdened

and kneel to pass through. However, the disciples “... were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, ‘Then who can be saved?’” (Mark 10:26).

They thought this massive animal slipping through the tiny opening of a needle was ludicrous!

“Jesus looked at them and said, ‘With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.’” (Mark 10:27).

Millard Fuller of Georgia was a little boy, when a shiny Cadillac parked and an impeccably dressed couple exited.

“Who are those people, Daddy?”

His father said, “Millionaires.”

He decided he’d be a millionaire before he was 30. He earned degrees, married, started a business, and became a millionaire at age twenty-nine. To do so, he worked nearly non-stop, ignoring his wife and young son. Two weeks later, his wife Linda barged into his office.

“It’s over, Millard. This isn’t a marriage.”

She left him, moving to New York. Millard was devastated. They met with a counselor; his wife said, “Money seems to mean everything to you.”

Millard thought, if money was the barrier, he’d get rid of it. He sold half his business to his partner, donated his money to charities, and took a job fund-raising at a Christian college.

In 1983, he met with editors of Guideposts Magazine to be interviewed for an article. He wanted to tell his story about a project he had started in America to help those without homes. They asked, “What do you call your project?”

“Habitat for Humanity,” Millard answered.

The group continues today in 70 countries and provides homes for low-income and disadvantaged families.

[Brief bio: Mr. Pastor (yes, that is his last name, not his profession) lives in Oregon and is a graduate of Bethel Theological Seminary in Minnesota (M.Div., M.Th.).]

WOU selects Michelle Strowbridge as career center director

BY UNIVERSITY
MARKETING and
COMMUNICATIONS

Michelle Strowbridge has been named as the new Director of the Center for Professional Pathways, which is the career center at Western Oregon University.

Before joining Western, Strowbridge served as the assistant director of the Career Development Center within the College of Liberal Arts at Oregon State University. In that role, she led initiatives to enhance career development services for liberal arts students, with a focus on equity and career

efficacy. She has also been instrumental in developing programming tailored specifically for first-generation students and marginalized communities.

Strowbridge’s academic background includes a Ph.D. in Leadership and Academic Advising from Kansas State University, bringing a wealth of experience and a strong commitment to student success. She also holds a master’s degree in academic advising from Kansas State University and a bachelor’s degree in liberal studies from Oregon State University. Her research and training

reflect her dedication to diverse educational practices and the advancement of student development.

As director of the Center for Professional Pathways, Strowbridge will continue to prioritize student engagement and success, drawing on her extensive experience in career services, programming, and budget management.

“Dr. Strowbridge’s dedication to student empowerment and her innovative approach make her an excellent addition to our team,” said Tina Fuchs, Vice President for Student Affairs. “We are excited to see her leadership

shape the future of our Center for Professional Pathways.”

Strowbridge said that she is “thrilled to join Western Oregon University and be a part of this community.”

“I am especially thankful for the opportunity to work with the amazing team in the CPP, but also to get to work with students from such diverse and unique backgrounds,” Strowbridge said.

Strowbridge is a mom to Arlie, 12, and Tate, 10, enjoys coaching youth soccer, and has two dogs, four cats and is a huge bird nerd.

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Salem man sentenced to life for murder in the second degree

By THE MARION COUNTY DA'S OFFICE

A murder case that was unraveled after a single-vehicle crash in Polk County in 2025 has led to a Salem man receiving a life sentence for second-degree murder.

On Jan. 14, Marion County Circuit Court Judge Channing Bennett sentenced Tyler Holman, 40, to life in the Oregon Department of Corrections with a 25-year minimum before parole eligibility. On Jan. 5, 2025, Holman had pleaded guilty to murder in the second degree with a firearm before Marion County Circuit Court Judge Jodie Bureta pursuant to a settlement negotiation with the state.

In the early morning hours of Jan. 27, 2025, Holman was involved in a single vehicle crash in Polk County. Polk County Sheriff's Deputies responded to the scene, and during their contact with Holman, they concluded that he was intoxicated. Holman was transported to the hospital for medical treatment. A tow truck responded to the

scene to remove the defendant's overturned vehicle, and the driver of the tow truck discovered a body wrapped in plastic which had been flung from the defendant's vehicle during the crash.

An investigation by the Oregon State Medical Examiner later identified the body as the defendant's ex-wife, Ashley Gandalfi, 34, who is the mother of Holman's child. The medical examiner determined that the cause of her death was a gunshot wound to the head and not the traffic crash.

The Salem Police Department conducted the investigation, and after securing a search warrant to search the defendant's home they found plastic wrap, bloody paper towels, and the pistol used by the defendant. Surveillance camera security footage revealed the victim entering the defendant's house, and early the next morning being carried out, wrapped in plastic, by the defendant and his friend.

Holman's friend, Logan Wilkens, was charged with one count of abuse

of a corpse in the second degree and one count of tampering with physical evidence. Wilkens pled guilty to both counts on March 3, 2025, and his sentencing is scheduled on Jan. 22, also before Judge Bennett.

Both cases were prosecuted by Chief Deputy District Attorney Brendan Murphy.

"Thanks to a thorough investigation by the Salem Police Department, we were able to hold a violent offender accountable for an atrocious crime in this community," Murphy said.

The Marion County District Attorney's Office also thanked all the investigators in this case, specifically Detective Mike Vega, for their "excellent investigation in this matter."

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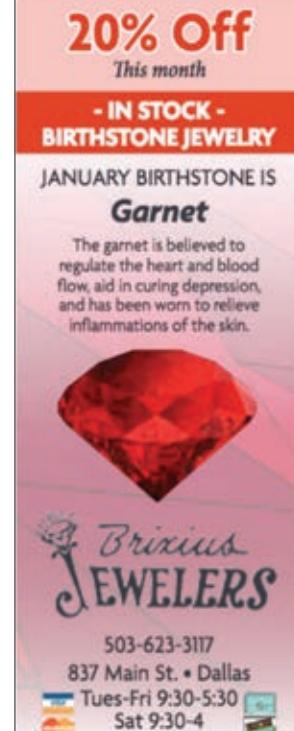


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New College of Forestry finalizes new management plan for OSU's McDonald-Dunn Research Forest

STEVE LUNDEBERG
Oregon State University

The Oregon State University College of Forestry has finalized a new management plan for the OSU-owned McDonald-Dunn Research Forest in the Coast Range foothills northwest of Corvallis.

Last revised in 2005, the updated plan provides an adaptive framework for sustainable management in a changing climate and sets the stage for the next century of stewardship, said Holly Ober, the college's associate dean for science outreach and the leader of the planning process.

The plan goes into effect in January 2026, which also marks the 100th anniversary of OSU's acquisition of the first parcel of the McDonald Forest.

Through a series of additional donations and acquisitions since then, the combined McDonald-Dunn Research Forest now spans 11,500 acres. It is the largest of the university's statewide network of research and demonstration forests.

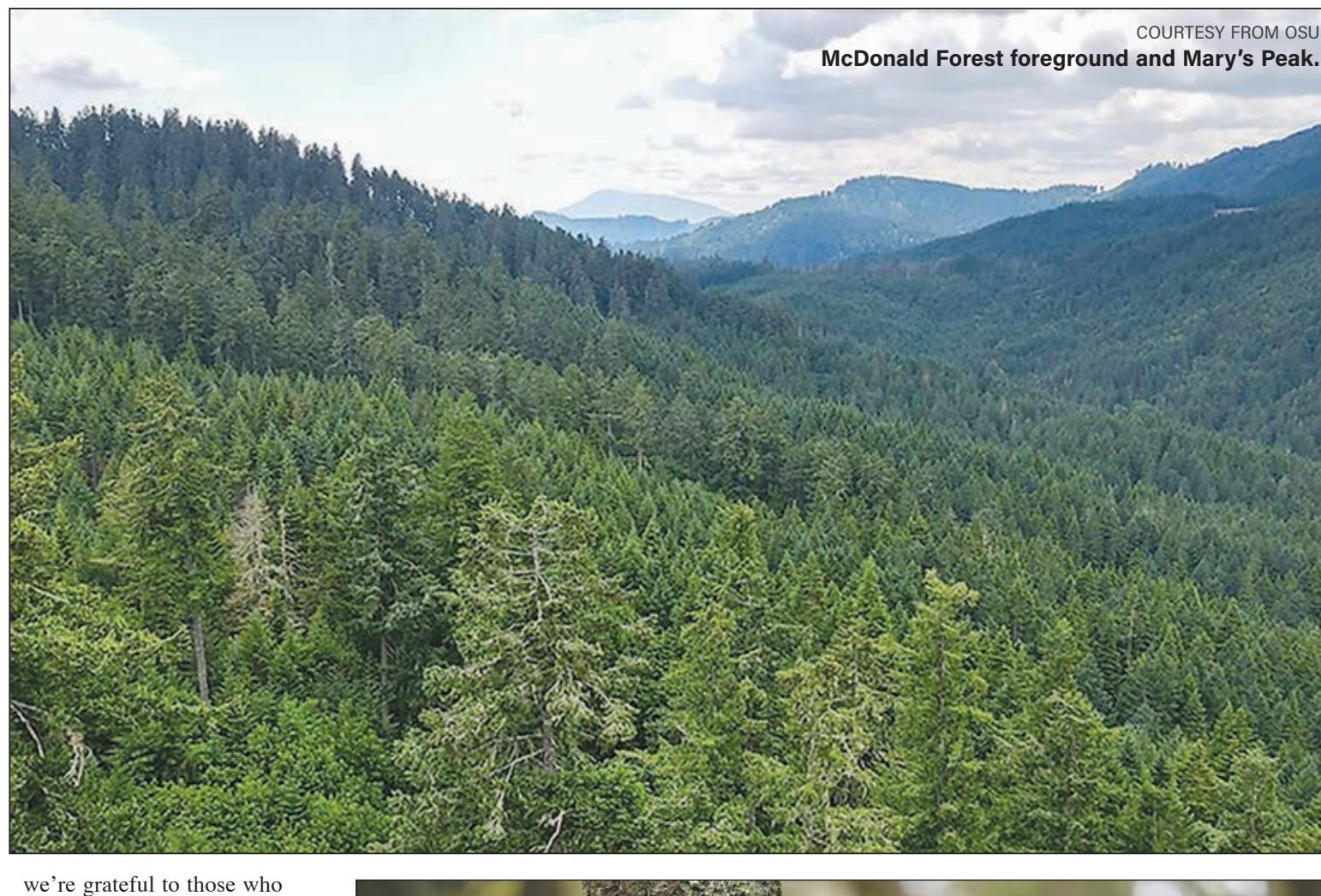
"Since the first parcel was acquired as a mostly cutover expanse of land in 1926, the McDonald-Dunn Forest has been intentionally shaped by a century of active management, which in turn has informed how we think about sustainable forestry today," Ober said. "If history has taught us anything, it's that change is constant – and this plan's adaptable design helps ensure that, even as conditions shift, the forest can continue advancing its mission."

The 2025 McDonald-Dunn Forest Plan is the culmination of a three-year process that included collaboration among scientists and educators, community members, Tribal representatives and several organizational partners including the Oregon departments of Forestry and Fish and Wildlife, the Benton County parks department and the nonprofit Greenbelt Land Trust.

The College of Forestry also offered multiple community listening and public input sessions and, following the June release of a draft of the plan, received 130 comments during a 30-day public comment period, representing a diversity of perspectives.

The college incorporated the feedback into additional modeling, using adjusted parameters to confirm the optimal harvest age for stands managed under the even-aged, short-rotation strategy and to validate other underlying assumptions in the draft plan. It also revised the plan to clarify the need for continued active management, refine technical elements, and establish a new advisory group to assess future revenue opportunities.

"The McDonald-Dunn has provided so much to so many over its long history, and



we're grateful to those who shared their time, expertise and perspectives throughout this process," Ober said. "Their input helped us shape a plan that balances the forest's many values and maintains the flexibility needed to steward it for long-term resilience and ensure it fulfills its mission of creating opportunities for education, research and outreach; demonstrating how sustainable forestry fosters prosperity, biodiversity and resilience; and supporting the social and cultural values forests provide to communities in Oregon and beyond."

By design, OSU's research forests are financially self-supporting, demonstrating that multiple forest values can coexist through sustainable management. Under the new plan, the McDonald-Dunn Research Forest will continue to serve as an actively managed living laboratory funded by timber harvest revenue, with key management changes including:

Reducing the average annual timber harvest from 6 million board feet under the 2005 plan to about 4.3 million board feet.

More than tripling the acreage stewarded toward older forest conditions, from about 350 acres to more than 1,100.

Devoting portions of the forest to experimental restoration in partnership with Tribal nations that will explore a variety of approaches for restoring specific ecosystems of concern.

Increasing the acres managed under the even-aged, long-rotation strategy to support learning opportunities about forest management across longer time spans while providing important wildlife habitat.

Managing additional acreage toward structurally and compositionally complex conditions, enabling research on multi-species, multi-aged stands and



COURTESY FROM OSU
Student measuring tree diameter.

supporting climate resilience.

Improving governance through clearer monitoring and reporting expectations.

Adjusting land allocations among the five management strategies and expanding guidance for late-successional forests, riparian areas and ecosystems of concern.

Strengthening the focus on climate resilience, including wildfire preparedness, drought-resilient reforestation, and restoration of oak woodlands and meadows.

The acreage of forest managed according to even-aged short rotations will decrease but not disappear, Ober said. This management approach allows for experimentation with new species or new genetic sources for existing species on a short time scale in response to changing climatic conditions, she said. It also allows for scientific comparisons between conventional short-rotation forestry and alternative practices.

Among the current research

priorities for the forest are evaluating carbon tradeoffs and long-term carbon storage potential; comparing wood production and environmental outcomes across harvest and retention systems; minimizing climate-driven impacts through fuels reduction and woodland and meadow restoration; and exploring ecocultural stewardship partnerships with Tribes.

Recreational access to the forest will remain in place for the more than 200,000 hikers, birdwatchers, horseback riders, cyclists and hunters who visit the forest each year. As part of the new plan's implementation, the College of Forestry will work with its Forest Recreation Advisory Committee beginning in the new year to evaluate if existing recreation policies require updates, a process that will include a series of surveys and focus groups to gather input from recreational users.

"Forestry is one of the only large-scale land management strategies compatible with

recreation, and we welcome the community to the forest to experience what a sustainably managed forest landscape that supports both conservation and wood production can look like," Ober said. "Our work with the advisory committee will help ensure that recreational access stays equitable and aligned with research forest goals."

The College of Forestry will host a series of activities throughout 2026 to celebrate the centennial of the forest, starting with the 2026 Starker Lecture Series in January.

