

Polk County Itemizer-Observer

Dallas

Trio converge music tastes to perform bluegrass
See A2



Sports

Willamina Mud Drags Winners in Images
See B1



Wednesday July 1, 2026 | Volume 151, Issue 25 www.polkio.com \$2.00

Making it rain Mud



PHOTO BY SMY PHOTOGRAPHY

The city of Willamina hosted its annual Mud Drags June 27. Jeeps, pickups and other other modified offroad vehicles raced side by side down the mud track and around the new short race course around the entire location. For more images from the races and results of winners, see page B1.

Nonprofit created to keep Indy Days tradition alive

By DAVID HAYES
 I-O Editor

Last summer, a long tradition in Independence was in jeopardy of ending when in midst of cost cutting measures, the administration announced it would no longer plan and organize Independence Days.

Rather than let the community favorite event fade away, a group of citizens stepped forward to keep Independence Days alive. Thus, Friends of Community Parks was born.

"It does take a significant amount of time to do. Their salaries were not sufficient to be able to do other work for the city while doing this," said Susan Graham, president of FOCP.

She said initially, the city
 See **NONPROFIT**, page A8



COURTESY PHOTO

The Monmouth Taiko Drummers (from left) Sonoco Nakashima Woodrum, Kaori Dorres, Eri Bauman, Kate Jaffer, Tom Jenkins, and Todd Wilson, perform at 1:15 p.m. July 3 at Monmouth's Main Street Park amphitheater, as part of the city's July 4th festival.

Keeping the beat alive for 30 years, and counting

By LANCE MASTERSON
 For The Itemizer-Observer

Thirty years ago, the drums weren't here.

There were no rehearsals at a local hangar. No performances on Main Street. No audience was close enough to feel the pulsating power of the taiko drums.

Instead, there was only a chance meeting between Todd Wilson, a local farmer and nursery owner, and Koichi

Ando, a Japanese administrator at Western Oregon University. The two men's shared interest was drumming. Their talks planted the seeds for what has become one of the area's most distinctive cultural traditions.

"We just started talking about taiko," Wilson said of that fateful encounter. "I had never even heard of it before."

One thing led to another and three decades later Monmouth Taiko Drummers still perform.

Their latest gig is 1:15 p.m., Friday, at the Main Street Park amphitheater. They are doing their part to entertain the crowds at this year's July 4th Festival.

In 1996, Ando was director of international students at Western. He and Wilson met through a mutual friend and quickly discovered shared interests.

See **BEAT**, page A8

Big band, big show opens Monmouth's summer series



COURTESY PHOTO

Family Worship Center, known for its large ensemble, layered harmonies and energetic stage presence, opens the Music in the Park series at 6:30 p.m. on July 8.

By LANCE MASTERSON
 For The Itemizer-Observer

A new band has the honor of opening Monmouth's 2026 summer concert season.

Portland-based Family Worship Center makes its Music in the Park debut when the annual Wednesday night series returns to Main Street Park on July 8. Music begins at 6:30 p.m.

The 11-piece rock and soul group is a natural fit to launch the season.

"They're here to kick off the party ... and get folks back into the groove of listening and dancing to great music," said Suzanne Dufner, economic development director for the City of Monmouth.

See **BIG BAND**, page A8

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State fire marshal: Check fireworks restrictions, keep celebrations legal and safe

The Oregon State Fire Marshal is reminding people to celebrate the 4th of July responsibly and legally. The 2026 fireworks retail sales season in Oregon runs from through July 6, and the agency's message is clear: "Keep it legal. Keep it safe." As Oregonians make plans for the holiday, they're urged to check local rules and restrictions on both the sale and use of fireworks, whether celebrating at home or traveling.

"Before lighting any fireworks, make sure you know what's allowed where you are," said Mark Johnston, Oregon State Fire Marshal Assistant Chief Deputy. "We want everyone to enjoy the holiday, but it's critical to follow the law and avoid actions that could cause a fire or injury."

Local governments

KEEP IT LEGAL, KEEP IT SAFE

ILLEGAL FIREWORKS IN OREGON

Illegal: Any firework that flies into the air, explodes, or behaves in an uncontrollable and unpredictable manner.

Warning label may say:
"Shoots Flaming Balls."

The items below are considered illegal explosive devices and should only be handled by a bomb technician.

Oregon Laws Violated:
ORS 480.120 Violation

Charged:
Class B Misdemeanor

across Oregon may set additional restrictions on the sale or use of fireworks, especially in areas at higher risk of wildfires. It's the responsibility of those using fireworks to understand and follow local laws.

Fireworks safety and legal reminders

Consumer-legal fireworks may be purchased only from permitted retailers and stands. These fireworks may not be used on:

- Public lands and parks
- National parks and forests
- Bureau of Land Management lands

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service properties
 - Oregon state beaches, parks, and campgrounds
 - Private lands protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry
- To help reduce the risk of fire and injury, fire officials urge Oregonians to follow the four Bs of safe

fireworks use:

- Be prepared: Have a bucket of water or a hose nearby.
- Be safe: Keep children and pets at a safe distance. Never use fireworks near dry grass or other flammable materials.
- Be responsible: Do

not relight duds. Soak used fireworks in water before disposal.

- Be aware: Use only legal fireworks and only where they are allowed.

