

County

Women's club donates books to community organizations

See A2



Sports

Pirates win 1-A 2 Casco League volleyball championship

See B1



Carving up the competition



PHOTO BY DAVID HAYES

John and Stacy Wilkerson carve in teeth to their pumpkin they entered into West Valley Taphouse's Pumpkin Carving Contest Oct. 24, while Enrique Beruman works on his solo entry. For more photos of the competition, see page A8.

Best soup competition heats up



PHOTO BY DAVID HAYES

A line of Dallas Food Bank volunteers serve up samples of soups crafted by eight local restaurants at the annual best soup competition at Benedetto's Vineyard Oct. 23.

By DAVID HAYES
I-O Editor

What started out as a friendly competition for bragging rights over who makes the best soup, has grown into a phenomenon with astounding results cooking up contributions for the Dallas Food Bank.

Friends Linda Simpson, Lauren May and Keara James returned to the cozy confines of Benedetto Vineyards

Oct. 23 to host the competition. Only this time, quite a few more of their friends tagged along.

James, who owns New Morning Bakery in Dallas, said last year the competition netted just over \$300. They vowed to return the next year bigger and better, inviting local restaurants to submit their best soups. Answering the call was Forrest Pass Brewing, Marlene's Cocktail Lounge, West

Valley Taphouse, Mama Gorditas and Washington Street Steakhouse, in addition to two from New Morning Bakery and one from last year's winner, Lauren May.

With all the restaurants lined up and 12 volunteers from the Food Bank to help serve up the soups, things were not looking good week before the event, James said they'd sold just 14 tickets. Then word got out among the late

arrivals. They eventually sold 75 tickets beforehand and another 14 at the door. They had to cut off sales due to capacity reached at Benedetto's tasting room space. At \$15 a pop, ticket sales alone far outpaced last year's total, approaching \$1,500. The total money raised from ticket sales, raffle tickets, voting and the wine bottle ring toss was \$1,852.10, which

See SOUP, page A2

Sides taken on future of ambulance service plan

By DAVID HAYES
I-O Editor

The relationship between SW Polk Fire District and Polk County has long been strained over financial obligations and response loads spread over the seven districts.

That relationship came to a head Oct. 16 when fire district officials announced they were considering withdrawing from the Ambulance Service Area (ASA) Plan with the county.

Both sides pointed out concerns over the other's ability to sustain a stable financial plan.

"For more than three years, we have worked with the Polk County Commissioners, provided operational data, identified financial concerns, and proposed solutions," SW Polk Fire Chief Fred Hertel said via press release. "Unfortunately, the fundamental problems remain unresolved, and our taxpayers cannot be expected to indefinitely subsidize an ambulance system that was not designed to be financially sustainable, as required

within the County's own ASA Plan."

County Administrator Greg Hansen looked into Hertel's numbers provided within the press release. Hertel pointed out that some of SW Polk's biggest expenses are accrued by 50 to 60 percent of their responses occur in neighboring fire districts and ambulance service areas, "frequently because the assigned ambulance provider has exceeded its available resources."

Among SW Polk's recommended solutions to the imbalance was taking control of a large response area within the ASA breakdown of the seven districts.

While Hansen doesn't necessarily disagree with Hertel's response data, he does disagree with his assessment that a bigger ASA district would solve SW Polk's financial dilemma.

"Without a major population center, it is nearly impossible for small fire districts to provide ambulance services," Hansen said. "In Polk County

See PLAN, page A8



Dallas Superintendent Steve Spencer to retire

By DAVID HAYES
STEVE SPENCER

On Oct. 12, Steve Spencer confirmed the worst kept secret within the Dallas School District – he was going to retire from the superintendent's job come next June.

"My wife (Lynda) works up at Oakdale Heights and was telling everyone her retirement plans, so word got out," Spencer said.

After 28 years in education, Spencer said he and Lynda were ready to move into the next chapter of their lives as grandparents.

"Dallas has been a great family environment for me to work in for nearly 28 years. The only thing that would be a bigger draw is my own family," Spencer said. "And my kids are all grown and gone, and I've got grandkids that are coming. And so the draw for us is really to go chase grandkids and potentially look for some other opportunities in a different location. So we don't know 100% where that's going yet, but for sure chasing family."

While the school board

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Women’s Club donates books to community organizations

Members of the GFWC Polk County Service Club delivered 400 books and stuffed animals to two organizations that serve the community. Books were collected from local libraries, garage and estate sales and individuals who donated them when they heard of GFWC’s mission.

The two organizations benefiting from the donations are the Dallas Sable House and the Salem Liberty House.

The Dallas Sable House’s mission includes increasing the safety of domestic and sexual violence victims in Polk County through crisis intervention and community education services. Sable (Safe from Abuse and Battered Living Environment) House was started in 1993 by the grassroots efforts of a small group of women in Polk County.

Some of their core values include promoting safety in their work every day to ensure clients, staff and community feel safe when working with them; treating all those who come into contact with the organization with loving kindness; honoring each other by respecting individual choices and beliefs; and being advocates by



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
Rochelle Juarez (left), Executive Director of Sable House, accepts book donations from Jaime Rockwell (middle), GFWC Member, and Sharon Bruno, GFWC Member and Day of Service Chair.

listening, supporting and empowering.

Salem’s Liberty House is the Children’s Advocacy Center serving Marion and Polk counties – the only place providing special assessment services in a safe, comfortable, child-friendly environment.

Since 1999, Liberty House has provided child-focused, high-quality assessment services to children when adults

are concerned, they may have been hurt by sexual abuse, physical abuse, or neglect. With compassion and expertise, medical providers conduct comprehensive medical examinations. Specially trained child interviewers also help children talk about what has happened to them in a neutral and sensitive manner to ensure the objectivity of the assessment and the well-being of the child.

SOUP

From Page A1

will be donated to the Dallas Food Bank. “We were very surprised by the

turnout,” James said, adding they have no plans to move the location should next year’s event be even bigger. “We could always get tents. Benedetto’s is a great host. They’re

very generous. I’d like to keep it hear as long as possible.”
Forrest Pass ended up winning the competition with the most votes for their Zuppa Toscana.

Red Cross offers Amazon gift cards to blood, platelet donors

The American Red Cross urges people to leave a lasting impact by giving blood or platelets now. Donors of all blood types, especially those with type O blood, are needed to keep the blood supply steady ahead of the holiday rush.

As fall activities arrive, keeping blood and platelet donation appointments on the books is crucial to ensuring hospitals have the tools they need to care for patients this fall. In thanks, anyone who donates through Nov. 22 will get up to \$20 in Gift Cards that’s a \$10 Amazon Gift Card by email and 500 bonus points, which can be

redeemed for a \$10 e-gift card through Blood Donor Rewards. Visit www.RedCrossBlood.org/Maze for details.

Get into the spirit of saving lives. Visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS or use the Red Cross Blood Donor App to schedule a donation appointment.

In addition, November is National Diabetes Awareness Month. To help empower and educate blood donors, in November successful donations will once again get free A1C testing, commonly used to screen for prediabetes and diabetes. (One result per calendar year; do not fast before

donating.) For additional information, see www.RedCrossBlood.org/Maze.
Upcoming blood donation opportunities in Polk County through Nov. 15:

DALLAS

Nov. 13, 12-5 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 320 SE Fir Villa Road

INDEPENDENCE

Oct. 29, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Central High School, 1530 Monmouth St.

MONMOUTH

Oct. 29-30, 10:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Werner University Center, 345 N. Monmouth Ave.

Sheriff’s office seeks donations for Shop with a Sheriff event

The Polk County Sheriff’s Office is asking for the community’s help to finish funding their Shop with a Sheriff event.

Each year, Shop with a Sheriff supports local students through the holidays to help them purchase gifts for their family members (as well as something for themselves, if they choose). These students and their families are identified by their schools as low income or in need of assistance and some of them do not have the ability to give or receive gifts without this program.

The PCSO has worked with the Dallas Walmart each year for the shopping event and they have generously sponsored a good portion of the costs. The event has also been supported by other organizations like West Valley Hospital.

However, this year one of the usual funding sources was unavailable. The sheriff’s office is looking for local businesses or individuals who would be willing to donate to Shop with a Sheriff to help over 100 local students.

If you would like to

help reach the goal, donations are tax deductible and can be provided to to the PCSO by:

- In person at 850 Main St., in Dallas, during regular office hours, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Note that debit/credit cards incur a small fee. So, to avoid the fee using cash/check/money order is recommended.
- By mail. Make your payment out to PCSO and mail to Polk County Sheriff’s Office, Attn: Shop with a Sheriff, 850 Main St., Dallas, OR 97338

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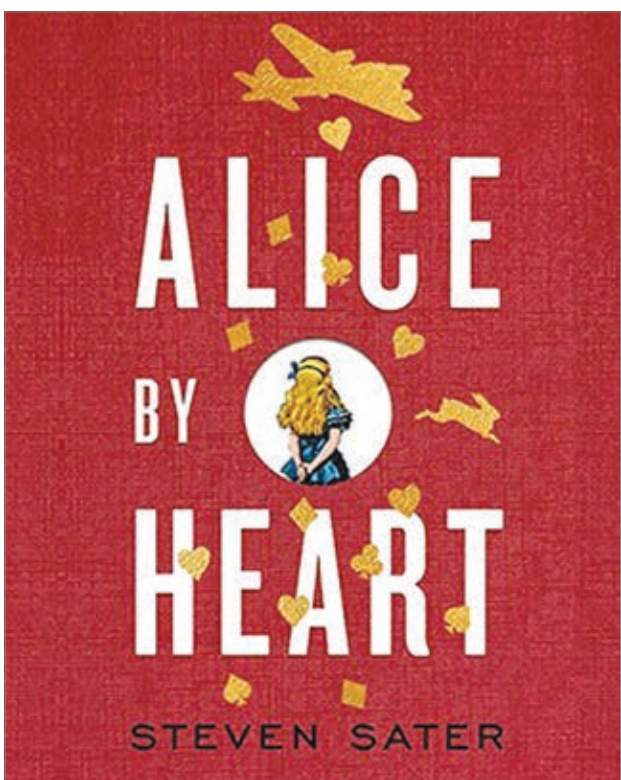
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WOU theatre season opens with fall musical ‘Alice By Heart’

Western Oregon University’s Theatre Department is thrilled to present the popular and touchingly bitter-sweet musical “Alice by Heart.” The musical will be performed in Rice Auditorium Nov. 12-14 and 19-21 at 7:30 p.m., with a matinee on Nov. 15 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$14 for general admission, \$10 for seniors, \$8 for non-WOU students, and free for WOU Students (ID required). Rice Auditorium is located on 344 Knox St. with parking available in Lot B.

Set in WWII London during the Blitz, “Alice by Heart” is a musical that follows Alice Spencer, her sick friend Alfred, and many others who are seeking shelter in an underground tube station. When Alice insists that Alfred escape with her into their favorite childhood story, the world that surrounds them transforms into the world of Wonderland. Through her journey in this new setting, Alice learns how



to move forward with courage despite the painful realities of loss and growing up. “Alice by Heart” is an innovative take on Lewis Carroll’s timeless children’s book, “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland.”

“Alice by Heart” premiered Off-Broadway at the MCC Theater in 2019, with music by

Duncan Sheik, lyrics by Steven Sater, and a book by Steven Sater and Jessie Nelson. Sater and Sheik first came to prominence with their 2006 Tony Award-winning Broadway musical Spring Awakening.

For more information, call (503) 838-8462 or email boxoffice@wou.edu.

WOU names Jennifer Koshnick Director of Clinical Practices and Licensure

Western Oregon University has named Jennifer Koshnick as Director of Clinical Practices and Licensure for the College of Education. She started in the role on Aug. 24.

As CPL Director, Koshnick oversees the full range of clinical experiences for Western’s education students. That includes early observations, embedded field-work, final practicums, and student teaching. She manages more than 800 placements each year in school districts across the region and works closely with faculty, university supervisors, site administrators, and mentor teachers to give future educators well-coordinated, supportive hands-on learning.

“I am thrilled to join the College of Education,” said Koshnick. “I am deeply committed to empowering students throughout their academic journeys, and I am excited to support future educators during their clinical



Jennifer Koshnick

experiences.”

The role connects academic coursework with real classroom practice and is central to Western’s educator preparation work. Koshnick is also responsible for:

- State licensure compliance with the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC)
- Teacher Performance Assessment (TPA) processes
- Community pipelines for new teachers, including Grow Your Own programs

Koshnick most recently served as director of student success and advising

at Western. She also spent eight years as a classroom teacher before moving into higher education, where she has held leadership roles for the past 15 years. She earned both a bachelor’s degree and a Master of Education from the University of Minnesota. Outside of work, she enjoys time with her family and being a soccer mom.

“The College of Education is delighted to have Jen in this role. Bringing a powerful background as both a classroom teacher and student advisor, she combines sharp problem-solving with a true talent for community building,” said Melanie Landon-Hays, Interim Dean of the College of Education. “Jen is already making a huge impact—strengthening our school district partnerships and refining our curriculum so our students step into the classroom fully prepared. We couldn’t be more excited to have her on the team.”

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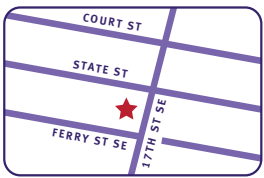
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Good Folk in Polk: Toys For Tots

By **DAVID CARLSON PASTOR**

On Christmas day 2025, Traci Weston and her team of more than 20 volunteers celebrated the holiday knowing that they had given 13,850 children in Polk County, and six other counties in western Oregon, 18,446 wrapped gift.! Each child received from one to three new toys, depending on the value of their toy, a book, and a family game.

Toys for Tots started in 1947 as a program of the United States Marine Corps with the basic mission of collecting new, unwrapped toys, distributing those toys to economically disadvantaged children at Christmas and beyond.

For 13 years, Traci has been the coordinator for Polk, Linn, Benton, Clatsop, Tillamook, and Lincoln counties. Previously, she led a Christmas gift drive in Polk County for 12 years. She runs Fee Mail Depot

in downtown Monmouth, but makes time each fall to ensure every child in the area has gifts at Christmas. Volunteer Bobbi Molina has provided bilingual assistance for 20 years and Tisha Gardner has volunteered to coordinate the toys warehouse for 10 years.

New toys are provided when requested by the parent or guardian of any child from ages of birth to 18, and there is no age limit for those developmental disabled. Families qualify for these gifts if their child wants a toy, they live in our area, and they have some proof of care or guardianship for the child. This can be a birth certificate, a school registration, or other documentation. Volunteers will help families qualify.

There is no need to prove financial hardship and no questions are asked. These days, with costs of everything higher, any parent or guardian could have that difficult decision

of buying necessities to survive or buy gifts at Christmas. Toys for Tots wants to help.

To get children on the list for toys, applications are open now and continue through Dec. 15. The earlier the better. There are several ways to request toys. One is an on-line application at <https://bit.ly/4jE4g7Y> for residents of Dallas, Monmouth, Independence, Rickreall, Falls City, Pedee, Airlie, Buena Vista, Bridgeport, Perrydale, and rural areas. Parents/guardians can also apply by phone by calling (503) 339-4955 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week. There is bilingual help in Spanish. Applications can also be picked up and left at Fee Mail Depot, 169 South Broad St., Monmouth. The West Salem Toys for Tots is coordinated by The Salvation Army in Salem.