People interested in learning about the history of the forest and its changing conditions over time are invited to join Bill Robbins, OSU distinguished professor emeritus of history, for the first Starker Lecture on Jan. 21. Learn more at the lecture series webpage

Steve Lundeberg is a news and research writer at Oregon State University. He may be reached at Steve.Lundeberg@oregonstate.edu

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

JOIN A NEW GROUP AT CORNERSTONE CHURCH

There is something new in Dallas. Perhaps it interests you in this new year.

Do you want to learn from a gifted teacher about the Book of Revelation regarding Jesus and The End Times? Join us at the newly opened Cornerstone Church at 245 SW Church St. (across from Lyle School.) We are a small, friendly group of folks. The coffee pot is on at 9:15 Sunday mornings.

Caroline Buchanan
Dallas, Oregon

DON'T LET LAWMAKERS MESS WITH LODGING TAXES

In 2003, Oregon lawmakers realized tourism was an untapped market and decided to make a strategic investment in tourism so Oregon would become a travel destination for business and leisure, not just for out-of-state visitors but also Oregonians looking to enjoy our wineries, coast, mountains or state and national parks.

Lawmakers created Travel

Oregon and a 1.5% state hotel tax that is 100% devoted to reinvestments in tourism promotion. Many municipalities, including Salem, Marion and Polk counties add their own local lodging tax, the bulk of which is supposed to feed back into tourism (though that's not always true) because it's a great return on investment. Travel Salem's digital advertising generated more than \$3.1 million in hotel revenue in the region in 2023-24 – and that's just hotel revenue, when we know much more is generated through restaurants and shopping too.

These investments are also in infrastructure projects. Travel Salem partnered with Resilient Headwaters to sustainably rebuild hundreds of miles of trails in the North Santiam Canyon. And we're working with Wheel the World, to improve inclusive, accessible travel.

State and local lodging taxes make a huge difference in our communities and it's a proven

effective economic development tool. Sadly, some state lawmakers are proposing state lodging tax increases for unrelated projects and tinkering with how local lodging taxes are spent. Both of which are bad ideas. I hope state lawmakers representing Polk and Marion counties oppose those bills in the 2026 session.

Kara Kuh
Salem

AMERICA HAS A DICTATOR IN CHARGE

The country I used to respect has become a national and international outlaw under our current leadership, a term which I use loosely in this case.

We have a president who says he doesn't respect international law, and continually stretches national laws beyond all recognition. Whenever he is stopped by the courts, his toadies find a weasel workaround to accomplish whatever his depraved mind desires.

He calls opponents insulting names and terrorists, true to the

bully he has always been. When he says "The only limit on my power is my own morality. My own mind" you know we have a dictator in charge.

It's especially true when by his actions we can see he has no morals.

Dale Derouin
Dallas

DR. KING COMBINED LIBERTY AND SPIRITUALITY

Dr. Martin Luther King declared personal liberties as key to personal sovereignty and prosperity by saying, "When the architects of our Republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was a promise that all men- yes black men as well as white men-would be guaranteed unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness....So we've come to cash this check; a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the

security of justice."

"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up, live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.' I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

"This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with new meaning, 'My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing.'"

Americans are individuals whose identity resides in pre-existing, natural, intangible liberties, and only secondarily in ethnicity, gender, or race. Dr. King asserted that the philosophical doctrines engrossed at founding placed all on the same metaphysical plain, made liberty the pathway to spiritual and material prosperity, and made us all brothers and sisters.

Nolan Nelson
Redmond

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should contain at most 350 words. The Polk Itemizer-Observer reserves the right to edit, condense, or reject any letter to the editor. Letters published in The Itemizer-Observer will also be published online. Letters to the editor and guest columns must include your first and last name, city or town or residence, and phone number for verification purposes. Letters endorsing candidates or campaign issues must be received no later than ten days before an election. Letters written by candidates will not be accepted. Letters to the editor should be the author's work. We strongly discourage and will attempt to weed out form letters, letters mailed to other news outlets, or letters written and edited by a third party, including but not limited to political parties. We try to restrict the printing of one submission per author per month. We do not publish anonymous letters, personal attacks, personal complaints, poetry, consumer complaints, or letters written in bad taste. To send a letter: Mail: Editor, Polk County Itemizer-Observer, P.O. Box 108, Dallas, OR 97338. Email: ionews@polkio.com. Office: 147 SE Court St., Dallas.

Weather

46/28 Mostly Cloudy

44/32 Partly Cloudy

47/29 Partly Cloudy

45/32 Partly Cloudy

48/38 Showers

52/36 Partly Cloudy

52/39 Mostly Cloudy

Temp/Rainfall

Jan. 12 - 55 34 0.00

Jan. 13 - 48 29 0.00

Jan. 14 - 40 28 0.00

Jan. 15 - 56 40 0.00

Jan. 16 - 58 31 0.00

Jan. 17 - 52 31 0.00

Jan. 18 - 50 27 0.00

Total Jan. 12-18

- 0.00

Total through Jan.

18 - 1.95

Weekly Online Poll

What type of stories would you like to see the Itemizer-Observer cover more in 2026?

City News - 12.5%

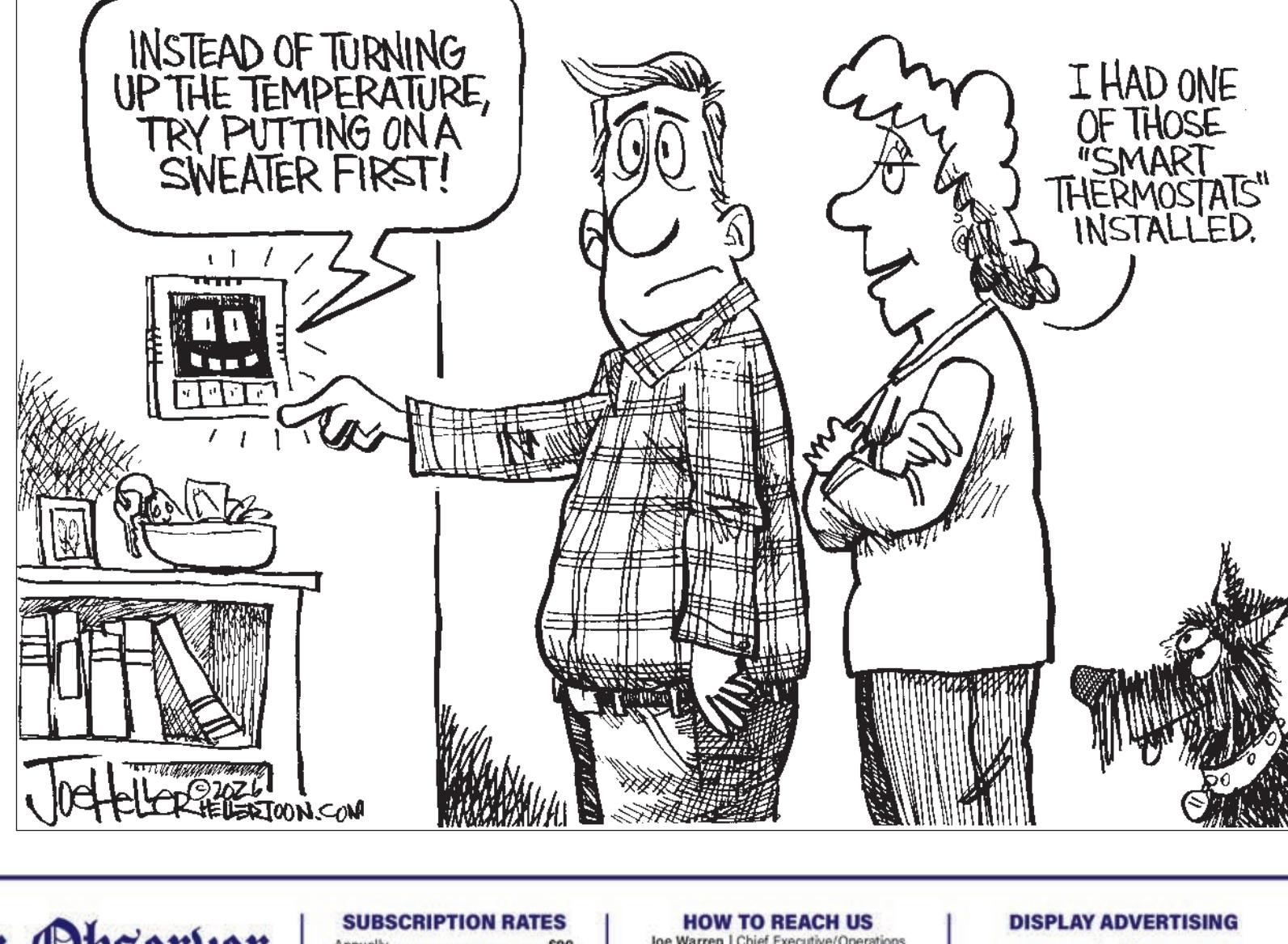
County News

- 40.6%

School News - 21.9%

General Features

- 25.0%



Polk County Itemizer-Observer

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF POLK COUNTY.

Serving Polk County families since 1875.

The Polk County Itemizer-Observer website, www.polkio.com is updated each week by Wednesday afternoon. Itemizer-Observer also is on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

(USPS) - 437-380

Periodicals postage paid at Dallas, OR, Independence, OR and Monmouth, OR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Annually.....\$90

6 months.....\$65

Monthly.....\$10

DIGITAL ONLY

Electronic edition annually.....\$75

Electronic edition monthly.....\$9

POSTMASTER

Send address changes to: Polk County Itemizer-Observer,

388 State St #800, Salem, OR 97301

The Polk County Itemizer-Observer assumes no financial responsibility for errors in advertisements. It will, however, reprint without charge for the portion of an advertisement which is in error if Itemizer-Observer is at fault.

HOW TO REACH US

Joe Warren | Chief Executive/Operations
jwarren@countrymedia.net

940-372-1008

NEWSROOM

David Hayes | News Editor
dhayes@polkio.com

NEWS DEADLINES

Social News | 5p.m. Thursday

(Weddings, engagements,

anniversaries, births, milestones)

Community Events | Noon Friday

Letters To The Editor | 1p.m. Friday

Obituaries | 1p.m. Friday

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

Joe Warren

jwarren@countrymedia.net

940-372-1008

CLASSIFIED LINE ADVERTISING

adavis@polkio.com

503-444-7924

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Retail Display Ads | 3p.m. Wednesday

Classified Display Ads | 12p.m. Friday

Classified Line Ads | 12p.m. Friday

Public Notices | Noon Thursday

Classified ads are updated daily at polkio.com.

MAGIC MAZE • **OLD SAILING TERMS STILL USED TODAY**

T S T Q O H T R E B E D I W L
K J O H D R A O B N O E C S A
E X E V T R K P N L J H F H D
E B T T U B E L T T U C S I T
L Y H X V M N W O D E P I P O
O V E R B O A R D T R P O S H
V M L K I G B T E S D N A H S
E D I S E V A W E K A M B A G
R Z N O N A C E S O O L H P N
X W E U T R K Q O N L O J E O
I G F D C A Y X W V Y E M I L

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Unlisted clue hint: All. — ON DECK

Ahoy Loose canon Overboard Taken aback
Keel over Make waves Pipe down Toe the line
Limey Mate Scuttlebutt Wide berth
Long shot Onboard Shipshape

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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3. Necktie is missing. 4. Tie is different. 5. Nose is open.
6. Amorette is different. 1. Man is looking the other way. 2. Mouth is open.

Americanisms

"I never ran my train off the track, and I never lost a passenger."

— Harriet Tubman

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Moments in time

• On **Feb. 2, 1925**, musher Gunnar Kaasen and his 13 dogs successfully delivered an antitoxin serum to Nome, Alaska, which was dealing with a widespread diphtheria outbreak, in a relay spanning 674 miles in five and a half days and in temperatures as low as 85 degrees below zero.

• On **Feb. 3, 1780**, Barnett Davenport murdered Caleb Mallory, in whose house he was a boarder along with Mallory's wife, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren, in their home. One of post-Revolution America's most famous crimes, it contributed to a change in the way the country viewed lawbreakers.

• On **Feb. 4, 1703**, 47 samurai were forced to display the ultimate act of loyalty to the regional Japanese lord they had followed by committing seppuku — ritually disemboweling themselves — for the crime of killing the official who had ordered the forced suicide of said lord.

• On **Feb. 5, 2003**, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell gave a speech to the United Nations outlining America's case that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction and making an argument for the invasion that would take place the following month. Unfortunately, some of his talking points were either incorrect or misleading, and Powell later described the speech as a blot on his record.

• On **Feb. 6, 1998**, a judge reinstated schoolteacher Mary Kay Letourneau's suspended sentence and returned her to prison for seven years after she was caught violating a no-contact order with her former student, Vili Fualaau, when she was found in a parked car with the boy.

• On **Feb. 7, 1984**, Navy captain Bruce McCandless II became the first human to perform an untethered spacewalk while in orbit 170 miles above the earth, maneuvering freely with a jet pack of his own design after exiting the Challenger space shuttle.

• On **Feb. 8, 1994**, actor Jack Nicholson approached Robert Blanks' car while they were stopped at a red light in North Hollywood, accused Blanks of cutting him off in traffic, and then bashed Blanks' roof and windshield with a golf club. Charges were dropped after Nicholson apologized and the two reached an undisclosed settlement that included a reported \$500,000 check from Nicholson.

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Weekly SUDOKU

5			8	7	1	4		
3	8		2	4		5	6	
4	7	6			8			
					6			
1			6			8	3	
	2	5	3				4	
4			3		2	9	1	
5	1		6	3	7			
8	3		2	4				

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
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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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: L equals U

HTBI RUL GBXMLDCB ADIR
GBUGQB WU AUOB WU
LWXDEIB'M JDGEWDQ, HTDW
CU RUL CU? WTEJVBI VEBO.

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Puzzle answers
on page B2

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

THEY SAY PLANTS THRIVE ON POSITIVE ENERGY AND CALMING VOICES. YOUR MOTHER DID JUST SPEND A WEEK WITH US.



by Gary Kopervas

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. LITERATURE: Who was the first Canadian to win the Nobel Prize in Literature?

2. MYTHOLOGY: What is the home of the Greek gods?

3. LANGUAGE: Which language is the second most spoken in Canada?

4. HISTORY: Which explorer sailed around Africa to discover a trade route between Europe and India?

5. MOVIES: What is the name of Elle Woods' Chihuahua in "Legally Blonde"?

6. GAMES: In what year was the original Pac-Man video game released?

7. TELEVISION: What is the name of the town where "Hart of Dixie" is set?

8. FOOD & DRINK: Which popular fruit has seeds on the outside?

9. MEDICAL TERMS: What is the common name for alopecia?

10. GEOGRAPHY: In which country are the Cliffs of Moher located?

Answers

1. Short story author Alice Munro, 2013.

2. Mount Olympus.

3. French.

4. Vasco da Gama.

5. Bruiser.

6. 1980.

