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Wednesday March 5, 2025 | Volume 150, Issue 10 www.polkio.com \$2.00

Indy faces
\$776,000
budget
shortfall

By DAVID HAYES
I-O Editor

The city of Independence is facing a \$776,000 shortfall to its general fund this year and leaders face tough decisions making cuts or generating additional revenue to continue to pay for its police, parks, library, museum and administration.

The bad news was delivered during a budget work session Feb. 25. City finance director Rob Moody told the city councilors they will have to make hard decisions to balance their \$7.5 million budget that begins July 1.

“If we don’t do anything, the general fund will be in a deficit position in about three years,” Moody said.

City Manager Kenna West said staff are examining the city’s financial situation. She explained that they have already performed all the cost-saving measures that could be done in operations through staff consolidation and other means, such as outsourcing various services like landscaping.

Two factors compounded the city’s budget situation. West pledged after her arrival to no longer loan out portions of the budget, such as sewer and water, to pay for other shortfalls. And, the residents of Independence voted down a levy in November that would have paid for library and museum operations.

Staff presented several options moving forward to close the shortfall gap. They estimated closing the library would save about \$550,000 per year, and another \$120,000 per year could be saved by closing the Independence Heritage Museum.

However, newly elected Mayor Kate Schwarzler said closing the library is not an option.

“One hundred percent we have to make cuts,” Schwarzler said, adding reducing hours at the library during the last go-around or cut-backs still haven’t balanced out the budget. “You look at what Salem’s going through, and nobody is faced with great decisions right now.”

One possible solution included combining the museum assets within the library, then selling the museum building. Staff valued the sale around \$800,000, that would also generate a savings of \$85,000 a year in mortgage payments.

Other solutions staff explored was selling park properties, including Boise Park, an undeveloped half-block between Polk and Ash streets, the Independence Sports Park, and the defunct pool property, which operated between 5th and I streets before its closure.

West cautioned that these would be one time monies and not a long-term fix.

Staff also floated the idea to generate more revenue with implementing fees for the library,

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State Champ



Dallas High School freshman Carson Langford gets his arm raised after winning the 190-pound state title at the OSAA wrestling state championships at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland March 1. Results will be posted online later this week.

PHOTO BY SMY PHOTOGRAPHY

Dallas Library to host
first-ever Comic Con

By DAVID HAYES
I-O Editor

The staff at the Dallas Public Library had an idea for a new event. Host some of Oregon’s most popular comic artists, writers and creators, sprinkle in two of the biggest costumed cosplay groups in the state, create space for local vendors to offer up their collectibles, and invite fans to attend, dressed as their own favorite comic character. Then spread out the event over three locations and call it a convention.

Thus was born the first ever Dallas Library Comic-Con. The free event is from 4-8 p.m. March 14. With some of the biggest Comic Cons attracting thousands, usually over three-day weekends, librarian Mark Greenhalgh-Johnson has no idea what to expect for a first-ever event of its kind in a location off the usual beaten path of the comic book fan.

“That is always the two worries when you put something on - what if no one comes, and then what if everyone comes,” Mark Greenhalgh-Johnson said. “We’re kind of scared it could be bigger than we think. But we have to go out on a limb and try it.”

Greenhalgh-Johnson said staff researched smaller comic cons and found some libraries out east that hosted similar, but smaller events.

“We started planning it and we got carried away. But we made it into what we think is pretty good,” Greenhalgh-Johnson said. “We didn’t want to have a (lame) comic con. We



wanted to make this one something people would really like.”

To aid in their planning, Greenhalgh-Johnson said they recruited the owners of three new businesses in Dallas specializing in selling collectibles, including Everything Blaine Likes, Mythic Finds and Kujo’s Kollektibles. For good measure, Galaxy One offered additional advice with video games.

“They all knew people. They gave us contacts and it sort of grew,” Greenhalgh-Johnson said.

Blaine Gorze, co-owner of Everything Blaine Likes (with his wife Justine), started his career selling collectibles at smaller conventions, specifically the air hanger in Tillamook, before branching out recently to open

their own brick and mortar store in Dallas.

“I would say for somebody who’s never done this before and is doing it for the first time, they’re doing great,” Gorze said. “We gave them a lot of pointers. When we started out, we did toy shows, then smaller comic cons. We hit certain people up. I kid you not, everyone we recommended they reached out to. They took any sort of criticism and advice and ran with it.”

Luckily for the staff, the Dallas Library has already hosted all except one of the talent targeted to attend their Comic Con.

Portland resident Jason W. Christman is a licensed Lucas Film Star War artist who builds androids.

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Aaron Felton

County
district
attorney:
Our office
is healthy

By DAVID HAYES
I-O Editor

Rather than give the Polk County Commissioners a deep dive into recent crime statistics, District Attorney Aaron Felton chose instead to give an update on the overall health of his department during his regular update.

“In trying to put together what matters for folks to hear, I think about lots of statistics I could give you, sort of overwhelming statistics that from my impression any number of those statistics could generate a deep dive that could go on and on and on,” Felton told the commissioners Feb. 25.

To get to what they mean, Felton chose to zero in on three questions that address the values the commissioners and residents of Polk County have.

- Am I safer?
 - Are my tax dollars being spent wisely?
 - Is the DA’s office currently set up to handle the big issues or a crisis when they come?
- The biggest and most positive contributing factor to each of the above questions is Felton’s staff is at full strength with eight attorneys, including seven deputy district attorneys. He said that is a positive thing.
- “We have been that way in the past couple of years. I would say we are the healthiest we have been in terms of being staffed and being able to do the work we are charged with doing,” Felton said. “When we are fully staffed, we are able to meet the mission we are required to do.”
- He said they were in constant catch up mode when they were not fully staffed and have had DDA vacancies. Because they have not been in catch up mode for some time, they have been able to catch up on their back log of personal crimes and sexual offenses.
- In addition, they caught up on death reports, i.e., when law enforcement investigates a non-criminal death scene. This has

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Dallas Library hosts Poet Laureate Ellen Waterston

Oregon’s current Poet Laureate Ellen Waterston will lead a free poetry workshop for teens and adults from 3-5 p.m. March 7 at the Dallas Public Library, followed by a public poetry reading at 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required for the workshop. Sign up at the library or call (503) 623-2633.

Waterston founded the Writing Ranch and the Waterston Desert Writing Prize. She has published four poetry collections, and her poems have appeared in journals, anthologies and the Writer’s Almanac. Much of Waterston’s award-winning poetry and prose is

inspired by the remote reaches of southeastern Oregon’s outback.

The role of the Oregon Poet Laureate is to foster the art of poetry, encourage literacy and learning, address central issues relating to humanities and heritage, and reflect on public life in Oregon. The Cultural Trust funds

the Oregon Poet Laureate Program, which is administered by Oregon Humanities.

The Dallas Library staff hopes you will attend this free evening of poetry inspired by the land and people of Oregon. You can find details about the event at www.facebook.com/dallaslibraryoregon or call (503) 623-2633.

Final survey opens seeking input for use for Mill Site property

Over the past 18 months, the city of Dallas has collaborated with the property owners, key community leaders and residents to develop a draft of the Dallas Mill Site Area Redevelopment Plan, focused on the 60-acre former wood products

industrial site in south Dallas and surrounding areas.

Now, the city is asking for final feedback to help refine the plan before completion. This is the last of three surveys conducted as part of the planning process. The final plan will serve as a framework to guide

future development and transportation improvements.

However, the community should note that while this plan provides a roadmap for redevelopment, it will not directly result in immediate construction. It is also important to note that the city of Dallas does not own

or control the Mill Site or adjacent properties. The city of Dallas urges residents, business owners, and stakeholders to take part in the survey and share their thoughts.

Feedback from the community will ensure the plan reflects local priorities and aspirations. Take the

survey here: www.dallasor.gov/millsitesurvey. The survey is open through March 9.

For more information or any questions, please contact the Economic & Community Development Department at (503) 831-3571.

Dallas Fire & EMS participate in Winter Fire School

Dallas Fire & EMS representatives were among more than 200 firefighters from departments across the state participating in the Winter Fire School Feb. 22-23 at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem. The two-day event provided both classroom instruction and hands-on training exercises designed to enhance firefighters’ skills and improve their ability to protect lives, property, and natural resources within their communities.

The 20th annual event, hosted free of charge by the Department of Public Safety

Standards and Training (DPSST), featured eight National Fire Academy courses covering topics such as community risk reduction, incident command, leadership and company operations, and wildland urban interface operations. These specialized courses provide expert-led training in advanced topics, ensuring accessibility for departments with limited training budgets and strengthening the fire service statewide.

A highlight of the Winter Fire School was the hands-on training sessions, which allowed participants

to gain experience in a variety of real-world scenarios. Firefighters engaged in training on search and rescue techniques, forcible entry, hose handling and water mapping application, and pump station application. A vehicle extrication course, led by Dallas Fire & EMS Department, provided critical experience in safely removing victims from wrecked vehicles using cars placed in various positions to simulate real-life accident scenes.

“Winter Fire School continues to be an invaluable resource for Oregon’s fire service,” said DPSST Fire Program Manager Kayla Ballrot. “We are proud to offer this free annual training, equipping firefighters with essential skills and knowledge they can bring back to their departments to help keep their communities safe.”

Winter Fire School is strategically scheduled during a time of year when fire




PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Capt. Shaun Wagner (right) with the Dallas Fire & EMS Department instructs participants in a vehicle extrication training session during the Winter Fire School at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem on Feb. 23.

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CSD Budget Committee seeks members

The Central School District is seeking five community members to serve on its budget committee. The committee is an important part of the district’s decision-making process in setting

local budget priorities. The budget committee process provides a forum for a district’s citizens to discuss priorities for maintaining good schools, programs and facilities; how to deal with state and federal requirements; and how best to allocate resources.

Members of the budget committee meet about three times a year in the spring to review the proposed budget and provide input.

Becky Jay, who served on the budget committee

for many years, said she served because of her support of public education, and wanting all children to have a great public school experience.

“Knowing what is in the school district budget, why it is there, how big each pot of money really is, and where the district is having to tighten its belt is information that the public really needs to understand,” Jay said. “Rather than complaining, I wanted to know how the Central School District allocates its funds.”

Jay noted that she was pleased with how CSD used its pandemic money (ESSER), which was one-time money. Her goals on the budget committee included keeping money in classrooms, focused on student success.

Pete Swan, who has chaired the committee for the last few years, said he continues to have questions for district administrators about the budget.

“I believe this committee provides a way for me to use my banking background to give back to my community through oversight, guidance, and suggestions regarding our district’s budgeting process,” Swan said. “For anyone thinking about serving, I would highly recommend it. We always have open seats, and there is no perfect background for a committee member.”

Swan added he enjoys working with inquisitive and thoughtful members with a variety of backgrounds. He noted that the time commitment is manageable, and the impact is meaningful for both students and staff.

“Our community benefits from good questions with additional knowledge of the process,” Swan said.

For the 2024-25 budget cycle, zones 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 are open. Applications are due by March 26. For more information, including definitions of the zones and a link to the application, see the district’s Finance Page online at bit.ly/3XmxPid.

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LIBRARY
From Page A1

“Who knew there was a Northwest Droid Builder Association?” Greenhalgh-Johnson asked. “But he’s a member. He’s going to bring one of his droids that functions like R2D2.”

Another key draw will be Charlie Lewis, who is bringing his “Neotendo” car. It is literally a 2007 Neon turned into a Mario car plug in, that features several playable game consoles built in.

“The trunk features three retro Mario game systems. Roll the windows down and there’s games in the side. The engine is all tricked out. And there’s life size Mario characters in the seats,” Greenhalgh-Johnson said.

Lego artist Kelly Bartlett of Brick Design will lead a community Lego build project.

The remaining artist panels include:

- Benjamin Dewey - illustrator published by Marvel, D.C. Dark Horse
 - Mark Fearing - Illustrator, author and art director who has worked for Sony Online, Walt Disney Television Animation, and Penguin Random House.
 - Jonathan Hill - Award winning cartoonist, illustrator and educator, with clients from Microsoft to Tor.com.
 - Kerilynn Wilson - author/illustrator known for her YA graphic novel Faint of Heart and picture book A Monstrous Bedtime.
 - Yuki Saeki - Comic artist and illustrator of such works as Gates of Hell, Golgotha and other self-published books.
 - Floydman Sumner - Artist, dreamer and visionary of such properties as TMNT, Garbage Pail Kids, Ultraman and more.
- For cosplayers, (the term used for comic con participants who dress as a favorite comic/cartoon character) there will be appearances



by members of the Portland Ghostbusters, Star Wars Oregon and superheroes Wonderwoman, Batman and Captain America.

“We want people to dress up. Because at least three times during the day we’ll have people line up and give

prizes for the best costume,” Greenhalgh-Johnson said.

He added the biggest draw for comic con is that it is free to attend.

“There are times people want me to charge. But we are a taxpayer funded entity and I don’t want to charge people a thing,” Greenhalgh-Johnson said, adding there will be a donation jar out if people want to donate.

The Friends of the Library also helps pay for things and the library also receives grants that Greenhalgh-Johnson uses for these sort of events.

“Most of the vendors we’re not charging for space. It’s free to us and free to them. Some of the authors and illustrators we do pay to come,” he said. “It gets people to come to Dallas. That’s the key. Not only in Dallas but people from outside Dallas.”

As Greenhalgh-Johnson was recruiting artists to participate, he said they were all excited to attend.

THE NEWS BRIEF

Oregon TRIO Day shines at Western Oregon University

Western Oregon University celebrated National TRIO Day Feb. 28. Governor Tina Kotek declared this day as Oregon TRIO Day in recognition of these student-centered programs.

TRIO Programs are federal outreach and student services initiatives designed to identify and support individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. Western currently offers three of the eight TRIO programs: the Student Enrichment Program (SEP), Upward Bound and Teacher Prep Student Support Services (TPSSS). These programs aim to assist low-income individuals, first-generation college students, and individuals with disabilities as they progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to post-baccalaureate programs.

“These programs show us that students at high risk of not graduating can graduate and do it very successfully,” said Sheree Solario, director of TPSSS. “Our programs have over 600 students, with a 90 percent retention rate year over year. We are lucky to have the institutional support here at Western to make these programs possible.”

Western commemorated TRIO Day by hosting a celebration featuring a cake, thank-you cards for Governor Kotek, and opportunities for attendees to learn more about TRIO and how to apply for these vital services.

“TRIO is very important because over 50 percent of our students qualify. Without programs like these, it would be difficult for students to navigate and graduate. We are that helping hand for them,” added Chris Solario, director of SEP.

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museum and parks. These fees could be placed on utility bills, similar to the city’s

implementation of a public safety fee last year.

Councilor Dawn Roden said she is against implementing more fees to preserve the library and museum.

“...those aren’t part of what we have to do as a city. I’m

against these public fees. I don’t think it’s a good idea.”

Neither public comment nor council action was taken at the work session. However, the staff has placed online a public survey to help prioritize actions moving forward.

The survey is at www.surveymonkey.com/r/budgetpriorities1. The city will also host an open house where they will take input about potential budget cuts at 5:30 p.m. March 11 in the city council chambers.

Dallas Library Comic Con
4-8 p.m. March 14
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ATTORNEY
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allowed his office to train the misdemeanor level DDAs up, so that they can focus on crimes that most affect the population on a daily basis, including theft, property and DUII crimes.

Getting caught up on the backlog has also allowed his office to update policy. He’s been pursuing policies to avoid a public defender shortage in Polk County that includes an improved public-private public defender system and improved internal collaboration with the police departments and the courts.

Felton next talked about his office’s responsible use of the county’s tax dollars.

“Through strategically employing and hiring quality people, we’ve been able to keep them by competitively moving them up the salary steps, keeping pace with salaries of other counties,” Felton said. “People who are more experienced can process cases in a quicker manner. We have never had to go to a ‘never prosecute system’ because we’ve been able to retain our attorneys and train them to be efficient.”

In addition, they’ve invested in their case management system, including data technology, and staff-wide laptops. This translated to what he considered one of the most effective and efficient evidence discovery processes in the state.

Now that drug crimes have been reprioritized, his office has seen an uptick in the number of drug crimes coming in. This includes deputies trained to prosecute drug crimes.

He points to the loss of a generation of experienced law enforcement when drugs were decriminalized.

“A lot of knowledge went away because they just weren’t being criminalized,” Felton said.