The community can donate in many ways. National cash donations

can be made on-line at the Toys for Tots home page. In Dallas, bring unwrapped new toys to 1st American Title or Zack Steele’s Farmers Insurance. Wal-Mart will soon have a Christmas tree with toy gift tags that shoppers can take and pay for when checking out. In Monmouth, there are collection boxes at Curves, Monmouth Fitness, Columbia Bank and the headquarters of our local Toys for Tots, Fee Mail Depot. Also, Bi-Mart will collect gifts every Saturday, Nov. 21 - Dec. 5. In Independence, new toy donations are accepted Hi-School Pharmacy and at the Elks Lodge #1950. There will be more donation sites and new local donation sites are always needed. There’s a form at the Polk County web page if your business is willing to help this way.

Toys for Tots also helps families with food in the holidays and partners with FFA Foods for All,

the Independence Elks, the MI Christmas Project, Christ’s Church, and others. Cash donations can buy gift cards at local grocery stores. Those with knitting skills can donate newly knit hats, blankets, dolls, etc. at the donation sites.

Here are important dates for this year’s Toys for Tots:

Campaign end date: Dec. 24

Application close date: Dec. 15 (applications after the 15th are placed on a wait list and will be helped if time and resources allow).

Application Response Start date: Nov. 1 (when volunteers begin reviewing and responding to applications.)

Application Response End date: Dec. 22 (when application reviews are completed)

Toys Distribution Start date: Dec. 15

Toy Distribution End date: Dec. 22

Toys will be picked up by families from Dallas,

Monmouth, Rickreall, and Independence and other towns in our county at the Elks Lodge #1950 in Independence, 289 S. Main St., Independence. The Falls City Fire Department distributes toys for families in their town, handed out by Santa and the Grinch, with home deliveries if requested.

Coordinator, Traci Weston, said volunteers working for Toys For Tots in our communities want every child to have a new gift this Christmas.

“I love Christmas. I wake up and get a gift and I feel better knowing that children all over are opening their gifts. Every child should get a gift,” Weston said.

Let’s all pitch in to make sure this happens.

[Brief bio: Mr. Pastor writes about people, organizations, and businesses in Polk County, Oregon. Send an email to recommend someone or some group to the editor, Dhayes@polkio.com .]

RETIRE

From Page A1

works out their process to bring in a consultant team to search for his replacement, Spencer spoke of some of the successes and challenges he faced while superintendent.

What do you point to as your biggest accomplishments? And what goals still need to be achieved?

I think that may be one of the things I’m most proud of the district, is that we are focusing on the people. If we ever share graduation rates, for example, we know those who didn’t. And we know the stories behind those that we didn’t get across that line at the moment, and there are plans for how to help those get across.

We need to be able to continue to respond to things like the state is working on the state accountability metrics. And we’ve got a lot of work to do to make sure that we’re accountable to the state and to our community for increasing our reading scores, for addressing continued behavior challenges that seem to face schools these days.

At the end of the day, it’s about doing what we can for each individual student to help them to progress to their next, whatever that next might be.

Are you still feeling the after effects of distance learning during COVID?

Yeah, I think the screen time demands and the reliance on screen time that came as a result of COVID.

I think there’s something to be said for getting into the books and reading from that. There’s just, I think there’s enough data that is beginning to come out showing the impact of social media and kids being addicted and on those devices all the time.

So the district is beginning to kind of dial some of those things back, especially in the primary grades.

In a period here, parents were demanding some sort of online program, too. How is the district’s Dragon’s Academy working out?

I believe we’ve got, I think our numbers right now show about 100 students that are in that program. And it is meeting a need. I don’t know if it is meeting every need in terms of what we wanna have as a product for all of our students going forward. But we do know that there is an increase in anxiety. There’s an increase in those things that might be barriers getting kids into a building. And so to be able to provide them that opportunity is still a good option for

our kids.

Where is Dallas with enrollment and how’s it compared to where it should be?

I keep track of that actually weekly, kind of keep monitoring that one, monitoring the charter schools and all those things. But we’re still kind of seeing that projected 10-year decline. And it seems weird to talk about a 10-year decline when kids that would be in school five years from now have been born. But we did an enrollment study, and that projection, it still just shows our communities in that downward trend. Our departing seniors compared to incoming freshmen, that’s still a pretty significant gap.

That enrollment really affects the dollars that come into the district, right?

For sure, yeah. It would be easy to say, for example, if we are down 100 students, that’s a million-dollar cut, right? That’s that estimate of \$10,000 per student per year. And so we just have to have our staffing be kind of scalable according to that. That isn’t a great message to share, but it’s a pretty predictable one, that if the enrollment declines, that the budget will be reduced accordingly.

How is the budget compared to other years?

I have shared that I will take every opportunity to advocate to the state

for two really specific things that would have a positive impact on our district. That first being fully funded high cost disability. We have some students with special needs that require more than the double weight that we get for students with special needs. If we were fully funded in that high cost disability, it would do a great service to filling a hole in our budget. And the other one, the state has capped the special ed percentage for the double weight of students at 11 percent. And we’ve consistently kind of been in the 15 to 18 percent. And so we don’t get the resources for anybody over 11%. If those two things were addressed in the state funding formula, we would have a different budget situation. And I think the cuts would be far fewer than what we would be planning for in the future.

How are district staffing levels?

We certainly have attrition in some of our classified folks. Some of them are retirements, some of them are moving on. Some of them are going from the classified into the teaching ranks or from teaching into the administrative ranks. And that’s always a great problem to have. But it’s because of our current budget cuts that we had done in the previous two years. We are in a fairly stable spot for this current year. But looking forward is where

those challenges are. And that’s where we kind of foresee the potential cuts coming for the next two years by the end.

How’d the School Board take your retirement announcement?

That is the work of the board, is to hire a superintendent, set policy, and adopt curriculum. And I know they will take that role very seriously. They are very kind, they’re appreciative of the work. And it’s hard work, oftentimes thankless work. But I appreciate them and their seriousness of the work that they do. And the district and the community are in good hands.

Any idea where you’re gonna miss most?

I think I need time to think about what I would actually miss the most. It is so rewarding to go into a classroom and to have kids recognize you, and to be able to sit down and to watch a kid struggle, and then see the successes from the struggle. I absolutely love being involved in the sporting events and the plays and extracurricular stuff.

It’s been an absolutely fabulous district to work for, and would recommend it to anybody. Our board has set a culture of collaboration, a culture of that ability to make a mistake and learn from it. To have that professional learning community intact in such a way that they value that learning and growth within the profession.

GENERAL ELECTION

November 3, 2026

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“...conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist due to the developing El Niño event...”

— California Governor’s Proclamation of a State of Emergency, Sept. 21, 2026

By PHILIP S. WENZ

Oh, oh. Here comes the Kelvin wave. Better get ready, folks. What is a Kelvin wave? Named after the 19th-century Scottish physicist who discovered them, Kelvin waves are enormous, slow-moving pulses of warm water that originate in an exceptionally warm part of the ocean and spread out from there. One source of Kelvin waves is an El Niño, the periodic, massive release of stored heat from the equatorial Pacific Ocean that occurs every two to

seven years. As well as generating Kelvin waves, heat from El Niños enters the atmosphere and disturbs global weather patterns, bringing excessive rain to some areas and drought to others. California, Oregon and Washington, for example, often get high winds and severe rainstorms, leading to flooding, coastal erosion, and other problems. Climate change has made El Niños stronger, especially in the last 40 years. This year’s event is shaping up to be a “super El Niño” — the strongest ever. As it moves north along the West Coast, the current Kelvin wave’s warm water will help supercharge approaching storms. Also, because water expands when heated, the wave will raise coastal water levels by 8 to 12 inches.

While that might not seem like much, one calculation by sea-level experts showed that just one inch of additional water on top of a storm surge can increase the footprint of a flood so it affects 6,000 more coastal dwellers than it would have. An eight-inch rise can reach 48,000 more people, flooding streets and buildings far inland. This year’s Kelvin wave, bigger than any recorded to date, has already reached Southern California and will arrive at San Francisco and points north soon, setting the table for the approaching El Niño weather. Experts expect the worst effects of El Niño to begin in November and last until February. In the winter of 1997-98, when similar conditions prevailed, heavy storms caused huge landslides that destroyed

sections of highways, and high waves damaged or destroyed waterfront properties. Levies 100 miles inland failed as storm surges prevented overflowing rivers from discharging rainwater, forcing them to breach their banks, damaging thousands of homes and businesses. Twenty-one counties were declared disaster areas. WHAT TO DO? Fortunately, unlike many natural disasters that give little or no warning before striking, this year’s El Niño conditions gave us plenty of advance notice. So on Sept. 21, California Governor Gavin Newsom, heeding the advice of weather scientists and other experts, issued a statewide emergency proclamation to mobilize resources ahead of the storms. According to the governor’s official website,

the proclamation “mobilizes state resources and streamlines procurement to prepare for El Niño’s anticipated impacts...” It “directs state agencies to lead the state’s flood-risk reduction efforts [and to] stage flood-fighting supplies such as sandbags and pumps, and pre-position other critical equipment.” Additionally, “Caltrans [the state’s transportation and highway authority] will stage traffic-control, road-closure and snow-removal equipment along highways most at risk... The California National Guard will prepare to support flood response [and other] missions.” This year’s Super El Niño is one of dozens, or hundreds of climate-change impacts ranging from hurricanes, floods and wildfires to short- and long-term droughts that will continue to strike across the

U.S. We must prepare for them by hardening infrastructure, storing emergency supplies, and planning whole-community responses involving government agencies, civic organizations, churches and ordinary citizens. None of this will prevent the onslaught of Mother Nature’s wrath. But it will undoubtedly reduce its effect, saving lives, protecting property, and enhancing recovery. In our era of almost continuous climate impacts, state and local governments everywhere should follow Newsom’s example of proactive disaster response management — ASAP. Philip S. Wenz reports on environmental issues, and is active in the Monmouth-Independence Climate Group. Visit his website at Firebird Journal, firebirdjournal.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DON’T GIVE INDY A BLANK CHECK, VOTE NO ON FEES

The Independence City Council, responsible for over \$40 million in debt that was not referred to the residents for a vote, unilaterally passed in Oregon FY 2026 a resolution to assess a fee on city water and sewer bills, with no cap, or citizen assent to a tax, which the fee is. A tax to essentially make up budget short falls due to interest costs on debt the public never was allowed to vote on. I ask you: Would you vote to give the city council a blank check to bill them for spending, which can’t be slowed or stopped? The residents have government-imposed limits on their spending, and punishments for over spending. When the city council developed the Compton

properties, they did it without voter approval, and hubris was untenable in elected and trusted officials. All in the name of “growth” which is now a Ponzi scheme to deny your children and grandchildren affordable housing in a socialist state. That debt is a fiscal anchor for residents today. The solution to being in the hole is to stop digging. Beseech yourself and neighbors to not vote in support of the city council credit card in your name, the blank check you are being asked to sign, because spending can be reduced and the legislature can do the same, and so can school districts. Employed residents are living by less spending and their city can darn well do the same. John Thomas, Jr., Independence

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 27-151 TO CONTINUE VALUABLE RESOURCES As president of the Oregon Library Association, I write on behalf of the organization

to express our support of Measure 27-151 in the city of Independence. A “yes” vote on Measure 27-151 to fund libraries, parks, and the museum in Independence is an investment in its community. Not only will it continue to provide recreational opportunities for Independence residents, but it also provides job training, promotes literacy, and creates a more welcoming community. And it’s an investment that will pay off for the city. Studies show that every dollar spent on library funding saves between five to nine dollars for the citizens, with books, DVDs, e-books, and other digital resources they did not have to purchase. But the library is more than just books and videos and electronic resources. It comes with experts in selecting and processing items. It comes with staff who help children develop a love of reading. It comes with volunteers who help people with taxes. It comes with programs that provide education and

entertainment for citizens of Independence. If you value a wonderful space that also is a downtown anchor, if you value expert staff to provide resources and services, not to mention your wonderful parks and city heritage on display at your museum, then we encourage you to vote yes on Measure 27-151. Bryan Miyagishima, Albany STEVE MILLIGAN FOR LAW AND ORDER As a relatively new resident to Polk County, I know Steve Milligan mostly from his work at the Monmouth Senior Center - which incidentally is where I met my wife. Milligan’s work at the center is noteworthy because it is both effective and voluntary. He is a man who cares about people and by personally soliciting (every merchant and person) for the free meals at Thanksgiving and Christmas he shows he cares about the community at large.

Recently I read his electoral statement as a candidate for Polk County Commissioner, and was impressed by his commitment to law and order. This is evidenced by his taking seriously his duties as the elected treasurer of Polk County and the lawsuit he filed and won so he could do the job he was elected to do. If laws are ignored, if courts are ignored, if pleas for help are ignored then we as a people have lost the essence of this great nation. Steven C Lesak, Dallas

VOTE FOR KNOWLEDGEABLE LEADERSHIP IN INDY A couple years ago I attended an opportunity to “vote” on what to cut if the Independence levy didn’t pass: the library, parks, or museum. I asked Mayor Schwarzler why that was the only choice, why we couldn’t cut elsewhere. She explained to me how the budget worked, about the different funding areas and the restrictions. Last year I attended a town hall by Mayor Schwarzler. She answered every question and thoroughly explained the budget process. I left reassured that our town was in good hands. This August I attended a council forum on the fate of the library. The council and city manager answered every question honestly and effectively. Then it was our turn. Everyone was passionate about keeping the library and parks open and supported the fee on our water bill, with the exception of Greg Ellis, who left after he spoke. Recently, I attended a candidates forum presented by WOU students who asked the questions; no one knew the questions ahead of time. Candidates

Nutsch and Ellis did not attend. I was so impressed with Schwarzler, Corr, Hicks and Sorce. Their answers were knowledgeable, rational and straightforward. No grandstanding, evasiveness, or avoidance of hard facts. Indy, as everywhere, is facing debt and budget shortfalls. The debt was incurred during Ellis’ stint as previous city manager – he helped create the problem and opted to hide our budget woes by transferring funds from our water/sewer budget, allowing our infrastructure to deteriorate. Please vote for Schwarzler, Corr, Hicks and Sorce. JJ Sweeney, Independence

VOTE TO KEEP PUBLIC EDUCATION WELL FUNDED Any candidate for public office can garner votes by saying taxes are too high. Unfortunately, public schools can’t hire lobbyists to fight for revenue and tax cutting usually affects them most. We have had more school closures again this year which means larger classes somewhere else or not attending at all in the case of colleges. And the next generation will have more social problems. Sustained, well-functioning democracy depends on adequately funded public education, including at the college level. When voters are well practiced at creative and critical thinking (arts and sciences), they are better at separating truth from propaganda or fact from unsubstantiated opinion. They make the best choices for government leadership and policy. Vote for a better future for our children. Jerry Nathan, Dallas

TEMP/RAINFALL
OCT. 19 - 65 43 0.00
OCT. 20 - 75 43 0.00
OCT. 21 - 72 40 0.00
OCT. 22 - 66 41 0.00
OCT. 23 - 61 36 0.00
OCT. 24 - 58 32 0.00
OCT. 25 - 53 42 0.61
TOTAL SEPT. OCT. 19-25: 0.61
TOTAL THROUGH OCT. 25: 0.062

ONLINE POLL RESULTS

With elections in November, which level of government are you most interested in placing a vote to make a change?