7. Bluebell, Alabama.

8. Strawberries.

9. Hair loss.

10. Ireland.

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GO FIGURE!

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive 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 and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

+		-	= 15
+	■	+	■
+	■	+	= 39
÷	■	×	■
+	■	÷	■
=	■	=	= 1
15	60	1	
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9			

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Out on a Limb**Amber Waves**

MOM, I'M GETTING OLDER, SO I THINK IT'S TIME WE DISCUSS MY ALLOWANCE.

I'D LIKE TO RENEgotiate HOW MUCH I GET FOR DOING CHORES AROUND THE HOUSE.

AFTER ALL, YOU MAY ENJOY DOING HOUSEWORK, BUT MY TIME IS VALUABLE.

GEEZ, I GUESS THAT'S WHAT THEY MEAN BY A "HOSTILE NEGOTIATION."

by Dave T. Phipps

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Master Woodland Manager Training returns to Polk, Benton and Linn counties

The Master Woodland Manager (MWM) training is offered by Oregon State University Forestry and Natural Resources Extension as a high-level course for private landowners who are interested in an intensive forest management training and sharing the knowledge gained through this training with people in their local communities. Basic experience or knowledge in entry level forest ecology and/or management required.

Each session will be held every other week from March through May and will be outdoors at various woodland locations throughout Benton, Linn, and Polk Counties. Instructors to include forestry service agencies and organizations, OSU Faculty, and a number of other local professionals.

Advanced registration is required as there is limited capacity. For additional details, and to RSVP go to <https://bit.ly/49VVYD0> or contact Crystal Kelso at crystal.kelso@oregonstate.edu or (541) 730-3539.

6.0 Earthquake recorded off Oregon Coast

JEREMY C. RUARK
Country Media, Inc.

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) reported a 6.0 earthquake approximately 183 miles west of Bandon that occurred at 4:24 p.m. Thursday afternoon, Jan. 15.

The USGS said there was no tsunami threat generated by the below sea tremor that occurred in a location where frequent smaller quakes have been recorded.

Local and state emergency managers have advised that such events underscore the need for coastal residents and visitors to be prepared in the case of a threatening earthquake and tsunami. The emergency managers encourage everyone to:

- Make an Emergency Plan
- Review NVS Tsunami

Evacuation Zones

- Learn what tsunami evacuation zones your home, work, school, and other areas you frequent are in.
- Learn the Tsunami Message definitions and appropriate actions.
- Talk with family and friends about what you will do, including if you're not together during an emergency.
- Practice your plan at different times and on different days. What will you do if you are at home, work, school, or another location?
- Plan to check on your neighbors or vulnerable community members and offer assistance if possible.
- Build an Emergency Kit
- Create an emergency kit or update your existing one.

BACKGROUND

What Do Tsunami Alerts Mean?

Tsunami messages are issued by the National Tsunami Warning Center to alert local authorities and the public of potential danger. The Weather Service outlines four levels of tsunami alerts used in the United States:

Tsunami Warning – “Take Action”

A tsunami that may cause widespread flooding is expected or occurring. Dangerous coastal flooding and powerful currents are possible and may continue for several hours or even days after the initial wave arrival.

Tsunami Advisory – “Take Action”

A tsunami with the potential for strong currents or

waves dangerous to those in or very near the water is expected or occurring. There may also be flooding in beach and harbor areas.

Tsunami Watch – “Be Prepared”

A distant earthquake has occurred, and a tsunami is possible. People in coastal areas should stay alert and prepare to take action if conditions change.

Tsunami Information Statement – “Relax”

An earthquake has occurred, but there is no threat, or it was very far away, and the potential threat is still being assessed. In most cases, no destructive tsunami is expected.

For more information about earthquake and tsunami preparedness, visit Tsunami Safety at www.weather.gov/safety/tsunami

DHS

From Page A1

The program's growth reflects a rising interest among students in career pathways that lead directly to employment, entrepreneurship, or further

professional training. By focusing on practical certifications aligned with workforce needs, Dallas High School continues to strengthen its commitment to Career and Technical Education (CTE).

Junior Madek Noland, one of many who are taking multiple training

classes, values the opportunity to get a jump start on his career:

"I'm really excited for these trainings which will help me on my career path as an electrician. I'm grateful this opportunity is offered for us at DHS to get those required industry certifications at no cost."

The Professional Trades Program is made possible through generous donations and educational support from local business and community partners, including Farmers Insurance, H&R Block, Avenue Mortgage, HomeSmart Realty and Chemeketa Community

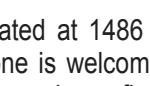
College. These partnerships provide students with industry insight and mentoring, instructional support, and real-world relevance.

Looking ahead, DHS Technical Education plans to expand program offerings and create additional opportunities for students

interested in professional trades and workforce careers.

For more information about the Professional Trades Program or Career Technical Education opportunities at Dallas High School, contact Bill Masei at Bill.masei@dsd2.org.

Worship Directory



DALLAS

Bahá'í Faith — Building a Better World: "Ye are the fruits of one tree, and the leaves of one branch. Deal ye one with another with the utmost love and harmony, with friendliness and fellowship." — Bahá'u'lláh. All are warmly invited to an interfaith gathering on the last Sunday of each month at 2:00. You are encouraged to share any quotations, prayers, poems, and songs related to the theme for the month. For details call 971-804-5943 or 503-269-3333. (Please leave a message for call back.) More about the Bahá'í Faith: www.bahai.org or www.bahaisofsalem.org

Dallas Church — PO Box 462, Dallas, OR 97338, 503-623-2711. Worship Gatherings: Sundays 9am & 10:30am. Meeting at 450 SE Washington St., Dallas OR 97338. Atmosphere is relaxed, families and children welcome, come as you are, current music & relevant teaching about Jesus. Pastor: Ben Bauman. www.dallaschurch.org

Dallas Church of Christ — 691 NE Kings Valley Hwy, Dallas, 503-623-8791. Sundays: 9:30am Bible Classes for all, 10:30am Worship, 2:00pm Group Bible Talk, Wednesdays: 6:30pm Bible Study. Come to any, come to them all! Individual Bible studies gladly made by appointment. Web: dallaschurchofchrist.com.

Dallas Evangelical Church — A Place of Hope and Healing: 783 SW Church Street, Dallas Oregon, across from the Post Office. Find us on Facebook: on page DallasEC, MyDallasEC Friends and www.dallasec.org. Join us on Sundays in person or on Zoom for weekly Bible Study and Worship Service. We worship in a contemporary, casual format. Sunday Services: Bible Study 9:00 AM; Worship Service 10:00 AM, zoom room 228-034-850. Celebrate Recovery (a Christ Based 12 Step Program) is also on Sundays and starts with Dinner 5:00 PM; Large Group (Worship) 6:00 PM, and small groups at 7PM. We have a Community Clothing Closet: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, & Sat 9 AM - Noon; Thurs Nights 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Step Studies are often starting or ending all year and meeting at various times. Message phone 503-623-3778. Find us on Facebook: DallasEC or join MyDallasEC Friends. You can email pastor Dave at pastor.dave@dallasec.org

Dallas Foursquare Church — Located at 976 SW Hayter St., on the corner of Washington and Hayter. Senior Pastor: Darrin Hauser. Worship Gatherings: Sundays at 10:00 a.m., Youth Home Groups: Sunday evenings from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Please call for locations. We are a multi-generational church with a heart for our community. Our mission is to Love God and Love People to Extend His Kingdom. For more info call us at 503-623-8277 or visit us online at dallasfour.com.

Evangelical Bible Church — 1175 S.E. Howe St., Dallas 503-623-2331. Senior Pastor Troy Bassham, Youth Pastor Andrew Wheeler, Administrative Pastor Mike Fast. Sunday services 9:00am & 10:30am. Awana 6:30pm Wednesday. Weekly Prayer meeting 6:30pm Wednesday. Women's Bible Study Thursday 9:30 am & 6:30 pm. Men's Bible Study Thursday 6:30pm. Compass Middle School Youth Group Thursday 6:30pm. Forged High School Youth Group Tuesday 6:30pm. Live Streamed services via facebook and youtube @EBCDallas.

Grace Community Church — 598 E. Ellendale Ave. Dallas, 503-623-4961. Lead Pastor- Dave Bertolini, Sunday Worship Gatherings 9:00am, with Nursery-5th Grade programs, Youth Life Groups, and scheduled Sunday School Classes running concurrently & 10:45am, with Nursery-5th Grade programs, and scheduled Sunday School Classes, running concurrently.

Live Stream our 10:45am service at www.graceindallas.online.church

Visit our Website at www.graceindallas.org for office hours, sermon downloads, event information, and more!

House of His Presence — House of His Presence, located at 177 SW Oak St. in Dallas, welcomes all who are seeking to know God intimately and live life abundantly. We believe God transforms us into the image of Jesus Christ as we encounter His Holiness, Righteousness and Truth through His manifested presence, worship and the Word of God. Sunday morning service at 10:30 am, visit the website for ongoing ministries during the week. For more information call 503-420-4612 Website www.houseofhispresence.net

Living Word Faith Fellowship — 830 SE Shelton Street, Dallas, 503-623-9062. Pastor Ray Huff. Sunday Prayer 9:30am, Worship 10:00am, Children's Church (during service, nursery provided). Wednesday Prayer 6:30pm, Worship 7:00pm. Men's fellowship second Saturday, Pastor Ray Huff is in charge of men's fellowship. Call for info 503-623-9062.

Salt Creek Baptist Church — 15075 Salt Creek Rd, Dallas, 503-623-2976. Interim Pastor John Dotson, Family Pastor Josiah Buhler. Sunday School 9:30am. Sunday morning Worship Gathering 10:50am. Nursery provided for worship services. Classes for all ages. Wednesday Middle and High School youth at 6:30pm. Please call for information about other meetings or visit our website at www.saltcreekchurch.org.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church — 589 SW Birch St PO Box 450 Dallas, Or 97338 503-623-5872 Pastor Ted Perry, Services on Saturday: Sabbath School 9:30 am, Worship Service 11 am Study and Prayer Wednesday 7pm Office hours: Wed, Thurs & Friday 9-12 . Community Services for food and clothing Wednesday 10am to 1pm.

St. Philip Catholic Church — Fr. Michael P. Johnston, Pastor Pastor Email: mpjinpdx@yahoo.com | 825 S.W. Mill Street, Dallas, OR 97338

Liturgical Schedule

Monday- Wednesday - 5:30 p.m. Mass

Thursday - 8:00 a.m. (No Mass on Friday)

Saturday Vigil Mass - 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Masses - 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Coffee and Donuts will be served after Sunday services

St. Thomas Episcopal Church — Welcome! Our church is located at 1486 SW Levens St., Dallas. Our phone number is 503-623-5822 . Everyone is welcome to come and be a part of our congregation on Sundays for the 10 a.m. service or find us live on Facebook and updates. Join us for coffee after our service. Our services are as follows: 1st and 3rd Sundays are Morning Prayer. 2nd and 4th Sundays are Holy Eucharist. Blessings!

Trinity Lutheran Church — 320 SE Fir Villa Rd, Dallas. All are welcome! Pastor Jody Becker and Pastor Johathan Thompson, Adult Sunday Bible Study 8:45, Sunday Worship Service 10 am coffee hour with treats after service. Wednesday Worship Service noon. Nursery available for parents to use. Play area for small children in sanctuary during worship service. Youth Group HS/MS 11:30 am Sundays. Weekly Bible Studies. Contact us at 503-623-2233 or at questionsdallastlc@gmail.com. Online at dallatlc.org. Check it out! Office open Mon.-Thur. 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, Fri. 9:00 am to Noon. Because God first loved us, we celebrate the gifts of Christ through worship, service, and community.

United Methodist Church — a church with Open Hearts, Open Minds & Open Doors, 565 SE LaCrescent Dr, Dallas, 503-623-2481. Pastor Rev. Ruth Marsh. In-person Sunday morning worship at 10 a.m. Go to the website at: dallasoregonumc.org for additional information.

Valley Life Center (Assemblies of God) — 1795 SE Miller Ave., Dallas. Lead Pastor: Chris Barker; Youth: Jeff Anderson; Children: Crystal Barker; Worship/Media: Jesse Ceballos. Sunday Service is at 10:00 am and online streaming at 10:00 am (www.valleylife.love.) On Wednesdays at 6:30 pm, there is Men's Bible Study, Ladies Bible Study, Ignite Youth, Rangers Boys Club, Mpact Girls Club, Rainbows, and nursery care. For more information, contact us at www.valleylife.love, info@valleylifecenter.com or 503-623-4116.

FALLS CITY

Seventh-Day Adventist Church — 205 N. Main, Falls City 97344, 503-787-3907. Services on Saturday: Sabbath School 10:00am; Worship Service 11:10am. Community Service Center Food Bank: Second Wednesday, 11am-3pm, Fourth Sunday, 11am-3pm.

INDEPENDENCE

Christ The King Church — Service on Sundays 10 am, 580 S 9 St., (Corner of S 9 St. and F street) Independence OR 97351 . 503-551-9516 or visit us at www.ctkindependence.com.

Cornerstone Church of God — 4395 Independence Hwy, Independence, 503-838-5119. Sunday Service and Children's Church 9:30am Nursery available. Wednesday Kids Klubs 6:30pm. Thursday Adult Bible Study 6:30pm

First Baptist Church — A warm friendly church that cares about you! Located at 1505 Monmouth St, Independence (across from Central High School); 503-838-1001. Senior Pastor Michael Parks. Sundays: Worship Service 11 am, Wednesdays: AWANA 5:30 pm dinner, 6:00 pm clubs; Youth Group 7:30 pm. Join us for small groups for Men, Women, and Couples throughout the week. Check us out at www.independencefirstbaptist.com

MONMOUTH

Monmouth Christian Church — 969 Church St W, Monmouth 97361. Office hours M-T 9a-4p. Phone: 503-838-1145. Join us for services on Sundays, 9am & 11am. Live ONLINE Service 11am. Please visit our website for more info or on how to join our online service. WWW.MYMCC.CCSt. Hilda's Episcopal Church — 245 Main St. West, Monmouth. Contact Information: sthildaschurch1@gmail.com. Sunday Worship (Eucharist) 10:00 AM followed by fellowship. Our church services are reverent and relaxed. Our purpose is God's worship. 7:00 PM Wednesday, Evening Prayer online, contact us thru the email address above for access codes. Walk our labyrinth – behind the parking lot, it's still in development, but it works. Follow us on our Facebook page; St Hilda's Episcopal Church, Monmouth Or.