Illegal fireworks and consequences

Oregon law prohibits the possession, use, or sale of any fireworks that fly into the air, explode, or travel more than 12 feet horizontally on the ground without a permit from the state fire marshal. This includes items such as bottle rockets, Roman candles, and firecrackers.

Violations are a Class B misdemeanor, with a maximum fine of \$2,500. Those who misuse fireworks or are found to be responsible for them causing damage may be held financially responsible for fire suppression and other costs. Parents can also be held liable for damage caused by their children.

Donors needed now to keep nation's blood supply stable this summer

The American Red Cross is making an urgent call for blood and platelet donors to book an appointment to give now to ensure hospitals stay ready to help patients without delay.

As people get ready for summer adventures and big national festivities, the Red Cross and Warner Bros. Discovery Global Consumer Products are partnering to remind everyone of something important: the need for blood never goes on vacation. Individuals can

join our squad to honor the country's 250th anniversary and America's spirit of service by giving blood: All who come to give through July 12 will receive a classic Red Cross x Looney Tunes T-shirt, while supplies last.

See RedCrossBlood.org/LooneyTunes for details.

Celebrate stars, stripes and saving lives. Book a time to donate blood or platelets now by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App,

or calling 1-800-RED CROSS.

POLK COUNTY DONATION DATES

- July 2, Independence Civic Center, 555 S. Main St., 12-4 p.m.
- July 17, Trinity Lutheran Church, 320 SE Fir Villa Road, Dallas, 12-5 p.m.
- July 31, Polk County Fire District #1, 1800 Monmouth St., Independence, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Summer pressures rise
This Independence Day,

along with the Looney Tunes characters, we're inspiring a new generation of heroes — with a cartoon twist — at a time when every donation is critical to keeping the blood supply strong amid growing hurdles. Aside from summer travel and packed calendars, severe summer weather can also rapidly impact the ability to collect lifesaving blood products. Additionally, scheduled donations, which account for 90% of all Red Cross blood donations, have continued to drop sharply in recent weeks, highlighting just how essential it is to make and keep donation appointments all summer long.

How to donate blood

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit www.RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are

in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at www.RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

CITY OF INDEPENDENCE

NOTICE OF RESOLUTION NO. 26-1657

CLASSIFYING CERTAIN FEES AS NOT SUBJECT TO LIMITATIONS OF ARTICLE XI, SECTION 11b OF THE OREGON CONSTITUTION (MEASURE 5)

The City of Independence hereby notifies the public that it has adopted Resolution No. 26-1657, classifying the fees set forth within the City's Community Services and Parks Fee as not subject to the limitations of Article XI, Section 11b of the Oregon Constitution (Measure 5).

Any member of the public may contact Myra Russell to obtain a copy of the classifying Resolution No. 26-1657. Judicial review of said classification may be sought prior to August 23, 2026, sixty (60) days after the resolution was adopted.

Dallas man found guilty of murder in November 2004 shooting death of brother

Alonzo E. Rowell, 52, has been found guilty by a Polk County jury of second-degree murder for the 2024 shooting of his brother outside of his Dallas residence.

In addition, Rowell, of Dallas, was found guilty of assault 1, unlawful use of a weapon and reckless endangering another person. Rowell is scheduled to be sentenced on July 24 by Polk County Circuit Judge Rafael A. Caso.

According to the Polk County District Attorney's Office, Rowell



Alonzo E. Rowell

fatally shot his brother, Tony Miller, 54, also of Dallas, at Miller's residence on Nov. 9, 2024, before driving to Rowell's former workplace, the

Oregon State Penitentiary in Salem. There, Rowell engaged in a short standoff with the Salem Police and other law enforcement agencies before being taken into custody.

The case was prosecuted by District Attorney Aaron Felton, Chief Deputy District Attorney Matthew Wilson and Deputy District Attorney Kaylee Hudson. The case was investigated by the Dallas Police Department, Salem Police Department, Oregon State Police and Marion County Sheriff's Office.

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Job change?

Whether retiring or changing jobs, you'll want to know your retirement account options.



There are four potential options for your 401(k) when leaving an employer:

- Leave it in your former employer's 401(k) plan, if allowed by the plan.
- Move it to your new employer's 401(k) plan, if you've changed employers and your new employer plan allows for it.
- Roll the account over to an individual retirement account (IRA).
- Cash it out, which is subject to potential tax consequences.

We can talk through your financial goals and find the option that works best for you.

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Dallas, OR 97338

Jeremy W. Santee-Malloy
CFP, CRPC™
Financial Advisor
541-678-5010
760 Main St, Suite B
Dallas, OR 97338

Bob Timmerman
Financial Advisor
503-623-5584
159 SW Court
Street
Dallas, OR 97338

Zachary B Meyer
Financial Advisor
971-468-0007
112 N Atwater St
Monmouth, OR
97361

TRIO

From Page A3

was unavailable. He, too, was slowly drawn to bluegrass.

"The dark side taking over," Hanson joked.

Carter explained blue grass's appeal is that it was designed for dance.

"Bill Monroe and others combined these traditions with the songwriting styles of black blues musicians and early country artists like Jimmie Rodgers and the Carter Family to create a unique

kind of folk music," Carter explained.

He added you can see the appeal of bluegrass by the age range in the audience.

"Kids love dancing to it. Little kids can't help themselves. They hear the 'boom chuck, boom chuck' of the base and mandolin and it makes them want to dance," Carter said. "And the older folks who actually know how to dance a waltz and two step, have memories of music like that. Then the in-between crowds that are becoming

more open to bluegrass music, becoming more accepted and less marginalized as 'hillbilly music.'"