State - 77.8%
County - 11.1%
City - 11.1%



Polk County Itemizer-Observer THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF POLK COUNTY Serving Polk County families since 1875.

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

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HOW TO REACH US Joe Warren | Chief Executive/Operations jwarren@countrymedia.net 940-372-1008

NEWSROOM David Hayes | News Editor dhayes@polkio.com

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

DISPLAY ADVERTISING Katherine Mace headlightads@countrymedia.net 503-842-7535

CLASSIFIED LINE ADVERTISING officemgr@polkio.com 503-444-7924

ADVERTISING DEADLINES Retail Display Ads | 3 p.m. Wednesday Classified Display Ads | Thursday 5 p.m. Classified Line Ads | Thursday 5 p.m. Public Notices | Thursday 5 p.m. Classified ads are updated daily at polkio.com.

MAGIC MAZE

DIRTY WORDS

Q E B M Y V R O L I F C Z W S

T Q N U K I F Y C Z W U R T P

M J H D E C S Z X U S Q A N L

J G E D E S C Z X V T I R P E

N L J Y E G H S E C N M A G Y

W V H M W H D Q O T A P D R R

E P Y T O O S U N I E U L U K

I M G E L C L A M B L R Z B X

W U I S R I P L W S C E O B M

L J I R G E F O A N N D D Y B

A Y X E G N U R G W U W U T S

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

Filth

Grime

Grubby

Grunge

Impure

Messy

Muddy

Sludge

Smudged

Soiled

Sooty

Squalor

Unclean

Unwashed

Wallow

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Investigating the Bible: Did the Apostle Paul hate women?

By DAVID CARLSON
PASTOR

Recently, I had a conversation about the Bible with a woman who is a retired professional with a successful career in complicated real estate transactions.

"I don't like the apostle Paul," she said. "He hated women!"

She bristled at Paul's advice to the young pastor Timothy: "Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man, rather she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor." (1 Timothy 2:11-14, New English Version used throughout).

Study of the Bible must include both the historical times and related scriptures.

The most recent portions of the Bible were written some 2,000 years ago in a different language and ancient culture. It is best to interpret the Bible by the standards of those early days, and not use presentism, judging the past by today's standards. Abraham, the father of faith, was ready to kill his own son in sacrifice. Today, to even consider such an act is abhorrent; not in Abraham's day. Child sacrifice to pagan gods was commonly done to appease them or to gain some blessing.

No culture or religion 2,000 years ago, including Judaism, recognized women as equal to men. Bible scholar William

Barclay wrote that the morning prayers of a Jewish man gave thanks that God had not made them "a Gentile, a slave, or a woman."

Women were never permitted to teach or to go to synagogue; she was to care for the home and send off the male children to be taught by rabbis. A "...strict Rabbi would never greet a woman on the street, not even his own wife or daughter or mother or sister."

So it was shocking that Jesus spoke to a woman of Samaria and was wrong on two counts – she was both a woman and a Samaritan, who were despised by Jerusalem Jews. The Greeks and Romans were no better. A woman in ancient Greece stayed home, never attending a public meeting.

Even at home, she ate separately from her husband. A Roman only wanted his wife to bear children. Sexual gratification came from prostitutes and mistresses. Infanticide was accepted in ancient Rome. Newborns, especially daughters, would be abandoned to die on an isolated hillside.

Apparently Timothy's church was troubled and chaotic. In another letter Paul said women should be silent in church, though Corinth had multiple problems in worship services (see 1 Corinthians 14:23-35).

To the Ephesians, he wrote: "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord." (Ephesians 5:22).

Paul did not tell women to submit to all men. And any domineering husband

must also read: "Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for it." (Ephesians 5:25).

The couple, Priscilla and Aquila, were tentmakers and valuable to Paul in the ministry. Of the six times they are mentioned, Priscilla is named first four times; she may have been the leader and teacher.

Also, the apostle Paul's sole life purpose was to preach the gospel, not to change society. He expected the soon second coming of Jesus, when all societal ills would be abolished in God's kingdom. However, he did act when a life was at risk. Runaway slaves could be killed by owners. He appealed for a runaway named Onesimus and asked that his owner would receive "...him as you would receive me."

(Philemon 17).

Last, Paul did declare equality of the sexes and social classes with a shocking statement in another letter, proclaiming that "...for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith...There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise." (Galatians 3:26, 28-29).

[Mr. Pastor graduated from Bethel Theological Seminary in Minnesota. He leads a group Bible study every Sunday, 5 PM, courtesy of a room at Faith Lutheran Church, 200 Monmouth-Independence Hwy. It's non-denominational, one hour long, and interactive.]

Worship Directory

DALLAS

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

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

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

Dallas Evangelical Church -- A place of Hope and Healing:783 SW Church Street, Dallas Oregon, across from the Post Office. Join us on Sundays! We worship in a contemporary, casual format. Sunday Services: Bible Study 9AM; Worship Service 10AM; Celebrate Recovery (a Christ Based 12 Step Program) Dinner at 5PM, Large Group 6PM; Small Groups 7pm. The Community Clothing Closet hours: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat 9AM to Noon; Thurs nights 7pm-9pm. Celebrate Recovery Step-Studies are often starting or ending during the year, and those meeting times are set by the Step Study Group. Message Phone 503-623-3778. Find us at www.dallasec.org, on Facebook: DallasEC or join MyDallasEC Friends. You can email Pastor Dave: pastor.dave@dallasec.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

St. Philip Catholic Church — Fr. Michael P. Johnston, Pastor
Pastor Email: mpjinpdx@yahoo.com | 825 S.W. Mill Street, Dallas, OR 97338
Phone: (503) 623.2440 - www.stphilorg.org.
Liturgical Schedule
Monday- Wednesday - 5:30 p.m. Mass
Thursday - 8:00 a.m. (No Mass on Friday)
Saturday Vigil Mass - 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Masses - 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
Coffee and Donuts will be served after Sunday services

St. Thomas Episcopal Church — Welcome! Our church is located at **1486 SW Levens St., Dallas**. Our Web site is: stthomasdallasor.org. or look us up or live on Sundays on Facebook. **Everyone is welcome to come and be a part of our congregation on Sundays. We have Holy Eucharist Service at 1000AM given to us by Rev. Tony Petrotta or Rev. Betty McWharter. Morning Prayer is the last Sunday of the Month. Please join us for good conversation and coffee after our service. Any questions or needs please call us at 503-623-8522.**

Peace and the love of Christ be with you this coming week.

Trinity Lutheran Church — 320 SE Fir Villa Rd, Dallas. All are welcome! Pastor Jody Becker and Pastor Johathan Thompson, Adult Sunday Bible Study 8:45, Sunday Worship Service 10 am coffee hour with treats after service. Wednesday Worship Service noon. Nursery available for parents to use. Play area for small children in sanctuary during worship service. Youth Group HS/MS 11:30 am Sundays. Weekly Bible Studies. Contact us at 503-623-2233 or at questionsdallatlct@gmail.com.

Online at dallatlct.org. Check it out! Office open Mon.-Thur. 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, Fri. 9:00 am to Noon.Because God first loved us, we celebrate the gifts of Christ through worship, service, and community.

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

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

FALLS CITY

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

INDEPENDENCE

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

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

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

MONMOUTH

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

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

RICKREALL

Oak Grove Community Church (non denominational) - 2701 Oak Grove Rd Rickreall. PO Box 191 Rickreall, OR 97371. Mark Clarke, Pastor. Country Church with traditional music (hymns) and Bible based preaching/teaching. Sundays at 11:00 am. Unstaffed nursery available.





Enrique Beruman carves evil eyes into his pumpkin.



Desi Eaton's pumpkin takes on a kitty cat persona.



John Wilkerson has plans for a simple, but scary, pumpkin concept.



West Valley Taphouse owner Christine Ulberg takes photos of the finished pumpkins to post on their Facebook page.

Carving creations

Photos by David Hayes

Seven West Salem Taphouse’s members and employees entered their first ever Pumpkin Carving Contest Oct. 24, donating canned food items to the Dallas Foodbank as an entry fee. The winner for the competition was employee Desi Eaton’s cat themed design. Community members are invited to drop by with non-perishable food donations through the end of the week.



A simple design was perhaps the scariest.

PLAN

From Page A1

alone you have three fire districts finding it difficult to provide these services – SW Polk, Sheridan and West Valley (which includes Willamina) – without additional funding support (levies).”

The ASA agreement itself has been a bone of contention in the way the county has taken three years to redesign and implement a new plan. SW Polk officials contend the county spent more than \$50,000 on professional consultants to evaluate the existing ambulance delivery system and provide recommendations for improvements. Hertel contends the county chose instead to implement their own plan.

“The County invested substantial taxpayer dollars in professional consultation to help develop a better ambulance system,” Hertel said. “Unfortunately, the resulting decisions did not adequately address the recommendations or the financial realities facing

ambulance providers. We repeatedly warned that the area assigned to SW Polk could not support a sustainable ambulance operation. More than three years later, we are still dealing with the same problem.”

Hansen disputes the amount spent to update the ASA plan last approved in 2013.

He said the county spent a total of \$33,991 on this study in 2023 hiring consultant ESCI - Emergency Services Consulting International. One of the key components of the study, Hansen explained, was fiscal analysis.

“For example, in 2023 the total of our current ASA (7 entities) and proposed new ASA member (SW Polk) showed a fiscal loss of \$2,231,310 with only one ASA assigned (Dallas) provider showing a positive cash flow. At that time SW Polk showed a fiscal loss of \$287,000,” Hansen said.

He added that some of the recommendations were incorporated into the county’s new plan,

while others were not relevant to apply. After long discussions with ASA providers and through a committee process, the county submitted its plan to the state Oregon Health Authority in November of 2024. OHA returned the plan in November of 2025 with a number of required changes and recommendations. The county re-submitted a new plan in March this year and OHA returned it for further required changes and recommendations on May 28.

“We are in the process of re-submitting a third time before the end of 2026,” Hansen said.

Commissioner Craig Pope further explained that the qualification for a new ASA development had to take into account the readiness and financial liquidity of any new provider and the possible impacts to current provider(s) that may have to downsize an area to make way for a new provider.

“As you know, Dallas was going to be impacted in some way by a new area that would take from them,” Pope told the

Itemizer-Observer. “The question was, how much area taken from them to share with SW Polk would be detrimental to Dallas financially? The decision to separate the Salt Creek and Rickreall areas from Dallas’ response area was made and created the new area for SW Polk based on the lowest impact to a provider that had done well in the past and the qualifications of a new provider that had not yet fully demonstrated their capacity to take on their entire fire district as an ambulance service area.” Pope added that SW Polk had agreed to these provisions after several negotiations with Dallas and the Board of Commissioners. Part of the agreement was a review could take place after SW Polk passes its levy proposal. However, consecutive levies failed in 2025 and 2026.

“In each campaign the district was warning its patrons that failing to pass the levy would lead to significant cuts to service. At what point in this process would

any legitimate local government think it a good idea to further reduce the financial security of a historically good provider (Dallas) to provide more responsibility to a provider that appears to be on the edge of insolvency within its enterprise fund of ambulance service?” Pope said. “The BOC made the right call and now we are faced with asking Dallas and other neighboring providers to pick up the calls that SWP may or may not respond to based on their day to day staffing capacity.”

SW Polk has not yet decided to withdraw from the ASA Plan. If they do, it requires a minimum of six months’ written notice to the Board of Commissioners.

That notification period would provide Polk County time to designate another ambulance provider responsible for the affected service area and coordinate an orderly transition.

“The ASA providers would need to sit down and make a recommendation to the Board of

Commissioners as to how best serve the vacated population with ambulance service,” Hansen said. “Again, if SW Polk gave notice they would not have an assigned area for ambulance response. They would be dependent on mutual aid agreements and other ASA providers for their assistance with calls.”

Following such a transition, SW Polk officials said they would continue providing services, including:

Ambulance transportation when qualified personnel and equipment are available, and the response is authorized under applicable ASA requirements; and

Mutual and automatic aid assistance to neighboring agencies, consistent with applicable agreements and available resources.

“With SW Polk’s inability to pass either one of their operating levy attempts (and) without the additional infusion of money, their ability to provide these services were going to be difficult to maintain,” Hansen said.

Central runners hitting their strides at right time

By LANCE MASTERSON
For The Itemizer-Observer

Central’s boys cross country team enters the Oregon West Conference Championships seeded fourth. But coach Eli Cirino believes his Panthers are capable of finishing even higher.

With runners getting healthy and personal bests falling, it’s possible Central is saving its best for last.

“It feels like we’ve been building for this all year,” Cirino said. “It does feel like we’re coming together at the right time. We’re optimistic about our chances.”

The Panthers faced a different challenge this season. Former

standouts Ty Cirino and Aidan Wendring, who finished one-two at districts last year, set paces that outdistanced their teammates.

“We’ve definitely changed a lot since we lost Ty and Aiden, our top two guys. But I think we’ve probably bonded a bit more,” said senior Thomas Butler. “Ty and Aiden were such fast guys, they’d usually go on runs by themselves. But now, the whole varsity group goes on runs together. So we’re more closely knit.”

Butler enters district as the eighth seed, two spots behind teammate Hudson Stange, a sophomore.

See **RUNNERS**, page B8



PHOTO BY LANCE MASTERSON

Central High sophomores Hudson Stange and Thomas Butler (in red, from left) take flight during an early season race at Western Oregon University.

Hoffman, Andrews to set pace for Dragons at districts

By LANCE MASTERSON
For The Itemizer-Observer

Avery Hoffman gave up soccer to see how far running could take her.

There’s a good chance her sport of choice could take her as far as the Class 5A state championships in Eugene.

Hoffman’s decision has helped the Dallas junior shave more than 20 seconds off her personal best from last season. She’s also landed squarely among the top five seeds heading into Thursday’s Mid-Willamette Conference Championships at Crystal Lake Sports Park in Corvallis.



PHOTO BY LANCE MASTERSON

Dallas sophomore Brooklyn Chancellor (wearing glasses) competes in a recent cross country race in preparation for Mid-Willamette Conference Championships Thursday at Crystal Lake Sports Park in Corvallis.

in Corvallis.

Finish in the top seven there and Hoffman will qualify for state.

Hoffman, as the Dragons’ top runner, hopes her best races are ahead of her.

“I’m hoping to peak at districts and at state,” she said.

Renewed commitment began over the summer, when Hoffman averaged five to six days a week of running. Easy runs gradually gave way to tempo runs, speed work and threshold workouts.

Preparation carried into fall. Last year, soccer practices limited her time with the cross country

team. This year, she decided to give running her full attention.

“I’m planning on running in college and not playing soccer,” Hoffman said. “And so I just figured it would be best to focus on cross country since I’ve really come to love it.”

She has narrowed her college choices to three schools but has yet to select one.

Hoffman’s improvement goes beyond the physical. She has become mentally tougher while learning more about herself and the sport.

Hoffman enjoys finding a limit, then

discovering she can push past it. Such challenges keep her working toward running faster times.

It also gives the captain experiences and lessons learned that she shares with her team.

Last season, Hoffman considered herself more of a follower. With soccer taking her away from practices, she had fewer opportunities to lead.

Not so this year. She offers advice, listens to teammates and works hard.

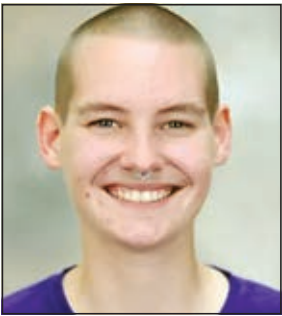
“I’m supporting my girls, leading by example,” Hoffman said.