However, his office was able to retain that knowledge in their more experienced prosecutors and some law enforcement officers, too.

Polk County has seen an uptick in some violent crimes. His DAs are working more

homicides cases than they’ve had before.

“That doesn’t mean it’s more dangerous in the county. Rather, there are more homicide cases that just take longer to go to trial and to close than a standard crime, such as DUI or theft,” Felton explained.

“Because we have set up and retained more experienced prosecutors, we’ve been able to handle those.”

His bottom line, they’re busy. All of their misdemeanor prosecutors at any point carry more than 100 cases at a time. He believes that is because of their training, adding it’s not too many. This allows them to “decline” cases in an appropriate fashion for cases that are not effective and should be sent back for further work.

This further allows their high end prosecutors to halve their Measure 11 (drug related) cases as well.

“We’re healthy right now. Because we’re healthy, we’re

not in catch up mode, we’re not in crisis mode and we’re not in triage mode. That’s a good place for us to currently be,” Felton said.

Board chair Craig Pope, in addressing the challenges in the public defender pool, said he was happy to hear Felton had a healthy team. He asked Felton to give a snapshot of how the public defenders are paid and how much they are expected to be paid.

Felton said Polk County DAs are in competition for other counties that can offer more for doing the same amount of work.

“One of the challenges is you can live very well in Polk County. Unfortunately, you can also drive to nearby counties that pay quite a bit more, such as Marion and Benton Counties,” he said, adding the reverse is not true. “We are

not able to attract people from the defense side. The public defender side does not work for us. You hear in the press the compatibility between public defender and prosecutor’s office salary.”

He said part of the problem is there is no public defender who wants to take a DD1 salary here because it’s not even close.

“Those comparables are between Multnomah County and a DOJ prosecutor,” he said,

He added any real help in equalizing salaries in DDAs will have to come from the legislature.

“The public safety crisis is statewide. The quality of justice has to come from both sufficiently compensated prosecutors and adequately public defenders doing their job,” Felton concluded.

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OBITUARIES



Ronald Dean Flug
Mar. 14, 1952 – Feb. 14, 2025

Ronald Dean Flug was born to Jack and Agnes Flug, in North Bend, Oregon, in 1952. He was the youngest of seven children. When he was two, the family moved from Reedsport, Oregon, to Hepner, Oregon, where Ron attended elementary school.

In 1965, after his father’s passing, Ron moved with his mother to Monmouth to be near his older brother Jerry who was attending college. Ron attended middle school and high school in Independence, graduating from Central High School in 1970. There, he was a three-sport athlete. He graduated from OCE (WOU) in 1974 with a degree in psychology and sociology. He worked for the state of Oregon until 1981 when he began a career with the American Red Cross blood program. He retired in 2012.

Ron was a devoted Christian. He participated in Young Life in high school, and an informal Christian group in college. He attended Life Center Foursquare Church in Independence for 35 years. There he played his music, taught Sunday school, led a home group and shared from the pulpit on numerous occasions.

Music and songwriting were a consuming passion. Ron wrote over 200 songs and produced six albums. He often played at open mic events and at an occasional concert and coffee houses all over the Willamette Valley. His music is now streamed on most platforms.

Ron was an avid athlete throughout his life. He played baseball, football, basketball, handball, tennis, racquetball, slow pitch softball and golf. All with equal competitiveness. He was also a committed runner and an avid bicyclist. He loved diving from high rocks and did not pass up the chance to parachute and bungee jump.

He is survived by his wife, Prindi Bostwick. They have two daughters,

Cana Flug Rivera (Leo) and Hannah Christine Leos; son, Jordan Flug (Taylor); and three beloved grandsons Daryan, Esai and Emil Leos. Ron also has two surviving brothers Rod Flug (Hermiston, Oregon) and Steven Flug (La Mirada, California).

There will be a celebration of life at 1 p.m., Saturday March 1 at Life Center Foursquare Church in Independence. A graveside gathering will be held preceding the celebration of life at 11 a.m. at the Fir Crest cemetery in Monmouth, Oregon.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be given in Ron’s name to the Ella Curran food bank or to the Salem Senior Center “Among Friends” program.

The COL will be live streamed on YouTube at prindiflug@gmail.com.



Becky Lambert (White)
Jan. 29, 1955 – Feb. 10, 2025

Becky Lambert (White) was born on Jan. 29, 1955, in Crescent City, California, to Elmer and Ruth White. After a courageous and long battle with cancer, she passed away on Feb. 10, 2025, at the age of 70.

The White family moved to Oregon when Becky was a child. She graduated from North Salem High School in 1973 and later retired from the Oregon Department of Revenue in 2020.

Becky was known for her outgoing personality, laughter and independent spirit. She was involved in the Foreign Exchange Program for years, welcoming students from all over the world into her home. One of her greatest joys was celebrating the holidays, where she decorated every corner of her home. She enjoyed traveling, attending her grandchildren’s events, playing bingo and spending time with her dog.

Becky is survived by three sons John Cruickshank Jr. (Amy), Brian Cruickshank (Cindy) and Nick

Cruickshank (Britni); her seven grandchildren Justin, Devin, Naomi, Wyatt, Brody, Kate and Taylor; great-granddaughter Harper; and siblings Danny, Kathy, Debbie, Larry and Benny. She was preceded in death by her parents and brothers, James and Ricky.

Becky’s family will remember her for her kindness, devotion to her loved ones and zest for life.



John W. “Jack” Condon
April 24, 1939 – Feb. 23, 2025

John W. “Jack” Condon, a resident of Dallas, Oregon, passed away on Sunday, Feb. 23 in Dallas. Jack was born on April 24, 1939, in Portland, Oregon, the son of John and Elizabeth Condon.

Jack graduated from Central Catholic High School in 1957. He attended the University of Portland. He then went to work for Nottingham Transfer and later Graziano Produce in Portland.

Jack moved to Dallas on Feb. 1, 1968, to purchase and manage Dallas Garbage Disposal. Jack married Linda Dornhecker on Feb. 21, 1986, in St. Philip Catholic Church in Dallas. Jack operated Dallas Disposal from 1968 until 1994.

Jack and Linda moved to Grants Pass where they operated Grants Pass Sanitation from 1994 until they retired in 2001. They lived in Merlin for a year and came back to Dallas in 2001.

Jack was a member of St. Philip Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus, the Dallas Fire Department (retired), Dallas Planning Commission, Dallas Rotary and the Solid Waste Industry, Past President of Oregon Volunteer Fire Association (OVFA), Past Treasurer of National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), the Board of Visitors for the National Fire Academy, James2, Dallas Booster Club and past board member for Dallas Cemetery District. Jack enjoyed serving his community,

playing pinochle and spending time with his family and friends.

He is survived by his wife Linda of Dallas; children Denise Condon (Greg), Rich (Kathy) Slack, Sean (Kristin) Condon, Ryan (Kristie) Slack and Christopher (Becky) Condon; grandchildren Jarod, Justin, Joseph, Aidan, Melina, Josh, Olly, Travis, Tyler, Tommy and Jaimee; great granddaughter Daelyn; sister Patricia Abbott; and brother Thomas Condon. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister Kathleen Carney.

A Funeral Mass will be at 11 a.m. on Thursday, March 6 at St. Philip Catholic Church. Recitation of the Rosary will be at 10:30 a.m. Visitation will be on Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Interment will be in Dallas Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Dallas Food Bank, James2 or Meals on Wheels. To leave an online condolence or to share a memory with the family go to www.BollmansTributeCenter.com.

Bollman’s Tribute Center is caring for the family.

Patricia “Patty” Ragsdale
May 10, 1954 – Feb. 25, 2025

Rickreall - Patricia Ragsdale passed away on Feb. 25, 2025. Patty was born on May 10, 1954. She was the daughter of Elbert “Fuzz” and Frances Ragsdale.

She graduated from Dallas High School and Chemeketa Community College. She was also a lifelong resident of Rickreall.

Patty is survived by her siblings Arnold (Jolene) Ragsdale, Richard (Joy) Ragsdale and Cindy (Jim) Belden.

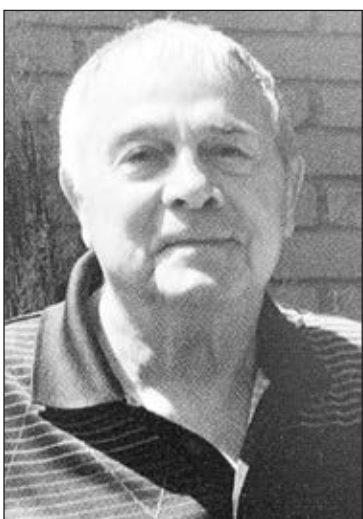
A private family service will be held. Contributions in her memory may be made to Dallas United Methodist Church.

Ronald Lee Richards
Dec. 13, 1948 – Feb. 23, 2025

Ronald Lee Richards, 76, of West Salem, passed away on Feb. 23, 2025, surrounded by family. He was born to Kenneth and Jane Richards in Lebanon, Oregon, on Dec. 13, 1948.

Ron, fondly known as “Ronnie,” grew up on a small dairy farm in the rural community of Pedee, Oregon. He and his siblings shared many childhood adventures on the farm and they learned the value of hard work.

After graduating from Central High School in 1967, Ron joined the U.S. Navy where he served overseas during the Vietnam War.



Ron received a Purple Heart and a Vietnam Service Medal for his bravery.

Ron loved everything outdoors and had a passion for hunting and fishing. His love for archery, hunting with his hounds and fishing took him to some of the most beautiful places on this earth that few people get to see or experience. Ron taught his son Mike how to shoot a bow at a young age and instilled his passion for bow hunting to Mike. They loved hunting together and Mike will treasure those memories for a lifetime.

Ron would take yearly trips to Ilwaco, Washington, to fish for salmon and tuna. This was a high-light trip for the family and the many stories of those adventures are still embellished to this day!

Ron was a gifted contractor and successfully ran his own business prior to working at Western Oregon University in the Physical Plant. It was at Western where he met the love of his life Marlene, and they married in 2008. Together they ran a business, travelled the world and enjoyed spending time with their grandkids and great grandkids.

He is survived by his wife Marlene in West Salem, his son Mike (Meghan) Richards, daughter Cindy (Derrald) Richards, bonus daughter Tierny (Kevin) Olson, bonus son Jayson (Stephanie) Derowitsch, daughter Brie Lipari, brother, Terry (Vicki) Richards, sister Margaret Richards, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents Kenneth Richards and Jane Richards, brother Gary Richards, and daughter Tammie Richards Dorman.

Services will be held at a later date.

DHS hosts junior mock interviews with local leaders

DHS STAFF

Last week, Dallas High School’s Career and Technical Education (CTE) program hosted its annual Junior Mock Interview event, which saw over 180 students engage in valuable career-building opportunities. The event, held in the school’s gymnasium, featured more than 30 local business owners, community leaders and professionals who volunteered their time to conduct mock interviews with the students. Each interview was designed to simulate a real-world job interview, providing students with feedback on their performance, as well as helpful tips for future career pursuits.

The students, all juniors, were split into groups and rotated through six

interview stations, giving them the opportunity to practice their communication, problem-solving, and professionalism. Interviewers, including Dallas City Manager Brian Latta, praised the students for their preparedness and willingness to discuss their experiences.

“It’s clear that the students took this event seriously and put in the work to be ready for their interviews,” Latta said. “What impressed me most were the types of jobs for which these students were interviewing for, heavy equipment operator, assistant school choir director, virtual graphic designer and more. They knew their stuff and were prepared.”

Dallas School District CTE Coordinator Bill Masei expressed his satisfaction with the event’s success.

“Junior Mock Interviews continue to be a successful event for both our school and our community. We really appreciate our local leaders coming out to support our kids as they look to transition to a life after high school,” Masei said.

His remarks were echoed by many of the interview panelists, who saw the event as an essential opportunity for the students to gain insight into what real-world job interviews entail.

Among the numerous community leaders who participated were local entrepreneurs, government officials and professionals from a variety of fields, all eager to give back to the students.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Dallas community business leaders give mock interviews to Dallas High School juniors.

“The value this event brings to students cannot be overstated,” said

Masei. “These kinds of experiences are what make a community strong.”



“ This is the year we’re going to go in and talk about our wishes. ”

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www.keizerchapel.com

Many students left the event feeling more confident and equipped to face future career opportunities, having received constructive feedback from the professionals they interviewed with.

Dallas High School is planning a second mock interview session this spring for sophomores on May 1. The event is another step in preparing students for life after high school. Anyone interested in becoming part of the interview team for that session is encouraged to contact Bill Masei at bill.masei@dsd2.org. The school and the community look forward to continuing this valuable partnership to help students succeed as they embark on their future careers.

OPINION



CONTRIBUTED

Gov. Kotek addresses press during a briefing.

Governor talks state agency accountability, Trump Administration impact in Oregon

By JEREMY C. RUARK
Country Media, Inc.

In a wide-ranging discussion with reporters, Oregon Gov. Tina Kotek stressed state agency accountability, including how the Oregon Department of Transportation spends state dollars.

“We have had a history of not accurately projecting the cost of major projects,” Kotek said. “We have to do a better job there.”

Kotek said she wasn’t going to make excuses for the Oregon Department of Transportation.

“We want everyone in the agency to be able to have confidence that when a new transportation package is passed, that the resources will see completed projects on time and on budget. So, we are doing everything we can to make the agency will to do better. We look forward to new things they would like to do to help us achieve that given the resources we have. “We need to get a transportation package done for the safety of our system.”

EDUCATION FUNDING

Kotek also addressed a question concerning needed funding for Oregon schools saying school districts need to produce better outcomes.

“My recommended budget is a substantial increase in the state school fund,” Kotek said. “There is not a school district in our state that has all the money it needs. I’ve made a commitment to school districts to offer them the best possible budget in my budget, which I did. Now, the conversation with the school districts is with those dollars, we must better guarantee that there

will be increases in reading, math and attendance. These are very important indicators of success for our students. I think we can with the resources we have do a better job. I am focused on accountability with the existing resources that we have.”

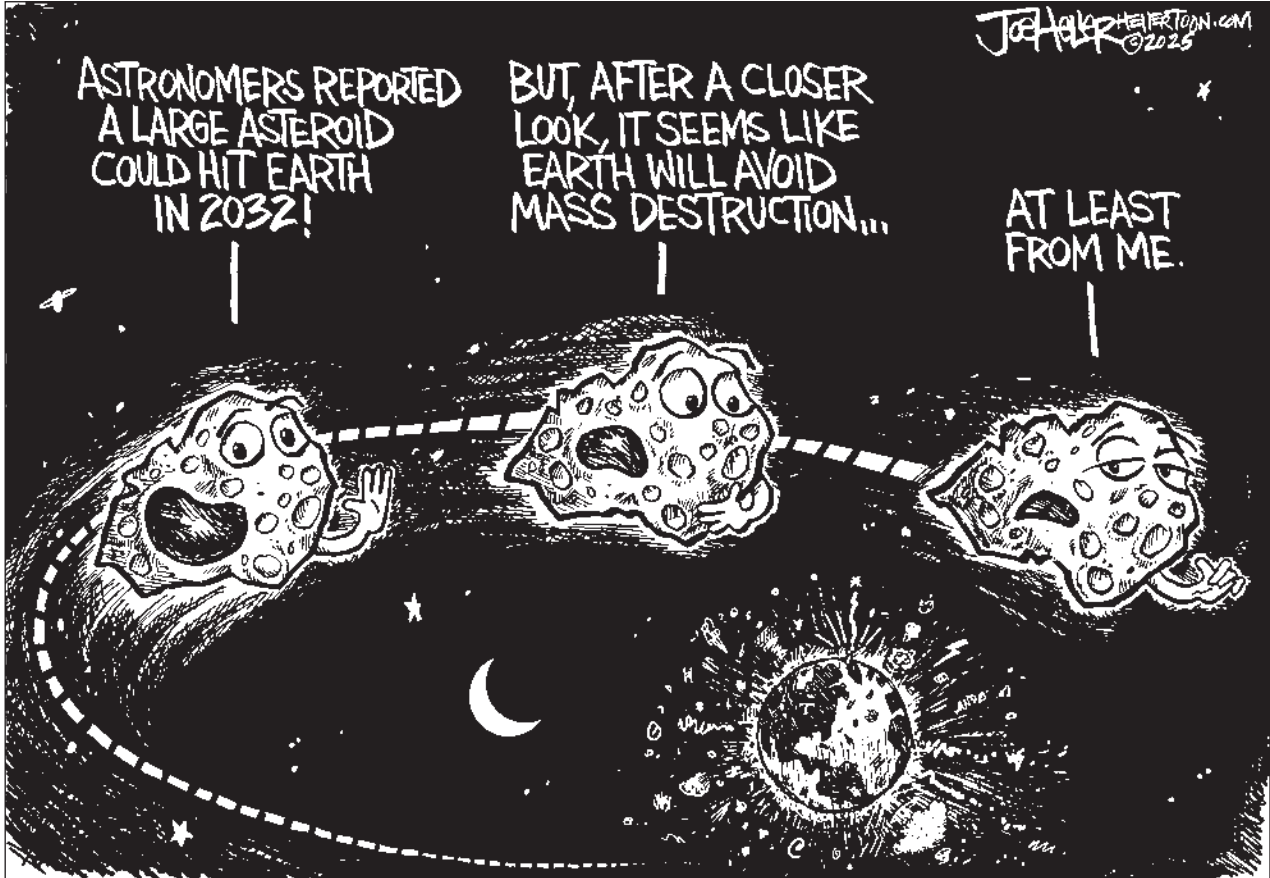
TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

When asked about the impact on Oregon following the Trump Administration’s executive orders, Kotek responded by stating:

“There is a lot of fear,” she said. “The federal administration has been very clear about their goals around deporting undocumented residents. What my office is trying to do is to be very clear to folks who provide public services what the role is with our sanctuary laws. We have been working very diligently to help educate communities about what their rights are under the law. At the end of the day, the fear is real. People are staying away from businesses because they fear immigration enforcement. What I can say to Oregonians is we will uphold our law and do the best we can under the situation that is coming out of the federal government.”