St. Hilda's Episcopal Church — 245 Main St. West, Monmouth. Contact Information: sthildaschurch1@gmail.com. Sunday Worship (Eucharist) 10:00 AM followed by fellowship. Our church services are reverent and relaxed. Our purpose is God's worship. 7:00 PM Wednesday, Evening Prayer online, contact us thru the email address above for access codes. Walk our labyrinth – behind the parking lot, it's still in development, but it works. Follow us on our Facebook page; St Hilda's Episcopal Church, Monmouth OR.

CLUB

From Page A1

recently in 2009 a major renovation added 225,700 square feet to the facility, including new administrative offices, expansion of two classroom wings and the addition of a new performing arts auditorium.

Now that Central grew to 225,700 square feet, upkeep demand has outpaced the school's staffing to maintain. The administration sent a \$90 million bond request that voters rejected last year. In addition to replacing the roofs at Central High School, bond would also have paid for, among other big ticket projects, a new building for Monmouth Elementary School, created additional classrooms for Talmadge Middle School, upgrade the athletic fields at Central High School/Talmadge Middle School, Modernize outdated heating and cooling systems at Ash Creek and Independence Elementary Schools.

The leaks within Central's roof, especially in the south hallway became more and more noticeable, then spread to the auditorium and several classrooms. Villeneuve pointed to many examples where buckets and trashcans were set up to allow the leaks to drain into.

"Patching the holes have been met with minimal success," Villeneuve said the maintenance staff told him.

Many of the Advocacy Club members themselves have had to scramble for cover after leaks developed over their heads during activities.

"We were at a theater meeting on the stage eating food and the water droplets kept coming down," said sophomore Tialani Atagy. She added she's worried about mold buildup that could affect her fellow students. "Even the teachers are worried about this. We're just trying to raise awareness."

Jade Kiersey, also a sophomore, said another leak occurred during a yoga class in the mat room, also used for wrestling practices.

"I just remember there was that one section we could not go into because there was a mop bucket collecting water, or there would be a puddle on the ground," she recalled.

Villeneuve said the Advocacy Club got together and discussed the problem as described by their fellow students and faculty. They crafted a letter to present to the school board outlining their concerns and how they can help the district to enact positive change.

Principal Rick Dormer,



The Central High School Advocacy Club reads their letter of concern to the School Board Jan. 12.

in his first year helming the school, is impressed the group has taken on such a daunting challenge.

"I love it. We have young adults here. I've been at high schools my whole career. I tell staff, students they have more power and authority than they realize," Dormer said. "Some spend more time here than at home. Central is a big part of their lives."

Dormer said he meets with his head of maintenance daily to prioritize school upkeep. Over Christmas break, he said the maintenance staff addressed some patching needs, including above the auditorium for the first time. .

"They fix the leaks with tar to slow it down. It's a band aid fix, which

is unfortunately a part of life," Dormer said.

The Advocacy group presented their letter of concern to the school board on Jan. 12, each taking a turn reading from the page.

"We understand that funding, to say the least, is difficult to come by," their letter read. "However, a wait and see approach is no longer sustainable. Every dollar deferred on our roof repair will lead to compounding costs to repairs and property damage tomorrow."

Their plea did not just call for action from the board, but also extended an olive branch to help be a part of the solution.

"We want to work with you to increase community awareness and find a way

forward that protects our students, our staff and our community's resources.

Let's ensure our facilities are as strong as the education that is happening inside them," the letter concluded.

Board Chair Byron Shinkle said after their presentation the roof issue is something the district can address as the administration lays out their priorities during the budget process.

"If we can't attack them all at once with a big chunk of money and we have to nickel and dime them with whatever meager budget items we have, at least we can identify the priorities articulated by facilities (department)," Shinkle said. "That way the budget committee can really have that

understanding as we enter into budget season."

Superintendent Jennifer Kubista said the administration can provide some projected numbers on the costs toward those repairs and provide the budget committee with the discussions that went into drafting up the failed bond. However, she said, the hard part is the other top priorities that need addressing at other buildings, including the lack of air conditioning at three hot buildings.

"To be honest, the high school is millions of dollars to fix that roof. It was \$4.5 million. And that was two years ago. So now it's probably closer to \$5-5.5 million," Kubista said.

She said part of the problem stems from poorly executed construction during the renovations that has left the current administration holding the bag for repairing past mistakes.

"That (roof) should have lasted 30-40 years before we saw any issues," Kubista added.

Villeneuve said afterwards they're happy the discussion has led to other possible solutions.

"We were told, however, that donations to the district for repairs to the roof would be possible, in a similar way The Gate has created a campaign for developments on their site," he said.

KENNEL

From Page A1

"It's also right next to the sewer plant, (next to) a little berm, and then there's the shooting range that's pretty active all day," he said. "So you had scared dogs anyway hearing gunfire all the day. Not ideal."

So the Sheriff's Office used \$250,000 remaining of the county's allocation of its ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) money doled out during the pandemic to order and assemble a pre-fab dog kennel to meet the growing demand for housing lost pups.

Isham said early on they thought they'd be \$50,000 under budget, but quickly found out Oregon laws, and zoning and permitting ordinances, were pretty demanding.

Their kennel was designed to sit on a concrete slab. Oregon requires modular homes and buildings need to be lifted off the ground three feet. That required decking to be built around the outside of their kennel. Then they needed to meet septic tank requirements and overcome overflowing problems generated by their location to

"We stayed under budget by a few dollars. We have heat and air, can set those things on during summer to kick on. Humidity levels to vent out."

The 12 kennels also have new fencing that can't be chewed through and an overhead panel to prevent climbing dogs from escaping.

There's automatic water feeders that dogs can drink out of on their own.

Before, the county had a deal with the old Oregon Humane Society and, after a state reorganization, the county is building on a new relationship with Oregon Humane.

"The sheriff and I met with them about six months ago and they asked 'how can we help you?'" Isham said.

The process is quite simple, he added.



"Our plan is, when we find a dog, first and foremost we try to find the owner with posts on Facebook," Isham said. "It's crazy. We'll put a picture on there, and people will say, 'That's Rocko.' People know who these dogs are."

"We're good at getting them back to their rightful owner, usually within a week of one getting in," Garton added.

On the rare occasion dogs are feral or are not reunited with their owner, Oregon Humane steps in to adopt them out.

"Just last week, three of their top guys came out. They were impressed. Man this exceeded our expectations. We'll take all three of your dogs," Isham said.

Garton added Oregon Humane also gives the Polk County kennel access to medication to give the dogs before they're adopted out.

Animal Patrol Deputy Jodi Whiting, who has been with the sheriff's office for more than a

decade is the only paid staff member running the program and overseeing the new kennel. The rest is handled by volunteers.

When the public found out we were doing this, we had a lot of people who wanted to volunteer," Isham said. "That pool is now 18 volunteers."

They build their own schedule of who walks, feeds and cleans up for a dog in the kennel. Garton said they wouldn't be able to run a successful program without them, as Whiting works just Monday through Thursday.

Garton said they also did a public request for outfitting the kennel, supplying a shopping wish list on Amazon. It sold out like that (snapped his fingers). Everything from bowls to paper towels to shelving, saving them a few thousand dollars in supply costs.

Advice to homeowners to keep dogs from staying at the K-9 kennel?

Keep them on a leash, have proper fencing, that's

a big deal. You could have the most controlled dog until he hears a gunshot or some kind of weird sound that freaks them out,"

Garton. He added chipping a pet also is invaluable in matching a stray back to its owner.

Garton said he

appreciates the county giving his office the opportunity to put together the kennel. "Otherwise, we'd have nothing."

And the support of the public has been huge,"

Isham added. "Volunteers, supplies, with our budget being pretty lean anyway,

every little bit helps.

Garton said they could always use more volunteers. To find out more information on how to get involved, call (503) 623-9251 during business hours or email sheriff.records@polkcountyyor.gov.



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PHOTO BY LANCE MASTERSON
Central's Tyler Olafson drives to the hoop in the Panthers' 69-42 win against Silverton Jan. 16 to remain undefeated in the Mid-Willamette Conference.

Holestine, Panthers blitz Foxes, 69-42

By LANCE MASTERSON
For The Itemizer-Observer

There are fast starts, and then there's Jack Holestine's start against visiting Silverton on Friday.

The Panthers' senior guard connected on all five 3-point attempts, and scored 16 of his team's 19 points, in the first quarter alone.

Holestine knew early he was on fire.

"I just saw it go in once and I knew everything else was going

in. Once I got in that rhythm, it was like, 'Give me the ball,'" he said. "But that comes from trust. My teammates trusting me and me trusting them."

The team's other points in the opening frame came on a sixth trey, this one by Lucas Haines.

Once Holestine cooled down he turned to his teammates. The result was an easy 69-42 win over the Foxes (2-3, 4-6 overall).

"I started missing a

little, so I told them to pick it up, and they did," he said of his teammates' effort. "They came in ready to play and did their job."

This fast-start mentality is by design. Central finished with 19 points in the first quarter against Silverton, and 29 against Dallas on Jan. 13. The aim is to seize control, setting the tone on both ends of the court.

"We came in thinking

See BOYS, page B8

Panthers hold off Dragons' late rally for 52-51 win



PHOTO BY LANCE MASTERSON

Central's Thalia Betancourt and Natalie Ball play stifling defense against Dragon Paetyn Beady in a defensive struggle that led to a Panther's 52-51 win on Jan. 13.

By LANCE MASTERSON
For The Itemizer-Observer

It just wasn't meant to be for the Dragons' girls varsity basketball team, which came up short against Central, 52-51, on Jan. 13.

"I thought we dug ourselves an early hole. One that we had to fight out of," Dragons coach Drew Richman said.

Dallas led by two points in the fourth. Harlow Nelson, who finished with 15 points and seven rebounds, sparked the Dragons' comeback.

"Harlow is a heck of a player, and she's continuing to blossom every game," Richman said. "Her offensive game is starting to match her defensive game."

Peyton Bready added 10 points. Dallas committed 28 turnovers to the visitors 26.

combined for 26 points to power the Panthers. Names's line also included six rebounds, five assists and four steals.

Natalie Ball and Ava Sanchez were tough inside, adding five boards each for Central.

Central coach Marc Burleson said his team hung tough at the end, even with key players Molly Henderson, Anna Cole and Names on the bench, having fouled out.

The win was Central's third consecutive, all in conference.

Central was up 16-12 after one quarter, 30-25 at half, and 44-37 after three quarters. But the Dragons netted 14 of the

Bella Names and Emery Lushenko

See GIRLS, page B8

Panther Kids split mini dual matches, shut out at The Classic

The Panther Kids opened up the night for the high school program on Jan. 14. Winning matches over Lebanon were Isaac Vidal, and Arik and Elyse Trujillo.

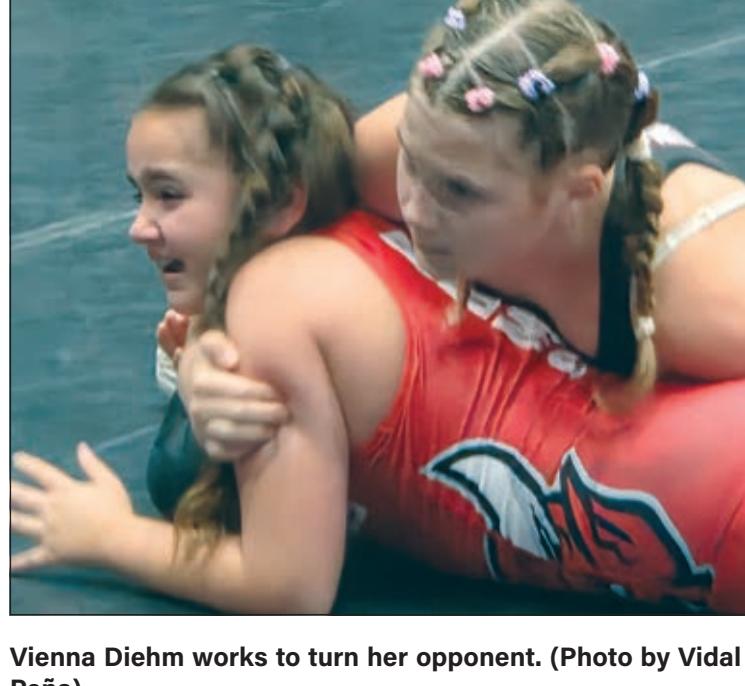
Fast forward to the Oregon Wrestling Classic on Jan. 18, PKW had trouble even before the whistle blew.

"Two of our kids were sick and couldn't wrestle. One more just couldn't make it. The others had close matches but simple mistakes cost the matches," said head coach Vidal Peña. "A couple others put up a great fight but lost in the final seconds, but we are very proud and excited to take what we learned and have something to work on in the next couple weeks to prepare for the State Championships."

There were no placers at the Classic for the first time in two years.



Isaac Vidal puts in his signature cradle vs Lebanon. (Photo by Jessica Vidal)



Vienna Diehm works to turn her opponent. (Photo by Vidal Peña)

SPORTS SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

Jan. 13

Central Girls 52, Dallas 51

Central Boys 85, Dallas 54

Jan. 14

Dallas Girls 73, Gladstone 21

Perrydale Girls 57, Falls City 9

Perrydale Boys 39, Falls City 27

Jan. 15

Livingstone Academy 57,

Falls City Boys 27

Jan. 16

Silverton Girls 56, Central 38

Central Boys 69, Silverton 42

Crescent Valley 52, Dallas Girls 26

Crescent Valley 66, Dallas Boys 41

Perrydale Girls 55, St. Paul 38

St. Paul 60, Perrydale Boys 39

SPORTS CALENDAR

BASKETBALL

Jan. 23

Central Girls at Lebanon, 5:30 p.m.

Central Boys at Lebanon, 7 p.m.

McKay vs. Dallas Girls, 5:30 p.m.

McKay vs. Dallas Boys, 7 p.m.

Chemawa vs. Perrydale Girls, 5:30 p.m.

Chemawa vs. Perrydale Boys, 7 p.m.

Willamette Valley Christian vs. Falls City Girls, 5:30 p.m.

Willamette Valley Christian vs. Falls City Boys, 7 p.m.

Alsea vs. Falls City Boys, 7 p.m.

Jan. 24

Alsea vs. Falls City Girls, 5:30 p.m.

Alsea vs. Falls City Boys, 7 p.m.

Jan. 27

5:30 p.m.

Central Girls at West Albany, 5:30 p.m.

Central Boys at West Albany, 7 p.m.

Dallas Girls at Woodburn, 5:30 p.m.

Dallas Boys at Woodburn, 7 p.m.

Livingstone Academy vs. Perrydale Boys, 7 p.m.

Falls City Girls at St. Paul, 5:30 p.m.