See **DISTRICTS**, page B8

Monmouth’s Jayden Taylor earns a personal best for Linfield cross country

Linfield cross country hosted the annual George Oja Invitational at Oak Knoll Golf Course on Oct. 17, with many Wildcats recording personal best and season best times amongst a stacked field of nationally-ranked teams.

Among the student-athletes scoring a personal or season best was Jayden Taylor of Monmouth. Taylor is majoring in



Jayden Taylor

mathematics and physics at Linfield.

Taylor led the Wildcats across the finish line, placing 123rd overall with a time of 23:39.0. Taylor was one of four ‘Cats to record personal best times on Saturday.

The Wildcats return to action in two weeks, competing at the Northwest Conference Championship, once again back at Oak Knoll Golf Course on Halloween.

New wrestling coach brings experience, success to Panthers' program

By LANCE MASTERSON
For The Itemizer-Observer

Logan Fore brings two district championships, a pair of top-five state finishes and national coaching experience to Central High School’s wrestling room.

Now the Panthers’ new head coach wants to

help his wrestlers build their own success.

Fore, hired in late June, previously led McKay’s girls program and serves on Team Oregon’s girls coaching staff. He has coached three individual state champions, including a two-time winner, and between 15 and 20 state

placers. His McKay girls teams twice finished among the top five at the combined Class 5A and 6A state tournament.

Rebuilding Central starts with filling the wrestling room.

“I want to compete in duals, and I want to

See **COACH**, page B2

Pirates prevail



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Perrydale High School varsity volleyball team celebrates after winning the 1-A 2 Casco League championship 3-0 (25-10, 25-16, 25-9) over C.S. Lewis on Oct 24 at the Amity High School Gym. The Pirates finished 11-1 in league play and 17-5 overall. Perrydale, seeded 12 in the state playoffs, hosts the first round today (Oct. 28) against 21st seed Adrian (10-14) at 6 p.m.

Prep Scoreboard	Prep Calendar
OCT. 20 Volleyball Silverton 3, Dallas 0 Central 3, Taft 0 Boys Soccer North Eugene 4, Dallas 1 Central 2, Taft 2 Girls Soccer Central 2, Taft 2	OCT. 28 Boys Soccer Central at Dallas, 7 p.m. Volleyball Perrydale at state playoffs, TBD
OCT. 22 Volleyball Corvallis 3, Dallas 1 Central 3, Philomath 1 Boys Soccer Dallas 3, Gervais 1 Philomath 6, Central 5 Girls Soccer Silverton 9, Dallas 1 Philomath 8, Central 0	OCT. 29 Cross Country Dallas at Mid-Willamette Conference Championships, Crystal Lake Sports Park, Corvallis, 1 p.m. Perrydale at District 2 Championships, Cheadle Lake Park, Lebanonosaa, 2:15 p.m.
OCT. 23 Football Dallas 50, Corvallis 18 Estacada 54, Central 42 Falls City 69, Siletz Valley, 6 Perrydale 76, Veronia 0	Girls Soccer Dallas at Crescent Valley, 7 p.m.
OCT. 24 1A-2 Casco League Volleyball Championship Perrydale 3, C.S. Lewis 0	OCT. 30 Football Crescent Valley vs. Dallas, 7 p.m. North Douglas vs. Perrydale, 7 p.m. Falls City at Triangle Lake, 7 p.m.
	OCT. 31 Central at Volleyball State Playoffs, TBD
	Cross Country Central at Oregon West Conference Championships Stayton Middle School Nature Trails, Stayton, 11:45 a.m.

PAGES OF THE PAST

40 YEARS AGO

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 29, 1986
Voters face numerous questions on Nov. 4
The sample ballot for the Nov. 4 election is so big, you can use it for a picnic blanket when you're done voting. The 1986 Oregon Voter's Pamphlet is so thick, Jack Lalane probably couldn't tear it in half.

The list of choices is so long, they ought to install seats in the polling booths.

In short, voters have much to decide on Nov. 4 when polls open statewide.

Polk County voters will decide on 16 state ballot measures, two county measures, assorted tax bases, city councils and other elected questions.

Tax base affords voter involvement

On Nov. 4, taxpayers will vote whether to establish an updated tax base for the Dallas School District. The measure seeks \$5.1 million. The tax base along with supplemental state revenues is expected to provide the necessary funds for the school district each year without forcing the district to approach voters on a yearly basis.

The district is required by state statute to submit a tax base proposal to the voters every even-numbered year. While Dallas has done so, it has been rejected every time. The

district is currently operating from a \$571,670 tax base established in 1916.

Dragons prevail in Homecoming thriller

The Dallas High School football team came within minutes of losing its second game of the season in a hard-fought thriller against North Marion at Gallaspy Field Friday night.

But Dallas mounted a successful touchdown drive in the closing minutes of the game, and added a safety on the ensuing kickoff, to snatch a 24-21 victory from the Huskies before an overflowing and appreciative homecoming crowd.

The win puts the Dragons in a three-way race with Sweet Home and Woodburn for top spot in the Capital Conference.

50 YEARS AGO

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 27, 1976

Falls City people oppose decision

Steve Tobiasa was Falls City's one man police force until his career was ended last week when the city's police committee removed the police car from Tobias' home and subsequently fired him from office.

Due to this decision, Ross Bowman, Falls City mayor, called an "open meeting" between himself and the city council to vote on the decision.

Between the five council members present, four

FLASHBACK



This week's Flashback is from Wednesday, Oct. 20, 1976: GOOD TURN DAY - Barbar Sitton, Valerie Ely and D'Ann LaFond (from left) of Troop 326 of Dallas are just three of the Girl Scouts in Polk and Marion counties who will be distributing Goodwill bags during this week. They along with area Boy Scouts will be picking up the filled bags on Nov. 6. This gives the public a chance to help those who need the training and will benefit them through the repairing of reusable goods. So don't forget to get your clothes and other reusables together for the Good Turn Day pick up on Nov. 6 . (File I-O photo.)

voted to concur with the decision of the committee while one voted against.

During the meeting, the public was not allowed to comment while the only person speaking on Mr. Tabias' behalf was his lawyer, who stated, "According to a Falls City ordinance, all complaints are to be presented at a regular meeting of the council for discussion and a vote."

Board adopts resolutions

The Polk County Board of Commissioners voted in regular session Tuesday, Oct. 26, to support a resolution adopting ballot measure 8 in the Nov. 2 election. This measure would increase the gasoline tax in Oregon to support the state highway fund.

Other resolutions adopted include opposition to Ballot Measure 10 repealing the Land Conservation

and Development Commission. The board also approved the opposition of Measure 12 repealing the intergovernmental cooperation planning district statutes of the present Council of Governments.

Grizzlies nip Dallas

If indeed, as the saying goes, every cloud has a silver lining, Dallas head football coach Ron August may point to the Dragon's remaining schedule for consolation following a heartbreaking 29-28 last-minute defeat at the hands of the McMinnville Grizzlies.

The loss dropped the Dragons' record to 3-4 with all four defeats suffered while on the road. But better things are to come, if past performance is any indication, as the Dallas squad returns to the hospitable turf of its own stadium for the final two games of the season.

Go Figure!

answers

4 + 3 + 6 = 13

+ + +

2 + 9 + 8 = 19

× + ÷

5 + 7 ÷ 1 = 12

= = =

30 19 14

CryptoQuote

answer

Wilderness is not a luxury but a necessity of the human spirit.

— Edward Abbey

CryptoQuip

answer

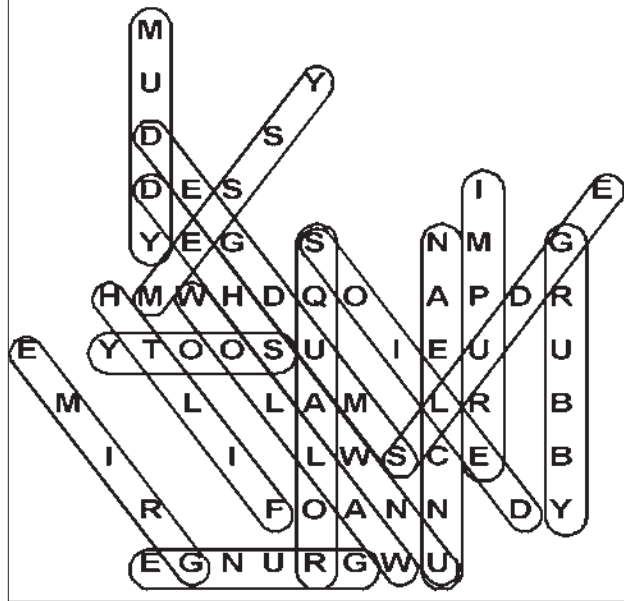
If actress Stone and her clones filled up a theater, I suppose one would see rows of Sharon.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

DIRTY WORDS



Super Crossword

Answers

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

COACH

From Page B1

compete at our tournaments," Fore said. "But the first thing we need to do is get our numbers back up."

Fore was coaching Oregon's high school girls at the National Duals in Indiana when the Central opportunity arose. He returned home, met with administrators and received his keys. Then it was back to Team Oregon.

Fore spent a week at the national team camp at Oregon State University before traveling to Fargo, North Dakota, for the USA Wrestling Junior and 16U National Championships.

He began holding Central practices three days a week after returning in July. Attendance grew from about five wrestlers at the first workout to between 12 and 14 before fall sports began.

Fore hopes that interest carries into the season. His long-term goal is 40 to 45 wrestlers, including about 30 boys and 10 to 15 girls. Reaching 25

to 30 in his first season would be a solid start.

He believes Central has the athletes. He's tasked with getting them onto the mats.

"A lot of kids are very hesitant with wrestling," Fore said. "They don't like wearing the singlets, and they don't like being that close to other people. But in my experience, they come out, they try it, and they really like it."

His recruiting pitch is simple.

"Give it a week. If you don't like it, at least you tried it. But you might fall in love with the sport," he said.

Fore did.

He was about five when his older brother, Aaron, began wrestling in seventh grade. Their parents decided that if one son wrestled, all five brothers would wrestle.

Fore competed through high school and wrestled one season at Santa Rosa Junior College in California before returning to coach at his former high school.

After moving to Oregon with his family at about 19, he helped restart

wrestling at Claggett Creek Middle School in Keizer. He coached there for three years before becoming a McKay assistant.

When McKay launched its girls program in 2019, Fore became head coach. He later joined Team Oregon's staff after attending clinics and building relationships with its coaches.

At Central, he continues to build connections, splitting his time between the high school, middle school and youth programs. Fore has had several meetings with Panther Kids Wrestling coach Vidal Pena and wants his wrestlers to help at youth practices. In doing so, younger athletes gain role models and older wrestlers sharpen their skills by teaching.

"Coaching helps kids' technique so much because they have to really think about the little stuff they aren't thinking about during practice," Fore said.

He also hopes Aaron Fore and fellow Team Oregon coach Blaine Cote join his staff. Aaron previously coached Fore and

has led Claggett Creek's program. Cote coached at Sprague High School.

As participation grows, Fore wants to move home duals from Central's alumni gym to the main gym, add a spotlight and create events younger wrestlers look forward to joining.

But first, there's practice – and lots of it.

The Panthers will compete in weekly duals and tournaments, but Fore wants inexperienced wrestlers to have time to develop.

"Practicing is where we get better," he said. "Competing is fun, and that's what makes it all worth it. But I will always preach practice first."

He also wants wrestlers to trust him, just as he trusted the coaches who shaped his life.

Wrestling taught Fore to work, persevere and face challenges. Rebuilding Central requires those same qualities.

"It's not always going to be one straight line. We're going to take bumps," he said. "You just have to trust the process."

CALENDAR

From Page B3

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

1 p.m. - Ten Minute Writing, Monmouth Senior Community Center
1 p.m. - Wii bowling, Dallas Area Senior Center
2 p.m. - WRAP Class, Monmouth Senior Community Center

4 p.m. - Kids' Coding, Independence Public Library, 175 Monmouth St.
6 p.m. - Open Mic Night, Brew Coffee & Tap House
7 p.m. - Monmouth

Planning Commission meeting, City Hall, 151 Main St. W.
7:10 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Newcomers Meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church, 320 SE Fir Villa Road, Dallas

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
9 a.m. - Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center
10 a.m. - 4-Handed Pinochle/Card/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center
10 a.m. - Strong People, Monmouth Senior Community Center
10:30 a.m. - Little Bitty Story Time, Dallas Public Library
10:30 a.m. - Storytime, for ages 2-6, Independence Public Library
11 a.m. - Lunch w/ Meals on Wheels, Monmouth Senior Community Center
11 a.m. - Chair Yoga w/Winnie, Independence Public Library, 175 Monmouth St.
11 a.m. - Mah-Jongg, Dallas Area Senior Center
12 p.m. - Watch Repair & Knife Sharpening, Monmouth Senior Community Center
1 p.m. - Walking Group, Dallas Area Senior Center
1 p.m. - Ten Minute Writing, Monmouth Senior Community Center
1 p.m. - Wii bowling, Dallas Area Senior Center
2 p.m. - WRAP Class, Monmouth Senior Community Center
3 p.m. - Our Friends Firefighters, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S.
4 p.m. - Kids' Coding, Independence Public Library, 175 Monmouth St.
5 p.m. - Monmouth-Independence Network (MINET) Board of Directors Meeting, attend in person at Monmouth Public Works, 401 N Hogan Road, Monmouth, or virtually, for agenda and virtual link details, go to <https://minetfiber.com/board-of-directors>
6 p.m. - Open Mic Night, Brew Coffee & Tap House
7:10 p.m. - Alcoholics

Anonymous Newcomers Meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church, 320 SE Fir Villa Road, Dallas

THURSDAY, OCT. 29

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
10 a.m. - Cards/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center
10:15 a.m. - Low Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center
10:30 a.m. - Children's Storytime, for ages 0-5, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.
10:30 a.m. - Bounces and Rhymes: Spring Series, for ages 0-2, Monmouth Public Library
11 a.m. - Friends of the Monmouth Center Soup & Pie Sale, Monmouth Senior Community Center
11:10 a.m. - Low Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center
11:30 a.m. - Lunch Bunch, Dallas Area Senior Center
12 p.m. - Pinochle/Watch repair & knife sharpening, Monmouth Senior Community Center
12 p.m. - Bridge, Dallas Area Senior Center
6 p.m. - Name That Tune Music Trivia with Sam, West Valley Taphouse, 957 Main St., Dallas
6:30 p.m. - Connecting Loose Threads, Monmouth Senior Community Center
6:30 p.m. - Murder Mystery Night, Elysium Botanicals Wines and Vineyard, 8175 Buena Vista Road, Independence
7 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Back to Basics, Grace Baptist Church, 1855 E. Ellendale Ave., Dallas

FRIDAY, OCT. 30

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
9 a.m. - Stretch exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center
10 a.m. - Art Workshop/CardsTable Games/6

Handed Pinochle, Dallas Area Senior Center
10 a.m. - Writer's Workshop, Monmouth Senior Community Center
10 a.m. - Gardening Class, Dallas Area Senior Center
10 a.m. - Strong People, Monmouth Senior Community Center
10:30 a.m. - Storytime, Independence Public Library
11 a.m. - Jewelry Making, Monmouth Senior Community Center
12 p.m. - Watch repair clinic, Dallas Area Senior Center

1 p.m. - Tai Chi with Chery/Munchies and Melodies, Monmouth Senior Community Center
1 p.m. - Halloween Party & Bingo Social, Monmouth Senior Community Center
1:30 p.m. - 10-Minute Writing, Dallas Area Senior Center
2 p.m. - Munchies & Melodies, Monmouth Senior Community Center
3 p.m. - MI Town Halloween, trick or treat in downtown Independence at 3 p.m. and in downtown Monmouth at 4 p.m.
4 p.m. - Halloween & Dia de los Muertos Community Celebration, Monmouth Senior Community Center
6:30 p.m. - Live Music: Jefferson Parks Band (upbeat dance music), Elysium Botanicals Wines and Vineyard, 8175 Buena Vista Road, Independence
6:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Friday Night Meeting, Salt Creek Baptist Church, Dallas
6:30 p.m. - Acoustic Music Jam, Guthrie Park, 4320 Kings Valley Highway S.
7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Speaker Meeting, Dallas Church, 450 SE Washington St.