As to losing federal funds, Kotek said she wants state agencies to focus on the Oregon budget.

“I think it will be quite a while before we see the impact



Letter to the Editor

DOGE chaos in 10 simple steps

We want to congratulate the Trump administration for the implementation of the DOGE Big Beautiful Business Plan. Our reliable source has seen the original plan document in a secure golf-shoe box at Marred-A-Largo. The author of the Plan is reportedly a graduate of Trump University Business School. The Plan goes like this:

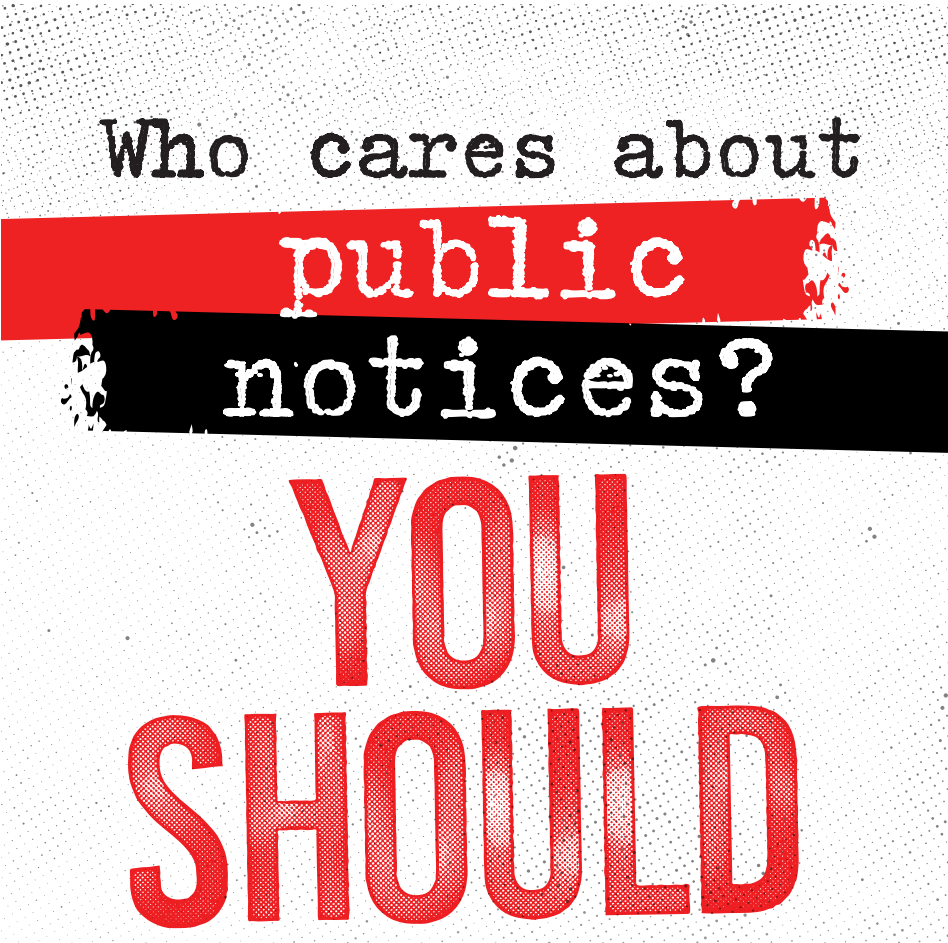
1. Gather a group of callous people who know little about government: laptop and ball cap required
2. Insult federal workers
3. Incentivize federal workers to resign by offering a Trump Bible at a discount
4. Fire Federal workers
5. Try to figure out what these federal workers did

6. Eliminate federal agencies
7. Try to figure out what these agencies did
8. Claim taxpayer savings of quadrillions of dollars – with or without evidence

9. Create carve-outs for MAGA Congress-people who are taking heat for constituents’ job losses
10. Say “What? Me Worry?” and go golfing in

Florida if things don’t work out.

Vern and Anne Beeson
Dallas



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

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

Public notices keep you informed about your government.

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

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

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

Polk County
Itemizer-Observer

CORRECTIONS

If you see anything that requires a correction or clarification, call the newsroom at (503) 623-2373 or send an email to dhayes@polkio.com

WEATHER

RECORDED High	Low	Rain
Feb. 24.....62.....	45.....	0.24
Feb. 25.....62.....	41.....	0.06
Feb. 26.....58.....	37.....	0.38
Feb. 27.....67.....	34.....	0.00
Feb. 28.....66.....	35.....	0.03
March 1.....63.....	35.....	0.84
March 2.....53.....	46.....	1.04

Rainfall during Feb. 24-March 2 1.53 in.
Rain through Feb. 28 6.41 in.



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Itemizer-Observer

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ksanks@polkio.com

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

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Karen Sanks | General Manager & Advertising Consultant
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CLASSIFIED LINE ADVERTISING

Alyson Davis | Office Mgr
adavis@polkio.com

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

KEEP THE SUN OUT

ESPILCEOLIFNGSD
BYWTRUPMKIEEFES
DBSWORB EYEIEYVE
WUSDQ TOMRKHRSES
IYPONACCFDCTCES
BZXRWISUMBRELLA
USQOONLINAEDOSL
LJHFUSR RBWDKAUGG
CAYSWBIHVTCHDNN
SQPNLKAVIHESOU
FECBZTYGNINWALS

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions: forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: THE MOON BLOCKING THE SUN

Awning

Clouds

Neckerchief

Sunscreen

Blinds

Curtains

Shade tree

Umbrella

Brim

Eyebrows

Straw hat

Visor

Canopy

Long sleeves

Sunglasses

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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: A equals G

MW Q BGS L YQEE EG AH
DYSVRYVSG MD YHCCEMTA
HBGS, M DVCCHDG WHEXD UQL
GTRHVTYGS YVUNEMTA NEHRXD.

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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.

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	+		-		=	5		
-			+		-			
	-			×		=	7	
+			÷		×			
	-			+		=	4	
=			=		=			
3			12		6			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Purse is smaller. 2. Tie is missing. 3. Hair is longer. 4. Item in display case is different. 5. Label is missing. 6. Necktie is missing from display stand.



Moments in time

• On **March 17, 1905**, future president Franklin Delano Roosevelt married Eleanor Roosevelt, his fifth cousin once removed, in New York. Former President Theodore Roosevelt gave away the bride.

• On **March 18, 1911**, composer Irving Berlin obtained the copyright for "Alexander's Ragtime Band," a multimillion-selling hit that helped turn American popular music into a major international phenomenon.

• On **March 19, 1957**, Elvis Presley arranged to purchase the Colonial mansion on the outskirts of Memphis called Graceland for \$102,500, with a cash deposit of \$1,000. It is still preserved exactly as Elvis left it when he died in 1977 and is one of America's most popular tourist attractions — the second-most-visited house in the nation after the White House.

• On **March 20, 1345**, according to scholars at the University of Paris, the Black Death, aka the Plague, was created from "a triple conjunction of Saturn, Jupiter and Mars in the 40th degree of Aquarius," though it was actually carried by fleas that typically traveled on rats. It cut a swath across Europe, the Middle East and Asia during the 14th century, leaving an estimated 25 million dead in its wake, and popped up periodically until the 1700s, but never again reached epidemic proportions.

• On **March 21, 1980**, President Jimmy Carter announced that the U.S. would boycott the Olympic Games scheduled to take place in Moscow that summer, after the Soviet Union failed to comply with his Feb. 20, 1980, deadline to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan. Four years later, in retaliation, the Soviet Union boycotted the 1984 Olympic Games held in Los Angeles.

• On **March 22, 1983**, the Pentagon awarded a production contract worth more than \$1 billion to AM General Corp. for the development of 55,000 high mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicles. Nicknamed the Humvee and designed to transport troops and cargo, the vehicles were used by the American military during the 1989 invasion of Panama and the Persian Gulf War in the early 1990s.

• On **March 23, 1839**, the initials "O.K." were first published in The Boston Morning Post. An abbreviation for "oll korrekt," a popular slang misspelling of "all correct" at the time, OK steadily made its way into the American vernacular.

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- LITERATURE: Who lives at 4 Privet Drive?
- TELEVISION: Which 1980s sitcom featured the Keaton family?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first American-born president?
- COMICS: What is Deadpool's profession?
- AD SLOGANS: Which makeup company's slogan is "Maybe she's born with it"?
- HISTORY: Which battles marked the beginning of the American Revolution?
- INVENTIONS: The 1904 World's Fair introduced which fluffy confection?
- MOVIES: In which year were the first Oscars awarded?
- MEASUREMENTS: What does 1 gallon of water weigh?
- GEOGRAPHY: What are the colors of the Italian flag?

Answers

- Harry Potter and the Dursley family.
- "Family Ties."
- Martin Van Buren, born after the Revolutionary War.
- Mercenary.
- Maybelline.
- Battles of Lexington and Concord.
- Cotton candy.
- 1929.
- 8.34 pounds.
- Green, white and red.

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Puzzle answers on page B2

Super Crossword

BODILY ACTIVITY

ACROSS

1 Hair salon workers

8 Visits briefly

15 Sharp-image flat-screens, e.g.

20 Very fast cat

21 Not challenging enough

22 Balcony window, perhaps

23 Be on track

25 D.C. transport

26 Bricklayer's blend

27 Unit of work

28 2015-16 CBS "Cyber" series

29 Send again, as a parcel

30 — buco

31 Kin of "Puffi"

33 Greek "H"

35 Repulsed by

37 Assume an onerous duty

40 "I haven't —" ("No idea")

44 Strapped garment

45 Meadowland

46 Pop's mama

47 Pay

50 Café addition

52 Lobster limb

56 Second purchase

57 — Lanka

58 Everyone

59 1978-89 New York mayor

61 Like a player who has hit a triple

63 Chinese temple

66 — Brothers (TV's "Your Thing" group)

67 Do speaking motions voicelessly

71 Actress Bingham of "Baywatch"

75 Akron native

76 Collector of useless items

81 12.5% fraction

83 Actress Sotham

84 Cavaliers, on sports tickers

87 Capital of Saudi Arabia

88 Fencing sword

89 Enthusiastic

91 Focus on what you'll get if you win

93 Bulk beer buy

95 Angry music genre

97 Film director DuVernay

98 Weighed down (with)

99 Support one who ultimately fails

105 2009-17, politically

106 Equal: Prefix

107 "The Addams Family" cousin

108 Poker holding

112 "Nick and —" Infinite

113 Car navig. aid

115 Actor Kilmer

117 Consumed no cooked food

119 Kiss Kingle

120 Conform to one's political group

123 1989 Disney princess

124 Captivates

125 Kind of spray

126 Latin "that is"

127 Really foolish

128 Paternity proverb, perhaps

2 Baltimore ball team, for short

3 Decade parts

4 Caused

5 Jazz singer James

6 Enthusiastic

7 Hen or heifer

8 Mix together

9 Wearing

10 — "dapper duds, with 'bout"

11 — "la-lal"

11 Dog or cat owner's concern

12 Toothy tools

13 Bible book before Jeremiah

14 Big Apple team, on sports tickers

15 Four-bagger

16 Fixtures for displaying wedding gowns, say

17 Donated 10%

18 Cinema (filmmaking technique)

19 Apply messily

24 Renovates, in brief

29 Partial refund

32 Judge's garb

34 Notify

36 —, vidi, vici"

37 Fixed maximum

38 Forest den

39 Fatty tissue of animals

40 — Cuban (jazz genre)

41 Joel or Ethan of film

42 Misplaced

43 Ogden's state

48 Male lead

49 Brand of 120-Down

51 Actor — Ray

53 Email giggle

54 Superb serve

55 "How come?"

58 Bureau

60 Apostle

62 Couple

64 "I've got it!"

65 Dadaist Jean

68 Bangkok native

69 Impede

70 Take a risk

71 No-frills shirt

72 Split

73 Census stat

74 King-trapping situations

77 Actress Sedgwick

78 FBI attack

79 Wood-shaping tool

80 At that time

82 Discusses in detail, with "out"

85 Actress Remini

86 French "Ta-da!"

90 Zig or zag

91 Vast time spans

92 Former senator

93 On a train or plane

101 Singer Wilson of Phillips

102 Farm carts

103 Rule over

104 — Island Ferry

108 Ancient serf

109 Come to light

110 Thin iPods

111 Resided

114 Mani—

116 Church nook

118 Model Banks

120 Steeped drink

121 "Bali —"

122 "Super cool!"

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Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas



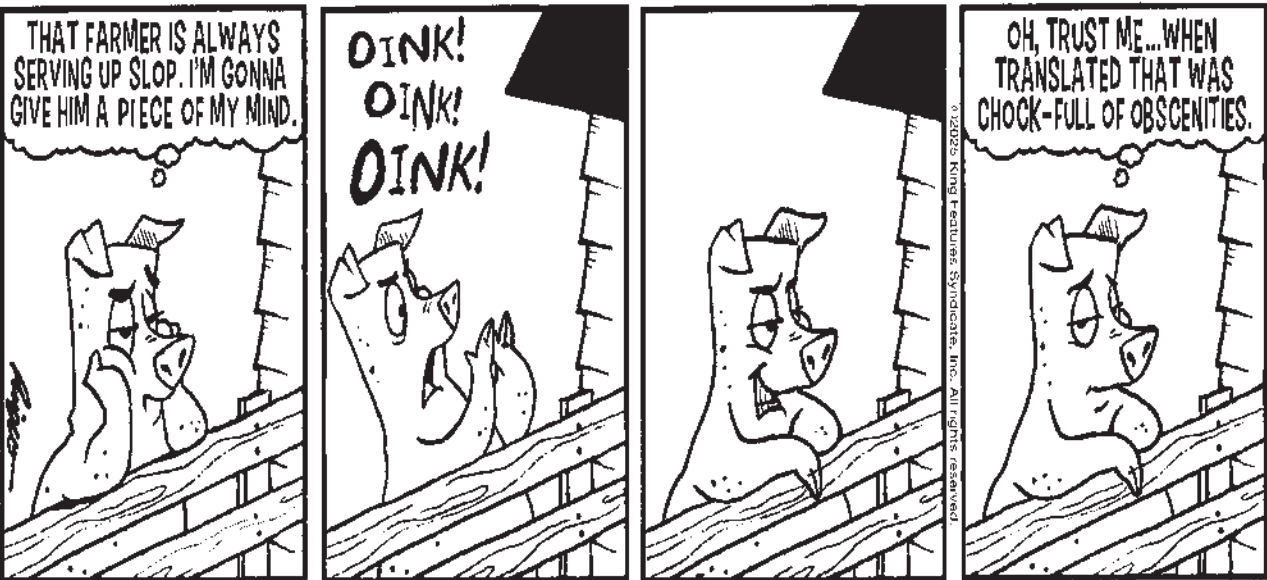
Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



Americanisms



Amber Waves



FEELIN' GROOVY

PHOTOS BY DAVID HAYES

The Monmouth Independence Chamber of Commerce celebrated its 60th annual awards Feb. 27 with the theme Keeping it Groovy. Chamber President Mackenzie Newland congratulates the following winners. (not pictured MINET - Chamber Choice Award).