Falls City Boys at St. Paul, 7 p.m.

Community Calendar Jan. 21-28

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 9 a.m. - Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 10 a.m. - 4-Handed Pinochle/ Card/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center
 10 a.m. - Tai Chi with John/ Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 10:30 a.m. - Little Bitty Storytime, for babies and toddlers, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.
 11 a.m. - Lunch w/Meals on Wheels, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 11 a.m. - Mah-Jongg, Dallas Area Senior Center
 11:45 a.m. - Better Together, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 12 p.m. - Watch Repair & Knife Sharpening, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 1 p.m. - Walking Group, Dallas Area Senior Center
 1 p.m. - Ten Minute Writing, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 4 p.m. - Connecting Loose Threads for Charity, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 4 p.m. - Dallas Transportation System Plan Update Open House, Dallas Civic Center, 945 Jefferson St.
 6 p.m. - Ukulele Jam, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 7 p.m. - Monmouth Planning Commission meeting, City Hall, 151 Main St. W.
 7:10 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Newcomers Meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church, 320 SE Fir Villa Road, Dallas

THURSDAY, JAN. 22

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 9 a.m. - Chari Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community 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 0-5, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.

10:30 a.m. - Bounces and Rhymes: Winter Series, for ages 0-2, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S.

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

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

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

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

6 p.m. - Free Movie: "The Philadelphia Story", starring Cary Grant, Katharine Hepburn and James Stewart, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.

6:30 p.m. - Connecting Loose Threads, Monmouth Senior Community Center

7 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Back to Basics, Grace Baptist Church, 1855 E. Ellendale Ave., Dallas

FRIDAY, JAN. 23

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

9 a.m. - Stretch exercise 1, Monmouth Senior Community Center

10 a.m. - Art Workshop/ Cards/Table Games/ 6 Handled Pinochle, Dallas Area Senior Center

10 a.m. - Stretch Exercise 2/Drawing for Fun/Writer's Workshop, 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/ Art Afternoon & Sunshine Club, Monmouth Senior Community Center

1 p.m. - Medicare Plans, Dallas Area Senior Center

1 p.m. - Tai Chi with Cheryl/ Birthday party, Monmouth Senior Community Center

1 p.m. - Ice Cream Social & Bingo Special, Monmouth Senior Community Center

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

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

4 p.m. - Youth Coding League, Independence Public

Library, 175 Monmouth St. 4 p.m. - Teen Charades and Chococuterie, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.

5 p.m. - Bingo Dinner, Dallas Area Senior Center

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

6 p.m. - Bingo, Dallas Area Senior Center

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, JAN. 24

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

SUNDAY, JAN. 25

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

MONDAY, JAN. 26

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/5-Crowns Game/ Cards/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center

10 a.m. - Stretch Exercise/ Hand & Foot/Cribbage/ASL Class, 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. - Alcoholics Anonymous Noon Step Study, Grace Baptist Church, 1855 E.

Ellendale Ave., Dallas 12 p.m. - Movie Matinee, Monmouth Senior Community Center

1 p.m. - Walking Group, Dallas Area Senior Center

1 p.m. - Tai Chi with Cheryl/ Technology Help with Ian, Monmouth Senior Community Center

4 p.m. - Youth Coding League, Independence Public Library, 175 Monmouth St.

4 p.m. - Dallas Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting, City Hall, 187 SE Court St.

4 p.m. - Karaoke, Dallas Area Senior Center

4 p.m. - Dallas Public Administration Committee, City Hall, 187 SE Court St.

5 p.m. - Independence Library Board meeting, City Hall, 555 S Main St.

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

7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Old Guthrie Park, Guthrie Park Community Center

TUESDAY, JAN. 27

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

9 a.m. - Chair Yoga/Wii Bowling, Monmouth Senior Community 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. - Circle of Friends, Dallas Area Senior Center

10:30 a.m. - Family Storytime Winter Series, for ages 3-5, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S.

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

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

12 p.m. - Senior Advisory Board meeting, Monmouth Senior Community Center

1 p.m. - Bunko, Dallas Area Senior Center

3:30 p.m. - Senior Advisory Board meeting, Monmouth Senior Community Center, 180 S. Warren St.

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

6 p.m. - Monmouth Historic Commission meeting, City Hall, 151 Main St. W.

6:30 p.m. - Community Dance Class, Monmouth Senior Community Center

7 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Tuesday Grace, Grace Baptist Church, 1855 E. Ellendale Ave., Dallas

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28

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

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

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

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

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

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

11 a.m. - Mah-Jongg, Dallas Area Senior Center

11:45 a.m. - Better Together, Monmouth Senior Community Center

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

1 p.m. - Walking Group, Dallas Area Senior Center

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

1 p.m. - Birthday Celebration, Dallas Area Senior Center

3 p.m. - Lego Party and Contest, for ages 5-18, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S.

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

7:10 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Newcomers Meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church, 320 SE Fir Villa Road, Dallas

Community Briefs

MERKLEY RESCHEDULES

POLK COUNTY TOWN HALL TO JAN. 22

Oregon's U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley has rescheduled his Polk County town hall to 1 p.m. Jan. 22 at the Colonel Nesmith Readiness Center, located at 12830 Westview Dr., in Dallas.

BRANDON HEATH TO PERFORM BAMBINOS BENEFIT CONCERT FEB. 20

Bambinos Oregon is hosting a benefit concert featuring Christian recording artist Brandon Heath, with opening guest John August, on Feb. 20 at Valley Life Center, located at 1795 SE Miller Ave., in Dallas. Proceeds from the event will support Bambinos Oregon's mission of helping families with young children in rural Oregon communities by providing essential baby supplies and support. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for VIP guests and 6:30 p.m. for General Admission. The concert begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for general admission and \$45 for VIPs and are available for purchase online at www.bambinosoregon.org.

ODOT HOSTS DALLAS

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM OPEN HOUSE JAN. 21

ODOT hosts an open house on the Dallas Transportation System Plan Jan. 21 at the Dallas Civic Center, 945 Jefferson St. ODOT is working with the city of Dallas to update its Transportation System Plan (TSP). This is a long-range plan that guides transportation investments and policies for the next 20 years. Join in person to learn about the progress and to share your thoughts. Doors open at 4 p.m. Presentations are at 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. For more information, visit the Dallas TSP Update website <https://bit.ly/3Z8ZF1S>.

DALLAS LIBRARY HOSTS FREE MOVIE NIGHT FOR ADULTS JAN. 22

The Dallas Library invites adults to enjoy a free movie night at 6 p.m. Jan. 22. "The Philadelphia Story," a beloved 1940 romantic comedy, stars Cary Grant, Katharine Hepburn, James Stewart, and Ruth Hussey. The film follows a glamorous socialite whose wedding plans are turned upside down when her ex-husband and a persistent

tabloid reporter arrive just days before the big event. With three men in her life and the wedding fast approaching, sparks fly and choices must be made — because the wedding must go on. Nominated for six Academy Awards, the film earned Stewart an Oscar for best actor. This event is free, and popcorn will be provided. For more information, go to facebook.com/dallaslibraryoregon, stop by the library, or call (503) 623-2633.

DALLAS EVENT CENTER HOSTS BIG BAND JAZZ PARTY JAN. 24

The Dallas Event Center and Lora Michele Dance Studio present a Big Band Party with Big Band Jazz Party, from 7-10 p.m. Jan. 24 at 939 Main St., Dallas. Enjoy a fun evening of dancing, live jazz music, delicious food, and 1920s-inspired costumes. To purchase tickets, go to <https://bit.ly/48wFfpb>.

PAJAMA PARTY FUNDRAISER RETURNS JAN. 24

Benedetto Vineyards, Sable House and New Morning Bakery Dallas host a Pajama Party Fundraiser from 4-7 p.m. Jan. 24 at 14020 Orchard Knob Road, Dallas. Grab your slippers and head

to Benedetto Vineyards in support of this local, vital resource for domestic and sexual violence victims. Bring donations of new pajamas and personal hygiene items to be entered into the raffle. Fun games and activities await at this Slumber Party-themed event.

4-H OFFERS INTRO TO BLACKSMITHING CLASS JAN. 27

Oregon 4-H Polk County and OSU Extension present an Introduction to Blacksmithing Class from 9-11 a.m. Jan. 27 at Vonhelnick Knife Company in Falls City. For ages 10-18, create your own letter opener to take home. Registration fee is \$10 for enrolled 4-H members and \$15 for non-members. Go to <https://beav.es/smithletteropener>.

MONMOUTH LIBRARY HOSTS LEGO PARTY JAN. 28

The Friends of the Monmouth Library present a Lego party and contest from 3-4:30 p.m. at the Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S., in Monmouth. Celebrate Lego's birthday, build

a spaceship to enter our Lego contest! For ages 5-18.

SIGNUPS OPEN FOR ANNUAL BROCKWAY MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 23rd Annual Brockway Memorial (Open) Golf Tournament is Feb. 7 at Cross Creek Golf Course. The event will be a two-person scramble format over 18 holes with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Registration is \$80 and includes green fees, hole prizes, gross/net prizes and snacks. A player does not need a handicap in order to compete in this tournament and the field is open to both men and women and mixed teams.

The tournament is dedicated to the memory of Marius "Brock" Brockway who passed away in 2013.

A portion of the entry fees and pay ball will be donated to an organization or foundation that is researching cures and cares for cancer patients. The deadline for sign up is Jan. 30 and is limited to the first 120 paid players. For more information and/or an application visit or call the pro-shop at (503) 623-6666, go to the Cross Creek Facebook or website www.crosscreekgc.com.

com.

COMMUNITY INVITED TO JANUARY NIGHT OF WORSHIP JAN. 31

Night of Worship, Zeb Udell and Kim-Tom Udell present January Night of Worship, from 7-9 p.m., Jan. 31 at the Guthrie Park Community Center, 4320 Kings Valley Highway, Dallas. Join an evening of worship, prayer and prophetic encouragement. Everyone is welcome, there is no childcare, but children are more than welcome.

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Classic 1983 Chevrolet Silverado. In great shape. Engine and transmission have been rebuilt. Run really well. The interior has just been replaced. It's a bargain at \$10,000. Have to see to believe. Call to make an appointment. Phone number is 503-510-7360.

800 RENTALS

Nice commercial space, Independence, 769 N Main, Suite A, busy Main Street intersection. 1500 sq ft. 4 parking spaces. Available Jan. 1. \$3500/mo. 503-838-6420. Please do not disturb tenants next door.

"C" CABLE REALTY

THIS WEEK'S FEATURED HOMES



DON'T DRIVE BY THIS ONE WITHOUT STOPPING TO LOOK! It may say 1989 but that is it! 3bd/2 bath home has new roof, siding, windows, paint and landscaping. Inside you'll find a nice open floor plan with fresh paint. Carport offers storage/shop area. **\$189,000.00** (#834518)



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. The separate shop building offers multitude of options for use. **\$159,900.00** (#833655)



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ANOTHER FANTASTIC BUY IN GREENWAY MOBILE PARK! This value-added home can sparkle once again with fresh interior paint and floor covering. The classic floor plan offers generous sized rooms and functionality in this 2bd/2bath home. **\$55,000.00** (#819751)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PCIO26-112 Public Hearing Annexation and Redesignation/Rezone of 46.7 Acres Along S. 13th Street The Independence City Council will hold a public hearing on February 10, 2026 (6:30 pm) to consider the annexation and redesignation/rezone of approximately 46.7 acres of land off S. 13th Street. The land would be brought into the City for future residential development and would be zoned Mixed-Density Residential. No specific development or subdivision of land would occur as part of the proposal - the annexation and redesignation/rezone would simply bring the land into Independence and zone the land for future development. For more information, please visit this website: <https://www.ci.independence.or.us/ongoing-development-projects/> Location: 46.7-acre property on S. 13th Street (i.e. Taxlots 1100 and 2100 of Taxmap 8.4.29). The land includes the property 6120 S. 13th Street. Application Criteria: The application will be evaluated using the Oregon State Planning Goals, and the approval criteria in the Independence Comprehensive Plan and Independence Development Code (IDC) Subchapter 10 (General Provisions), 11 (Administrative Provisions), 12 (Zone Changes and Plan Amendments) and 14 (Annexation). The approval criteria are available for review at the Independence Civic Center or online at: <https://www.ci.independence.or.us/codes-plans-maps/>.

Time and Place of Public Hearing: February 10, 2026 (6:30 pm) at the Independence Civic Center (555 S. Main Street, Independence). The meeting location is accessible to people with disabilities. Any requests 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: The above noted file is available for inspection at no cost at the Independence Civic Center. A staff report for the application will be available at least seven days prior to the hearing. 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 testimony prior to and at the public hearing. Oral testimony may be provided at the public hearing. Appeal Process: Individuals that would like to reserve their right to appeal the proposal should comment or submit a letter, along with any concerns related to the application, by the close of the public hearing. Failure to raise an issue, or failure to provide sufficient specificity to afford the decision-maker the opportunity to respond to the issue, precludes the ability to raise the issue at a subsequent time on appeal (before the Independence City Council or the Land Use Board of Appeals). Staff Contact: Individuals with questions about the update should contact Fred Evander, Community Planner, at the Independence Civic Center, 555 S. Main Street, Independence, OR 97351, (503) 837-1168, or flevander@ci.independence.or.us.

PCIO26-121 PRESS RELEASE FOR A CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DALLAS, Oregon - January 09, 2026 The Oregon Health Authority - Drinking Water Services has determined that the proposed drinking water project "Ash Street Water Transmission Pipeline" for the City of Dallas conforms to the criteria and requirements of Oregon Administrative Rules 333-061-0063 and the supporting environmental review process guidance manual. The project, which involves replacing an 80-year-old transmission pipeline on Clay Street, is therefore categorically excluded from further environmental review under the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund program as allowed in the above referenced rules. A copy of the Categorical Exclusion and information upon which it is based is available for public viewing at: Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Services 800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 640 Portland, Oregon 97232 (971) 673-0405 Additional copies are available for review at: City of Dallas - City Hall 187 SE Court Street Dallas, OR 97338 503-831-3559

PCIO26-120 Salt Creek Cemetery District Board Meeting will be held on February 10, 2026 from 6 pm through 7 pm Meeting to be held at the Salt Creek Fire Station, 15455 Salt Creek Rd., Dallas. Directors: David Loewen, Albert Ratzlaff, Don Koons. Reports will include Income since previous meeting and Expenditures since last meeting. Report of recent burials since the last meeting. All residents of the district may attend.