Now that they've committed full time to bluegrass performers, they know they've made the right decision.

"For us, it's satisfying as musicians, it's been just fun to just actually perform. It could be called self indulgent. But in that self indulgence sometimes you create something that people find appealing," Akers said.

Trio converge music tastes to perform bluegrass

By DAVID HAYES
I-O Editor

Continuing a lineup of varied musical talents and genres, Dallas Nights and Sounds of Summer concert series this week features a trio of Western Oregon University graduates who are now committed full time to their new profession - performing bluegrass music.

The three members of Tuesday String band each developed a passion for music that led to an intersecting path at WOU - Ryan Hanson, from McMinnville, Gage Carter, from Quincy, Illinois, and Mason Akers, from Anchorage, Alaska.

Akers said his plans diverged from originally wanting to be a school music teacher since he was in middle school. Carter actually got his



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Tuesday String Band, composed of Western Oregon University graduates (from left) Gage Carter, Ryan Hansen and Mason Akers, perform at Dallas Nights at 6 p.m. July 3.

first degree in kinesiology, and worked as a personal trainer and physical therapist technician before

being bitten by the music bug again. And Hanson was pursuing his love of jazz and concert band,

developing his skills in composition.

It was Carter who drew the other two into his

passion for bluegrass. He at one point worked in a guitar building factory and became fascinated by a co-worker playing a mandolin on breaks.

"He could just shred on this thing. It was so different,"

While he played guitar and saxophone, years later he bought his own mandolin and an old fiddle book and fell in love with it.

"The melodies stuck in my head and I got obsessed," Carter said.

While pursuing his first degree, Carter learned Oregon had a whole community dedicated to bluegrass.

"Through that, I found an actual path to

a career in music performance within the music world," he said. "It's a super warming, inclusive community."

He first reached out to Akers, who was up for trying something new. His first tune to try was "Blackberry Blossom," an old fiddle tune. They played it together and instantly connected.

"That led me to research blue grass more, and I discovered Billy Strings... I had never heard an acoustic guitar played like that."

Hanson was then recruited on standup bass whenever another member

See **TRIO**, page A2

Polk Fire District receives share of Weyerhaeuser grants

The Polk County Fire District No. 1 was one of Weyerhaeuser's recipients of its fifth annual Fighting Fires Together campaign, combining the company's wildfire management and community support efforts across Oregon.

The campaign unifies support for rural fire districts, wildfire response partnerships, and resources that strengthen firefighter and community resilience in fire-prone areas of the state.

The campaign addresses the realities of wildfire response in rural Oregon, where communities and agencies often face limited

resources to protect both residents and wildland firefighters.

Polk County Fire District No. 1 received \$4,000 to put toward funding battery-powered rescue saws to improve emergency response and victim extrication.

The other campaigns focused on were:

Financial support for Rural Fire Protection Districts (RFPDs), including nearly \$25,000 through the company's recent Giving Fund grants to four fire districts serving Oregon's vulnerable rural communities.

Siletz Valley Fire

District - \$9,335, to provide wildland firefighting clothing, tools and water drafting equipment

East Lincoln County Fire And Rescue - \$5,000, to help equip 2 wildland engines

Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District - \$5,000, to fund a new cardiac monitor/defibrillator to enhance rural emergency medical care

Wildfire response partnerships with the Oregon Department of Forestry and local agencies to fight active wildfires on the company's forestlands

See **GRANT**, page A4



METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Across Oregon, grants from the company's Giving Fund help rural fire protection districts secure critical rescue, medical and wildland firefighting tools, along with expanded training to support faster, safer responses when wildfires occur.

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Oregon families now have two ways to access free meals, grocery benefits

Oregon families have two important resources to help ensure children have access to nutritious food while school is out this summer: free meals served at hundreds of locations across the state, and Summer EBT grocery benefits for eligible families.

Access to nutritious food supports children's health, well-being and readiness to learn when they return to school in the fall.

"Summer should be a time for children to learn, grow and thrive — not worry about where their next meal will come from," Oregon Department of Education (ODE) Director Charlene Williams said. "These programs help ensure Oregon children continue to have access to healthy food during the summer months while helping families stretch their grocery budgets."

Free Summer Meals Available Statewide Through the Summer Food Service Program (SFS) and Seamless

Summer Option (SSO), children and teens can receive free nutritious meals throughout the summer at more than 450 locations across Oregon.

Participating sites include schools, parks, libraries, community centers and other nonprofit organizations. Many sites also offer enrichment activities that help keep children engaged while school is out.

Meals are available to all children and teens ages 18 and younger regardless of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), age, or disability.

FIND A SUMMER MEAL SITE NEW YOU Families can locate meal sites by:

- Calling or Texting 2-1-1
- Visiting the Summer Meals Site Finder

Questions about summer meal programs can be directed to ODE Child Nutrition Programs at ode.communitynutrition@ode.oregon.gov.

Summer EBT Provides Grocery Benefits for



METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Free summer meals are available at more than 450 sites statewide, and eligible families can receive \$120 per child through Summer EBT.

Eligible Families

Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (Summer EBT) is a partnership between the Oregon Department of Human Services and ODE that helps families purchase groceries during summer break.