SATURDAY, OCT. 31

8:30 a.m. - Seniors trip to Oregon Coast
Scenic Railroad Fall

Splendor Excursion, meet at Monmouth Senior Community Center
1 p.m. - Bingo at the Independence Elks Lodge, 289 S. Main St.
5 p.m. - Live Music: Johnny Wheels Acoustics, Elysium Botanicals Wines and Vineyard, 8175 Buena Vista Road, Independence
7 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Saturday Night Live, Faith Lutheran Church, 200 Monmouth-Independence Highway, Monmouth

SUNDAY, NOV. 1

9 a.m. - Polk Flea Market, Polk County Fairgrounds and Events Center, 520 S Pacific Highway W.
1 p.m. - Live Music: Mitch Lies (blues, country, folk, rock & Americana), Elysium Botanicals Wines and Vineyard, 8175 Buena Vista Road, Independence
7 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Monmouth Big Book Study, Faith Lutheran Church, 200 Monmouth-Independence Highway, Monmouth

MONDAY, NOV. 2

7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Serenity at 7, Life Center Foursquare Church, 437 D St., Independence
8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
9 a.m. - Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center
10 a.m. - Rotating Pinochle/5-Crowns Game/Cards/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center
10 a.m. - Alzheimer's Support Group, Dallas Public Library
10 a.m. - Hand & Foot/Cribbage, Monmouth Senior Community Center
11 a.m. - Grief Support Group, Dallas Area Senior Center
11 a.m. - Lunch w/ Meals On Wheels, Monmouth Senior Community Center
12 p.m. - Bridge, Dallas

Area Senior Center
12 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Noon Step Study, Grace Baptist Church, 1855 E Ellendale Ave., Dallas
12:30 p.m. - Cornhole, Dallas Area Senior Center
1 p.m. - Bunko/Tai Chi with Cheryl/Technology Help with Ian, Monmouth Senior Community Center
4 p.m. - Karaoke, Dallas Area Senior Center
4 p.m. - Dallas Yarn Crafter's Guild, Dallas Public Library
6 p.m. - Trivia Nights, Forest Pass Brewing, 735 SW Maple St., Dallas
6 p.m. - Dallas City Council work session, City Hall, 187 SE Court St.
6 p.m. - Live Music: New Horizons Orchestra Concert, Monmouth Senior Community Center
7 p.m. - Dallas City Council meeting, City Hall, 187 SE Court St.
7 p.m. - Independence Planning Commission meeting, City Hall, 555 S. Main St.
7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Old Guthrie Park, Guthrie Park Community Center

TUESDAY, NOV. 3

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. - Circle of Friends, Dallas Area Senior Center
10:30 a.m. - Children's Storytime, ages 5 and under, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.
11 a.m. - Scrabble - Dallas Area Senior Center
11 a.m. - Chair Yoga w/Winnie, Independence Public Library
11:10 a.m. - Low

Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center
12 p.m. - Pinochle, Monmouth Senior Community Center
1 p.m. - Darts, Dallas Area Senior Center
5:30 p.m. - Dallas Urban Renewal District Advisory Committee meeting, City Hall, 187 SE Court St.
6 p.m. - Community Dance Class: Line Dance, Monmouth Senior Community Center
6 p.m. - Trivia Night, West Valley Taphouse, 957 S Main St., Dallas
6:30 p.m. - Community Dance Class: Ballroom, Monmouth Senior Community Center
6:30 p.m. - Monmouth City Council Meeting, City Hall, 151 Main St. W.
7 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Tuesday Grace, Grace Baptist Church, 1855 E Ellendale Ave., Dallas

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 4

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
9 a.m. - Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center
10 a.m. - 4-Handed Pinochle/Card/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center
10 a.m. - Strong People, Monmouth Senior Community Center
10:30 a.m. - Little Bitty Story Time, Dallas Public Library
10:30 a.m. - Storytime, for ages 2-6, Independence Public Library
11 a.m. - Lunch w/ Meals on Wheels, Monmouth Senior Community Center
11 a.m. - Chair Yoga w/Winnie, Independence Public Library, 175 Monmouth St.
11 a.m. - Mah-Jongg, Dallas Area Senior Center
12 p.m. - Watch Repair & Knife Sharpening, Monmouth Senior

See **CALENDAR**, page A2

Community Briefs

GATHER FOOD PARK HOSTS DALLAS COMEDY NIGHT OCT. 29

Gather Food Park & PNW Comedy host Dallas Comedy Night, featuring comedian Marc Yaffee and several others, from 7-8:30 p.m., Oct. 29 at 995 Main St., Dallas. Doors open and seating begins at 6 p.m. Early Bird GA Tickets are just \$15 and \$20 for general admission. Seating is limited. Buy tickets online at <https://bit.ly/3VSHPC6>.

SIMPLY JOYFUL COOKIES HOSTS HALLOWEEN DECORATING CLASS OCT. 30

Simply Joyful Cookies hosts a Halloween decorating class from 6-8 p.m. Oct. 30 at Salt Creek Cider House, 14500 Salt Creek Road, Dallas. For ages 10 and up, craft six eerie-sistible treats. Register now at www.simplyjoyfulcookies.com.

NEW MORNING BAKERY HOSTS COSTUME CONTEST OCT. 30

The New Morning Bakery hosts their annual Halloween Costume Contest at 4 p.m. Oct. 30 at 788 Main St., Dallas. Win some prizes from the KW Cornerstone Team. There will be prizes for various age groups and costume categories.

COURTHOUSE HOSTS TRICK OR TREATING OCT. 30

The Polk County Sheriff's

Office Oregon and Polk County Oregon Board of Commissioners host Candy at the Courthouse, from 3-5 p.m. Oct. 30. Come trick-or-treat a day early at county offices in the courthouse. All offices close at 5 p.m., so officials recommend kids enter the building by 4:30 p.m. to visit every office that has candy. The list of offices will be posted in the discussion area on Facebook events page.

DDA HOSTS TRICK N TREAT ON MAIN STREET OCT. 30

The Dallas Downtown Association presents Halloween Around Downtown: Trick N Treat on Main Street from 3-5 p.m. Oct. 30. Many businesses will be handing out candy and some have other activities planned. Maps soon available online at www.dallasdowntownassociation.org/halloween-around-downtown. In addition, Lora Michele Dance Studio and Events by kdub host a Trick or Treat Dance at 939 S. Main St. And West Valley Tap House has built a haunted house free for kids to explore.

RICKREALL GRANGE HOSTS HOLIDAY MARKET, AND TRICK OR TREATING

The Rickreall Grange hosts a holiday market from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Oct. 31 - Nov. 1 at 280 N. Pacific Highway, featuring vendors, a hot chocolate bar and \$2 hot dogs. Admission and parking are free. Also, join them

from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Oct. 31 for trick or treating, shopping, baked goodies and photo opportunities. Kids in costume get a free prize.

SLIP KID PRESENTS ALL AGES ROCK HAUNT CONCERT OCT. 31

Slip Kid Presents hosts their first ever all ages Rock Haunt concert Oct. 31 at the Dallas Event Center, 939 Main St. This free show kicks off with the Rivercity Royals (rock) at 4 p.m., followed by the funk band THIS at 5 p.m., and the evening is capped by yacht rock sensation Rockaway at 7 p.m. Rivercity Royals is a product of Salem's Rivercity Rock Star Academy, a supportive, family-oriented, and performance-focused, catering to the local creative community across all age groups and skill levels. It was founded in 2015 and features over 20 professional instructors including Jared Venti, who has been a part of many popular local bands over the years, in addition to being one of the leads at RRSA. There will be food and drinks for guests and candy for folks trick or treating folks. So, feel free to dress up.

DALLAS MOSAIC LADIES HOSTS BUNKO NIGHT NOV. 5

The Dallas Mosaic Ladies host Bunko Night from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at First Christian Church, 1079 SE Jefferson St., Dallas. No experience necessary to play. The \$5 buy in goes

toward the prizes. Bring a dish/ snack/dessert to share if you want.

POLK COUNTY 4-H ASSOCIATION HOSTS HOLIDAY FAIR NOV. 6-7

The Polk County 4-H Association's Holiday Fair returns from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 6-7 at the Polk County Fairgrounds Event Center, 520 S. Pacific Highway, Rickreall.

WINDWARD EVENTS PRESENTS TWISTED WONDERLAND COSTUME BALL NOV. 7

Windward Events hosts A Twisted Wonderland Costume Ball, paying homage to Alice in Wonderland, from 7-11 p.m. Nov. 7 at the Dallas Events Center, at 939 S Main St. Costumes in Wonderland should be literary, historical, or gothic themes preferred, and absolutely no streetwear. Dress code enforced. Appetizers and desserts are provided, as well as a mocktail bar where you can purchase drink tokens. Music for dancing will begin with dark instrumentals and flow into a more fantasy rave-esque, through the evening. Tickets are available online at <https://bit.ly/4rtN9Yc>.

HOLIDAY MARKET RETURNS TO SALT CREEK CIDER HOUSE NOV. 14

Join Salt Creek Cider House for their third annual Holiday Market from 12-6 p.m. Nov. 14, located at 14500 Salt Creek

Road, Dallas, featuring local vendors to help with early Christmas shopping.

CROSS CREEK GOLF COURSE HOSTS ANNUAL TURKEY SHOOT TOURNAMENT NOV. 15

Cross Creek Golf Course is now accepting applications for the 28th Annual Turkey Shoot Golf Tournament on Nov. 15. The format is a two-person scramble, with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Applications are limited to the first 120 players to pay fees. All players will compete for net, gross and hole prizes. Entry fees are \$85 per player and one can of food. The entry includes green fees, snacks, prize money and the chance to win a turkey (power carts are not included). A portion of the proceeds will go to provide Thanksgiving dinners for needy families in Polk County through the Dallas Food Bank and a portion of the funds raised will go to St. Jude's. The signup deadline is Nov. 6. For more information call the pro-shop at (503) 623-6666 or go to www.crosscreekgc.com.

SHELBY'S SHENANIGANS HOSTS HOLIDAY MARKET NOV. 27

Shelby's Shenanigans' second annual Holiday Market runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 27 at the Dallas Event Center, 939 Main St. Shop local artisans, contribute to their canned food drive and enter to win raffle prizes.

www.polkio.com

Contact our Advertising Team to find out how.
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OLDER POKEMON CARDS. Paying cash for 1990s-2000s Pokemon cards, collections, binders. Any condition. Local transaction. Please call or text Dane 503-884-5031. Thank you.

800
RENTALS

3 Bedroom 1 & 1/2 Bath, Centrally Located close to Downtown and Park-2 Blocks away. No Smoking, No Pets. Very comfortable for a family. Washer/Dryer Available for a fee. Water-Sewer & Garbage provided. \$1700 a month. First and Last Month Plus \$800 Deposit to Move In. Call John (503) 851-9643.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PCIO26-435 Public Notice & Notice of Public Hearing The City Council of Falls City will be increasing Water and Wastewater Service Connection Fees, as well as its Utility Reserve Fund Fee as part of its ongoing update to offset increasing infrastructure expenditures. The city will also be implementing Parking Penalties for illegal parking in city right-of-way within city limits. In addition, the city will decide on the 8th Street Vacation that has been proposed and supported by the Public Works Committee. A meeting will be held by the City Council at 6:00 p.m. on November 2, 2026, at the Falls City Community Center, 320 N. Main, Falls City, Oregon, 97344. This meeting can be attended via remote access, the link and phone number are on the City of Falls City website at <https://www.fallscityoregon.gov/> The location of the hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. Please contact Jeremy Teal at 503-787-3631 if you will need any special accommodations to attend or participate in the meeting. 10/28/26

PCIO26-432 TS No. OR08000040-26-2 APN 0204-161604 II 161604 TO No DEF-688848 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE Reference is made to that certain Trust Deed made by, DANIEL P EPPING, UNMARRIED as Grantor to U.S. BANK TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION as Trustee, in favor of U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION as Beneficiary dated as of April 3, 2019 and recorded on May 15, 2019 as Instrument No. 2019-004881 of official records in the Office of the Recorder of Polk County, Oregon to-wit: APN: 0204-161604 II 161604 SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF POLK AND STATE OR OREGON PARCEL 1, OF PARTITION PLAT NO. 2006-0015, RECORDED MAY 19, 2006, INSTRUMENT NO. 0509062, POLK COUNTY, OREGON. Commonly known as: 1010 ELLENDALE AVE, DALLAS, OR 97338-1702 Both the Beneficiary, U.S. Bank National Association, and the Trustee, Nathan F. Smith, OSB #120112, 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. The default for which the foreclosure is made is the Grantor's failure to pay: Failed to pay payments which became due Monthly Payment(s): 1 Monthly Payment(s) from 12/03/2025 to 12/03/2025 at \$1,179.92 1 Monthly Payment(s) from 01/03/2026 to 01/03/2026 at \$1,040.47 1 Monthly Payment(s) from 02/03/2026 to 02/03/2026 at \$1,189.69 1 Monthly Payment(s) from 03/03/2026 to 03/03/2026 at \$1,081.53 1 Monthly Payment(s) from 04/03/2026 to 04/03/2026 at \$1,009.42 1 Monthly Payment(s) from 05/03/2026 to 05/03/2026 at \$1,153.64 1 Monthly Payment(s) from 06/03/2026 to 06/03/2026 at \$1,081.53 1 Monthly Payment(s) from 07/03/2026 to 07/03/2026 at \$1,045.48 1 Monthly Payment(s) from 08/03/2026 to 08/03/2026 at \$1,153.63 1 Monthly Payment(s) from 09/03/2026 to 09/03/2026 at \$1,117.59 Monthly Late Charge(s): By this reason of said default the Beneficiary has declared all obligations secured by said Trust Deed immediately due and payable, said sums being the following, to-wit: The sum of \$174,286.90 together with interest thereon at the rate of 7.80000% per annum from November 3, 2025 until paid; plus all accrued late charges thereon; and all Trustee's fees, foreclosure costs and any

sums advanced by the Beneficiary pursuant to the terms of said Trust Deed. Wherefore, notice is hereby given that, the undersigned Trustee will on February 9, 2027 at the hour of 09:00 AM, Standard of Time, as established by Section 187.110, Oregon Revised Statutes, Inside the main entrance, Polk County Courthouse, 850 Main Street, Dallas, OR 97338 County of Polk, 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 or 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. 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. 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" includes their respective successors in interest, if any. Effective March 1, 2026, new federal regulations (89 Fed. Reg. 70.258) may impact residential real property (1-4 residential units) title transfers to covered entities trusts, with reporting requirements unless exempt. <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/08/29/2024-19198/anti-money-laundering-regulations-for-residential-real-estate-transfers> Dated: 9/17/2026 By: Nathan F. Smith, OSB #120112 Successor Trustee Malcolm & Cisneros, A Law Corporation Attention: Nathan F. Smith, OSB #120112 c/o TRUSTEE CORPS 17100 Gillette Ave, Irvine, CA 92614 949-252-8300 NPP0495141 To: POLK COUNTY ITEMIZER-OBSERVER 10/28/2026, 11/04/2026, 11/11/2026, 11/18/2026