PCIO26-118 NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE VACANCY Dallas School District Board of Directors is seeking citizens to fill vacancies on the school district budget committee. The term of appointment will be March 1, 2026, through February 28, 2029. The budget committee is made up of five appointed members. To serve on this committee an individual must be a registered voter in the district and cannot be an employee, officer or agent of the school district. If interested in serving on the budget committee, please contact Steve Spencer, Superintendent or Tami Larson, Director of Fiscal Services, at (503)623-5594 no later than February 13, 2026, for application instructions. Candidates will be interviewed and/or announced at the February 22, 2026, school board meeting.

PCIO26-119 ESTATE OF LEE HAMPTON WIGGINS Notice of hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed and has qualified as the personal representative of the Estate of Lee Hampton Wiggins, deceased Polk County Probate No. 25PB06640. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the personal representative at: Oregon Wills and Trusts, LLC, 901 13th St SE, Salem, OR 97302, or they

may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of this court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. DATED and first published this 21st day of January, 2026. JAMIE WIGGINS Personal Representative ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Chantal R. Guzman, OSB No. 195818 Oregon Wills and Trusts, LLC 901 13th Street SE Salem, Oregon 97302

PCIO26-117 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF POLK PROBATE DEPARTMENT In the Matter of the Estate of: STEPHEN LEE FLORES, SR., Deceased. Case No. 25PB09321 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that Stephen Flores, Jr. has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative c/o Alexander Hoyt-Heydon, Oregon Probates, LLC, 1011 Liberty St, SE, Salem, OR 97302, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative, or the lawyers for the personal representative. Date published: January 21, 2026. Stephen Flores, Jr., Personal Representative: Phone: (503) 851-4935. Attorney for Personal Representative: Alexander Hoyt-Heydon, OSB No. 250681, Oregon Probates, LLC, 1011 Liberty St, SE, Salem, OR 97302; Phone (503) 779-0088; Fax: (503) 581-1818; Email: Office@OregonProbatesLLC.com.

PCIO26-116 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF POLK In the Matter of the Estate of: GLORIA FLORES, Deceased. Case No. 25PB09322 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that Stephen Flores, Jr. has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative c/o Alexander Hoyt-Heydon, Oregon Probates, LLC, 1011 Liberty St, SE, Salem, OR 97302, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative, or the lawyers for the personal representative. Date published: January 21, 2026. Stephen Flores, Jr., Personal Representative: Phone: (503) 851-4935. Attorney for Personal Representative: Alexander Hoyt-Heydon, OSB No. 250681, Oregon Probates, LLC, 1011 Liberty St, SE, Salem, OR 97302; Phone (503) 779-0088; Fax: (503) 581-1818; Email: Office@OregonProbatesLLC.com.

PCIO26-115 CITY OF DALLAS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Public hearings will be held at 6:00 pm Thursday, February 12, 2026 on the following: Legislative Amendment #25-05 Amend Dallas Development Code Article 2 (Land Use Districts) to create a new "Mixed-Use" zoning district classification. Approval Criteria: DDC.4.7 Conditional Use Permit #25-10 Establish a daycare at 174 SW River Dr. Approval Criteria: DDC.4.4 This meeting is being held at Dallas City Hall, 187 SE Court St. You may also participate via phone by dialing 1 253 215 8782 and entering code: 213 855 0622. The City will consider testimony which addresses the applicable criteria. Testimony may be submitted orally at the public hearing or writing the Planning Department, 187 SE Court St, Dallas, OR 97338. The staff report, the submitted application materials, and the approval criteria will be available online at least seven days prior to the hearing, at www.dallasor.gov/meetings. Copies will be provided at reasonable cost on request. Failure of an issue to be raised in a hearing, in person or by letter, or failure to provide statements or evidence sufficient for the decision maker to respond to the issue precludes appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals. For further information call (503) 831-3570 or email planning@dallasor.gov.

PCIO26-114 CITY OF DALLAS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Public hearing will be held at 7:00 pm Monday, February 2, 2026, on the following: Legislative Amendment #25-06 Amend Dallas Development Code to define a new land use classification for "Indoor Recreation" and specify allowed zones for this use. Approval Criteria: DDC.4.7 This meeting is being held at Dallas City Hall, 187 SE Court St. You may also participate via phone by dialing 1 253 215 8782 and entering code: 213 855 0622. The City will consider testimony which addresses the applicable criteria. Testimony may be submitted orally at the public hearing or writing the Planning Department, 187 SE Court St, Dallas, OR 97338. The staff report, the submitted application materials, and the approval criteria will be available online at least seven days prior to the hearing, at www.dallasor.gov/meetings. Copies will be provided at reasonable cost on request. Failure of an issue to be raised in a hearing, in person or by letter, or failure to provide statements or evidence sufficient for the decision maker to respond to the issue precludes appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals. For further information call (503) 831-3570 or email planning@dallasor.gov.

PCIO26-106 Notice of Self Storage Sale Please take notice Downtown Storage and Warehouse located at 889 Liberty St NE Salem OR 97301 intends to hold a sale to sell the property stored at the Facility by the below list of Occupants whom are in default at an Auction. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.bid13.com on 01/29/2026 at 10:00AM. Melisa Wetzell Unit #A3014; Jessia Rios Unit #A3060; Amanda Reed Unit #A4112; Racheal Sike Unit #A4229. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.

PCIO26-107 Notice of Self Storage Sale Please take notice West Salem Storage located at 650 2nd St NW Salem OR 97304 intends to hold a sale to sell the property stored at the Facility by the below list of Occupants whom are in default at an Auction. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.bid13.com on 1/29/2026 at 10:00AM. Lauren Walton unit #102; Amy Orchard unit #118; Christopher Alvarado unit #123; Alexander Niles unit #136; Rafael Esquivel unit #151; Take Young unit #21; Jarrett Gurule unit #24; Jessica Sikich unit #6; Jacob Martin unit #72. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.

PCIO26-108 Notice of sale of personal property under Landlords Possessory lien. Personal property left in the following units have been seized for non-payment of rent and will be sold at The Storage Depot, 902 SE Uglow Ave, Dallas, Oregon 97338 on January 27th, 2026. The following units are available for viewing and sale at 2:00 pm. They will be sold to the highest bidder during live Public Sale: Douglas Burrows A0032, Jimmy Davis H30319, Carrie Lewis H20251, Daniel Osborne H20247, Teresa Whittlinger H10057, Allen Barnes H10052, Myrna Garcia A0028.

PCIO26-109 IN THE MATTER OF: K.B. Minor Child IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF TUSCALOOSA COUNTY, ALABAMA CASE NO: JU-2024-7.02 NOTICE OF PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO: Christel Barber You are hereby given notice that a

PCIO26-110 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR THE COUNTY OF POLK, PROBATE DEPARTMENT, CASE NO. 25PB10989, IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JILL KATHLEEN JACKSON, DECEASED. NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS

The Dallas Development Commission has published the FY 2024/25 Dallas Urban Renewal Plan Annual Report. It is on file at City Hall and with the Agency. The full information is available to all interested persons. In FY 2024/25, the Agency received \$219,190 in property tax revenue and expended \$365,704 in the Downtown Area. The estimated tax revenues for the Downtown Area for FY 2025/26 are \$220,000. The Downtown Area FY 2024/2025 budget includes \$555,000 in revenues and expenditures. The amount of maximum indebtedness remaining for the Downtown Plan Area is \$5,132,130. The maximum indebtedness amount budgeted to be incurred in FY 2024/25 was \$529,100.

The South Dallas Area received \$106,177 in property tax revenue and expended \$11,414 in FY 2024/25. The estimated tax revenues for the South Area for FY 2025/26 are \$150,000. The budget for the South Area for FY 2025/26 is \$322,500 in revenues and expenditures. The maximum indebtedness remaining for the South Area is \$41,545,823. The maximum indebtedness amount budgeted to be incurred in FY 2024/25 was \$44,500.

The impacts on taxing districts due to the Dallas Urban Renewal Plan in FY 2023/2024 are shown below.

Taxing District	Downtown Impact	South Impact	Permanent Rate Levy in Polk County	Percent of Total Permanent Rate Levy
Polk County	33,226	16,237	13,206,968	0.37%
Chemekeka Community College	12,028	5,863	4,817,016	0.37%
Chemekeka Regional Library	1,503	752	629,545	0.36%
Willamette ESD	5,713	2,706	2,281,477	0.37%
Dallas City	81,337	39,992	6,186,182	1.92%
Dallas CD	1,052	451	107,952	1.37%
Polk Soil/Water CD	902	451	384,807	0.35%
Ash Creek WCD		371	62,596	0.59%
Dallas School District 2	88,253	43,300	10,136,444	1.28%
4-H/M Garden/AG/Forest Ext. District	1,353	601	557,211	0.35%
TOTAL:	\$225,367	\$110,724		

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 guilty.

DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Thursday, Jan. 8

At 2 a.m., officers responded to a verbal disturbance on La Creole Drive regarding a girlfriend taking her boyfriend's keys to keep him from driving away while intoxicated.

At 8:20 a.m., a motorist from Salem was cited for speeding on Miller Avenue 44 mph in a 20-mph zone.

At 8:34 a.m., a motorist from Dallas was cited for speeding on Miller Avenue 40 mph in a 20-mph zone.

At 9:06 a.m., a motorist from Falls City was cited for speeding on Jefferson Street 35 mph in a 20-mph zone.

At 11:07 a.m., a report of a rear-end collision at the Orchard Drive intersection coming into town.

At 2:24 p.m., a motorist from Woodburn was cited for speeding on Miller Avenue 38 mph in a 20-mph zone.

At 2:35 p.m., a motorist from Salem was cited for speeding on Miller Avenue 38 mph in a 20-mph zone.

At 3 p.m., a motorist from Portland was cited on Miller Avenue driving while suspended - violation.

At 5:09 p.m., a report of a Subaru on Maple Street with its license plates swapped for stolen ones out of Portland.

Friday, Jan. 9

At 8:23 a.m., a motorist on Jefferson Street was cited for driving while suspended - violation and for driving uninsured.

At 8:34 a.m., Melissa Diego was arrested on Academy Street and charged with driving while suspended - misdemeanor.

At 8:56 a.m. a report of the attempted theft of a scooter on Clay Street.

At 12:37 p.m., a report of the theft of one beer on Ellendale Avenue.

At 1:48 p.m., the Police Department received a box of misc ammo for destruction.

At 2:15 p.m., a report of a small dog running into traffic on Ellendale Avenue.

At 2:36 p.m., a report of various juveniles speeding through the neighborhood on Jasper Street and yelling racial slurs at the complainant.

At 4:39 p.m., a motorist on Ellendale Avenue was cited

for driving while suspended and for driving uninsured.

At 7:30 p.m., Jayden Duey was arrested on Howe Street and charged with assault 1, assault 2, two counts of assault 4, and harassment.

At 11:26 p.m., a report of shots heard coming from south of Clow Corner Road. The report was forwarded to the Polk County Sheriff's Office.

Saturday, Jan. 10

At 3:16 a.m., a complaint of a vehicle doing cookies on Ellendale Avenue.

At 4:15 p.m., an officer issued a parking citation to a Ford EcoSport, bearing a Washington license plate, for blocking a private driveway on Ash Street.

At 4:59 p.m., after officers responded to a verbal domestic disturbance on Church Street, Jodi Turner was arrested and charged with contempt (violation of a no contact order).

At 5:33 p.m., a report of a vehicle vs building where a motorist side swiped the side of Taco Bell drive through when he received his order.

At 5:58 p.m., officers investigated a report of a vehicle vs pedestrian crash on Fairview Avenue. They were unable to locate any victim associated with this incident.

Sunday, Jan. 11

At 1:08 a.m., Jennifer Pangburn was arrested on Ellendale Avenue and charged with driving under the influence of an intoxicant - alcohol, and reckless driving.

At 2:06 a.m., officers stopped a motorist from Salem on Ellendale Avenue for failing to obey a police officer (at a crash scene). The driver was cited for driving while suspended - violation and for driving uninsured, and received a verbal warning for failing to obey a police officer.

At 3:29 a.m., Jacob Steele Jr., of Portland, was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of an intoxicant and was lodged at Polk County Jail.

At 9:36 a.m. a subject was formally trespassing from a location on Southwest Court Street.

At 1:57 p.m., an officer investigated a report of kids riding quads in the street on Osoberry Street. The officer spoke with the father who advised they would stop.

At 4:42 p.m., a report of the theft of a purse from Walmart.

Monday, Jan. 12

At 3 a.m., a Subaru

Impreza was impounded on Levens Street.

At 8:30 a.m., a motorist on Miller Avenue was cited and released for failing to carry an operator's license.

At 9:09 a.m., a Monmouth motorist on Ellendale Avenue received a written warning for driving while using a mobile electronic device.

At 9:28 a.m., a motorist on Gerlinger Place was cited for speeding 47 mph in a 25-mph zone.

At 12:19 p.m., a male subject was trespassing for all Dallas Center Markets per the store manager's request. An officer notified and informed the subject of the consequences of trespassing on private property without permission will lead to his arrest.

At 1:27 p.m., a report of possible human bones found at a park on Brandvold Drive. Upon further inspection they were determined to be animal.

At 2:12 p.m., Michael Stroud was arrested on Miller Avenue on a parole and probation detainer.

At 2:36 p.m., a community member stopped and provided an officer on Miller Avenue with a Challenge Coin as a thank you. The officer thanked him and told him he appreciated it.

At 2:40 p.m., a motorist on Miller Avenue was cited for failing to stop for a school bus.

At 2:58 p.m., Dakota Coronado, of Salem, was cited and released on Miller Avenue on outstanding failure to appear warrant out of Marion County. She was also cited for failing to carry an operator's license.

At 3:10 p.m., a report of a single vehicle crash at a parking lot behind the aquatic center off Walnut. A vehicle struck a stop sign when attempting to park.

At 3:35 p.m., a subject on Washington Street was transported to Salem Hospital.

At 7:02 p.m., a report of a possible burglary in progress at a vacant rental house on Academy Street due to lights being on inside. The complainant unlocked the door and officers cleared the house. No one was located inside, and no damage or other indications of criminal activity were found.

At 9:11 p.m., a female subject received a trespass warning for the Walmart in Dallas and was told she would be arrested if she ever returned to the property.

Tuesday, Jan. 13

At 1:48 p.m., a subject was formally trespassing from

a location on Jefferson Street.

At 5:16 p.m., a report of the theft of more than \$100 in items from a location on Kings Valley Highway.

At 8:20 p.m., a subject reported finding his stolen vehicle at City Park. When he confronted the suspect, she fled.

At 10:45 p.m., Independence Police

responded to a report of a vehicle crashing into a parked car on Airport Way and the driver fleeing on foot. Officers found the driver who was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of an intoxicant, hit and run, reckless driving, and criminal mischief 2. The driver was also cited for no insurance.