Eligible families can receive a one-time Summer EBT benefit of \$120 per child on an

Oregon EBT card to buy food. Benefits expire 122 days after issuance if they are not used.

Families will get benefits automatically on their Oregon EBT card if they have children between the ages of 6-18 and have received one of the following at any time during the 2025-26 school year:

- Supplemental Nutrition

Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits

- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) cash assistance
- Medicaid, if household income is below 185 percent of the federal poverty level

Families also may automatically receive benefits if they have children who:

- Were determined by their school to have a status as migrant, houseless or runaway.
- Took part in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations.
- Attended a Head Start program that was part of the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program.

Families may need to apply if:

- Their household meets income requirements for free or reduced-price school meals.
- Their child attends a school that was part of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or School Breakfast Program (SBP).

For more information about Summer EBT, visit sebt.oregon.gov. Spanish language information is available at ebtv.oregon.gov.

Together, Oregon's summer nutrition programs help reduce childhood hunger and ensure children continue to have access to healthy meals when school is out.

OBITUARIES

Florence Irene Hildebrand

Oct. 22, 1929-June 15, 2026

Florence Irene Hildebrand went to be with her Lord on June 15, 2026, surrounded by family and friends. Born Oct. 22, 1929, in Belgrade, Montana to Guy Otto and Elizabeth Thurston. She came to Oregon at a very young age and eventually settled in Dallas. She graduated from Dallas High School and married her high

school sweetheart, Walter Hildebrand on June 5, 1949. They just celebrated their 77th anniversary with family and friends.

Florence is survived by her husband, Walter, her children Sandra Kay Myers (Gary), Joyce Fay Sampson (Rick), her daughter-in-law Robyn Hildebrand, grandchildren Gary Myers Jr., Janet Myers, and Dustin Hildebrand. She's also survived by 7 great

grandchildren and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Florence is preceded in death by her son Steven W. Hildebrand, and grandson Eric Clanfield.

After raising her 3 children, Florence cooked for the Dallas School District for many years, where she later retired. She and Walter were longtime members of the "Independence Wagon Wheelers", "Good Sams Club", and "Dallas Senior Center". We will miss our loving mother.

DEATH NOTICES

John W Knight

June 23, 1940 to June 23, 2026

The Lord called Coach John Knight from the living room of his earthly home to his heavenly home at 1:55 PM on Tuesday, June 23. Pastor Terry Merrill administered the Service of Last Rites as the

family gathered around, and then John knew he could let go of this earthly life. Although we are saddened beyond measure, we are thankful he is now healed of his dementia and celebrating with all the Saints that he loved that passed before him. Please join the family to celebrate his life in Monmouth on Friday, July 3. Check the Weddle Funeral Home, Stayton, Oregon website for further information,

GRANT

From Page A3

and nearby public and private lands, including a \$10,000 investment in Lane Community College's Wildland Fire Management Program.

Mental health resources from Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance designed for wildland firefighters.

"Wildfire response isn't just a seasonal concern — it's a year-round commitment that requires collaboration," said Shane Conway, Weyerhaeuser Western Timberlands Vice President. "Our fifth year of the Fighting Fires Together campaign highlights the fact that preparedness is built on strong partnerships and ongoing support. Working closely with our rural communities and

firefighters is essential to keeping Oregon's forests and communities safe from wildfire."

RURAL FIRE PROTECTION GRANTS

Across Oregon, grants from the company's Giving Fund help rural fire protection districts secure critical rescue, medical and wildland firefighting tools, along with expanded training to support faster, safer responses when wildfires occur. These grants build on Weyerhaeuser's 38-acre land donation to the Row River RFPD in 2025. The site will house a new emergency substation and strengthen early suppression efforts in an area of rural Lane County where emergency resources are often stretched thin.

"In rural communities, we're often the

first responders on the scene," said Kathleen Istudor, Row River Valley Community Partnership Executive Director. "Support from Weyerhaeuser helps us strengthen our response and better protect our firefighters and the people who live here in the Dorena, Culp Creek, and Disston areas. It's an investment in our community that makes a real difference when it matters most."

WILDFIRE RESPONSE PARTNERSHIPS

Weyerhaeuser continues to play an active role in fire prevention by collaborating with state and local agencies, including the Oregon Department of Forestry, and providing operational support during wildfire response, including aerial wildfire coordination and suppression

efforts when fires occur.

Additionally, Weyerhaeuser is supporting the next generation of wildland firefighters and forestry professionals. A recent \$10,000 grant to Lane Community College's Wildland Fire Management Program will support funding for tools and safety equipment that expands hands-on training and prepares students to enter the workforce. The investment enhances field-based learning in fuels reduction, use of wildland firefighting tools, and evaluating fire behavior in real-world conditions.

"This investment will help students safely gain real-world skills used in prescribed burns and wildland firefighting. It's a critical investment that will make our community safer and open new workforce opportunities

for students," said Rick Glover, Wildland Fire Management Program Coordinator.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR WILDLAND FIREFIGHTERS

The campaign also offers free and accessible online tools from Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance (FBHA) specifically designed to address the unique mental health challenges that wildland firefighters may face during their life-saving work. Wildland firefighters experience increased risk of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety and suicide risk.

The campaign's online resource hub offers videos and educational articles, links to regional peer groups and access to behavioral health

providers who are trained in supporting wildland firefighters and their families.