PCIO26-430 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF POLK Helen L. McGauhey, Settlor, Deceased No. 26PB09464 - Probate Notice to Claimants Pioneer Trust Bank, N.A., Trustee under The Helen McGauhey Trust dated November 21, 2025, has petitioned the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Polk County under Probate No. 26PB09464 to determine the claims of the creditors of trust settlor, Helen L. McGauhey, who now is deceased. All persons having claims against the trust estate are required to present such claims to Jordan Alford, Trust Officer, Pioneer Trust Bank, N.A., 109 Commercial St. NE, Salem, OR 97308-1048, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. Dated and first published October 28, 2026. /s/ Jordan Alford Trust Officer Pioneer Trust Bank, N.A., Trustee Barbara Jo Smith, OSB #950175 Heltzel Williams PC PO Box 1048, Salem, OR 97308-1048 Attorneys for Trustee 10/28/26, 11/04/26, 11/11/26

PCIO26-429 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.storagetreasures.com on 11/18/2026 at 10:00AM. Jennifer Baker Unit #087; Sarah Watson Unit #099. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. 10/28/26, 11/04/26

PCIO26-428 Notice of Self Storage Sale Please take notice IN Self Storage - Salem Wallace located at 300 Musgrave Ave., NW Salem OR

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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.storagetreasures.com on 11/18/2026 at 10:00AM. Devan Petansky Unit #061; Othello Biggs Unit #204; Adam Wilson Unit #5025. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. 10/28/26, 11/04/26

PCIO26-427 Monmouth Mini Storage (503)838-0803, 555 Gwinn Street E, Monmouth, OR 97361 Units to be auctioned off verbally on Nov 21st at 10am. All units sold as a whole. Angela Trinidad unit 190, Davina Dungy unit 159, Shelbi Taylor unit 332, Natasha Saxton unit 171, Jason Isitt unit 327, Jasen Stephens unit 297, Logan Keys unit 196. 10/28/26, 11/04/26

PCIO26-426 In the Matter of the Estate of Alta D. Francke NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Polk County Case No. 26PB08169 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Circuit Court of Polk County, State of Oregon, has appointed the undersigned as Personal Representative of the Estate of Alta D. Francke, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to the personal representative in care of Sarah Castleton, Attorney at Law, Miller Castleton & Flinn at 317 W. 1st Ave, Suite 302, Albany, OR 97321, within four (4) months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. DATED and first published: October 28, 2026. Huff Meyr Personal Representative c/o Sarah Castleton Miller Castleton & Flinn 317 First Ave W., Suite 302, Albany, OR 97321 541-286-5313 scastleton@mcf-legal.net 10/28/26

PCIO26-422 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE Reference is made to that certain trust deed made by Dura Built Construction, LLC, as Grantor, to Fidelity National Title Company of Oregon, as Trustee,* in favor of Keith A. Noble and Marilyn L. Noble Co-Trustees of the Noble Family Trust dated March 3, 2003, as Beneficiary, dated May 17, 2023, recorded May 22, 2023, in the mortgage records of Polk County, Oregon, as Instrument number 2023-003766, covering the following described real property situated in said county and state, to wit: Lots 36, 37 and 39, SHADOW CREEK ESTATES NO. 2, in the City of Salem, County of Polk and State of Oregon. Commonly known as 2418, 2438, and 2448 Morrow Court, Salem, Oregon. *The successor Trustee is Nicholas J. Hennemann, Attorney at Law. Both the Beneficiary and the Trustee have elected to sell the real property to satisfy the obligations secured by the trust deed and a Notice of Default has been recorded pursuant to Oregon Revised Statute 86.752. The default for which foreclosure is made is Grantor's failure to pay when due the following sums: the monthly payments in the sum of \$1,640.25 each for the months of February 2026 through July 2026. 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: Principal in the sum of \$198,626.05, with interest thereon at the rate of 9 percent per annum beginning August 12, 2026; Past Due Interest from January 2, 2026 through August 11, 2026, in the amount of \$10,734.46; Accumulated Late Charges in the amount of \$480.00; Collection Close Fee in the amount of \$200.00; Payoff Quote Fee in the amount of \$30.00; together with any other penalties, title expenses, costs, Trustee's fees and attorney fees incurred herein by reason of said default; and any further sums advanced by the Beneficiary for the protection of the above described real property and its interest therein. WHEREFORE, notice hereby is given that the undersigned Trustee will on December 29, 2026, at the hour of 2:00 o'clock, P.M. in accord with the standard of time established by ORS 187.110, at the following place: The front steps of the Polk County Courthouse, 850 S. Main Street Dallas, County of Polk, State of Oregon, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the interest in the described real property which the Grantor had or had power to convey at the time of the execution by Grantor of the trust deed, together with any interest which the Grantor or Grantor's successors in interest acquired after the execution of the 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 reinstatement or payoff quotes requested pursuant to ORS 86.786 and 86.789 must be timely communicated in a written request that complies with the statute addressed to the Trustee either by personal delivery to the Trustee's physical office set forth in this notice, or by certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the Trustee's post office box address set forth in this notice. Notice is further given that any person named in ORS 86.778 has the right under ORS 86.778 to have the proceeding dismissed and the trust deed reinstated by paying the entire amount then due (other than such portion as would not then be due had no default occurred), together with costs, Trustee's fees and attorney fees not exceeding the

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PUBLIC NOTICES

amounts provided by ORS 86.778, and by curing any other default complained of in the notice of default that is capable of being cured, at any time that is not later than five days before the date last set for the sale. 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. In construing this notice, the singular includes the plural, the word "Grantor" includes any successor in interest to the Grantor as well as any other person owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by said trust deed, and the words "Trustee" and "Beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Dated: August 14, 2026. /s/ Nicholas J. Hennemann, Trustee For further information, please contact: Nicholas J. Hennemann, Trustee Abrahams, Kaslow & Cassman LLP 8712 West Dodge Road, Suite 300, Omaha, NE 68114 (402) 392-1250 nhennemann@akclaw.com 10/21/26, 10/28/26, 11/04/26, 11/11/26

PCIO26-420 TS No. OR06000042-26-1 APN 137531 TO No 260429885-OR-MSI TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE Reference is made to that certain Trust Deed made by, RICHARD GRANT HILL AND PATRICHA HILL AS TENANTS BY THE ENTIRETY as Grantor to FIRST AMERICAN TITLE as Trustee, in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. ("MERS"), as designated nominee for SYNERGY ONE LENDING, INC., Beneficiary of the security instrument, its successors and assigns, dated as of August 29, 2025 and recorded on August 29, 2025 as Instrument No. 2025-006680 of official records in the Office of the Recorder of Polk County, Oregon to-wit: APN: 137531 LOT 3, LACREOLE HOMES ADDITION TO DALLAS, POLK COUNTY, OREGON. (PLAT VOLUME 4, PAGE 4) Commonly known as: 797 SW WASHINGTON ST, DALLAS, OR 97338 Both the Beneficiary, Village Capital & Investment LLC, and the Trustee, Nathan F. Smith, OSB #120112, 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. The default for which the foreclosure is made is the Grantor's failure to pay: Failed to pay payments which became due Total Monthly Payment(s): Total Monthly Payment(s) from 02/01/2026 to 09/01/2026 at \$27,479.60 Total Late Charge(s):\$1,258.18 By this reason of said default the Beneficiary has declared all obligations secured by said Trust Deed immediately due and payable, said sums being the following, to-wit: The sum of \$406,129.79 together with interest thereon at the rate of 6.50000% per annum from January 1, 2026 until paid; plus all accrued late charges thereon; and all Trustee's fees, foreclosure costs and any sums advanced by the Beneficiary pursuant to the terms of said Trust Deed. Wherefore, notice is hereby given that, the undersigned Trustee will on February 3, 2027 at the hour of 11:00 AM, Standard of Time, as established by Section 187.110, Oregon Revised Statutes, At the front entrance of the Courthouse, 850 Main Street, Dallas, OR 97338 County of Polk, 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 or 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. 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. 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 the Deed of Trust, the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Dated: 9/30/2026 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225 San Diego, CA 92108 Phone: 858-750-7777 866-931-0036 Hamsa Uchi, Authorized Signatory of Trustee 10/21/26, 10/28/26, 11/04/26, 11/11/26

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real property (1-4 residential units) title transfers to covered entities trusts, with reporting requirements unless exempt. <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/08/29/2024-19198/anti-money-laundering-regulations-for-residential-real-estate-transfers> Dated: 9/17/2026 By: Nathan F. Smith, OSB #120112 Successor Trustee Malcolm & Cisneros, A Law Corporation Attention: Nathan F. Smith, OSB #120112 c/o TRUSTEE CORPS 17100 Gillette Ave, Irvine, CA 92614 949-252-8300 NPP0494888 To: POLK COUNTY ITEMIZER-OBSERVER 10/21/2026, 10/28/2026, 11/04/2026, 11/11/2026

PCIO26-416 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE TS No.: 142160 OR Loan No.: ***0807** Reference is made to that certain trust deed (the "Deed of Trust") executed by KEVIN F JACKSON, SINGLE MAN, as Grantor, to FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE OF OREGON, as Trustee, in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS DESIGNATED NOMINEE FOR MORTGAGE RESEARCH CENTER, LLC DBA VETERANS UNITED HOME LOANS, BENEFICIARY OF THE SECURITY INSTRUMENT, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as Beneficiary, dated 5/2/2016, recorded 5/2/2016, as Instrument No. 2016-004597, the subject Deed of Trust was modified by Loan Modification recorded on 1/27/2020 as Instrument 2020-001115, and later modified 12/27/2021 as Instrument 2021-020115, and later modified 11/20/2024 as Instrument 2024-008823 in the Official Records of Polk County, Oregon, which covers the following described real property situated in Polk County, Oregon: LOT 5, PIERCE ESTATES, IN THE CITY OF SALEM, POLK COUNTY, OREGON. (RECORDED NOVEMBER 14, 2007 IN VOLUME 14, PAGE 25, BOOK OF TOWN PLATS FOR POLK COUNTY, OREGON.) APN: 572242 / 07308-DD-02100. Commonly known as: 1815 BROOKSIDE AVE NW SALEM, OR 97304 The current beneficiary is: PennyMac Loan Services, LLC Both the beneficiary and the trustee have elected to sell the above-described real property to satisfy the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust and notice 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: Delinquent Payments: Dates: 4/1/2025 - 9/1/2026 Total: \$32,324.93 Late Charges: \$294.66 Beneficiary Advances: \$494.93 Total Required to Reinstale: \$33,114.52 TOTAL REQUIRED TO PAYOFF: \$206,995.01 By reason of the default, the beneficiary has declared all obligations secured by the Deed of Trust immediately due and payable, including: the principal sum of \$179,394.37 together with interest thereon at the rate of 7.25 % per annum, from 3/1/2025 until paid, plus all accrued late charges, and all trustee's fees, foreclosure costs, and any sums advanced by the beneficiary pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Deed of Trust Whereof, notice hereby is given that the undersigned trustee, CLEAR RECON CORP, whose address is 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225, San Diego, CA 92108, will on 2/11/2027, at the hour of 11:00 AM, standard time, as established by ORS 187.110, AT THE MAIN STREET ENTRANCE TO THE POLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 850 MAIN STREET, DALLAS, OR 97338, sell at public auction to the highest bidder in the form of cash equivalent (certified funds or cashier's check) the interest in the above-described real property which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time it executed the Deed of Trust, together with any interest which the grantor or his successors in interest acquired after the execution of the Deed of Trust, 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 to have the foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the Deed of Trust reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than the portion of principal that would not then be due had no default occurred), together with the costs, trustee's and attorneys' fees, and curing any other default complained of in the Notice of Default by tendering the performance required under the Deed of Trust at any time not later than five days before the date last set for sale. 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. 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 the Deed of Trust, the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Dated: 9/30/2026 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225 San Diego, CA 92108 Phone: 858-750-7777 866-931-0036 Hamsa Uchi, Authorized Signatory of Trustee 10/21/26, 10/28/26, 11/04/26, 11/11/26



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, OCT. 15

At 8:09 a.m., a delayed report of a dark gray Subaru passing a school bus picking up kids on Walnut Avenue. No license plate information was given.

At 8:09 a.m., a Dallas youth that was reported missing the prior day was just visiting a friend in Monmouth.

At 9:09 a.m., a motorist on Miller Avenue was cited for speeding.

At 10:29 a.m., a motorist on Orchard Drive was cited for speeding 40 mph in a 25-mph zone.

At 11:41 a.m., a motorist on Ellendale Avenue reported a hit and run where his car was driven into by a commercial vehicle. An officer found no crimes committed and facilitated the exchange of information.

At 6:27 p.m., a complaint of a green Dodge pickup with no lights on and speeding on Washington Street.

FRIDAY, OCT. 16

At 2:24 a.m., a motorist on La Creole Drive was cited for failure to carry/present a driver's license.

At 2:48 a.m., an officer investigated an alarm on Ellendale Avenue and found the building secure.

At 7:57 a.m., an officer responded to a report of a dog at large in a parking lot on Kings Valley Highway but was unable to find the dog.

At 9:49 a.m., a motorist on Washington Street was cited for driving uninsured, improper display reg stickers and improper flares/mudflaps.

At 10 a.m., a resident on Hayter Avenue reported that a window was broken out sometime overnight.

At 10:05 a.m., a 9-year-old juvenile and mom on Ellendale Avenue were advised about ordinances for shooting airguns in town.

At 12:55 p.m., a resident on Levens Street reported an aggressive dog. They were referred to animal control for info/license check.

At 5:41 p.m., a motorist on Kings Valley Highway was cited for failure to renew registration.

At 6:27 p.m., officers provided law enforcement presence at the Dragons' football game. Dallas won!

At 8:32 p.m., a male subject was arrested on Ellendale Avenue on an outstanding Klamath County felony warrant and was lodged at Polk County Jail where he was also charged with assault 4.

At 9:40 p.m., an officer responded to a report of two subjects inside the city park after hours. The officer spoke to both of them and warned them for park hours.

SATURDAY, OCT. 17

At 9:02 a.m., a citizen called to pick up a wallet from the DPD. She was advised to return during business hours on

weekdays.

At 12 p.m., officers responded to a domestic disturbance on Hayter Street between three individuals. One was trespassing from the location.

At 12:26 p.m., a subject erected a tent in a parking lot on Academy Street. Officers advised her to take it down and find somewhere else to go.

At 12:46 p.m., a citizen reported finding a 9mm bullet in the parking lot of Oregon State Credit Union. She stated she would dispose of it accordingly.