Acres of Hope Youth Ranch
Non Profit of the Year



Brandt's Sanitary
Service Community Legacy Award



Jessica Beasley - Educator of the Year



Carrie Carillo - Education Support
Staff of the Year



Gabby Walton
Community Member of the Year



Hannah Gilbert
Junior Citizen Award



Sunny Coffee and Plants
New Business of the Year



Miriam and Neal Haugen
Lifetime Achievement Award



Patty Nuvue - Distinguished Service Award



Golden Hop Saloon - Business of the Year



C Cable Realty - Community Legacy Award

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- Advanced treatments
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- Nurse navigators, social worker, dietitian, and resource coordinator

**END OF
SECTION**



Sports Scoreboard

Girls Basketball

Feb. 24

Dallas 61, McKay 54

Feb. 25

Lebanon 57, Central 35

Rogue Valley Academy 47,

Perrydale 44

Feb. 28

West Albany 72, Central 32

Woodburn 53, Dallas 40

Boys Basketball

Feb. 24

McKay 86, Dallas 50

Feb. 25

Lebanon 72, Central 41

Feb. 26

Mannahouse Academy 75,

Perrydale 23

Feb. 28

West Albany 61, Central 49

Woodburn 74, Dallas 60

State Wrestling
Finals

Central High
Results

Girls

Mica Tonnsen, fourth (3-2),

110 pounds

Lily Alvarez, DNP (2-2),

135 pounds

Boys

Porter Keeney, sixth (2-3),

215 pounds

SPORTS CALENDAR
Through March 18

Golf

March 17

Central & Dallas girls at

OGA Golf Course, time

TBD

March 18

Central & Dallas Boys

Golf at

Cross Creek Course, 11:30

a.m.

Baseball

March 18

Dallas at Summit, 4 p.m.

Franklin at Central, 5 p.m.

Softball

March 18

Dallas at Summit, 4 p.m.

Central at Tualatin, 5 p.m.

Girls/Boys Tennis

March 17

Putnam at Dallas, 4 p.m.

Dragon players committed to improvement

By LANCE MASTERSON
For The Itemizer-Observer

Drew Richman is already focused on next season.

The first-year Dallas varsity girls basketball coach loses four seniors to graduation, including starting wings and team leaders Kaiya Woolsey and Ava Woods.

“We talked about this yesterday at practice ... people are going to have to step into next year and replace Ava. She’s tough. She’s willing to stick her nose in there. She’s also really come on as a shooter these last few games,” Richman said. “And then Kaiya is so versatile. She’s played like four or five positions for me this year, including starting point guard ...”

Also graduating are Allie Wilfong and Hannah Griffith.

So both the team’s starting lineup and its depth are taking a hit. Hence, Richman’s bid to rally his troops. But which of his nine returning players will rise to the occasion is the great unknown. He listed several players who can play significant roles next season. Provided they’re willing to put in the work.

“I think the girls are committed to gaining skills and becoming comfortable handling pressure situations ...,” Richman said. “I expect big things from them moving forward.”

There appears to be buy-in from the players.

“We’ve got commitments from a lot of girls, that through summer they’d like to get skill workouts, plyometrics and weight training on their own,” he said. “We’ll also get game experience under our belts. We’ll be in a summer league. So the familiarity of playing with each other will only improve.”

Ruby Halligan, a junior, is one of the players Richman wants to see up her game.

“Ruby’s an incredible athlete. She’s one of the top athletes on the court,” Richman said. “I think her commitment in the offseason will be telling, as to how successful she’ll be next season.”

Halligan knows where improvement is needed in her game.

“My ball handling and shooting, to get more to the hoop and from the outside,” she said.

A second junior, Kaedyn Pires, added she wants improved communication.

“I’m able to see what’s going on in the court, and if we’re not running the right thing I’m able to speak up and tell what we should be running instead,” Pires said. “Communication is key on the basketball court.”

Especially when defending your basket.

“If we’re not communicating, we lose track of a girl, and they can have easy back



PHOTO BY LANCE MASTERSON

Ava Woods (pictured) is one of four seniors from the Dallas varsity girls basketball team who played their last high school game on March 4. Coach Drew Richman and the team’s returning players are already looking to next season.

cuts,” Pires said. “So if we’re communicating as a team, we’re more aware, and we just play better.”

What’s true is any improvement takes time, work and dedication. It’s also true that the team can make strides next season and still rise only a few spots in the standings. Such is life in the tough Mid-Willamette Conference.

The Dragons (2-15, 4-18 overall) were ninth in conference, with one game left on the schedule. The team’s won-loss record tells just part of the story.

As of Sunday, five of the state’s top 10 teams in Class 5A reside in the conference:

Silverton at number 2, South Albany (4th), West Albany (7th), Corvallis (8th) and Crescent Valley (9th).

“It’s mentally challenging because we know we’ve been able to compete with some of these top teams for like the first, maybe second quarter,” Pires said. “I think next year, we have to look at finishing all four quarters.”

Indeed, there were stretches when the Dragons kept pace with better competition. Richman sees these stretches as building blocks.

“I feel we have continually improved this year,” he said. “It has been a tough season, but the girls have stayed committed to it. They

are coming into the gym and working hard. I do expect us to be better next year, and not necessarily in an X’s and O’s kind of a way.”

Halligan agreed with her coach’s assessment.

“We’ve definitely improved. Not just like from last year, but through these couple of months we’ve played together,” she said. “We’ve gotten better just by knowing each other. I think we’re only going to go up from here.”

Dallas played its final game of the season March 4 against West Albany (12-5, 18-6). Results were not available at press time.

Pickleball craze comes to Monmouth park

By LANCE MASTERSON
For The Itemizer-Observer

Initial reviews are in, and the new pickleball courts are a smash.

The two courts opened recently at Monmouth Recreational Park (MRP), or skateboard park. They have since been discovered by the local citizenry.

“We’ve got a lot of feedback that people are excited about it, and that they’re using” the courts, said Matt Johnson, Monmouth’s operations manager.

Not a surprising response given the sport’s popularity. Online reports state pickleball - a combination of tennis, ping-pong and badminton - is the country’s fastest growing sport since 2016.

The courts are not completely finished. Coming soon are concrete skirting, benches and landscaping, along with a sixth and final coat.

“There’s the beginning of growing pains with fresh concrete up against old concrete, and there’s going to be some corrections that are expected,” Johnson said of needed work. “The (contractors) purposely didn’t put that final coat on. They will



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Although the final amenities have yet to be installed, community members are already playing on the completed pickleball courts in Monmouth.

come back this spring and clean it all up and get one nice, good, playable surface out there.”

This hasn’t stopped players from getting in their pickleball time.

“People are using the court,” Johnson said. “It’s 100 percent playable, absolutely.”

New restrooms, benches, picnic tables and a boardwalk through the wetlands are also in the park’s future.

“We’re just kind of increasing the amenities around the

skate park, due to its high usage,” said David Karr, Monmouth project manager..

Special attention will be paid to the boardwalk.

“It’s going to be elevated ... over some natural resources. So we’re trying to get people out there ...” Karr said. “We have a group here for birdwatching. But we also want to educate people about the native plants, things like that, that make this area.”

Under consideration is another option if demand exceeds what two courts can handle.

“Maybe even look at resurfacing the (park’s) tennis courts ... so that it can also be used for pickleball,” Karr said. “There’s a lot of future options if there’s a need for it. Absolutely.”

The tennis courts remain on site, just south of the dog park.

A grand opening and ribbon cutting is tentatively planned

for the spring, though no specific date has been finalized. Pickleball lessons might be provided at the event, Johnson said.

Pickleball’s popularity comes in part from its ability to transcend generations.

“That’s one of the reasons why we were so excited to bring it in. Because it is a multi-age sport,” Johnson said. “It can be played with younger kids, all the way up to full grown adults and elderly folks.”

While noise has been a problem at pickleball courts elsewhere, Karr doesn’t see that being an issue here.

“The location isn’t right up against somebody’s house. It’s along the highway (near the ‘S’ curve). It’s already part of the sports complex,” he added. “So we thought that that made a great location, as far as any noise concerns.”

Courts are available first-come first-serve. Hours are consistent with other Monmouth parks, closing one hour after sunset until sunrise. The park’s old restroom was demolished to make room for the skateboard park.

CHS ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Central Game Day Cheer



Central Game Day Cheer - 5A/6A Game Day State Champions, coached by Megan Smith.

Congratulations
Central Game Day Cheer!



GO PANTHERS!
CONGRATULATIONS FROM OREGON HOUSE REP. PAUL EVANS

PAUL EVANS
Oregon House Representative

Paid for by Friends of Paul Evans, PAC # 16508

503.986.1420
900 Court Street NE H-471, Salem
Rep.PaulEvans@oregonlegislature.gov

DHS ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Tyler Basey



Tyler Basey is a Senior at Dallas High. Tyler is pictured on top of the podium as the District Wrestling Champion

CONGRATULATIONS TYLER!



GO DRAGONS!
CONGRATULATIONS FROM
WILLAMETTE VALLEY FIBER

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PAGES OF THE PAST

50 years ago

March 5, 1975

Conservationist of year selected at annual event

Jim Smart, a man of both diversified interests and farming practices, has been chosen a Polk County Conservationist of the Year. Jim, his wife Margaret and son Bryan reside at Maple Mound Farm in the West Salem hills, where Jim has been farming for the past 29 years. The excellence in farm conservation and commitment to the Conservation of the Lands of the State of Oregon have gained Jim the respect and recognition of his fellow citizens.

Future status mulled for mental health group

Polk County Mental Health Administrative Committee met with the Polk County Commissioners Monday

evening to discuss the committee’s future status as an administrative group. Presently the 13-member committee is the only volunteer citizen group that not only advises a county governmental department but also sets policy and administers it. The reason for the Monday confrontation was the result of a motion made during a recent board meeting by Commissioner Alan Miller to reverse an order giving the mental health committee the power to administrate.

Dallas wins CVL title

The Dallas Dragons, sparked by the 26 points of All-leaguer Don Hiebenthal, defeated the Molalla Indians Monday night at South Salem High by a score of 52-40. The win gave the Dragons the Coast-Valley League Championship title and a date with West Linn in the State AAA playoffs.

40 years ago

March 6, 1985

Independence Bridge to receive ‘lift’

After more than a year and a half and over \$1 million spent in rebuilding the Independence Bridge, the structure crossing the Willamette River is now ready to shoulder a load. It will now be able to carry more of a load than the tonnage limits placed on the ridge Nov. 3, 1983,

after the wooden piles of the structure were found to be deteriorating and unsafe. Polk County commissioners approved the lifting of the load limit at their Feb. 27 meeting and approval by the Marion County commissioners is expected today.

Raid uncovers ‘speed’ lab

Law enforcement officials from four different agencies raided a drug operation at a rural residence in Grand Ronde during the night of

Feb. 26. Official seized materials in the garage following a four-month investigation involving Polk County, Dallas, Portland and Oregon State Police officers, according to a state police officer on the scene. Lab equipment worth an estimated \$5,000 and enough chemicals to produce 55 pounds of methamphetamine, or “speed,” was confiscated from the premises, said Paul Burke, special investigator with the Polk County Sheriff’s Office.

STEP boosts salmon, steelhead production

This year more than 300 individual volunteers with the Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) will be overseeing the development of salmon and steelhead eggs in streamside incubators, according to the state Department of Fish and Wildlife. These small hatch-boxes scattered along streams on the coast and in the Willamette Valley are growing millions of eggs.



This week’s flashback is from March 5, 1975: Honor Students - Whitworth school had a special assembly to honor some of the fourth, fifth and sixth graders of their school. Chosen as honor students of the month were (left to right) David Lyda, Jeanne Stiles and Lori Flaming; presenting the awards was principal Mel McCutcheon. The school student council set the criteria for the awards and the students helped the teachers select those to be honored.

January Restaurant Inspections

Editor’s Note: Polk County Health Department conducts a bi-annual, unannounced inspection of licensed restaurants. The establishments receive an overall grade on food temperatures, food preparation practices, worker hygiene, dish washing and sanitizing and equipment and facility cleanliness. The restaurants are scored on a 100-point scale. They receive a 5-point deduction for priority violation and a 3-point deduction for priority foundation violations. Deductions are doubled if recorded on consecutive inspections. Restaurants are compliant if they receive a score of 70 or higher. They must be reinspected within 30 days if they receive a score below 70 or face closure or other administrative action. Restaurants display a placard by the entrance that indicates passing or failing their most recent inspection.

Westside Pacific Family Restaurant and Saloon LLC
160 S Pacific Hwy W., Rickreall
Inspection Date: Jan. 30
Score: 100

Checkpoint 221 - Pavillion
1233 Riverbend Road NW, West Salem
Inspection Date: Jan. 30
Score: 100

Coffee Cabana
9750 Rickreall Road, Rickreall
Inspection Date: Jan. 30
Score: 100

Baobab
154 S Main St., Independence
Inspection Date: Jan. 28
Score: 100

Sweet Indulgence, LLC
154 S Main St
Independence
Inspection Date: Jan. 28
Score: 100

Bobablastic
240 Monmouth St., Independence
Inspection Date: Jan. 27
Score: 94

- Ready-to-eat food is not properly date-marked, specifically a carton of milk opened three days ago is not date marked.
- The use of time as a public health control is not properly monitored, food is not properly marked or written procedures have not been developed, specifically a container of boba is not time marked. Operator states it was prepared 1 hour prior.

Kellis Cafe
1089 Edgewater Ave NW, West Salem
Inspection Date: Jan. 24
Score: 95 - Potentially hazardous food is not maintained at proper hot or cold holding temperatures, specifically a bowl of butter is sitting out at room temperature. Operator states it has been out for 3.5 hours.

Brooks & Terry’s Espresso
100 Ellendale Ave., Dallas
Inspection Date: Jan. 24
Score: 100

Taco Bell
200 W Ellendale Ave., Dallas
Inspection Date: Jan. 24
Score: 100

Dairy Queen
1141 Wallace Road NW, West Salem
Inspection Date: Jan. 24
Score: 100

Little Caesars
1395 Edgewater St. NW, Suite 100, West Salem
Inspection Date: Jan. 24
Score: 97 - The use of time as a public health control is not properly monitored, food is not properly marked or written procedures have not been developed, specifically several pizzas on rack (68F) are not time marked. Operator states the last pizza was made 20 minutes ago.

The Tap Station
87 S Main St., Independence
Inspection Date: Jan. 23
Score: 100

The Inferno - Taphouse
915 N Main St., Independence
Inspection Date: Jan. 23
Score: 100

Tater’s Cafe
683 SE Jefferson St., Dallas
Inspection Date: Jan. 23
Score: 100

Dutch Bros Coffee
165 Pacific Ave., Monmouth
Inspection Date: Jan. 22
Score: 100

Dreaming of Sushi
1233 Riverbend Road NW, West Salem
Inspection Date: Jan. 22
Score: 92
- A handwashing sink is not accessible for employee use at all times, is used for purposes other than handwashing or is not operated properly, specifically a handwashing sink has a soap dispenser and cardboard lid sitting in the basin.
- Raw or ready-to-eat food is not properly protected from cross contamination, specifically raw eggs are stored above miso in reach-in unit under the counter.