Through Fighting Fires Together, Weyerhaeuser brings together investments, partnerships and on-the-ground resources that support wildfire preparedness, response and recovery across Oregon. Learn more at: www.weyerhaeuser.com/timberlands/fighting-fires-together.

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NEWS & VIEWS

Special Memories: Melancholy

By GARY DEROWITSC

Standing still, alone and sad, I looked to the west toward the Coastal Range, immersed in thought – how did I get here?

I grew up very happy. I had friends I was with almost every day. There was always something fun to do, places to explore, and new adventures to create. Like everyone, though, I grew up and eventually had to become a responsible adult.

I have found love many times throughout the years. One person in particular I still think about and, to be honest, have always hoped she would one day knock on my door. Even now, as I stand here on this beautiful Fall day, gazing at the Coastal Range, somewhere deep within I have never lost hope that she would someday get in contact with me. I know this may sound strange, but there

are times I think I see her in the distance, only to watch her fade like a mirage in the desert.

I could go on and on about how good life has been to me, because it has. I have no lack of wonderful memories, but life has a way of slowly changing things over time from good to bad — or, maybe better stated, from good to more of a challenge. Friends have moved to different locations, many have passed away, and then there are those who have chosen a different path to follow.

I never thought or believed in my wildest dreams I would ever become homeless, but I am. To explain how this happened is simply a waste of time; it only reminds me of all my bad choices. If I had it to do over, would I have made better decisions? Of course I would, but all my regrets and wishing I had

done things differently won't change a thing. To dwell on what could have been is too painful and better forgotten.

Physical issues seem to creep up more and more often. Tired joints, sore muscles, eye sight fading, and more. In fact I find myself dependent on a staff just to get around. I watch the youth among me, so happy, living life free, without worries. Sometimes I even imagine myself young again ready to join them but reality quickly slaps me in the face and wakes me up.

If I had just one friend, my age, someone to share life with, together, maybe it would be more tolerable, but how do you find friends at my age, I mean really true to life friends?

I'm not complaining. I understand the cycles of life and accept them, but at my age, sleeping out in the open, under the stars becomes more

and more difficult, harder and harder to fall asleep, to rest and regenerate my energy. I pray for a miracle, but none come. I dream often of my one lost love, walking on a moonlit night, or making our way along the beach, listening to the ocean tide. If only I could remain asleep and enjoy this dream forever, but the chill of the morning, or the falling of rain on my brow always drives it away.

I am not complaining; life has been good. But just as a car sitting out in the elements slowly rusts away, time has taken its toll on me. Yes, I am sad. I cry at times, but only in secret. I often think of my past — friends, my mom, my dad, and my siblings. Maybe society could have done more, but I am not bitter and I accept my condition as it is. Still, it is a heavy load. Once free as a child,

my many memories have now become burdensome. I simply feel unable to endure the pain any longer, and day after day, this sadness has taken its toll. How I long to be happy again, to feel loved, and to be cared for by that one special someone.

I have been walking now for seven days. From the small town I call home, I've walked westward toward the Coastal Range. I'm chilled, sad, and even remorseful. I find myself in a field bordering the tree-covered hills. It is early in the morning, and there is just this one last field to cross. The morning sun feels good, lighting up a golden field that has recently been harvested. The birds are chirping, crows call out in the distance, and a bald eagle soars overhead.

The deciduous trees are shedding their leaves, which gently fall to the ground, creating a blanket

of red and yellow beneath their boughs. It occurs to me that they, too, are slowly dying, shedding their foliage and quickly becoming bare to the coming of winter rains, wind, and snow. A slight breeze makes its way down the mountain, rushing around me as though extending a welcome. Leaning against my staff, I draw in a deep breath of air and smell the beautiful scents of fall.

With the sun warm on my back, I begin to walk toward the tree line. Though the field is rather large, the distance to the trees seems to close quickly. I take one last look behind me at the field and all the people I have known and loved ... and then vanish into the forest.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TRUMP'S DISHONOR LIST KEEPS GROWING

It's hard to believe our president can be so low as to come up with such cruel and childish nicknames as he does. In 2018 he called Barack Obama "Cheatin' Obama" and now he's calling him "Obuma". How can an 80-year-old man talk like a 5-year-old? And we won't even go into his foul language.

Robert Kennedy, Jr. is encouraging Americans to "drink up". The Dietary Guidelines for Americans lists full-fat dairy as a "healthy fat". Is there a healthy fat? And Trump also signed legislation allowing schools to serve whole or 2% milk, overturning an Obama policy

that limited options to skim or low-fat milk.

Trump has handed Elon Musk 700 acres of a Texas protected wildlife refuge, and segments of the Palmito Ranch Battlefield National Historic Landmark, site of the final battle of the Civil War, so Musk can expand his Starbase rocket facility. Endangered and threatened species mean nothing to Trump.

The American Liberty Foundation, a political action committee tied to Jim Jordan, chair of the powerful House judiciary committee, received \$250,000 in payments from the company that runs dozens of detention centers on behalf of ICE. Isn't this a conflict?

And why are ICE agents masked? At times it appears they're masked so people don't know who commits some of the violent acts they perform.

Clifford Brown, Dallas

TRUMP OWNS THE RESULTS

President Trump wanted the Iran conflict on his terms. He bypassed Congress, sidelined allies, ordered military strikes, and promised strength.