At 2:05 p.m., officers investigated a vehicle crash on Main Street with minor damage to both vehicles. An officer assisted in information exchange and cited one driver with improper left turn and driving uninsured.

At 4:17 p.m., a motorist on Mill Street was arrested and charged with failing to perform duties of driver - property damage, driving under the influence of an intoxicant - alcohol, reckless driving and reckless endangering.

MONDAY, OCT. 19

At 7 a.m., a male subject was trespassed from a location on Kings Valley Highway by the manager.

At 8:16 a.m., a motorist from Salem was cited for speeding 37 mph in a 20-mph school on Miller Avenue.

At 9:05 a.m., a student walked out of Lyle Elementary School, unseen by staff. However, an officer on an unrelated call saw him exit Lyle and run towards the park. The officer contacted him at the rear of the school and walked him back in. He apparently was upset because he felt his teacher was being mean.

At 3:11 p.m., a resident on Sheila Street reported a parking complaint. An officer contacted code services who are aware of the situation and are actively working to resolve the issue.

At 3:34 p.m., a male subject was formally trespassed from a business on Kings Valley Highway after he was caught by loss prevention attempting to steal alcohol.

At 3:58 p.m., a female juvenile left her house and went to a friend's house where she reported she ran away. She was returned home without incident.

At 5:02 p.m., a male subject was on Ellendale Avenue with an open container of alcohol. He was instructed to empty out his alcohol as it was against the law to be drinking while out in public. He might have stolen the alcohol from Safeway but at this time there is no probable cause for theft.

At 7:30 p.m., a report of someone throwing a can of alcohol out a car window on Hankel Street.

TUESDAY, OCT. 20

At 9:14 a.m., officers responded to a report of a gas leak at West Valley Hospital. An officer assisted with traffic control on Washington Street until the leak was under control.

At 12:27 p.m., an officer investigated a report of juveniles possibly smoking behind a residence on La Creole Drive. The officer checked the walking trail and the river area near the bridge but was unable to locate the subjects.

At 2:46 p.m., a resident

on Ellendale Avenue reported the rear window of his Jeep was broken.

At 3:50 p.m., a complaint of a vehicle running a bus stop sign on Cortland Avenue. An officer drove around the area but was unable to locate the vehicle.

At 5:11 p.m., a subject was arrested on Ellendale Avenue on an outstanding warrant.

At 5:48 p.m., a motorist on Ellendale Avenue was cited for driving while suspended - violation, driving uninsured, failing to register a vehicle and failing to carry/present driver's license.

At 8:18 p.m., a homeless person was arrested on Main Street on an outstanding warrant and was taken to jail where they were charged with escape 3, possession of a controlled substance - methamphetamine.

At 11:22 p.m., a report of an electrical fire on Robb Street was handled by Dallas Fire & EMS.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 21

At 2:19 a.m., a subject on Uglow Avenue was arrested and charged with assault 4, strangulation, harassment and interfering with making a police report.

At 11:33 a.m., a subject on Ellendale Avenue on an outstanding Lake County warrant.

At 4:27 p.m., an officer contacted a motorist parked on Ellendale Avenue. The officer provided the driver a courtesy ride to 7 Star so she could get gas and food. She has a ride coming from Salem.

At 11:06 p.m., an officer investigated a suspicious activity report and found the janitor at the Academy Building feeding the cats.

At 11:16 p.m., a motorist on Alexander Drive was arrested for driving under the influence of an intoxicant, possession of a controlled substance - methamphetamine, and two counts of reckless endangering.

Independence Police Department

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 14

Officers responded to a report of a domestic dispute in the 200 block of Deann Drive between two reportedly intoxicated subjects that were in a struggle. Upon arriving, Ricky Miller Jr. was located at the base of a 13-foot retaining wall that he'd scaled down but sustained injuries. In the residence, the victim also had several physical injuries from the suspect and at one point had her breathing impeded. Miller was arrested and charged with strangulation and assault, with a charge pending of interference with making a report.

THURSDAY, OCT. 15

At 3:28 p.m., a report of a domestic disturbance at an apartment complex on Main Street. A male subject was breaking things in his own apartment. No crimes were committed.

At 9:46 p.m., a report of a cat hit by a car on Hoffman Road.

FRIDAY, OCT. 16

At 10:24 a.m., a motorist reported he struck a no parking sign on 7th Street. No crimes were committed.

At 10:20 p.m., a motorist was cited for leaving a parking spot along C Street and crashing into a

car in the lane of travel. Both parties were told to file a DMV crash report.

MONDAY, OCT. 19

At 2:13 p.m., two males were found consuming alcohol at Riverview Park. When officers initially contacted Luis Herrera, he was not forthcoming with his identity. Herrera was found to have a failure to appear warrant out of Polk County and blew a BAC of .12% at jail, which violated his no alcohol consumption release agreement. He was charged with his bench warrant, providing false information to police, punishment by contempt of court and cited for an open container of alcohol in an Independence public park.

At 5:52 p.m., Independence and Monmouth police responded to a domestic disturbance on Spruce Avenue. The investigators were unable to determine who was the primary aggressor. The subjects agreed to remain separated.

Ernesto Chacala was spotted in Riverview Park with alcohol. Chacala had been previously excluded from the park so he was cited for criminal trespass 2.

TUESDAY, OCT. 20

At 7:13 p.m., a resident on I Street reported receiving a call from scammers identifying themselves as police and demanding he pay money or he would go to jail / get an arrest warrant. The resident ended up sending \$999 in cash via 7/11 to Eugene, Oregon.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 21

Jose Coronado Jr was arrested after entering a business in the 200 block of South Main Street and yelling obscenities at an employee. He was charged with menacing and disorderly conduct. He'd been warned before to stay out of the business previously, so a criminal trespass charge was added. In addition, Coronado was charged with menacing after he stood up and threatened to kill a passerby on B Street.

Officers investigated a report of a prowler on Ash Street that was attempting to break into a car. Cristobal Najar hid on the railroad tracks behind a train car, but was located shortly after in a yard on Picture Street. He was transported to jail where he was charged with three counts of criminal trespass and attempted unlawful entry into a vehicle.

Monmouth Police Department

THURSDAY, OCT. 15

Domestic Dispute: Officers responded to a physical domestic dispute involving postpartum depression and self-harm concerns. The parties agreed to go to sleep for the night.

Vehicle Tow: A vehicle repossession was verified at a listed location.

Found Property: A worn bicycle found did not meet the value threshold required to take it into custody.

Suspicious Activity: A resident reported inappropriate exposure and concerning behavior by a neighbor near a minor. The subject was warned to stay away.

Domestic Dispute: An argument occurred where

one individual grabbed and dragged another. The subject was warned for disorderly conduct and left.

Agency Assistance: An outside police department requested a welfare check. The tenant was reported to have been seen the previous day.

Agency Assistance: A report of a physical altercation between two individuals inside a van. The company was unsure of the vehicle's location and no further calls were received.

Verbal Disturbance: A verbal disagreement occurred between family members regarding a new partner. An intoxicated individual was verbally trespassed from the address.

Follow-Up: Business staff prepared requested video footage for collection.

Suspicious Activity: A report of a motorist circling a residence and shouting. Officers checked the area with negative results.

Agency Assistance: Officers responded to a physical domestic incident where a suspect fled, jumped a fence and sustained an injury. He was taken into custody for medical transport and related charges.

Emotionally Disturbed Person: An individual experiencing a crisis pointed a knife at themselves, was disarmed by family. The subject agreed to speak with mental health professionals and put a safety plan in place.

Ordinance Violation: A resident reported a potentially abandoned vehicle. The caller contact details were provided for follow-up.

Arrest: An individual was arrested on an outstanding out-of-county warrant, then lodged at the jail.

FRIDAY, OCT. 16

Citation / Contact: Officers contact an intoxicated individual following a verbal confrontation. The parties were advised to remain separate.

Welfare Check: The officers responded to a report of a fall matching the description of the previously contacted intoxicated individual. The subject refused medical assistance and continued walking.

Follow-Up: Officers investigated property damage at a vacant residence involving jammed deadbolts. The victim declined prosecution.

Emotionally Disturbed Person: Officer investigated a report of a vehicle smelling putrid. They found nothing of concern.

Driving Complaint: An officer checked the area of a report of a vehicle accelerating noisily with negative results.

Domestic Dispute: A report of a disturbance at a neighbor's apartment. The involved parties were located elsewhere and denied anything physical occurred.

Follow-Up: Information was received regarding a missing person potentially staying at an out-of-state address. Contact was requested with local dispatch.

Saturday, Oct. 17

Follow-Up: Contact was made with an out-of-county deputy providing details regarding a missing person investigation.

Agency Assistance: Officers covered another

agency taking a report of a firearm thrown from a vehicle at a roundabout. The firearm was verified as not stolen.

Traffic Stop: A motorist was stopped and warned for a lack of license plates and registration display issues. The driver was advised to visit the department of motor vehicles.

Driving Complaint: A report of a motorist driving erratic, speeding, and tailgating. The vehicle was registered elsewhere and officers were unable to respond due to a priority call.

Driving Complaint: Officers received a report of juveniles riding pocket bikes at high speeds without helmets near a park. They were unable to respond and left a voice-mail for the caller.

Missing Person

Recovery: An outside agency located a missing juvenile in protective custody. Coordination issues occurred with the parent regarding transport and placement with welfare services.

Trespassing: A complaint about a male yelling at customers inside a business. The subject was contacted, identified, and formally trespassed from the property.

Emotionally Disturbed Person: A severe self-harm suicide attempt where the individual became combative with responders, requiring physical restraint, sedation, medical transport, and a citation for assaulting an officer.

Agency Assistance: Officers attempted contact at a residence for a restraining order violation. The family stated the subject was not home and provided a phone number.

Animal Complaint: Officers were delayed to a report of a barking dog near an apartment and heard nothing upon arrival.

SUNDAY, OCT. 18

Suspicious Activity: A report of a male following individuals from a store, making unsettling comments, and reaching behind his back. The subject was intoxicated and was carrying an open container, but no crimes were committed.

Emotionally Disturbed Person: A person who consumed a combination of substances and alcohol while feeling suicidal was transported by medics for medical care.

Information: An intoxicated individual involved in a verbal dispute, reportedly armed and potentially suicidal, left in a vehicle.

Agency Assistance: Officers attempted to contact a subject wanted for a restraining order violation. The subject was not home but later called to state he would surrender the next morning.

Animal Complaint: A dog owner reported other dogs escaping frequently and rushing at them and their pet. The complainant declined police contact with the dog owner at that time.

Assistance: A caller reported a power outage and phone communication issues. Dispatch was notified to assist in contacting the utility provider.

Suspicious Activity: A report of someone pounding on a door and opening it at an apartment. The incident was documented with no further action required.

Driving Complaint:

POLICE

From Page B6

Juveniles were observed riding pocket bikes in an area. Officers monitored the location, spoke with the juveniles and parents, and educated them on rules.

Arrest: A vehicle was observed driving into a parking location with the driver switching seats to evade issues. The driver was arrested and charged with driving while suspended - misdemeanor.

Agency Assistance: Officers covered another responder assisting a suicidal juvenile. No further action was taken after speaking with the youth.

Civil Dispute: A resident was locked out of an apartment by a partner after returning from a trip. Officers determined it to be a civil matter and parties were advised on resources.

MONDAY, OCT. 19

Citation / Contact: A report of a stolen phone taken across state lines with threats to share intimate images. The suspect, who admitted to destroying the phone and taking photos of content, was advised to cease contact.

Agency Assistance: A subject wanted on a warrant arrived at the department to turn himself in and was transferred to another agency.

Citizen Contact: An individual visited the department to express frustration regarding past reports and a lack of arrests.

Information: A vehicle was towed to a repair shop for a community member.

Welfare Check: Social workers requested assistance checking on an individual who previously expressed suicidal ideation. Entry was gained using a spare key and the individual was found safe, agreeing to stay with a friend.

Driving Complaint: Officers responded to repeated driving complaints regarding juveniles on pocket bikes but were unable to locate anyone.

Suspicious Activity: A report of a neighbor taking a barbecue grill from a porch and attempting to sell it back. Previous video footage verified ownership and the grill was returned.

Arrest: An individual was cited and released for an out-of-town municipal warrant.

Found Person: An untended toddler was found wandering in diapers near a roadway. The parents were located inside an apartment, unaware the child had exited due to a removed safety lock.

Animal Complaint: A dog on a leash without physical control ran toward an elderly male, who kicked the dog. The animal was uninjured.

TUESDAY, OCT. 20

Criminal Mischief: A dispute at a pub regarding an alleged substance left on a table. Officers assisted in cleaning the table with no crimes committed.

Welfare Check: A property manager reported

concern from a relative regarding an individual experiencing a crisis after a breakup. The individual was contacted and confirmed to be fine.

Suspicious Activity: A report of a scam phone call claiming packages contained illegal substances. The resident was advised it was a scam and to ignore further calls.

Suspicious Activity: A report of an anonymous online forum post regarding an underage individual hooking up with a public safety officer. Safety personnel were familiar with the complaint.

Fight: A physical fight occurred between two individuals at an intersection, accompanied by historical domestic violence reports. A follow-up was planned.

Suspicious Activity: Concerns were raised regarding a family member being taken advantage of financially by a neighbor due to mental decline. An office discussed guardianship, eviction processes, and gave an adult protective services referral.

Overdose: Medics responded to a report of an individual on the ground bleeding from the face after a fall. They found no signs of drug use.

Found Person: An untended toddler was found outside. The father was unaware the child had left while the mother was at a store. Officers discussed safety precautions.

Disturbance: Officers responded to a report of a physical altercation between two individuals at a park but were unable to locate anyone.

Animal Complaint: Officers investigated a report of abandoned animals at a residence. The owners confirmed they were in the process of moving and visited daily to care for the pets.

Suspicious Activity: A report of a male looking through back porches and acting strangely. Officers checked the area with negative results.

Runaway: A report of a juvenile running away after a disagreement. The juvenile texted that they were returning and safely came home.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 21

Suspicious Activity: A resident reported their partner missing and personal items left behind. The individual was found safe next door following a sleepwalking episode.

Agency Assistance: Assistance was provided to an outside agency regarding a reported overdose at a river camp. The individual declined medical assistance.

Welfare Check: Officers are investigating an ongoing report of concerning living conditions and claims of dating assaults involving an individual with mental health issues.

Runaway: A report of a juvenile missing from school. The youth was later located at school and taken home by a parent.

Arrest: After an altercation at a park involving a stolen hat and a subject taking photos, the individual was arrested and

charged with robbery, assault, theft, and disorderly conduct. In addition, the subject was formally trespassed from the area.

Animal Complaint: A report of a missing medium-sized black and white Australian shepherd mix with owner contact information provided.

Animal Complaint: Officers investigated a barking dog complaint at an apartment complex but heard minimal barking and no contact was made.

Minor in Possession: Seven grams of marijuana were found on an individual who was referred for a minor-in-possession violation.

Drug Investigation: A house check by probation officers discovered bags of seeds and soil suspected of being psilocybin starters. The investigation is ongoing.

Animal Complaint: A repeated barking dog complaint at a residence. Officers warned the owner to secure pets or face citation.

Missing Person: A report of a juvenile not returning from school. The juvenile was subsequently located participating in a school club.

Citation / Complaint: Residents reported children riding bikes on private property sidewalks. They were advised officers would not intervene unless damage or property management calls occurred.