Wednesday, Jan. 14

At 11:47 a.m., Meals on Wheels called to check on a client who was not home on Clay Street. Officers confirmed the client was in the hospital.

At 1:44 p.m., Elijah Hendersen was arrested on Kings Valley Highway and was charged with theft 3. He was lodged at Polk County Jail.

At 2:24 p.m., Anthony Cox, of Salem, was arrested on Miller Avenue on an outstanding on a Marion County Circuit Court (SI) Felony Warrant and was lodged at Polk County Jail.

At 2:52 p.m., a Sheridan motorist Orchard Drive was cited for driving while suspended - violation, driving uninsured, and failing to install an ignition interlock device. The motorist also received a written warning for speeding 40 mph in a 25-mph zone.

At 6:16 p.m., a report of a possible hit and run on Fairview Avenue.

INDEPENDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Wednesday, Jan. 7

At 10:50 a.m., a resident on D Street nails and screws have been showing up randomly in and near their driveway. There is no suspect information.

At 11:14 p.m., officers responded to a report of a fight at a bar on Monmouth Street. It turned out to be a possible prank call.

Thursday, Jan. 8

While an officer was trying to contact an individual with a warrant in the 700 block of 11th Street, an unidentified male was unloading his dog from a vehicle. The dog escaped (but eventually returned). The male, Matthew Haynes, was arrested on an outstanding

warrant for failure to report as a sex offender. Upon being searched, a baggie of suspected fentanyl was located in Haynes' pocket.

Haynes was also cited and booked into jail on providing false information to a police officer and possession of an unlawful controlled substance.

At 10 a.m., Jesus Trujillo

was spotted riding a bicycle on F Street at South 4th Street and was known to have a parole violation warrant. Trujillo was taken into custody peacefully. While being patted down, a pipe with presumptive methamphetamine residue was located. He was additionally charged with unlawful possession of methamphetamine. Bettles decided upon a breath sample.

At 12:16 p.m., a late report of a two-vehicle crash on Polk Street. There were no injuries to report other than \$2,500 in damage.

Friday, Jan. 9

Several months earlier, posts at Riverview Park were damaged by a vehicle totaling over \$1,800 in materials and labor. Video footage captured the incident and the vehicle was identified. The driver of the vehicle, Andrea Kadell, received a criminal citation for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

At 3:38 p.m., a homeless person was formally trespassing after lighting a fire behind Grocery Outlet on Monmouth Street.

At 7:47 p.m., officers conducting a follow-up to a hit-and-run accident contacted an involved subject on Main Street. The subject admitted to being involved and was arrested and charged with hit and run.

Saturday, Jan. 10

At 12:28 p.m., reports of a man being chased and then two men fighting in the 300 block of South Main Street. Officers separated the men and found that the victim did not know Abraham Vela who had approached him while he was out for a walk and made nonsensical statements. The victim ran to City Hall, then down the street where Vela cornered him at a shop and demanded his phone. Vela

jumped onto the victim and took his phone. The victim escaped outside, and the scuffle ensued until officers arrived. Vela was charged with robbery 3, harassment - physical, theft 3 and disorderly conduct 2.

An officer conducting a traffic stop in the 1000 block of Monmouth Street for speeding noticed multiple alcoholic containers and marijuana inside the vehicle.

The 18-year-old driver was warned for traffic and vehicle infractions but was cited for being in possession of marijuana and alcohol.

Sunday, Jan. 11

A witness reported seeing a vehicle crash into a parked car in the 600 block of Airport Way. When they approached the driver the smell of alcohol was detected as the driver walked away from the crash scene.

Neighbors recognized the driver as Brittnay Bettles and when officers contacted her she invoked her right to an attorney. Bettles was taken into custody, a search warrant was written for a blood draw but upon seeing the needle at the hospital Bettles decided upon a breath sample. The blood alcohol content showed .16%. Bettles was charged with criminal mischief 2, driving under the influence - misdemeanor, reckless driving and failing to perform duties of a driver in an accident with property damage.

At 6:28 p.m., a report of two dogs loose on 17th Street. Officers were unable to locate the dogs.

Monday, Jan. 12

At 3:54 p.m., an officer came upon two apparent disabled cars on Polk Street. It turned out one vehicle was giving a jump to the other.

Tuesday, Jan. 13

At 10:45 p.m., a report of a motorist that drove into a parked car on Airport Way and fled the scene on foot. Officers located the driver at her nearby residence, arresting her and charging her with driving under the influence of an intoxicant, hit and run, reckless driving, and criminal mischief 2.

MONMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT

Thursday, Jan. 8

Driving Complaint: A pedestrian reported that while crossing a street being nearly hit by a newer blue pickup driving recklessly. The driver was a male, and the vehicle's windows were fogged. Officers were unable to locate the vehicle.

Hit-and-Run: A bicyclist was struck in the bike lane by a southbound black 4-door vehicle at an intersection. The driver, a female, left the scene. The bicyclist sustained minor injuries but declined to press charges. A crash report was filed.

Arrest: A male suspect was arrested at a convenience store after admitting to multiple recent theft incidents and

See POLICE, page B7

Title Agency, Inc. DBA PTS Foreclosure Services 7730 Market Center Ave Suite 100 El Paso, TX 79912 Trustee Phone number: (866) 960-8299 Dated: September 23, 2025 STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF EL PASO On September 23, 2025 before me, Yosemite Lopez Campos, Notary Public, Personally appeared Delia Madrid, Trustee Sale Assistant, who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument. WITNESS my hand and official seal. Yosemite Lopez Campos Notary Name (Seal) FOR TRUSTEES SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL (866) 960-8299 PCIO25-1453 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE - On 01-30-26, 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 915 N. MAIN ST. INDEPENDENCE, OR. 97351. The court case number is 25CV17027, where PIONEER TRUST BANK, N.A. is plaintiff, and DIVINE HOLDINGS LLC, an inactive Oregon limited liability company; DIVINE DISTILLERS INC., an Oregon corporation; INDEPENDENCE BEVERAGES LLC, an Oregon limited liability company; DONALD K. EDIGER AND PATRICIA G. EDIGER, doing business as D.E.B. ENTERPRISE, an inactive Oregon assumed business name; CBS OUTDOOR GROUP INC., a Delaware corporation, formerly known as VIACOM OUTDOOR, INC. 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/>

PUBLIC NOTICES

required to pay. By reason of the default, the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by said trust deed immediately due and payable, said default being the following: Installation of Principal and Interest plus impounds and/or advances which became due on 05/01/2025 plus late charges, and all subsequent installments of principal, interest, balloon payments, plus impounds and/or advances and late charges that become payable. Therefore, notice hereby is given that Premium Title Agency, Inc. DBA PTS Foreclosure Services the undersigned trustee will on 02/24/2026 at the hour of 09:00 AM, Standard of Time, Front Entrance, Polk County Courthouse, 850 Main Street, Dallas, OR 97338 as established by ORS187.110, in the County of Polk, State of Oregon, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the interest in the said described real property which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time of the execution by grantor of the said trust deed, together with any interest which the grantor or his successors in interest acquired after the execution of said trust deed, to satisfy the foregoing obligations thereby

secured and the costs and expenses of sale, including a reasonable charge by the trustee. Notice is further given that any person named in ORS 86.778 has the right, at any time prior to five (5) days before the date last set for sale, to have this foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the trust deed reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred) and by curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation or trust deed, and in addition to paying the sums or tendering the performance necessary to cure the default, by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and trust deed, together with trustee's and attorney fees not exceeding the amounts provided by ORS 86.778. In construing this notice the masculine gender includes the feminine and the neuter, the singular includes the plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to this grantor as well as any other person owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the trust deed, and the words "trustee"

and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Pursuant to Oregon Law, this sale will not be deemed final until the Trustee's Deed Upon Sale has been issued by the Trustee. If any irregularities are discovered within 10 days of the date of this sale, the Trustee will rescind the sale, return the buyer's money and take further action as necessary. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustee, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through

POLICE

From Page B6

criminal trespass violations. The individual was taken to the county jail.

Driving Violation: A complaint about a red sedan speeding and failing to maintain its lane. The vehicle was stopped and the driver was found not to be impaired, receiving warnings for several violations.

Driving Under the Influence: Officers conducted a welfare check on a male who had fallen asleep at a drive-thru window. The individual showed signs of impairment and was transported to a regional hospital for a possible medical emergency. A warrant was executed for a blood draw, which confirmed a very high blood alcohol content. The person was cited for driving under the influence of an intoxicant and reckless driving and was released at the hospital.

Animal Abuse: A caller at a park reported a male slapping and punching a small dog before leaving in a small white SUV. Officers were unable to locate the vehicle.

Overdose Attempt: A university reported a student who intentionally took pills. The individual was conscious but refused to go to the hospital. A crisis team was involved, and a safety plan was created. The person agreed to surrender old prescribed medication.

Driving Complaint: A small grey truck was reported doing "donuts" in a business parking lot, but officers were unable to locate the vehicle.

Friday, Jan. 9

Found Property: An individual brought a found credit card to the police department, which was entered into evidence.

Restraining Order Violation: A person reported receiving a phone call from their ex, which violated a confirmed restraining order. A pre-text call confirmed the violation, and the ex was later arrested by a neighboring agency and lodged at the county jail.

Citizen Contact: A person contacted the police to verify if an active arrest warrant existed after being contacted by a scammer claiming to be law enforcement. The person was confirmed to be clear of warrants.

Arrest: A person was cited and released on a municipal warrant at a residential location.

Suspicious Activity: An employee reported seeing on surveillance video a male potentially attempting to break into a building. The footage showed the male approaching a door and then leaving in a small blue SUV. Officers were unable to locate the vehicle.

Hangup: A 911 hangup was received from a residential location. Responding officers found no disturbance, and the caller could not be reached. A neighboring department was notified.

Suspicious Person: A person was found looking into and trying to open car doors at a motel, claiming to be searching for a relative. The individual was subsequently trespassing from the property and given a courtesy ride home.

Saturday, Jan. 10

Arrest: An individual was contacted in a vehicle and arrested on warrants for a weapons offense from one county and a traffic offense from another. The person was transported and lodged at the county jail.

Disturbance: A physical dispute between a female and a male occurred. The female admitted to slapping the male and taking his phone during an argument. The male declined to pursue charges, and both were advised to separate. The

male was advised on eviction procedures.

Unconscious Subject: Emergency medical services were dispatched for an unconscious person at a facility. The patient was found to be coming out of a seizure and was not combative. No transport was necessary.

Driving Complaint: A pedestrian being nearly hit by a white pickup truck in a crosswalk after it failed to stop for a stop sign. A follow-up with the driver, located through a corrected license plate, confirmed the incident. The driver apologized, admitting to not see the pedestrian due to the pedestrian's dark clothing and the driver's age affecting their driving.

Animal Complaint: Two separate calls reported a loose dog in the area with conflicting descriptions. Officers searched for the animal but were unable to locate it.

Menacing: A road rage incident started on the highway and continued into the city. One driver claimed being threatened by the driver with a handgun. A follow-up investigation and contact with the second driver provided a different account, suggesting the initial reporter was the aggressor. The second driver admitted to having their firearm out but not waving it.

Unconscious Subject: Emergency medical services were dispatched for a three-month-old infant who was in and out of consciousness after rolling off a bed. The infant was conscious and breathing upon arrival. Medics found no concerns.

Assist Other Agency: Officers assisted a neighboring law enforcement agency with an in-progress assault, resulting in the arrest of a suspect who was charged with multiple crimes including robbery and harassment.

Suspicious Activity: Residents reported three crab pots had mysteriously appeared in their yard. The information was documented and forwarded to an appropriate party.

Alarm: A commercial burglary alarm was activated at a business. Officers arrived to find authorized roofers working. The alarm was deactivated after the manager was contacted.

Arrest: A female was arrested on an outstanding failure to appear warrant related to fraud and was lodged at the county jail.

Driving Complaint: A vehicle with a possibly intoxicated driver was reported.

The vehicle was located and followed to a police department, where a contact was made. The driver did not show signs of intoxication.

Disturbance: Officers responded to a physical fight at a large, noisy party. An

extremely intoxicated male was detained after attempting to enter an incorrect vehicle.

He was transported by emergency medical services for evaluation. Illegal substances were later found on his person at the hospital.

Sunday, Jan. 11

Alarm: A commercial burglary alarm at a market was accidentally triggered by an employee entering the wrong code. A manager was called and the alarm company was contacted to shut it off.

Found Property: A person found a benefits card at a park and turned it in to police. It was entered into evidence.

Animal Complaint: A complaint was received about a thin great dane without food or water tied up outside a residence. Officers contacted the resident, and while the dog was thin, it appeared healthy. The resident was informed of the complaint.

Driving Complaint: A caller reported two males who appeared intoxicated got

gas and then drove away in a

red sedan.

Crime: A female reported a male ex-partner came to her home and tried to force his way inside, pushing her with the door and then ripping a camera off the wall. The male had an active warrant but was not located by officers.

Crash: A collision occurred where a 16-year-old driver rear-ended another vehicle after admitting to using a cell phone to change music. The minor driver received a citation for cell phone use. The minor's vehicle required a tow, and no injuries were reported.

Assist Other Agency: Officers located an employee for a state agency following a report that later appeared to be fabricated.

Citizen Contact: A 14-year-old child called an emergency line pretending to be their father to report a small fire. An officer responded and spoke with the child and parent about fire safety.

Citizen Contact: A business owner reported ongoing issues with clients from a nearby establishment, including a customer repeatedly urinating on the side of their building. Officers discussed relevant laws and encouraged the owner to call the police if the issues continued.

Overdose: A report of an overdose was received, with the person needing emergency drug reversal medication. Officers arrived to find the patient conscious and alert but panicking, and stood by until emergency medical services arrived.

Monday, Jan. 12

Citizen Contact: An individual, who appeared to be intoxicated, came to the police department to report a missing grey bag containing personal items, including a travel document and alcohol, that had disappeared a few days earlier. The person was unable to provide a detailed description of the bag.

Lost Property: A concerned party contacted the police on behalf of a minor whose distinctive black wallet, containing a driver's license and banking cards, was lost near the post office. The caller was advised to have the minor freeze their banking cards, as the wallet had not been turned in to the police department.

Civil Matter: An individual on felony probation requested police presence for a civil standby to collect personal property that an ex-partner had placed outside. The individual was advised to follow their release conditions, which prohibited contact and trespassing, and to contact their probation officer or the county sheriff's office for assistance.

Fraud: A person reported being scammed after attempting to sell an item online. The buyer requested the use of a new payment app, which led to a fraudulent email instructing the person to download additional applications. The victim's bank was working to stop approximately \$5,500 in pending fraudulent charges, and a case number was issued.