Now he owns the result. The memorandum of understanding is not a victory. The administration is celebrating Iran's agreement to allow periodic international inspections of its nuclear program, even though inspections were already

part of the 2015 nuclear agreement Trump abandoned in 2018. After a war, oil-sanctions waivers, and more instability, the headline achievement is recovering a portion of what Trump discarded.

Demolition followed by a victory lap deserves no applause.

The same habit shows up at home. When reporters question whether the Iran strikes accomplished much, Trump calls the coverage "treasonous." When Reflecting Pool repairs drag on and costs climb, he blames Barack Obama. When voting rights groups register voters, the administration treats them like criminal suspects. When loyalists are preferred in sensitive

positions, experience becomes a liability.

William Pulte, reportedly nicknamed "Little Trump," was moved into an intelligence role despite lacking intelligence experience. His more obvious credential is a willingness to use government power against Trump's political opponents.

None of this requires deep interpretation. The pattern is accusation, distraction, and retaliation. Oregonians know better. If you break the fence, you do not blame the neighbor, threaten the local paper, and declare yourself a ranching genius because one post is still standing. You fix the fence.

Trump made these choices. The country is living with the results. He should be judged accordingly.

Steve Mason, Monmouth

ARE WE UPHOLDING JEFFERSON'S IDEALS?

Two hundred and fifty years ago, Thomas Jefferson wrote and we adopted the Declaration of Independence, including that we are all created equal with unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Do we have that today?

Later, he wrote that "the end of democracy and the defeat of the American Revolution will occur when government falls into the hands of lending institutions and moneyed incorporations." He also said "to educate and inform the whole mass of the people. They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty."

Did we ever fully adopt his words? Or did we adopt them and then lose them?

Given all the tax cutting for the wealthy in the last 40 years, we are not supporting public education adequately. The arts and sciences in higher education are where young people get the most practice at creativity and critical thinking. College tuition is free in democratic Scandinavian countries. Their populations score highest every year in health, peace, and happiness research.

In the U.S. millions are working one way or another to improve our government. Let's celebrate them too.

Jerry Nathan Dallas

LETTERS POLICY

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



Temp/Rainfall

JUNE 22 - 91 52 0.00
JUNE 23 - 91 58 0.00
JUNE 24 - 92 57 0.00
JUNE 25 - 72 52 0.22
JUNE 26 - 72 53 0.01
JUNE 27 - 67 53 0.41
JUNE 28 - 72 54 0.01
TOTAL JUNE 22-27 - 0.65
TOTAL THROUGH JUNE 21 - 1.20

Online poll results

What was your favorite way to cool off during a heat wave?
 Innertube down the river - 66.7%
 Dashing through the sprinklers - 16.7%
 Water balloon fights - 16.7%

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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6 months.....	\$65
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Electronic edition annually.....	\$75
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David Hayes | News Editor
dhayes@polkio.com

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Social News | 5 p.m. Thursday
 (Weddings, engagements, anniversaries, births, milestones)
 Community Events | Noon Friday
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 Letters To The Editor | 1 p.m. Friday
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 C A Y R W B E U S T Q P N L J
 H F E **DEMOCRACY** C A Y
 X V U R F W D I I S P Q S S F
 P Y T L A Y O L N F R M C E A
 K Y A J T T O R H C I F I D T
 E G C I I B F Z K I D R N A H
 Y X N S L A V I T S E F C R E
 V U M E H T N A U U T R I A R
 Q P O M L K I H G M E D P P S

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

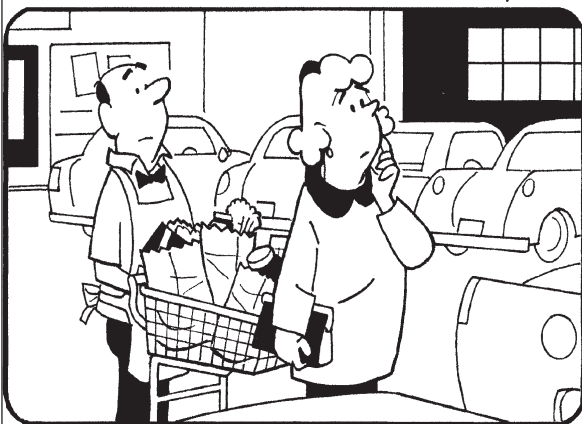
- | | | | |
|-----------|---------|------------|-----------|
| Anthem | Flag | Music | Pride |
| Democracy | Food | Parades | Sacrifice |
| Festivals | Liberty | Patriotism | Unity |
| Fireworks | Loyalty | Picnics | |

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Store windows are moved. 2. License plate is longer. 3. Bow tie is added. 4. Bumper is missing. 5. Coat is longer. 6. Hair is longer.

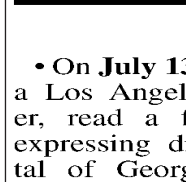
Americanisms



“Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.”
 — James Baldwin

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Moments in time



• On July 13, 2013, Patrisse Cullors, a Los Angeles community organizer, read a friend's Facebook post expressing distress over the acquittal of George Zimmerman, who'd killed Trayvon Martin the year before, and replied to the post with the first instance of the #BlackLivesMatter hashtag.

• On July 14, 1918, Quentin Roosevelt, a 20-year-old pilot in the United States Air Service and the fourth son of former President Theodore Roosevelt, was shot down and killed by a German Fokker plane over the Marne River in France.