Harassment: Officers investigated a complaint regarding online social media posts and doxing concerns involving local council members. They reviewed findings with the district attorney and determined the incident was not criminal. The involved parties were spoken to and updated.

Theft: License plates were stolen from a vehicle parked near a crossfit facility overnight.

Suspicious Activity: A report of a male acting oddly on apartment steps. Officers checked the area with negative results.

Driving Complaint: A report of a motorist unable to maintain its lane. The driver was checked with no signs of impairment, but was cited for registration display issues.

Animal Complaint: A report of a dog tied to a pole outside a restaurant. The dog was retrieved by its owner prior to officers' arrival.

Noise Complaint: A report of an overly loud neighbor having a party. The area was checked with no noise observed.

Polk County Sheriff's Office

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 14

At 2:19 a.m., a motorist was stopped on Wallace Road for no front license plate. A Salem Police officer was contacted to cite and release the driver, Chantele Bond Riley, for a July harassment incident.

At 11:12 a.m., a resident on Grant Road reported that sometime over the three months, someone stole two jet skis and the trailer she had built for them. Total loss was valued at \$3,800. The resident suspects a family

member and his friends.

At 12:18 p.m., deputies responded to a three-vehicle accident on Clow Corner Road. Vehicle one didn't check properly for oncoming traffic, resulting in getting t-boned by a second vehicle. The first vehicle then bounded around, hitting a third vehicle. There were no injuries. All three vehicles were towed. The driver of vehicle one was cited for failure to obey a traffic control device.

At 4:36 p.m., a deputy on Ammon Street in Salem cited and released Victor Lund on an outstanding failure to appear warrant out of Polk County.

At 9:35 p.m., deputies responded to a report of a domestic disturbance on Juvenile Avenue. Nothing criminal was found.

THURSDAY, OCT. 15

At 7:49 a.m., a motorist was stopped on Highway 99 for expired tags and terminated insurance. The driver was cited for no insurance and was warned for no operator's license and expired tags.

At 9:56 a.m., a deputy investigated a report of trespassing on Salmon River Highway. A car with two occupants blocking the parting lot wouldn't leave when told to by the business owner. However, they could not because the battery was dead. They got a jump from a citizen and avoided being cited by the deputy.

At 10:02 a.m., a deputy investigated a report of a road struck deer on Kings Valley Highway. With the help of the complainant, the deputy found the deer in a nearby ditch. The complainant expressed the desire to harvest the deer after it was dispatched by the deputy.

At 12:04 p.m., a deputy responded to a report of a reckless driver on Salem Dallas Highway going approximately 140 mph but was unable to locate the vehicle.

At 1:59 p.m., a resident on Oak Grove Road reported an Amazon package containing light fixtures valued at \$28 was stolen from his porch. There were no working cameras, no other items reported stolen, and no suspect information.

At 5:49 p.m., deputies responded to a report of a motorcycle vs car collision at Highway 22 at milepost 11. A motorcyclist driving eastbound was unable to stop in time when the cars in front of him stopped. He swerved to avoid a collision but side swiped a vehicle, causing him to be knocked off the bike. He suffered only minor injuries. A deputy conducted traffic control until Oregon State Police arrived and took over the scene.

At 8:51 p.m., a deputy investigated a report of 4-5 gunshots possibly coming from the area of Eagle Crest Road. The deputy checked the area but did not locate any spent casings or vehicles.

FRIDAY, OCT. 16

At 2:48 a.m., a deputy investigated an alarm on Ellendale Avenue and found the building was

secure.

At 7:07 a.m., a motorist on Perrydale Road was cited for speeding 21- to 30-mph over the speed limit.

At 7:52 a.m., a motorist was stopped for no front plate and expired tags. The driver was cited for driving while suspended - violation and for no insurance. The vehicle was towed for no insurance.

At 11:06 a.m., deputies responded to a report of a barn fire on Fire Hall Road spreading to a trailer. They spoke with two subjects who were both home all day and they saw nothing suspicious leading up to it and both were in the barn separately yesterday. The barn was completely destroyed and the trailer was a total loss, but was uninhabited and empty. Deputies couldn't find any conclusive evidence of anything suggesting it was criminal aside from unknown origin.

At 11:43 a.m., a resident on Reuben Boise Road reported that someone had opened an AT&T cell phone account in her name in April of 2025. She said she began getting calls from AT&T asking her to verify her identity, but she refused as she believed she was being scammed. She then began getting calls from a debt collection company. She's already notified the credit bureaus and requested a case number for AT&T / collection company.

At 12:22 p.m., a motorist on Highway 22 was cited for speeding 78 mph in a 55-mph zone and was warned for following too closely.

At 1:34 p.m., a resident on Hopewell Road reported their neighbor shot his gun at them whenever they drove by too fast. The neighbor reported he was only scaring off deer eating and damaging his fruit trees. He said if it bothers his neighbors he might just start chasing the deer away instead.

At 5:18 p.m., a deputy came across a two-vehicle, rear-end crash that just occurred on Ellendale Avenue. There were no injuries. The driver who rear ended the other vehicle was cited for following too closely.

At 8:32 p.m., deputies responded to a physical domestic disturbance on Ellendale Avenue. Dustin Townsend, Jr., was arrested on an outstanding Klamath County felony warrant and was also charged with assault 4 after he punched his adult brother in the nose. He was lodged at Polk County Jail.

SATURDAY, OCT. 17

At 12:34 p.m., a motorist was stopped on Ellendale Avenue for failure to yield to a stop sign and for expired tags.

She was cited for the two violations.

At 12:46 p.m., a subject reported finding a 9mm bullet in the parking lot of Oregon State Credit Union. She stated she would dispose of it accordingly.

At 3:36 p.m., a resident stopped to offer food to the Polk County Sheriff's Office. Deputies politely declined and thanked her for her thoughtfulness.

At 3:38 p.m., a deputy was headed to an illegal park in West Salem when a disturbance came out around the block. The disturbance involved yelling and a confrontation over a possible stolen motorcycle. The deputy covered Salem Police until the call was over.

At 3:42 p.m., two subjects stopped by Monmouth Police to turn in a pistol they observed being tossed out of a vehicle at the Clow Corner / Highway 99 roundabout. They stopped to pick up the pistol, a Glock 43X, with six 9mm bullets and a broken magazine. The vehicle was a maroon/burgundy square body, lifted Ford F-series, driven by a white male with a beard, approx 30-40 years old. No plate information was provided.

At 9:37 p.m., a deputy responded to provide backup at a report of a suicide attempt on Emerson Lane. A female subject had attempted to kill herself by cutting her throat multiple times and left wrist with a kitchen knife. Officers took over first aid from family members until medics arrived. Once the subject recovered, she admitted to trying to kill herself, but did not want to go to the hospital. When she tried to walk into the bathroom, she was restrained and became combative, kicking and scratching the deputy. Medics sedated her and transported her to Salem Hospital. She was cited and released for assault on a police officer.

At 10:03 p.m., a resident on Robb Mill Road reported some youth had started an unauthorized bonfire on his neighbor's property. By the time the deputy arrived, he found the remnants of a fire that was put out and still warm. He was unable to locate any subjects associated with it.

At 11:09 p.m., deputies responded to a reported hit and run on Highway 22 where a vehicle rolled over. The suspect vehicle was reported to be a black Mazda with front end damage last seen westbound on Highway 22. Deputies were unable to locate the vehicle. Oregon State Police arrived and took over the investigation.

SUNDAY, OCT. 18

See **POLICE**, page 8



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RUNNERS

From Page B1

As for Stange, he has benefited from months of consistent training after health problems and injuries hampered him last season.

“I had a good summer of training, and I’ve felt good all season,” Stange said. “We’ve raced some tough courses, but I’m really fit right now and I’m excited to see what I can do at districts.”

Cirino added that Stange has earned his success.

“He has just put in the time,” the coach said. “Hudson’s very

dedicated.”

Come Saturday, his goal is to chase down the competition.

“I just got bumped out of the top five,” he said. “I’m sixth, but the (runners seeded just ahead of him) are not that far in front of me. I know that their times are from pretty quick courses. So I think I can probably take them down there.”

Butler is also finding his stride. He placed second at Lebanon before illness sidelined him at the team’s final regular-season meet.

“Thomas just looks more fit and confident than he’s ever been before,” Cirino said.

Confidence matters when confronting a 5,000-meter challenge.

“It’s a hard race,” Cirino said. “Even for those guys who have done it for years, it’s a handful.”

Six Panthers are competing for five varsity spots. Junior Colton Engdahl and freshman Connor Hampton, seeded 17th and 20th, appear secure. Engdahl ran his best race of the season at the Meriwether Cross Country Classic. Hampton, meanwhile, has steadily climbed the seeding ladder.

“You can just feel him in workouts, in races, just getting closer and closer

to those guys,” Cirino said of Hampton.

Comparing times – be it individual or team – is difficult because courses vary. Also, Central is in its first year in a new conference and is still learning the competition and courses. The Stayton Middle School Nature Course hosts this year’s district finals, but it’s been years since any Central runners last raced there.

Nonetheless, Cirino likes his team’s chances.

“We’ve competed well against the other teams when we’ve had the chance, and have beaten some of the district’s key runners,” the coach

added.

Butler added the Panthers need to push themselves.

“Because we have a lot of guys that run around the same times, we need to compete with each other,” the senior said. “By competing with each other, we’re competing with everyone else. We just need our guys to be at their top.”

Stayton, Philomath and Newport are expected to battle for the boys’ title.

On the girls’ side, Central enters six runners in a lineup that features just one senior.

Freshman Annika Baltzley leads the Panthers. Seeded ninth

heading into district, the Lebanon winner needs a top-seven finish to advance to the state meet.

“She’d have to have the race of her life,” Cirino said of Baltzley’s chances. “But I think that she’s building confidence every week.”

District offers another chance for the girls to build on their foundation. The Panthers did not field a varsity girls team last year.

“They’re proud of their growth and they’re making good progress,” Cirino said.

Junior varsity races begin at 10:30 a.m. Varsity races begin at 11:45 a.m.

DISTRICTS

From Page B1

That support matters in a sport where runners often race and train isolated from their teammates.

Abigail Anderson is in her first season of cross country, and is discovering the importance of team in a sport not generally known for it.

“You improve yourself individually, but your team can also help you improve so much

more,” Anderson said. “They give me so much support.”

Teammates offer more than cheers. Their feedback during workouts helps Anderson improve her pace, technique and speed.

The sophomore began running during track season last spring after family members sparked her interest. Distance events led her to cross country, where she grew to enjoy the mental and physical challenges.

Anderson’s progress

has helped Dallas weather the absence of senior Amber Green, one of its top runners, who is seeded 10th but sidelined by injuries.

Thus, Anderson has emerged as the Dragons’ second-fastest runner. This ascent is from a relative novice to the sport. With Green sidelined, Anderson recognized the need to test her limits.

“I just saw that the team really needs somebody to step up,” Anderson said.

So she put more into

her workouts and carried that effort into races. She estimates she has lowered her time by 30 to 40 seconds since the start of the season.

At districts, Anderson’s approach will be simple: Find nearby runners and pass them.

With Dallas’ runners spread out by time, she expects to race whoever is around her. Each opponent she passes is one less point for the Dragons.

“I’m doing this not just for me, but for my team,” she said.

Hoffman also enters districts with a specific target. She recalled finishing in the top 10 last year before placing 30th or so at state. This season, her goal is to finish among the district’s top four.

Hoffman has never raced at Crystal Lake, but it’s said to be a fast course. Anderson noted Dallas will only go as far as the team takes it.

“I think we will be competitive. But we’ll also still need to remember that we’re all in this together,” she said.

Notes

Corvallis enters district as the team to beat, as there are eight Spartans seeded in the top 16. But don’t count Crescent Valley out, as Alexa Montgomery and Sue Montgomery are seeded first and second for the Raiders.

It could be a sweep, as four of the top five boys heading into Thursday’s race are Spartans.

Robert Martin, at 35th, is the highest seed for the Dallas boys. Martin is a junior.

POLICE

From Page B7

At 11:14 a.m., a female subject reported hearing an “automatic weapons of sorts” between Monmouth and Rickreall. A deputy drove through the Mistletoe Road and did not hear anything.

At 11:30 a.m., residents who are sheep farmers on Waymire Road reported two unknown rams were on their property and were in the process of containing their herd of sheep. They were concerned the unknown rams had, or were about to contaminate their herd with a common virus that is tested for. By the time a deputy arrived, the rams were contained. The deputy photographed the rams to make a post on social media to locate the owners.

At 7:31 p.m., Johnny Rasca was cited for trespass on Landaggard Drive.

At 8:44 p.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 79 mph in a 55-mph zone on Highway 22.

At 11:18 p.m., a motorist was stopped after being the subject of a driving complaint. The driver showed no signs of intoxication but was cited for driving while suspended – violation.

At 11:41 p.m., a motorist on Wallace Road was stopped for no tail lights. The driver was cited for driving while suspended – violation.

investigated a report of a deceased dog in a bag on Wallace Road. He found a very large stuffed panda in a plastic bag.

At 5:21 p.m., a deputy stopped to check on two vehicles with their hazard lights on. One had blown a clutch and a tow was enroute. No assistance was needed.

At 7:36 p.m., Owen Kephart and Kenneth Ngien were cited for criminal trespass 2 on Gibsonwoods Court.

At 11:12 p.m., a deputy covered tribal officers on an assault investigation on Salmon River Highway until no longer needed.

TUESDAY, OCT. 20

At 1:36 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 75 mph in a 50-mph zone.

At 6:47 a.m., a motorist received a written warning for failing to register the vehicle. The driver also had a nonserviceable warrant out of Washington.

At 10:11 a.m., a motorist was stopped on Orrs Corner Road for an unspecified traffic violation. The driver, Kermit

Bail Jr., was arrested and charged with driving while suspended - misdemeanor and was lodged at Polk County Jail.

At 12:36 p.m., a resident on Corvallis Road reported a suspicious burning device on her property and thought it was a meth operation. It was in fact a smudge pot (waste oil burner) the farm workers were using for warmth.

At 12:58 p.m., a subject brought in drug paraphernalia to the Sheriff’s Office for destruction to help roommates get clean and stay off drugs.

At 2:52 p.m., a deputy observed a fire on Gooseneck Road that seemed to be getting out of control. A resident said he was burning yard debris when it crossed onto his neighbor’s property, and caught two pine trees on fire. The other property owner arrived and opened his gate so fire personnel could access his property to put the spreading fire out.

At 2:53 p.m., a resident on McBeth Road reported

a herd of sheep dogs on the property. They apparently escaped from nearby Dancing Oaks Nursery. After the deputy called them, they came and picked up the dogs.

At 3:08 p.m., a motorist on Stadium Drive was stopped for expired registration. The driver was cited for driving while suspended - violation.

At 3:37 p.m., a motorist on Highway 22 was

stopped for expired registration. The driver was cited for driving while suspended - violation and for driving uninsured.

At 7:13 p.m., a resident on I Street in Independence reported receiving a call from scammers identifying themselves as police and demanded he pay money or he would go to jail / get an arrest warrant. The subject ended up sending

\$999 dollars cash via 7/11 to Eugene, Oregon.

At 8:18 p.m., Christopher Stewart, a homeless person, was arrested on Main Street in Dallas and charged with escape 3, possession of a controlled substance - methamphetamine and an outstanding failure to appear warrant. He was lodged at Polk County Jail.

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