Disturbance: Officers came across a street disturbance where one male was aggressively pursuing another male with the intent to physically assault them. The aggressor alleged the other male was providing an illegal substance to his minor son. The other male admitted to giving the minor the substance, and an investigation into potential charges was initiated.

Assist Other Agency: A cross-report detailing a physical altercation between a minor and their parent was investigated. The minor claimed the parent used a belt to strike them, while the parent stated they physically restrained the minor after the minor became combative following a dispute.

Crash: A two-vehicle T-bone collision occurred. A passenger in the struck vehicle sustained a head injury and was transported by medics for a possible concussion.

The driver of the striking vehicle was cited for a traffic violation, and their vehicle was towed.

Traffic Assist: An officer provided traffic control to assist a passerby who was towing a broken-down pickup truck out of a left turn lane.

Warrant Arrest: A male was located at a local laundromat and arrested on an outstanding warrant for a parole violation related to

Tuesday, Jan. 13

Crash: A serious head-on collision between a white sedan and a large commercial truck occurred at an intersection. Both drivers were uninjured but shaken. County and state law enforcement agencies took over the scene.

Theft: A business owner reported that an intruder had entered their office through a hidden door, stolen a camera, and possibly attempted to open a safe overnight.

Video footage: showed the lower half of the suspect's body, appearing to be female. The owner declined to press charges against an apartment renter who knew about the hidden door, and the renter denied involvement.

Welfare Check: A state human services agency requested a welfare check for an employee who had not returned from an extended vacation and was unresponsive to contact. Officers spoke with a relative at the residence, who confirmed the employee was in the process of traveling back and would contact work the next day. The reporting agency was updated.

Suspicious Person: A business owner reported the same male from a nearby pub was again seen on video, after previously being reported for urinating on the side of the building. Officers discussed relevant laws and encouraged the owner to call the police if the issues continued.

Overdose: A report of an overdose was received, with the person needing emergency drug reversal medication. Officers arrived to find the patient conscious and alert but panicking, and stood by until emergency medical services arrived.

Monday, Jan. 12

Citizen Contact: An individual, who appeared to be intoxicated, came to the police department to report a missing grey bag containing personal items, including a travel document and alcohol, that had disappeared a few days earlier. The person was unable to provide a detailed description of the bag.

Open Door: Officers investigated a silver vehicle matching the description of a wanted person's car. They found the front door of a nearby residence open and the doorknob broken. After attempting contact, a female resident confirmed everyone inside was safe, and no further action was required.

Wednesday, Jan. 14

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Wednesday, Jan. 14

Open Door: Officers investigated a silver vehicle matching the description of a wanted person's car. They found the front door of a nearby residence open

POLICE

From Page B7

water, and a blanket.

At 12:41 p.m., a deputy eating lunch on Edgewater Street was approached by a civilian stating his wife's vehicle was hit in the parking lot and the driver was not being compliant. The deputy requested Salem Police to come and take over.

At 2:06 p.m., a resident on Gooseneck Road reported mail theft.

At 9:17 p.m., Lloyd Holladay was arrested on Parry Road in Falls City.

At 10:42 p.m., a deputy stood by while tribal police arrested a motorist for driving under the influence of an intoxicant.

At 11:26 p.m., a deputy investigated a report of shots fired in the Greening Driver area but was unable to locate anything.

Saturday, Jan. 10

At 7:56 a.m., a motorist was stopped on Main Street in Independence for failing to maintain a lane. The driver was cited for no operator's license and expired registration tags.

At 4:09 p.m., a deputy stopped to help a motorist who was stopped at the intersection of Southeast Uglov and Monmouth Cutoff Road that appeared they were

having car troubles. Their engine had blown and it was recently on fire. The driver was able to put it out with some water he had in the car. The deputy and other good Samaritans assisted with getting it off of the road. The good Samaritans helped tow his vehicle back to his house.

At 5:13 p.m., a motorist on Ellendale Avenue was cited for driving while suspended - violation and was warned for no insurance and expired tags.

At 6 p.m., a juvenile was arrested on La Creole Drive and was charged with domestic assault 4 - felony.

At 10:18 p.m., a motorist on Wallace Road was stopped for reasonable suspicion of DUII and a related violation. The driver was not impaired but did have a felony warrant for parole violation.

At 11:26 p.m., a deputy investigated a report of shots fired in the Greening Driver area but was unable to locate anything.

Sunday, Jan. 11

At 1:08 a.m., Jennifer Pangburn, after she crashed her car into a curb near East Ellendale and La Creole Drive, was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of an intoxicant - alcohol and reckless driving, and was cited for refusal to take a breath test.

At 2:06 a.m., a deputy came upon a vehicle driving slowly on Highway 22 with

a male walking alongside it. The occupants had been having a verbal argument. They told the deputy it was verbal only with nothing physical. The male agreed to get back in the car and ride home with the driver.

At 3:29 a.m., Jacob Steele Jr., of Portland, was arrested on Highway 223 and was charged with driving under the influence of an intoxicant.

At 3:48 a.m., a motorist on Wallace Road was stopped for no front license plate.

The driver Daryl Spence had a long history of driving while suspended and driving uninsured convictions. He was cited for the violations again in addition for failure to carry/present. After his car was impounded, Spence ran out into traffic and struck the tow truck with a bag he was carrying. Spence was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct.

At 12 p.m., deputies investigated a report of a domestic disturbance on Shetterly Drive. A male subject had tracked a female subject who was escaping a domestic situation in Texas. The male subject was formally trespass from the location.

At 3:13 p.m., a resident reported a series of burglaries that occurred at his residence on Elkins road, where he has not lived since 2022, but plans to move back. He

reported numerous items stolen and was pretty sure his social security card was stolen as well.

At 5:10 p.m., while on scene of a possible sex offense in progress on Buena Vista Road, a deputy got consent to search one of the potentially involved males' car. The deputy located 10.7 grams of meth, a scale, and a pipe. Mario Gonzales was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance and was lodged at Polk County Jail.

At 9:18 p.m., a motorist on Bethel Road was cited for speeding 80 mph in a 55-mph zone.

Monday, Jan. 12

At 12:12 a.m., a report of an elk that had been struck and was partially blocking the eastbound lane of travel of Highway 22. A deputy stopped and removed the elk from the roadway, pulling it completely to the shoulder. Oregon State Police later arrived and dispatch the elk.

At 8:03 a.m., a motorist on Highway 22 was stopped for expired tags. The driver was cited for driving while suspended and driving uninsured. The car was impounded.

At 12:31 p.m., a report of a recent burglary into a Connex and a box truck on Wallace Road. The complainant reported numerous

tools were stolen that valued at least \$1,000 and reported batteries to a vehicle were also stolen.

At 8:09 p.m., a motorist on Highway 22 was stopped for illegally changing lanes. The driver was cited for failure to renew his registration.

At 10:26 p.m., a report of a single-vehicle crash into a ditch on Suver Road. The driver was uninjured and showed no signs of impairment.

At 11:20 p.m., a motorist on Highway 223 was east-bound and left the roadway, clipping a power pole, and then crashed into the ditch.

Oregon State Police conducted a field sobriety test on the driver. She was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of an intoxicant.

Tuesday, Jan. 13

At 3:14 p.m., a resident on 55th Avenue reported being a victim of a scam. A caller told her he was Sergeant Clark with PCSO. "Sgt. Clark" told the victim she had missed grand jury and now had a failure to appear warrant.

"Sgt. Clark" told her she could pay a fine and be done with it. The scammer sent her a few documents appearing to be a jury summons and a warrant. She withdrew \$2,000 from a US bank and used a bitcoin kiosk to transfer the funds. After

the funds we transferred the scammer hung up on her. The real PCSO tried to look up the phone number the scammer used but it was a spoofed number.

At 4:36 p.m., a report of a single vehicle crash involving a dump truck with a load full of wood that took the corner near Corvallis / Oak Hill a little too fast, resulting in a non-injury, but over \$2,500 crash. The driver and his friends were able to flip it back over and tow it out of the ditch.

At 6:53 p.m., a report of a single vehicle crash where a motorist on Corvallis Road in heavy fog and mistook a telephone pole for her cue to turn onto Stapleton Road. The car went into a ditch. Dallas Towing was called and they winched the vehicle out.

At 7:27 p.m., a report of a stolen credit card that was later used at the Plaid Pantry. A deputy gathered video footage of the suspect, developing a probable cause for theft 2 and other crimes.

At 9:09 p.m., a report of a single-vehicle crash on Red Prairie Road. A juvenile driver in heavy fog missed a turn and drove into a field. His parents already had retrieved the car and driven it home and taken the youth to West Valley Hospital to get checked out.

BOYS

From Page B1

we've gotta get up on teams early," Holestine said. "We want to put them away early so we can get some of the bench guys in and get them (involved.)"

Holestine finished with a game-high 25 points. Ryan Burgett added 15 more while seven other players scored for the Panthers.

For head coach Tyler Allen, success is the payoff for the hard work done away from center stage.

"It's a testament to two things: practice – perfect practice – and preparation," Allen said. "We're not getting ready for games the day of; we've been getting ready for them days in advance."

A tough preseason factored helped shape the Panthers' skills and mindset, the coach added.

Allen was quick to credit his staff, singling out assistant coach Devin Zinzer.

"He's in the weight room with these guys an hour to an hour and a half before every game and practice," Allen said. "Strength, conditioning, injury prevention, mobility ... everything. Our bodies are warmed up to a professional level. At that point, we're just playing basketball."

The Panthers attacked the paint beginning in the second quarter.

"I told the guys we've got to show teams both sides of the coin," Allen



PHOTO BY LANCE MASTERTON
Central's Asher Baker (22) is surrounded by Dallas defenders Tristian Porter and Georg Hartwig-Schmidt while driving into the paint.

said. "It's fun when we carry the three-point game, but we've got to show we have an inside presence, too."

Balance will ultimately define Central's season.

"If we want to make a deeper run into the season, we have to show we can play two styles of basketball," Allen said. "Inside and outside, rebounding, contested balls. That's what makes us complete."

Defense remains

the team's foundation, however. Silverton never really figured out

Central's pressure – their 42 points was their third lowest point total this season.

"I was so proud of these guys," the Panthers coach said. "Defense has been our focus for the week or week and a half. The small details that go a long way."

Holestine agreed.

"Our goal was actually zero points in the first quarter," Holestine said.

"That didn't happen. But the next best thing was holding them to around 40. The effort was there

all night."

Unbeaten in league, the win was special because it came against an elite program.

"It was huge," Holestine said. "It solidifies us as tied for first in the league and shows that we're something to reckon with this year."

The victory confirmed

players are also on the same wavelength.

"We're brothers off the court," Holestine said. "But on the court, we're going at each other. Just making each other better."

While the Panthers were hitting on all gears, the Dragons were not. And it was noticeable from the beginning.

"It was a lack of energy to start, a lack of effort. Central just came out at 100 percent in the first quarter," Dallas coach Alex King said.

Defensive pressure fueled the late run for the Panthers.

"The fourth quarter was all defense, and so we were able to get the easy score in transition," Allen said. "Our energy was increasing with each steal or strong rebound. Always great to see at the end of the game."

Asher Baker and Cooper Larson led Allen's defense, while Jack Holestine was praised for his all-around play.

"Jack did a great job

controlling the game and finding his opportunities to score or distribute," Allen said.

Holestine led all scorers with 21 points. Ryan Burgett added 17 points while three other players – Ty Cirino, Ezra Wells and Baker – reached double-figures.

Dallas rebounded mid-game, cutting the deficit to seven points.

"We fought hard, fought back into it, and got it down to single digits," King said. "The team didn't give up."

The Panthers outscored the hosts 55 to 16 in the first and fourth quarters.

Dallas held a 38 to 30 scoring advantage over the middle quarters.

"It was belief, flying around on defense, and getting the shots we needed on offense," King said of the improved play. "We did a better job of running what we wanted, getting our looks, and not forcing anything. That stretch was good."

Lukas Lawless sparked for the Dragons, scoring a team-high 21 points, while Nick Walker had 11.

There is another silver lining to this loss, King noted.

"We fought hard, fought back into it, and got it down to single digits. They didn't give up," he said. "We're learning. We're learning a lot."

As of Friday, the Panthers were 8-3 overall. They're in Lebanon on Jan. 23 and West Albany on Jan. 27. Both games are at 7 p.m.

GIRLS

From Page B1

game's final 22 points.

"Losses sting more when it's a one-point game," Richman acknowledged. "But I'm really proud of the girls. There's no quit in us. We just play. That's something I appreciate."

It was a different story in the Dragons' 73-21 non-conference win over Gladstone on Thursday. Defensive pressure fueled the offense.

"We ran our zone against Gladstone, and it really enabled us to get

out and run," Richman said.

This time not only did the girls take their shots, they went in. Especially from beyond the arc.

"We shot the ball with a lot of confidence," Richman added, "and we hit eight 3-point field goals as a team."

Going for the trifecta were Lilly Sizemore and Alivia Webster, with three treys and 13 points each. While Nelson and Bready added 10 points each.

A busy week - as in three games in four days - came to an end Friday, with a 52-26 loss to

visiting Crescent Valley.

The Dragons began play this week 0-5 in league, 3-9 overall.

McKay is in town on Jan. 23. The girls then travel to Woodburn on Jan. 27. Both games begin at 5:30 p.m.

SLOW START DOOMS PANTHERS AGAINST FOXES

Visiting Silverton got off to a fast start. And never slowed down.

The Foxes outscored Central 15-7 in the first quarter, en route to their 56-38 victory on Friday.

"We just came out slow, so we've got to figure that out," Panthers

coach Marc Burleson said after the game.

Indicators suggested that wouldn't be the case.

"We had a really good practice this week and a good game (against Dallas)," Burleson said. "So we've got to put that together. The girls have to understand that every game is important."

The girls have to figure that out quickly, especially against the Mid-Willamette Conference's elite teams. Central is 2-2 in league, 3-8 overall.

The Panthers' wins have come against Woodburn, Dallas and non-conference McKay.

None of these teams are ahead of them in the standings.

"To make the play-offs and get our ranking up, we're going to have to beat teams like Silverton," he said.

"So we'll come back to practice, figure it out on Monday and go from there."

Karlee Matirano led the visitors with 10 points. Silverton cleared its bench early and often, and had 10 players scoring points.

Names had 11 points and five rebounds for the Panthers. While Ava Sanchez added eight

more and six rebounds.

One positive note is that Central was on target from the free-throw line, connecting on 13-of-16 attempts. Burleson wants his team at the line more often.

"We drive to the basket just as much as other teams do, but we don't get to the line very often. So when we do get there, it's important that we make them," he said. "Every opportunity is a good opportunity."

The Panthers now take their act on the road, as they're in Lebanon on Jan. 23, and South Albany on Jan. 27.