Bobablastic
1233 Riverbend Road NW, West Salem
Inspection Date: Jan. 22
Score: 100

Pastatastic
1233 Riverbend Road NW, West Salem
Inspection Date: Jan. 22
Score: 100

Painted Pony Coffee & Cream
226 S Main St., Suite A, Independence
Inspection Date: Jan. 22
Score: 100

Dutch Bros. Coffee
515 Jefferson St., Dallas
Inspection Date: Jan. 17
Score: 100

Mcdonald’s

1315 Monmouth St., Independence
Inspection Date: Jan. 16
Score: 100

Brew Coffee And Tap House
211 S Main St., Independence
Inspection Date: Jan. 16
Score: 100

Fro-zone Yogurt
1389 Monmouth St., Independence
Inspection Date: Jan. 16
Score: 100

Baskin Robbins
1124 Wallace Roa, West Salem
Inspection Date: Jan. 15
Score: 100

Habebah Coffee & Cuisine
110 Main St. W., Monmouth
Inspection Date: Jan. 15
Score: 100

Starbucks Coffee
1124 Wallace Road NW, Suite 105, West Salem
Inspection Date: Jan. 15
Score: 100

Burgerville USA
615 E Main St., Monmouth
Inspection Date: Jan. 14
Score: 100

Dairy Queen,
320 Pacific Ave S., Monmouth
Inspection Date: Jan. 14
Score: 100

KFC/A&W
444 S Pacific Highway, Monmouth
Inspection Date: Jan. 14
Score: 100

Dairy Queen
586 SE Jefferson St., Dallas
Inspection Date: Jan. 13
Score: 100

Abby’s Legendary Pizza
174 W Ellendale, Dallas
Inspection Date: Jan. 13
Score: 100

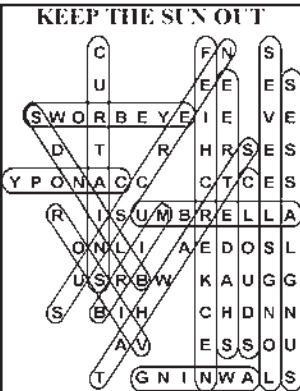
CryptoQuip answer

If a very tall Lego structure is toppling over, I suppose folks may encounter tumbling blocks.

Go Figure!

answers

6	+	8	-	9	=	5
-		+		-		
5	-	4	x	7	=	7
+		÷		x		
2	-	1	+	3	=	4
=		=		=		
3		12		6		



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

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

TOWN CRIER

COMMUNITY CALENDAR MARCH 5-12

Wednesday, March 5 8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center 8:30 a.m. - Mayor of Independence Office Hours, stop by and share your thoughts, ideas, and questions, City Hall, 555 South Main St. 9 a.m. - Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center 10 a.m. - Tai Chi with John, Monmouth Senior Community Center 10 a.m. - 4-Handed Pinochle/Card/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center 10:30 a.m. - Little Bitty Storytime, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St. 10:30 a.m. - Story Time with Miss Jo, Independence Library, 175 Monmouth St. 11 a.m. - Mah-Jongg, Dallas Area Senior Center 11 a.m. - Lunch with Meals on Wheels, Monmouth Senior Community Center 1 p.m. - Ten Minute Writing, Monmouth Senior Community Center 12:45 p.m. - Loneliness Solutions, Monmouth Senior Community 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. - Manga and Anime Club, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S. 5:30 p.m. - Municipal Court Arraignments, City Hall, 555 South Main St., Independence	7 p.m. - Monmouth Planning Commission meeting, City Hall, 151 Main St. W. Thursday, March 6 8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center 10 a.m. - Cards/table games, Dallas Area Senior Center 10 a.m. - Calvary Chapel Dallas Sewing and Craft group meeting, 628 SE Jefferson St. 10:15 a.m. - Low Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center 10:30 a.m. - Bounces and Rhymes, ages 2 and under, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S. 11 a.m. - Grief 101 Workshop, Monmouth Senior Community Center 10:30 a.m. - Children’s Storytime, for ages 5 and under, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St. 11 am. - Memory Cafe, Monmouth Senior Community Center 11:30 a.m. - Lunch Bunch, Dallas Area Senior Center 11:10 a.m. - Low Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center 12 p.m. - Pinochle, Monmouth Senior Community Center 12 p.m. - 10-Minute Writing/Bridge, Dallas Area Senior Center 1 p.m. - Needle Craft Group, Monmouth Senior Community Center 5 p.m. - Monmouth Quarterly Town Hall, City Hall, 151 Main St. W.	6:30 p.m. - Connecting Loose Threads, Monmouth Senior Community Center Friday, March 7 8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center 9 a.m. - Stretch exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center 10 a.m. - Brunk Farmstead Tours, 5705 Salem Dallas Hwy NW 10 a.m. – Six handed Pinochle/Art Workshop/ Listening Ear/Cards/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center 10 a.m. - Writer’s Workshop/Drawing for Fun, Monmouth Senior Community Center 1 p.m. - Tai Chi with Cheryl/Lunch & Learn, Monmouth Senior Community Center 1 p.m. - Art Afternoon & Carin Corner, Monmouth Senior Community Center 1:30 p.m. - Jewelry Making, Monmouth Senior Community Center 6:30 p.m. - Acoustic Music Jam, Guthrie Park, 4320 Kings Valley Highway S. Saturday, March 8 9 a.m. - Rickreall Spring Gun Show, Main Building, Polk County Fairgrounds, 20 S. Pacific Hwy. West 10 a.m. - Brunk Farmstead Tours, 5705 Salem Dallas Hwy NW 11:30 a.m. - Dallas Area Senior Center General Meeting & Potluck 1 p.m. - Live Music: Alex Hudjohn and Ike Fonseca, at Everything	Blaine Likes, 362 Main St., Suite 4, Dallas 6 p.m. - Live Music: Rewind, Red Gate Winery, 8175 Buena Vista Road, Independence 7 p.m. - Live Music: Ed Desmarteau, Golden Hop Saloon, 133 C. St., Independence Sunday, March 9 9 a.m. - Rickreall Spring Gun Show, Main Building, Polk County Fairgrounds, 20 S. Pacific Hwy. West 2 p.m. - Live Music: Orvil Ivie, Red Gate Winery, 8175 Buena Vista Road, Independence Monday, March 10 8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center 9 a.m. - Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center 10 a.m. - Cards/table games/5 Crowns Game, Dallas Area Senior Center 10 a.m. - Cribbage/ASL Class/Card Making with Jen/Lunch with Meals on Wheels, Monmouth Senior Community Center 1 p.m. - Tai Chi with Cheryl/Technology Help with Ian, Monmouth Senior Community Center 6:30 p.m. - New Horizons Orchestra, Monmouth Senior Community Center Tuesday, March 11 8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center 9 a.m. - 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. - Family Storytime, 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 1 p.m. - Bunko, Dallas Area Senior Center 6:30 p.m. - Dance: Ballroom, Monmouth Senior Community Center 6:30 p.m. - Independence City Council Meeting, City Hall, 555 South Main St. 7:30 p.m. - Dance: Latin, Monmouth Senior Community Center Wednesday, March 12 7 a.m. - Monmouth Library Board Meeting, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S. 8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center 8:30 a.m. - Mayor of Independence Office Hours, stop by and share your thoughts, ideas, and questions, City Hall, 555 South Main St. 9 a.m. - Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center 10 a.m. - Financial Training, Dallas Area Senior Center	10 a.m. - Tai Chi with John, Monmouth Senior Community Center 10 a.m. - 4-Handed Pinochle/Card/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center 10:30 a.m. - Little Bitty Storytime, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St. 10:30 a.m. - Story Time with Miss Jo, Independence Library, 175 Monmouth St. 11 a.m. - Lunch with Meals on Wheels, Monmouth Senior Community Center 1 p.m. - Ten Minute Writing, Monmouth Senior Community Center 12:45 p.m. - Loneliness Solutions, Monmouth Senior Community 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. - Manga and Anime Club, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S. 5:30 p.m. - Municipal Court Arraignments, City Hall, 555 South Main St., Independence 5:30 p.m. - Heritage Museum Advisory Board meeting, Heritage Museum, 281 S 2nd St. 6 p.m. - Monmouth Parks & Recreation Board meeting, Monmouth Public Works, 401 Hogan Road 6:30 p.m. - Music Jam, Monmouth Senior Community Center.
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Burgerville hosts SAR fundraiser March 5
Join Polk County Search and Rescue from 4-8 p.m. March 5 for a fundraiser benefiting the Polk County Search and Rescue team at Burgerville, 615 Main St. E. in Monmouth, Mention that you are supporting SAR when you order inside or at the drive-thru and SAR will receive 20% of the proceeds. The funds raised during this event will go towards updating SAR medical equipment.

Polk Republic Women meet March 6
The Polk County Republican Women meet from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 6 at the Kingwood Bible Church, located at 1125 Elm St. NW, in West Salem. Guest speakers will be Eddie Nelson of the Dallas Food Bank and Patty Nevue from the Ellen Curran Food Bank.

Family Life Church hosts Ladies Bunko March 6
Who is ready to play some bunko!?! The Family Life Church Dallas Campus is hosting a Ladies Night at 6 p.m. March 6. Family Life Church will be playing on the first Thursday of every month at alternating homes. For locations, sign up at <https://forms.gle/pvJ5uNiyXDPIWdTb7>. There is a \$5 buy in to play.

CASA hosts Casino Night fundraiser March 8

Cornerstone Valley Inc. presents CASA of Polk County Casino Night, from 6-10 p.m. March 8 at the Werner University Center, 400 Monmouth Ave. N. Help raise awareness and funds to support the most vulnerable children in Polk County foster care. Tickets of \$75 include hors d’oeuvres, refreshing drinks, unlimited free phone booth, a door prize and engaging games. Tickets available at www.casaofpolk.com or at their office, 580 Main St., Suite D, Dallas. For more information, call (503) 623-8473.

Polk County Democrats meet virtually March 13
The Polk County Democrats now meet the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Join them this month March 13, when the agenda will include Dallas Police Chief Tom Simpson who will discuss the new Dallas Police Station Bond. To receive the link to this meeting and be put on email reminders list for future events, go to www.polkdems.org. Scroll down to sign up under “Newsletter”. For further information, contact the office at (971) 612-0040.

Slip Kid hosts free family dance March 15
Slip Kid presents Lora Michele Dance Studio’s free all ages family dance from 4-6 p.m. March 15 at the Dallas Event Center,

995 S Main St. For tickets and to sign up, go to <https://bit.ly/3X99QTH>. Learn more about the sponsor Slip Kid at www.slipkidpresents.com.

Reptile show returns to Polk County Fair March 15
Reptopia is hosting their second annual Reptile Expo at 10 a.m. March 15 at the Polk County Fairgrounds, 520 S Pacific Hwy W, in Rickreall. Come join us for a fun family event with lots of exotic reptiles, inverts, plants, and terrariums.

Wagon Wheel Spring Doll Show returns March 22
The Wagon Wheel Spring Dollers Show and

Sale is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 22 at the Polk County Fairgrounds, 520 S Pacific Hwy W, in Rickreall. Early admission for 9 a.m. is \$10. Regular admission at 10 a.m. is \$7. Children 10 and under are free. The show features dolls, toys, bears, miniatures, accessories and related items. There will be door prizes, displays/exhibits, restringing, handicap accessibility and food Concessions. Visit www.dollshowusa.com/Events-OR.html for details.

Panther Kids Wrestling hosts Spring Ball fundraiser March 28
The Panther Kids Wrestling program presents

the PKW Spring Ball, for adults ages 21 and older, from 7-11 p.m. March 28 at the Polk County Fairgrounds, 520 S. Pacific Highway. Step into an evening filled with music, dancing, delicious bites at the taco bar, and refreshments at the cocktail and beverage bar. Tickets are \$60 per couple or \$30 per person and are available at www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2025-pkw-spring-fling.

Heritage Museum hosts onomatopoeia exhibit through May 31
The Heritage Museum hosts the fun and interactive exhibit “What Does the Fox Say:

Exploring International Onomatopoeias through May 31. Explore how different cultures interpret animal sounds, from “woof” to “meow” to “cock-a-doodle-doo.” languages around the world have unique ways of hearing and describing the same sounds.
Created by local artist Torin Widhammer and former museum director Natascha Adams, this hands-on exhibit invites visitors of all ages to discover the playful side of language. The Heritage Museum is located at 281 S 2nd St. in Independence. It is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday.



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Divas ON A DIME
By Patti Diamond

The Muffuletta: A New Orleans Classic You Can Make at Home

Laissez les bon temps rouler! Mardi Gras is here, and what better way to celebrate than with a taste of New Orleans? Enter the Muffuletta — a Big Easy classic that's as indulgent as its birthplace.

A true Muffuletta (or Muffaletta, depending on who you ask) starts with a wide, round Sicilian loaf, topped with sesame seeds and a soft texture like focaccia or ciabatta. But the real magic happens inside. This sandwich is a symphony of Italian cold cuts, provolone cheese, and the pièce de résistance: a briny, garlicky olive salad that soaks into the bread, making every bite unforgettable.

If you can eat a Muffuletta without a little oil running down your arm, I hate to say it, but it wasn't made right!

The Muffuletta was created in 1906 at Central Grocery on Decatur Street in New Orleans when a Sicilian deli owner suggested combining cured meats, cheeses and preserved vegetables inside bread instead of serving them separately. Today, it's a beloved New Orleans staple.

One of the best things about a Muffuletta? It gets better with time. As it rests, the olive salad seeps into the bread, enhancing every layer. That's why it's ideal for parties — make a few, wrap them up and slice them open as needed. Late-arriving

guests? No problem! They might just get the best slice.

A Sandwich with Personality

What makes a Muffuletta truly shine is the olive salad — it's the heart and soul of this sandwich. If you plan ahead, let the salad sit overnight in the fridge. This extra step allows the flavors to meld, giving you an even more robust bite. And if you fall in love with it (which you will), make a big batch! Stored under a thin layer of olive oil in a sealed container, it'll keep in the fridge for months, ready to transform your next sandwich, salad or even pasta dish.

While an authentic Muffuletta can be pricey at a deli, making one at home is easy and economical. Here's how to get that signature flavor without breaking the bank:

A Mardi Gras classic with Italian cold cuts and briny olive salad.

MUFFULETTA SANDWICH
Yield: 4-6 servings
Total Time: 1 hour 15 mins. to overnight

1/2 cup marinated mixed olives
1/4 cup roasted red peppers
1/2 cup Italian giardiniera mix (pickled vegetables)
1/2 teaspoon dried Italian herbs
1 clove garlic, minced
1/2 cup Italian dressing, or oil and

vinegar
1 (9 inch-10 inch) round loaf of Italian or French bread
1 1/2 pounds mixed Italian deli cold cuts, like salami, bologna, soppressata, ham
1/2 pound sliced provolone cheese

In a small food processor, mince the olives, peppers, giardiniera, Italian herbs, garlic and Italian dressing. Slice the bread in half horizontally and gently press inside to make room for the filling.

Generously spread the olive mixture on both sides of the bread. Artistically layer the cold cuts and provolone inside the bread. Place the top back on the sandwich and press down.

Wrap the sandwich tightly in plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least one hour, or preferably overnight for maximum flavor. Slice it into wedges and serve while playing Dixieland jazz (optional but highly recommended).

Variations to Suit Your Style

— **Heat Lovers:** Use jalapeno-stuffed olives or add a dash of red pepper flakes.

— **Vegetarian Option:** Swap out the meats for grilled eggplant, zucchini and roasted red peppers.

The Muffuletta isn't just a sandwich, it's a celebration of bold flavors and rich history. Whether you're celebrating Mardi Gras or just craving something amazingly delicious, this New Orleans classic brings festivity to your table year-round. Don't forget the napkins!