• On July 15, 1953, John Christie, one of England's most notorious killers, was executed. Four months earlier, police and a tenant in West London had discovered the remains of four women, one of whom was Christie's wife, at a house where he'd lived, and he was apprehended and confessed a week later. Detectives soon found additional bodies buried in the yard behind the house as well.

• On July 16, 1862, Ida B. Wells, a future educator, investigative journalist and civil rights activist, was born into slavery in Holly Springs, Mississippi. Motivated in part by racism within the women's suffrage movement, she would eventually found and co-found the NAACP, the National Association of Colored Women, and the Alpha Suffrage Club.

• On July 17, 1996, a TWA Boeing 747 jetliner headed for Paris exploded over the Atlantic Ocean, killing all 230 passengers and crew aboard and creating a fireball seen along most of the Long Island coastline. A highly criticized investigation ended two years later with the conclusion that the tragedy had been caused by mechanical failure rather than a suspected bomb or missile.

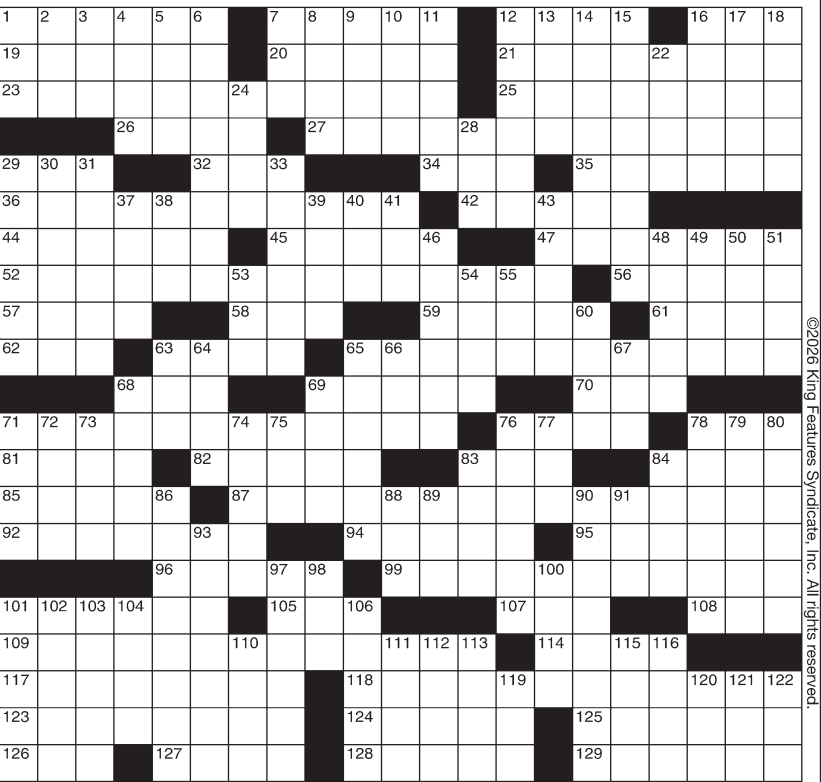
• On July 18 1995, “Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance,” a memoir by a law professor by the name of Barack Obama, was published prior to its author's entry into the political realm. Thirteen years later, that largely unknown professor would be elected America's 44th president.

• On July 19, 1952, air traffic controllers in Washington, D.C., sighted UFOs flying over the White House and U.S. Capitol. More would appear a week later, but all were dismissed as simply a weather phenomenon.

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Super Crossword RAISING A RACKET