Lifestyle expert Patti Diamond is the penny-pinching, party-planning, recipe developer and content creator of the website Divas On A Dime — Where Frugal, Meets Fabulous! Visit Patti at www.divasonadime.com and join the conversation on Facebook at [DivasOnADimeDotCom](https://www.facebook.com/DivasOnADimeDotCom). Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com

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THIS WEEK'S FEATURED HOMES



EXCELLENT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY! 4 unit property just blocks from Western Oregon University! 9bd/8bath. 1930's 3br/2bath house that has been nicely updated. 3-1990's townhouse units that are 2bd/1.5 bath. Live in the house and generate income from the 3 units or rent all of the units. **\$980,000.00** (#824824)



4bd/2.5 bath home with FANTASTIC indoor & outdoor space. Living room, family room & THEATER ROOM! 19'9x13'5 primary suite with jetted tub and walk-in closet. Covered paver patio. Above ground pool. Centrally located in DESIRABLE MONMOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD. **\$585,000.00** (#824104)



PRICE IMPROVED! 2bd/2bath manufactured home in 55+park. Home has been updated with new roof, new interior and exterior paint plus many more improvements. Home is light and bright. Primary suite has a step in shower. Double carport. Spacious yard. **\$125,000.00** (#824833)



3bd/2bath HOME. Clean and cozy with great indoor and outdoor living space. This home has an open floor plan. Primary suite has walk in shower. Located in desirable community. **\$112,900.00** (#821791)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PCIO25-1069 NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION Date: Thursday, March 13, 2025 Address: 1551 SE Lyle St., Dallas, OR 97338 Time: 9:00 AM Local Time By virtue of default by Advanced Forestry L.L.C.; Advanced Forestry LLC and Macleod, Bruce Lloyd (Individually and collectively “Client”), under a Negotiable Promissory Note and Security Agreement(s), Security Agreement(s) Promissory Note(s), Lease Agreement(s) and related documents dated June 25, 2024 & May 08, 2024, payable to Commercial Credit Group Inc. (“CCG”), which obligation is secured by the property described below (the “Equipment”), CCG will sell at Public Auction, to the highest bidder, AS-IS, WHERE-IS, WITHOUT ANY REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES, EXPRESS, IMPLIED OR STATUTORY, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR ANY WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, all of its right, title and interest to the following Equipment: (1) 1989 Caterpillar 518 Skidder- s/n 95U03450 (1) 2005 John Deere 2054 Log Loader- s/n FF2054X200300 (1) 2015 Ponsse Elephant King 8W Forwarder with New Tier 4 Engine, 1 New and 1 Used Set of Track-s/n PONS48FCCAA110006 (1) 2021 Ponsse Syncrowinch Syncrowinch- s/n HSW9-HAV-152 (1) 2016 Wacker Neuson E253VDS Excavator-s/n WNCE0510CPAL00219 (1) 2015 Ponsse Ergo 8W Harvester with C44 Crane S/N: 330 550 and 2 track sets Eco and Evo-s/n PONS34FAHAA090081 (1) 2021 Ponsse Syncrowinch Syncrowinch- s/n HSW9-SI-204 (1) 2016 Ford F150 4WD Pickup Truck- s/n 1FTFW1EF9GKE89041 Terms: Successful bidder must pay 25% of purchase price at time of sale via cash, certified or acceptable bank check, with the balance payable in good funds on the next business day, unless: 1. The bidder has pre-qualified by presenting CCG with a written non-contingent, lending commitment from a source and in a form acceptable to CCG in its sole discretion, in which case we will entertain bids up to the amount of such written commitment; or 2. The bidder has obtained from CCG written credit approval in advance of the scheduled public sale. CCG reserves the right to bid at the sale. Contact Herb Orenego at (630) 718-4684 for additional information or to arrange an inspection of the Equipment.

PCIO25-1067 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF POLK PROBATE DEPARTMENT In the Matter of the Estate of: FLORINE A. CASEY, Deceased. Case No.: 25PB00648 **NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS** Notice: The Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Polk, has appointed Steven M. Dixon as Personal Representative of the Estate of Florine A. Casey, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers to the Personal Representative, c/o Stan Butterfield, P.C., Attorney at Law, 605 SW Church St, Dallas, OR 97338, within four months from the date of the publication of this notice as stated below, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative. Date published March 5, 2025. Steven M. Dixon, Personal Representative c/o Stan Butterfield, P.C. Attorney at Law 605 SW Church St Dallas, OR 97338 Telephone: (503) 623-2427 Email: stan@stanbutterfield.com

PCIO25-1066 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF POLK PROBATE DEPARTMENT In the Matter of the Estate of: JOYCE KAY WOODMARK, Deceased. Case No.: 25PB01091 **NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS** Notice: The Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Polk, has appointed David Yarbrough as Personal Representative of the Estate of Joyce Kay Woodmark, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers to the Personal Representative, c/o Stan Butterfield, P.C., Attorney at Law, 605 SW Church St, Dallas, OR 97338, within four months from the date of the first publication of this notice as stated below, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published March 5, 2025. David Yarbrough, Personal Representative c/o Stan Butterfield, P.C. Attorney at Law 605 SW Church St Dallas, OR 97338 Telephone: (503) 623-2427 Email: stan@stanbutterfield.com

PCIO25-1065 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 bid13.com on 3/25/2025 at 10:00AM. Corbin A Spencer unit #A2088. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.

PCIO25-1064 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF POLK Probate Department Case No.: 25PB00781 **NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS** In the Matter of the Estate of Rosemary Elliott, Deceased. The Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Polk, (probate department), in Case No. 25PB00781, has appointed Brad McLean (“personal representative”), as the personal representative of the Estate of Rosemary Elliott (“Estate”), deceased. Within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, all persons having claims against the estate shall present the claims to the personal representative at PO Box 852, Salem, OR 97308-0852. Claims not so presented may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding TAKE NOTICE that additional information may be obtained from the records of the Court, the personal representative, or Raphael Conant, attorney for the personal representative, at PO Box 852, Salem, OR 97308-0852. Dated and first published March 5, 2025. Personal Representative /s/ Brad McLean

PCIO25-1063 Request for Proposals The City of Independence seeks proposals from firms to remove and landfill biosolids from the City's wastewater treatment facility. Sealed proposals will be received by Gerald Fisher, P.E., Public Works Director at 555 S. Main Street, Independence, Oregon 97351, until 2:00 p.m. local time on April 16, 2025. Proposers shall provide five (5) copies of the proposal. Proposals shall be clearly marked “Proposal for the 2025 WWTP Lagoon 1 Biosolids Removal Project,” showing the date and time of the proposal deadline, as well as the Proposer's name, and shall be delivered to the location specified above, by or before the above proposal deadline. Proposals will be opened (at the above address) immediately after the solicitation closing time and the name of the proposing firms will be made available. The City will begin the evaluation process immediately after the close of the proposal solicitation period. By no later than 4:00 p.m. local time on April 16, 2025 (i.e. 2 working hours after the proposal deadline), each proposer shall deliver to Gerald Fisher, P.E., Public Works Director, at the same address as the proposals were delivered, the “First Tier Subcontractor Disclosure Form” contained in the proposal documents. This form shall be submitted regardless of the proposed price for the work. Proposers who fail to submit the required disclosure form will be considered non-responsive, and their proposal will not be considered for award. The disclosure form shall either be submitted in the same envelope as the proposal or shall be submitted in a separate sealed envelope clearly marked “Disclosure Form for 2025 WWTP Lagoon 1 Biosolids Removal Project,” showing the date and time of the disclosure submittal deadline, as well as the Proposer's name. All questions concerning the proposal or scope of work should be directed to Gerald Fisher, P.E., Public Works Director at 555 S. Main Street, Independence, Oregon 97351, (503) 838-1212. A mandatory pre-proposal meeting will be held at the project site at 2:00 PM local time on March 26, 2025. Proposals will only be considered from firms that attend the pre-proposal meeting. The work includes removing approximately 2,500 dry tons of Class B municipal biosolids from one, clay-lined, wastewater lagoon located at the Independence Wastewater Treatment Plant (490 Ash Street, Independence, OR 97351). The solids content of the sludge ranges from 2% to 4%. Upon removal, the biosolids shall be screened, dewatered, and hauled to an approved landfill for disposal. Payment will be by the bone-dry ton hauled as explained in the request for proposal documents. Complete digital (pdf) copies of Bid Documents are available upon request by emailing Gerald Fisher, P.E., Public Works Director at gfisher@ci.independence.or.us. Additional paper copies of Bid Documents may be requested for a non-refundable payment of \$150 by emailing Gerald Fisher, P.E., Public Works Director at gfisher@ci.independence.or.us. The City reserves the right to amend the RFP, extend the deadline for submittal, waive minor irregularities, informalities, or failures to conform to the RFP requirements; reject any proposal not in compliance with all proscribed public contracting procedures and requirements, including the requirement to demonstrate responsibility pursuant to ORS 279C.375(3)(b); and to

reject for good cause and without liability therefore any and all proposals, and upon a finding that it is in the public interest to do so, cancel the RFP at any time prior to contract execution in accordance with ORS 279C.395. This contract is for a public works project subject to ORS 279C.800 to 279C.870 (state prevailing wages) and/or the Davis-Bacon Act (40USC 3141 to 3148) (federal prevailing wages) as applicable. Contract Terms, Conditions, Specifications, and the Request for Proposal Documents may be examined until closing at the City of Independence, Civic Center, 555 S. Main Street, Independence, OR 97351. Publication Dates: Daily Journal of Commerce: March 5, 2025 Itemizer-Observer: March 5, 2025

PCIO25-1062 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Polk Case No. 25PB00376 In the Matter of the Estate of Carolyn Ann Mode, Deceased. Notice is hereby given that Carolyn Ann Mode died October 15, 2024, and that by order of the above-entitled Court, the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached to the Personal Representative at 693 Chemeketa Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301-3732 / Post Office Box 2247, Salem, Oregon 97308-2247, within four months after the date of publication of this notice, or said claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding are advised that additional information may be obtained from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. Kristina Grimsbo Personal Representative Sherman, Sherman, Johnnie & Hoyt, LLP Attorneys for the Personal Representative 693 Chemeketa Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301-3732 Post Office Box 2247, Salem, Oregon 97308-2247 Date of publication: March 5, 2025

PCIO25-1061 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Polk Case No. 25PB01089 In the Matter of the Estate of Karin Beskow Clawson, Deceased. Notice is hereby given that Karin Beskow Clawson died December 8, 2024 of DEATH, and that by order of the above-entitled Court, the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached to the Personal Representative at 189 SW Academy Street, Dallas, Oregon 97338/Post Office Box 105 Dallas, Oregon 97338 within four months after the date of publication of this notice, or said claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding are advised that additional information may be obtained from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. Laura L. Zohns Personal Representative Gregory V. Goebel Sherman, Sherman, Johnnie & Hoyt, LLP Attorneys for the Personal Representative 189 SW Academy Street, Dallas, Oregon 97338 Post Office Box 105, Dallas, Oregon 97338 Date of publication: March 5, 2025

PCIO25-1056 Notice of Self Storage Sale Please take notice IN Self Storage- Salem Wallace located at 300 Musgrave Ave., 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.storage treasures.com on 3/20/2025 at 10:00AM. Christopher Slyh units #053 & #603. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.

PCIO25-1055 Notice of Self Storage Sale Please take notice IN Self Storage- Salem West located at 2401 Salem Dallas Hwy 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.storage treasures.com on 3/20/2025 at 10:00AM. Tabatha Smith unit #103; Stacy Sinon unit #166; April Mills unit #205; Jacob C Ward unit #249; Laurie Edwards unit #265. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.

PCIO25-1053 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE TS NO: 24-71581 Reference is made to that certain Deed of Trust (hereinafter referred as the Trust Deed) made by BARRY T. HENSON AND JESSICA N. HENSON as Grantor to FIRST AMERICAN TITLE COMPANY, as trustee, in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (“MERS”), as designated nominee for GSF MORTGAGE CORPORATION, beneficiary of the security instrument, its successors and assigns, as Beneficiary,

dated 4/1/2021, recorded 4/1/2021, as Instrument No. 2021-005794, modified by Loan Modification Agreement recorded as Instrument 2022-002972 and recorded on 3/8/2022 and recorded as Instrument 2022-004826 and recorded on 4/19/2022 in mortgage records of Polk County, Oregon covering the following described real property situated in said County and State, to-wit: PARCEL 2 OF PARTITION PLAT 2014-0005, RECORDED MAY 16, 2014, IN BOOK OF PARTITION PLATS AND IN BOOK 2014, PAGE 05, DEED RECORDS, POLK COUNTY, OREGON. The street address or other common designation, if any for the real property described above is purported to be: TBD KING ROAD NOW KNOWN AS 8445 KING ROADGRAND RONDE, OREGON 97347 The Tax Assessor's Account ID for the Real Property is purported to be: 575930 / 06814-A0-00109 Both the beneficiary and the trustee, ZBS Law, LLP have elected to foreclose the above referenced Trust Deed and sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by the Trust Deed and a Notice of Default and Election to Sell has been recorded pursuant to ORS 86.752(3). All right, title, and interest in the said described property which the grantors had, or had power to convey, at the time of execution of the Trust Deed, together with any interest the grantors or their successors in interest acquired after execution of the Trust Deed shall be sold at public auction to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy the obligations secured by the Trust Deed and the expenses of sale, including the compensation of the trustee as provided by law, and the reasonable fees of trustee's attorneys. The default for which the foreclosure is made is: The monthly installment of principal and interest which became due on 6/1/2024, late charges, and all subsequent monthly installments of principal and interest. You are responsible to pay all payments and charges due under the terms and conditions of the loan documents which come due subsequent to the date of this notice, including, but not limited to, foreclosure trustee fees and costs, advances and late charges. Furthermore, as a condition to bring your account in good standing, you must provide the undersigned with written proof that you are not in default on any senior encumbrance and provide proof of insurance. Nothing in this notice should be construed as a waiver of any fees owing to the beneficiary under the deed of trust, pursuant to the terms and provisions of the loan documents. The amount required to cure the default in payments to date is calculated as follows: From: 6/1/2024 Total of past due payments: \$19,791.03 Late Charges: \$678.54 Additional charges (Taxes, Insurance, Corporate Advances, Other Fees): \$535.00 Trustee's Fees and Costs: \$3,364.00 Total necessary to cure: \$24,368.57 Please note the amounts stated herein are subject to confirmation and review and are likely to change during the next 30 days. Please contact the successor trustee ZBS Law, LLP, to obtain a “reinstatement” and or “payoff” quote prior to remitting funds. By reason of said default the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by the Trust Deed due and payable. The amount required to discharge this lien in its entirety to date is: \$509,815.52 Said sale shall be held at the hour of 11:00 AM on 5/16/2025 in accord with the standard of time established by ORS 187.110, and pursuant to ORS 86.771(7) shall occur at the following designated place: At the front entrance of the Courthouse, 850 Main Street, Dallas, OR 97338 Other than as shown of record, neither the said beneficiary nor the said trustee have any actual notice of any person having or claiming to have any lien upon or interest in the real property hereinabove described subsequent to the interest of the trustee in the Trust Deed, or of any successor(s) in interest to the grantors or of any lessee or other person in possession of or occupying the property, except: NONE Notice is further given that any person named in ORS 86.778 has the right, at any time prior to five 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(s) of the Trust Deed, and in addition to paying said 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 the trustee's and attorney's fees not exceeding the amounts provided by ORS 86.778. The mailing address of the trustee is: ZBS Law, LLP 5 Centerpointe Dr., Suite 400 Lake Oswego, OR 97035 (503) 946-6558 In construing this notice, the

masculine gender includes the feminine and the neuter, the singular includes plural, the word “grantor” includes any successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other persons owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by said trust deed, the words “trustee” and “beneficiary” include their respective successors in interest, if any. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. Dated: 12/31/2024 ZBS Law, LLP By: Amber L. Labrecque, Esq., OSB#094593 ZBS Law, LLP Authorized to sign on behalf of the trustee A-4832141 02/26/2025, 03/05/2025, 03/12/2025, 03/19/2025

PCIO25-1058 PUBLIC SALE Notice Sale at Dallas Secure Storage, LLC, 1497 SE Brookside Avenue, Dallas, OR (east off Godsey Road) 10 AM Saturday, March 15, 2025 All sales CASH, VISA, M/C ONLY. Units sold as a whole. Call (503) 623-3703 for details. Marcy Dodge C051, Robert Dunaway I213, Sherri Holley H187, L393, L417, Cherish Kear I215, Joe Ramos I200, Neal Read I205, Colton Sanford E111, Chris Slyh F136, William White O835

PCIO25-1057 PUBLIC SALE Public Sale at Godsey Secure Storage, LLC, 1360 SE Godsey Road, Dallas, OR 10:30AM Saturday, MARCH 15, 2025. All sales CASH, VISA or MASTER CARD ONLY. Units will be sold as a whole. Call (503) 831-0234 for details. Blanchard, Jacob F334, Broadus, Shawna E301, Chase, Eric A014, Dirk, Linny C143, Fowler, Josh E255, French, Corene C153, Kerr, Erik C124, Ortiz, Tammy D193 Shelton, Cindy E298, Taka, Baylee B094

PCIO25-1049 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 bid13.com on 3/13/2025 at 10:00AM. Rose Pumphrey unit #A1111; Elizabeth E Rogato unit #A4186. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.

PCIO25-1051 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE T.S. Number: 2024-00016-OR Reference is made to that certain trust deed made by JESSE E. CASSANOVA AND GLORIA M. CASSANOVA, HUSBAND AND WIFE as grantor, to FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE COMPANY OF OREGON as trustee, in favor of OWNIT MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS, INC. AS LENDER MORTGAGE E L E C T R O N I C REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., MERS IS A SEPARATE CORPORATION THAT IS ACTING SOLELY AS A NOMINEE FOR LENDER AND LENDERS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as beneficiary, dated 09/22/2005 on recorded on 09/30/2005, in the Records of Polk County, Oregon, in book --- at page --- and/or as fee/file/instrument/microfilm/reception No. 2005-016611, covering the following described real property situated in the above-mentioned county and state: APN: 379164 07316-DA-01300 LOT 8, BLOCK 4, BEAUMONTS THIRD ADDITION, IN THE CITY OF SALEM, COUNTY OF POLK, AND STATE OF OREGON. Commonly Known As: 1711 VISION ST NW, SALEM, OR 97304 Both the beneficiary U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, as Trustee for Structured Asset Securities Corporation Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-OW1 and the trustee Premium Title Agency, Inc. DBA PTS Foreclosure Services have elected to sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by said trust deed and a Notice of Default has been recorded pursuant to ORS 86.752(3). The default for which the foreclosure is made is the grantor's failure to pay when due the following sums: TOTAL REQUIRED TO REINSTATE AS OF 11/09/2024: \$42,677.03 TOTAL REQUIRED TO PAYOFF AS OF 11/09/2024: \$226,487.91 Because of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day-to-day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. It will be necessary for you to contact the Trustee before the time you tender reinstatement or the payoff amount so that you may be advised of the exact amount you will be 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: Installment of Principal and Interest plus impounds and/or advances which became due on 01/01/2022 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 04/08/2025 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 Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holder's rights against the real property only. As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit reporting agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligation. Without limiting the Trustee's disclaimer of representation or warranties, Oregon law requires the Trustee to state in this notice that some residential properties sold at a Trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential properties should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the Trustee's sale. NOTICE TO TENANTS: TENANTS OF THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY HAVE CERTAIN PROTECTIONS AFFORDED TO THEM UNDER ORS 86.782 AND POSSIBLY UNDER FEDERAL LAW. ATTACHED TO THIS NOTICE OF SALE, AND INCORPORATED HEREIN, IS A NOTICE TO TENANTS OF THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY AND WHICH SETS FORTH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS THAT MUST BE COMPLIED WITH BY ANY TENANT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE AFFORDED PROTECTION, AS REQUIRED UNDER ORS 86.771. Premium Title Agency, Inc. DBA PTS Foreclosure Services Dated: Premium Title Agency, Inc. DBA PTS Foreclosure Services 7730 Market Center Ave Suite 100 El Paso, TX 79912 Trustee Phone number: (866) 960-8299 Dated: STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF EL PASO On _____ before me, _____ Personally appeared _____ 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.

PUBLIC NOTICES

WITNESS my hand and official seal
Notary Name (Seal) FOR TRUSTEES SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL (866) 960-8299 NOTICE TO RESIDENTIAL TENANTS
The property in which you are living is in foreclosure. A foreclosure sale is scheduled for 04/08/2025. The date of this sale may be postponed. Unless the lender that is foreclosing on this property is paid before the sale date, the foreclosure will go through and someone new will own this property. After the sale, the new owner is required to provide you with contact information and notice that the sale took place. The following information applies to you only if you are a bona fide tenant occupying and renting this property as a residential dwelling under legitimate rental agreement. The information does not apply to you in you own this property of if you are not a bona fide residential tenant. If the foreclosure sale goes through, the new owner will have the right to require you to move out. Before the new owner can require you to move, the new owner must provide you with written notice that specifies the date by which you must move out. If you do not leave before the move-out date, the new owner can have the sheriff remove you from the property after a court hearing. You will receive notice of the court hearing. PROTECTION FROM EVICTION. IF YOU ARE A BONA FIDE TENANT OCCUPYING AND RENTING THIS PROPERTY AS A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO CONTINUE LIVING IN THE PROPERTY AFTER THE FORECLOSURE SALE FOR: 1 60 DAYS FROM THE DATE YOU ARE GIVEN A WRITTEN TERMINATION NOTICE, IF YOU HAVE A FIXED TERM LEASE: OR 1 AT LEAST 30 DAYS FROM THE DATE YOU ARE GIVEN A WRITTEN TERMINATION NOTICE, IF YOU HAVE A MONTH-TO-MONTH OR WEEK-TO-WEEK RENTAL AGREEMENT. If the new owner wants to move in and use this property as a primary residence, the new owner can give you written notice and require you to move out after 30 days, even though you have fixed term lease with more than 30 days left. You must be provided with at least 30 days written notice after the foreclosure sale before you can be required to move. A bona fide tenant is a residential tenant who is not the borrower (property owner) or a child, spouse or parent of the borrower, and whose rental agreement: 1 Is the result of

an arm's-length transaction; 1 Requires the payment of rent that is not substantially less than fair market rent for the property, unless the rent is reduced or subsidized due to a federal, state or local subsidy; and 1 Was entered into prior to the date of the foreclosure sale. ABOUT YOUR TENANCY BETWEEN NOW AND THE FORECLOSURE SALE: RENT - YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO PAY RENT TO YOUR LANDLORD UNTIL THE PROPERTY IS SOLD OR UNTIL A COURT TELLS YOU OTHERWISE. IF YOU DO NOT PAY RENT, YOU CAN BE EVICTED. BE SURE TO KEEP PROOF OF ANY PAYMENTS YOU MAKE. SECURITY DEPOSIT You may apply your security deposit and any rent you paid in advance against the current rent you owe your landlord as provided in ORS 90.367. To do this, you must notify your landlord in writing that you want to subtract the amount of your security deposit or prepaid rent from your rent payment. You may do this only for the rent you owe your current landlord. If you do this, you must do so before the foreclosure sale. The business or individual who buys this property at the foreclosure sale is not responsible to you for any deposit or prepaid rent you paid to your landlord. ABOUT YOUR TENANCY AFTER THE FORECLOSURE SALE The new owner that buys this property at the foreclosure sale may be willing to allow you to stay as a tenant instead of requiring you to move out after 30 or 60 days. After the sale, you should receive a written notice informing you that sale took place and giving you the new owner's name and contact information. You should contact the new owner if you would like to stay. If the new owner accepts rent from you, signs a new residential rental agreement with you or does not notify you in writing within 30 days after the date of the foreclosure sale that you must move out, the new owner becomes your new landlord and must maintain the property. Otherwise: 1 You do not owe rent; 1 The new owner is not your landlord and is not responsible for maintaining the property on your behalf; and 1 You must move out by the date the new owner specifies in a notice to you. The new owner may offer to pay your moving expenses and any other costs or amounts you and the new owner agree on in exchange for your agreement to leave the premises in less than 30 or 60 days. You should speak to a lawyer to fully understand your rights

before making any decisions regarding your tenancy. IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON TO TRY TO FORCE YOU TO LEAVE YOUR DWELLING UNIT WITHOUT FIRST GIVING YOU WRITTEN NOTICE AND GOING TO COURT TO EVICT YOU. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS, YOU SHOULD CONSULT A LAWYER. If you believe you need legal assistance, contact the Oregon State Bar and ask for the lawyer referral service. Contact information for the Oregon State Bar is included with this notice. If you do not have enough money to pay a lawyer and are otherwise eligible, you may be able to receive legal assistance for free. Information about whom to contact for free legal assistance is included with this notice. Oregon State Bar: (503) 684-3763; (800) 452-7636 Legal assistance: http://oregonlawhelp.org/

PCIO25-1019 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE T.S. No.: OR-24-1004014-SW Reference is made to that certain deed made by, TYLER JEFFERY CARTER AND KYLIE LYNN CARTER, AS TENANTS BY THE ENTIRETY as Grantor to FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE COMPANY OF OREGON, as trustee, in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS DESIGNATED NOMINEE FOR NATIONS DIRECT MORTGAGE, LLC, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as Beneficiary, dated 6/30/2023, recorded 6/30/2023, in official records of POLK County, Oregon in book/reel/volume No. and/or as fee/file/instrument/microfilm/reception number 2023-004957 and subsequently assigned or transferred by operation of law to Nations Direct Mortgage, LLC covering the following described real property situated in said County, and State. APN: 563215 07320-CD-08300 Lot 3, REPLAT LOTS 1-9 WOODHAVEN ESTATES PHASE 1, in the City of Salem, County of Polk and State of Oregon. Commonly known as: 650 BURLEY HILL LOOP NW, SALEM, OR 97304 The undersigned hereby certifies that based upon business records there are no known written assignments of the trust deed by the trustee or by the beneficiary, except as recorded in the records of the county or counties in which the above described real property is situated. Further, no action has been instituted to recover the debt, or any part thereof, now remaining secured by the

trust deed, or, if such action has been instituted, such action has been dismissed except as permitted by ORS 86.752(7). Both the beneficiary and the trustee have elected to sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by said trust deed and notice has been recorded pursuant to Section 86.752(3) of Oregon Revised Statutes. There is a default by grantor or other person owing an obligation, performance of which is secured by the trust deed, or by the successor in interest, with respect to provisions therein which authorize sale in the event of such provision. The default for which foreclosure is made is grantor's failure to pay when due the following sum: TOTAL REQUIRED TO REINSTATE: \$51,721.62 TOTAL REQUIRED TO PAYOFF: \$470,669.49 Because of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day-to-day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. It will be necessary for you to contact the Trustee before the time you tender reinstatement or the payoff amount so that you may be advised of the exact amount you will be required to pay. By reason of the default, the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by the trust deed immediately due and payable, those sums being the following, to-wit: The installments of principal and interest which became due on 12/1/2023, and all subsequent installments of principal and interest through the date of this Notice, plus amounts that are due for late charges, delinquent property taxes, insurance premiums, advances made on senior liens, taxes and/or insurance, trustee's fees, and any attorney fees and court costs arising from or associated with the beneficiaries efforts to protect and preserve its security, all of which must be paid as a condition of reinstatement, including all sums that shall accrue through reinstatement or pay-off. Nothing in this notice shall be construed as a waiver of any fees owing to the Beneficiary under the Deed of Trust pursuant to the terms of the loan documents. Whereof, notice hereby is given that QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION, the undersigned trustee will on 5/20/2025 at the hour of 01:00 PM, Standard of Time, as established by section 187.110, Oregon Revised Statutes, Inside the new lobby at the Jefferson Street entrance of the County Courthouse, 850 Main Street, Dallas, Oregon 97338 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 him 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 Section 86.778 of Oregon Revised Statutes has the right to have the foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the trust deed reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than such portion of said principal as would not then be due had no default occurred), together with the costs, trustee's and attorney's fees and curing any other default complained of in the Notice of Default by tendering the performance required under the obligation or trust deed, at any time prior to five days before the date last set for sale. Other than as shown of record, neither the beneficiary nor the trustee has any actual notice of any person having or claiming to have any lien upon or interest in the real property hereinabove described subsequent to the interest of the trustee in the trust deed, or of any successor in interest to grantor or of any lessee or other person in possession of or occupying the property, except: Name and Last Known Address and Nature of Right, Lien or Interest TYLER CARTER 650 BURLEY HILL LOOP NW SALEM, OR 97304 Original Borrower KYLIE CARTER 650 BURLEY HILL LOOP NW SALEM, OR 97304 Original Borrower For Sale Information Call: 855-882-1314 or Login to: www.hubzu.com In construing this notice, 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 has been issued by QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION. 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 Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit report agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. NOTICE TO TENANTS: TENANTS OF THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY HAVE CERTAIN PROTECTIONS AFFORDED TO THEM UNDER ORS 86.782 AND POSSIBLY UNDER FEDERAL LAW. ATTACHED TO THIS NOTICE OF SALE, AND INCORPORATED HEREIN, IS A NOTICE TO TENANTS THAT SETS FORTH SOME OF THE PROTECTIONS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO A TENANT OF THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY AND WHICH SETS FORTH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS THAT MUST BE COMPLIED WITH BY ANY TENANT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE AFFORDED PROTECTION, AS REQUIRED UNDER ORS 86.771. TS No: OR-24-1004014-SW Dated: 1/8/2025 Quality Loan Service Corporation, as Trustee Signature By: Jeff Stenman, President Trustee's Mailing Address: QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION 1081 st Ave South, Suite 450, Seattle, WA 98104 Toll Free: (866) 925-0241 Trustee's Physical Address: Quality Loan Service Corporation 2763 Camino Del Rio South San Diego, CA 92108 Toll Free: (866) 925-0241 IDSPub #0226192 2/12/2025 2/19/2025 2 / 2 6 / 2 0 2 5

INSPECTIONS

From Page B2

Rookie's 641 E Clay St., Monmouth Inspection Date: Jan. 10 Score: 100	Bobablastic 955 Main St., Dallas Inspection Date: Jan. 8 Score: 95 - The chlorine sanitizer concentration, pH, or temperature is not adequate, specifically chlorine sanitizer in three compartment sinks is at OPPM.	Inspection Date: Jan. 7 Score: 100	1594 Edgewater St. #160, West Salem Inspection Date: Jan. 7 Score: 100	590 Taggart Drive NW, West Salem Inspection Date: Jan. 6 Score: 100	Inspection Date: Jan. 3 Score: 100
Habanero's 601 Clay St. E., Monmouth Inspection Date: Jan. 10 Score: 100	Domino's Pizza 772 Main St., Dallas Inspection Date: Jan. 7 Score: 100	Subway 1554 Edgewater St. NW, West Salem Inspection Date: Jan. 7 Score: 100	Carl's Jr 555 Edgewater St. NW, Suite 150, West Salem Inspection Date: Jan. 7 Score: 100	Starbucks Coffee 244 E Ellendale Ave., Dallas Inspection Date: Jan. 3 Score: 100	Subway Dallas 242 Main St., Dallas Inspection Date: Jan. 3 Score: 100
West Valley Taphouse 957 Main St., Dallas Inspection Date: Jan. 8 Score: 100	Jersey Mikes 555 Edgewater St. NW, West Salem Inspection Date: Jan. 7 Score: 100	Starbucks Coffee Store 1505 Monmouth-Independence Highway, Monmouth Inspection Date: Jan. 7 Score: 95 - Poisonous or toxic materials are not stored or displayed to prevent contamination, specifically chemical cleaners and graffiti remover stored above cold crew coffee grinder in back back kitchen area.	Jamba Juice 515 Taggart Dr. NW, West Salem Inspection Date: Jan. 6 Score: 100	Pizza Hut 560 Wallace Road NW, West Salem Inspection Date: Jan. 3 Score: 100	The Sippery 169 W Main St. Monmouth Inspection Date: Jan. 2 Score: 100
Ugo's Pizza Parlor 967 Main St., Dallas Inspection Date: Jan. 8 Score: 100	Subway 1379 Monmouth St., Independence	Odd Moes Pizza	Panda Express 655 Taggart Dr. Suite #150, West Salem Inspection Date: Jan. 6 Score: 100	Taco Bell 450 Wallace Road NW, West Salem Inspection Date: Jan. 3 Score: 100	Yeasty Beasty 167 Main St. Monmouth Inspection Date: Jan. 2 Score: 100
			Domino's Pizza	Pizza Hut 244 Main St., Dallas	Main Street Ice Cream Parlor 109 Main St. E., Monmouth Inspection Date: Jan. 2 Score: 100

WOU receives grant to help give free tax assistance

Western Oregon University is one of many educational institutions to receive an Oregon Department of Human Services grant to help many people file their taxes for free. The ODHS Tax Infrastructure Grant Program makes this free tax help possible for individuals and families with incomes below \$84,000 a year. In 2024, the program was responsible for the filing of 14,246 current and prior year returns, more than triple the number filed two years ago, before the grant

program began. Oregon State University (OSU) and Western Oregon University are two of the many grant recipients offering free tax help with more than 100 paid student workers helping people file their taxes -- for free. Student worker Kelleen Green, a master's degree student in education at WOU, acknowledges that many people feel anxious and scared about doing their taxes. "When we get taxpayers in - it is amazing. You can see they are so anxious and

so overwhelmed. They think it is going to be the worst scenario. We're here to help them. We see people get refunds almost all the time. Helps them feel empowered," she said. Camila Martinez, another student worker at WOU, said that, "No situation is too hard to handle. We use all of our resources to help them." And it is free. "Last Saturday, I filed a tax return for someone who went to a private tax accountant last year. They were charged \$350 for the tax

return -- the same amount they got back this year from the state. In total, they got a sizeable refund this year -- over \$1,000. They said they were very grateful for our services and how accessible our program is," said Martinez, a senior majoring in accounting. What she would like to tell people is that, "It's free and available to anyone who is eligible. It might be daunting to do taxes, but we're here to help, answer questions, and lead you in the right direction."

These free programs use the IRS' Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, or VITA. VITA volunteers who prepare returns must take and pass tax law training that meets or exceeds IRS standards. The Tax Infrastructure Program funds culturally relevant or culturally specific organizations, Tribal governments and rural community organizations to help educate and provide free tax filing help for people with low incomes. Help is available in multiple languages. The

grant money is also used to increase the number of certified tax preparers in Oregon. Learn more at the ODHS Tax Infrastructure Grant Program at www.oregon.gov/odhs/Pages/tax-help.aspx. Get free help filing taxes: • Western Oregon University; wouvida@wou.edu; 503-751-4132; Monmouth, Independence, Falls City; WOU VITA website: https://wou.edu/business-economics/volunteer-income-tax-assistance-vita.

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

Itemizer-Observer

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, Feb. 20
At 2:50 a.m., two homeless people were trespassed from under an awning on Church Street. There was a small warming fire that was put out and taken off the property.
At 8:29 p.m., an officer came upon an individual walking in the lane on La Creole Drive. The subject was advised to use the sidewalk.
At 11:10 a.m., a report of a suspicious person on La Creole Drive. The subject was trespassed from all school district properties for disruptive and suspicious behavior.
At 12 p.m., a report of a domestic disturbance on Denton Avenue. There were no crimes committed. An officer supplied information about a writ of assistance.
At 1:13 p.m., a report of construction workers smoking inside a building causing smoke to enter neighboring businesses. An officer advised the construction workers of public smoking laws.
At 1:41 p.m., a report of a theft from Walmart. The suspect had a U-Haul van with a covered plate by the back door. The van was seen heading eastbound on Ellendale Avenue. Polk County Sheriff's deputies responded all the way into West Salem.
At 2:29 p.m., a report of a motorcyclist and his passenger both riding without helmets on Hillcrest Drive. An officer located the motorcycle but was unable to contact the driver.
At 3:03 p.m., a report of a theft of gravel on Mulberry Avenue. An individual was moving the gravel to the end of the

walking trail, not stealing it.
At 3:21 p.m., a report of a suspicious person on Ellendale Avenue. A suspect who was yelling at parents picking up their children was trespassed from the location.
At 5:11 p.m., a report of an attempted theft from Walmart. The staff was able to prevent the theft.
At 8:31 p.m., a report of a suspicious vehicle on Hayter Street. The individual was car camping for the night and planned to leave in the morning.
At 10:12 p.m., a motorist on Miller Avenue was cited for driving uninsured. They were warned for using a mobile device while driving and for speeding.
At 11:18 p.m., a report of a suspicious vehicle on Ellendale Avenue. The driver was cited on a failure to appear warrant from Marion County.
Friday, Feb. 21
At 3:55 a.m. a motorist on Brandvold Drive was cited for driving while suspended. The driver and a companion were warned about park hours after being seen playing disk golf.
At 6:08 a.m., a motorist on Main Street was cited for driving while suspended and failure to install an ignition interlock device. The driver was also given a warning for an improper left turn.
At 9:30 a.m., officers performed traffic control for a natural gas leak on La Creole Drive.
At 10:01 a.m., a report of theft of services on Ellendale Avenue. An officer is investigating.
At 11:34 a.m., a report of an alarm at West Valley Hospital. Construction work was the cause.
At 12:36 p.m., a report of harassment on Holman Avenue. There was no probable cause for charges.
At 4:54 p.m., a homeless person was cited and released on a warrant out of Marion County and for possession of methamphetamine.
At 9:44 p.m., a report of a domestic disturbance on Church Street. Christopher Smith was arrested and

charged with assault and lodged at Polk County Jail.
At 11:27 p.m., a report of a suspicious vehicle on Brandvold Drive. The individual was advised of park hours.
Saturday, Feb. 22
At 5:07 a.m., a report of a domestic disturbance on Court Street. The subjects were arguing after a night of drinking.
At 5:34 p.m., a report of a suspicious person on Miller Avenue. Two homeless people were looking for cans and the complainant did not have the authority to have them trespassed from the location.
At 7:55 a.m., a report of trespassing on Clay Street. The complainant had items left on his property.
At 8:22 p.m., a report of suspicious activity on Park Street. Several juveniles were warned of park hours.
St 8:49 p.m. Ciara Bervedorf was cited and released for theft.
At 10:14 p.m., a report of a domestic disturbance in a white vehicle on Gooseneck Road.
At 11:15 pm., a report of a suspicious vehicle on Hays Drive. The occupants were residents of the location.
Sunday, Feb. 23
At 7:27 a.m., a report of a domestic disturbance on Park Street. It was a verbal dispute.
At 4:23 p.m., a report of an alarm on Deschutes Drive. It was likely set off by high winds blowing a fence down.
At 7:50 p.m., a report of a domestic disturbance on Dimick Street. It was a verbal disturbance.
At 11:42 p.m., Rachel White was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of methamphetamine and reckless endangering. She was lodged at Polk County Jail.
Monday, Feb. 24
At 2:33 a.m., a report of shots fired on Court Street. It was likely sounds from a bullwhip demonstration.
At 5:57 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 45 mph in a 25-mph zone on Polk Station Road.

At 8:38 a.m., a report of a theft of a Stihl blower from a truck on Ellendale Avenue.
At 11:21 a.m., a report of criminal mischief on Clay Street. An unknown suspect slashed a tire on a truck.
At 3:27 p.m., a report of a child left in a vehicle on Ellendale Avenue. The parent informed the officer that the child was 12 years old.
At 3:47 p.m., a tree fell over, blocking the road on Kings Valley Highway. An officer performed traffic control until ODOT cleared the roadway.
At 4:03 p.m., a report of trespassing on Ellendale Avenue. Danny Fierro was lodged at Polk County Jail on an outstanding warrant.
At 10:59 p.m., a report of a crash on Ellendale Avenue. Ronald Worthy was charged with driving under the influence of an intoxicant, reckless driving and reckless endangering.
Tuesday, Feb. 25
At 1:45 a.m., a report of a tree on Shelton Street that had fallen on a car, stretching communication wires and blocking the street. Public works was notified.
At 2:18 a.m., a report of a tree down on Ash Street.
At 3:40 p.m., a report of a 5th wheel that crashed into the corner of Dallas Pawn Shop.
At 6:31 p.m., a report of a disturbance, possibly including a weapon, on Holman Avenue.
At 7:23 p.m., a report of an alarm on Kings Valley Highway. The cleaning service had set off the alarm.
At 8:09 p.m., an officer contacted two juveniles who were warned for park hours.
At 8:26 p.m., officers assisted with traffic control for a house with a chimney fire on Uglow Avenue.
At 9:55 p.m., a driving complaint of two vehicles racing and revving their engines on Clay Street. An officer was unable to locate them.
At 9:57 p.m., a complaint of two vehicles racing and revving their engines on Lyle Street.

They were gone when the officer arrived.
Wednesday, Feb. 26
At 12:17 a.m., a report of trespassing on Washington Street. Barry Lange was cited for disorderly conduct and on a failure to appear warrant from Marion County.
At 12:43 a.m., a report of a disturbance on Ash Street. The suspect had been kicking at the door but was gone when an officer arrived.
At 1:45 a.m., a report of a suspicious vehicle on Ellendale Avenue. There were no plates or temp tag but the VIN returned clear out of Falls City.
At 10:07 p.m., a report of a domestic disturbance on Levens Street. One of the parties was trespassed from the location.
At 7:37 a.m., Kevin Mudd was cited on a failure to appear warrant from Dallas Municipal Court.
At 10:57 a.m., a motorist on Miller Avenue was cited for speeding 39 mph in a 20-mph school zone. They were warned for driving while suspended and failure to carry and present a driver's license.
At 10:58 a.m., a report of a crime on Ellendale Avenue. It was a civil matter.
At 11:41 a.m., a juvenile motorist was cited for speeding 41 mph in a 20-mph school zone on Mason Street.
At 11:50 a.m., a juvenile motorist on Miller Avenue was cited for speeding 37 mph in a 25-mph zone.
At 2:03 p.m., a report of a suspicious person on Jefferson Street. Jordan Jessie was cited for a Salem Municipal warrant, arrested on a parole warrant and lodged at Polk County Jail.
At 5:56 p.m., a report of shots heard on Bridlewood Drive. The people shooting were outside city limits; shooting is allowed in the county.
At 7:22 p.m., Megan Duvall was cited for theft and trespassed from Walmart.
At 8:37 p.m., a report of a suspicious vehicle on Azalea Avenue. The individuals were car camping.

At 8:42 p.m., a report of criminal mischief on Hankel Street. Juveniles were breaking glass in the street. When the officer contacted the juveniles, they were cleaning up the glass.
Independence Police Department
Friday, Feb. 21
At 4:06 p.m., a report of a fight on Monmouth Street. It was a fight between juveniles in the McDonalds parking lot.
Saturday, Feb. 22
At 1:45 a.m., a report of a hit and run on Monmouth Street to a local coffee shop with significant damage.
At 2:12 a.m., a report of a car that crashed into an occupied house on Monmouth Street. The driver did not show signs of impairment during field sobriety tests. They were cited for careless driving and driving uninsured. The driver will need to be retested by the DMV.
At 1:47 p.m., a report of a stolen phone on Main Street.
At 9:05 p.m., a report of a domestic disturbance on White Oak Circle. There were no crimes, and the parties agreed to separate for the night.
At 7:18 p.m., a report of a domestic disturbance on Monmouth Street. There were no crimes, but one party was trespassed from the location.
At 7:48 p.m., a report of a found juvenile on 10th Street. The child was returned to the parents and the officer found that no crimes had been committed.
Wednesday, Feb 26
At 2:57 p.m. a report of a stolen trailer on White Oak Circle.
At 3:58 p.m., a motorist was given a written warning for using a cell phone while driving on Monmouth Street.
Calen Thomas Harmon returned to a store that he'd been arrested for trespassing from a week earlier. He was arrested for criminal trespass.

Women in American History

Can you match the name with the description? Hint: All of these women are featured on U.S. quarters.

1. Eleanor Roosevelt

2. Jovita Idar

3. Dr. Mary Edwards Walker

4. Bessie Coleman

5. Maya Angelou

6. Dr Sally Ride

7. Patsy Takemoto Mink

8. Maria Tallchief
- A. Writer, poet, civil rights activist

B. Mexican American journalist, teacher, activist

C. First African American and Native American woman to earn a pilot's license

- D. U.S. physicist and astronaut

E. Prima ballerina who broke barriers as a Native American dancer

F. Surgeon in Civil War

G. Senator from Hawaii

H. Leader, reformer, first lady, human rights advocate

Answers	
	A '8
	D 'L
	G '9
	V 'S
	C '4
	E 'E
	B '7
	H 'I

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Quarterly state forecast shows decline in taxpayer kicker

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Oregon's kicker, the amount of money to be returned to taxpayers and corporations, has been revised slightly downward according to the latest Oregon economic outlook and revenue forecast.

The kicker tax credit goes into effect when the actual state revenue exceeds the forecasted revenue by at least 2%. An amount is then returned to the taxpayers through a credit on their tax returns.

The personal kicker is expected to total \$1,726.6 million that will be returned to taxpayers as a credit on their 2025 tax return. The corporate kicker now stands at an expected \$993.1 million and will be retained in the General Fund and spent on education next biennium.

Carl Riccadonna, state chief economist and Michael Kennedy, senior economist of the Department of Administrative Services (DAS), presented the latest quarterly report to a joint meeting of the Oregon Legislative Revenue Committees Feb. 26 in Salem.

The March 2025 economic outlook is much like was presented in December 2024, with optimism toward a "soft landing" scenario but with widening variability in risk factors, according to release from the DAS.

KEY POINTS INCLUDE

- State economy is increasingly bound to national trends for growth and inflation
- Heightened sensitivity to trade tensions given geography and industry composition
- Labor conditions are healthy, but hiring has sputtered and breadth of job creation is weak
- Magnitude of demographic rebound will be critical to growth outcome

REVENUE FORECAST

The March revenue forecast projects the 2023-25 General Fund ending balance to be \$2.59 billion, with revenues decreasing by \$89 million and appropriations up \$110 million since the December forecast.

In the 2025-27 biennium, General Fund available resources are forecast to increase by \$350 million, and revenues increasing by \$551 million from the December forecast. This results

in a total of \$38.2 billion projected available resources.

KEY FACTORS TO WATCH

- Oregon's economy appears to have lost momentum relative to the national economy during the past year, thereby putting the state in an difficult position as headwinds related to trade wars and federal spending cutbacks threaten to further depress activity.
- The state is in a precarious position heading into a possible escalation of trade tensions in the near term, given an elevated export share of GDP (Gross Domestic Product). The three biggest export sectors are, respectively, computer & electronic products, transportation equipment and machinery, and the three largest export destinations are Mexico, China and Canada (comprising over 50% of total exports in 2023). The economic experience of the state during the onset of tariffs and trade tensions in 2018 poses reason for concern.
- Oregon economic activity will be highly vulnerable to national priorities relating to tariffs, immigration and federal expenditures. Exports and

manufacturing play outsized roles in the state, so tariff measures (and countermeasures) will be extremely consequential to key industrial pillars of the Oregon economy, such as agriculture, semiconductors and apparel, as was the case during the trade tensions of 2018-19.

HOW THE REVENUE-ECONOMIC FORECASTS ARE USED

The quarterly revenue forecasts serve to open the revenue forecasting process to public review and is the basis for much of the Oregon state government budgeting process. The Office of Economic Analysis (OEA) provides quarterly forecasts for the State of Oregon's major revenue sources, including all sources contributing to the General Fund (Personal and Corporate Income Tax, etc.), Lottery and the Corporate Activity Tax. In May of odd years, OEA's revenue forecast establishes the resource levels for the next biennium's adopted budget.

See the full report at <https://www.oregon.gov/das/oea/Documents/OEA-Forecast-0325.pdf>

Oregon Reform Education Act introduced

JEREMY C. RUARK
Country Media, Inc.

State Senator David Brock Smith (R-Curry, Coos and Douglas Counties) and State Representative E. Werner Reschke (R-Klamath Falls) have introduced SB 1100, described by the two as “an omnibus education bill to bring real reform to benefit students, teachers, and their families across the state.”

“Oregon education continues to play for last place across the nation, even though the legislature has continued to provide more funding than ever before,” Smith said. “As reported in the Oregonian on January 28th, 2025, ‘Oregon

fourth graders who were tested in early 2024 ranked second worst in the country in math and tied with 10 other states for third worst in reading.”

According to Reschke, the current public education system is broken. “Fundamental reform is necessary, and we must return to common sense education principles,” Reschke said. “Excellence in education is not an option, we must do better, and this omnibus education legislation is a great step in the right direction.”

Reschke and Smith describe SB 1100 as a comprehensive education reform bill that would:

- Allow school districts the choice of where to place feminine sanitary products.
- Provide an income tax credit for teachers in rural school districts.
- Requires public schools, community colleges, and public universities to provide instruction in a neutral manner. Prohibits the State Board of Education from adopting rules that promote a stance or otherwise show support for or against a political movement or group.
- Requires school districts to designate athletic competitions and extracurricular sports according to biological sex. Prohibits biological males from participating in athletic competitions or extracurricular sports designated for biological females.
- Provides for school resource peace officers for each school in every district.
- Ensures licensure pathways to bolster career and technical education teachers.
- Forbids OHA from requiring Covid-19 immunizations for school attendance.
- Directs a school district to provide notice to the parent or legal guardian within 24 hours when a student under 18 has been subjected to an act of harassment, intimidation or bullying, an act of cyberbullying, a disciplinary action, a visit to a school health professional or a school-based health center or has had a discussion of self-identity issues.

State Champ... Three-peat



PHOTO BY SMY PHOTOGRAPHY

Dallas senior Polly Olliff celebrates winning her third consecutive state wrestling title March 1, holding the winning girls’ 115-pound bracket at the podium after defeating Corvallis senior Jennifer Russell with a 5-2 decision.

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