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 62 Flanders on "The Simpsons" | 99 Kind of salute performed at military funerals | 6 Post-workout feeling | 46 "Mama" Cass | 83 Headliner |
| 1 Streisand of "Nuts" | 63 Quick, sharp punches | 101 Cherubs, e.g. | 7 Multivolume Brit. lexicon | 48 Orang cousin | 84 "Ciao 4 now" |
| 7 President after Bush | 65 Cocktail of bourbon, lemon and mint | 105 Smartphone buy | 8 Matzo — (Passover breakfast option) | 49 Figure skater | 86 Beat others in claiming something |
| 12 Japanese soup | 107 Emulate | 9 In — (stuck) | 9 In — (stuck) | 50 Epochs | 88 Dojo surface |
| 16 Beaker locale | 68 Purse | 108 Mag bigwigs | 10 Soft shoes, for short | 51 Plate | 89 Old verb suffix |
| 19 Fanatic | 69 Ross who ran against Clinton | 109 Heroic fighter pilot of the 1940s | 11 Locations | 53 Key near Q | 90 Remade musicals, e.g. |
| 20 Boo-boo | 70 — in the bud | 114 Sinister | 12 Actress | 54 Brewery kiln | 91 "Showdown" rock gp. |
| 21 State of mind | 71 It might consist of a dictionary, thesaurus and atlas | 117 Studios with easels | 13 Agenda unit | 55 Actor Sahay who played Lester Patel on "Chuck" | 93 "Easy-peasy" |
| 23 "Can this be?" | 72 They may get slammed | 118 Question you might feel like asking after seeing nine key words in this puzzle? | 14 Slick around to see | 60 Lip — (mouth the words) | 97 Polish capital |
| 25 Color close to aqua | 83 Dad on "Rugrats" | 123 Yellow turnip | 15 Rig accidents | 63 Pantry container | 98 Start for Pen or dermis |
| 26 Leave shore | 84 For takeout | 124 Roast beef fast-food chain | 16 Doozies | 64 Got older with "out" | 100 Barely earns, with "out" |
| 27 "I'm to blame for everything" | 85 Fail to remain calm | 125 Big brand of cosmetics | 17 Fully grown | 65 Alternative to Mazola or Crisco | 101 Informed (of) |
| 29 Mil. address | 87 Annual mailing to the IRS | 126 Water quality org. | 18 Borscht base | 66 Charlemagne ruled it. Abbr. | 102 Still in bed |
| 32 Nada | 92 Baskers' goals, often | 127 Rack neatly | 22 Kind of lift for downhillers | 67 Bro's sibling | 103 Garbo of old movies |
| 34 "— see!" | 94 Birth-related | 128 L.A.'s region | 24 Yalies | 68 Suit well | 104 Singer |
| 35 Events that break ground | 95 Home for French presidents | 129 Pitfalls | 28 Mauna — | 69 Orch. section with timpani, cymbals, etc. | 106 Gyro wraps |
| 36 Like K-Cup coffee pods | 96 Lerner's musical collaborator | DOWN | 29 Waste barrel | 71 Performs like Drake | 110 Ship of myth |
| 42 Two-word conjunction | | 1 German auto | 30 Capital of South Dakota | 72 Jacob's twin | 111 Sleet, |
| 44 Sol's Greek counterpart | | 2 Spa sigh | 31 Mouthed to a backing for decoration | 73 Twai's twin | 112 "Fast Money" network |
| 45 Bangor locale | | 3 Material in viral genes | 33 Big-eyed primates | 74 Clamor | 113 "Watermark" singer |
| 47 Built | | 40 Roman 7 | 37 Egyptian city with pyramids | 75 Hoodwink | 115 A party to next to Hercules |
| 50 2011 Steve Carell film | | 41 Finale | 38 Myra of old movies | 76 Gets trite | 116 Constellation |
| 56 Puppeteer Lewis | | 5 Pro — (in proportion) | 39 Spellbound | 77 "La Cage — Folles" | 119 Oahu, e.g.: Abbr. |
| 57 Opera song | | | 40 Roman 7 | 78 Muss, as hair | 120 Atop, in odes |
| 58 Gallery work | | | 41 Finale | 79 "I concur" | 121 Scot's dissent |
| 59 Fox hangouts | | | 43 Plow pioneer John | 80 Chili dogs | 122 Raised trains |
| 61 Nest eggs for srs. | | | | | |



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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
 ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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CryptoQuip

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

Clue: U equals V

V ITJWW QRK QUVQR UQAVJXX
 XMQX QZZJQEW XD IDY VR
 MJQUJR HDTEY OJ
 HEQWWVNVJY QW Q OVAY
 DN ZAQK.

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Puzzle answers on page B2

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: Who was the only actress to appear in the 1961 and 2021 film versions of "West Side Story"?
2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which month of the year has the most letters in its name?
3. SCIENCE: What protects the Earth from solar winds?
4. TELEVISION: What is the name of the bar in "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia"?
5. U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the first Ben & Jerry's ice cream shop?
6. LITERATURE: What are the names of the two brothers in the "Hardy Boys" novel series?
7. LANGUAGE: What is a polyglot?
8. FOOD & DRINK: Which herb is most often used in traditional pesto?
9. ANATOMY: Membranes called pleurae cover the surface of which human organs?
10. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of South Korea?

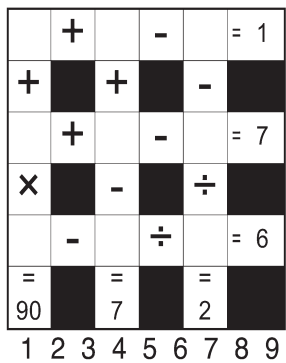
Answers

1. Rita Moreno.
2. September.
3. The magnetosphere, an invisible magnetic bubble generated inside the Earth.
4. Paddy's Pub.
5. Vermont.
6. Frank and Joe.
7. A person who speaks several languages.
8. Basil.
9. The lungs.
10. Seoul.

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GO FIGURE!

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.



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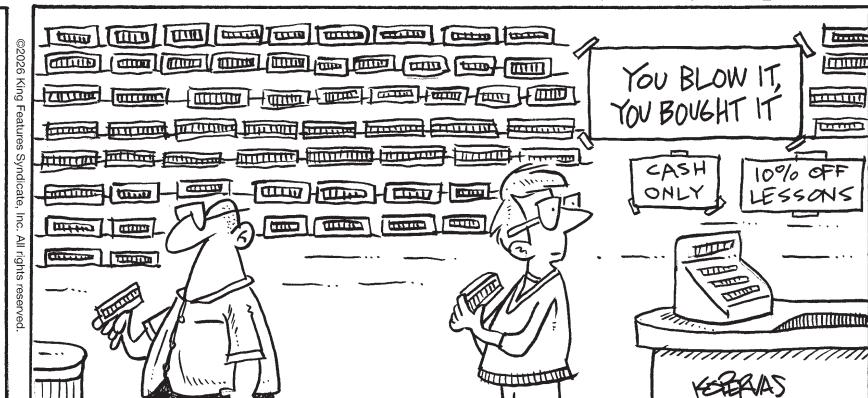
Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

I JUST DON'T KNOW HOW TO OPERATE THE PHONE. I THINK IT'S CALLED A "SMARTPHONE" BECAUSE IT REALLY MAKES YOU FEEL DUMB.



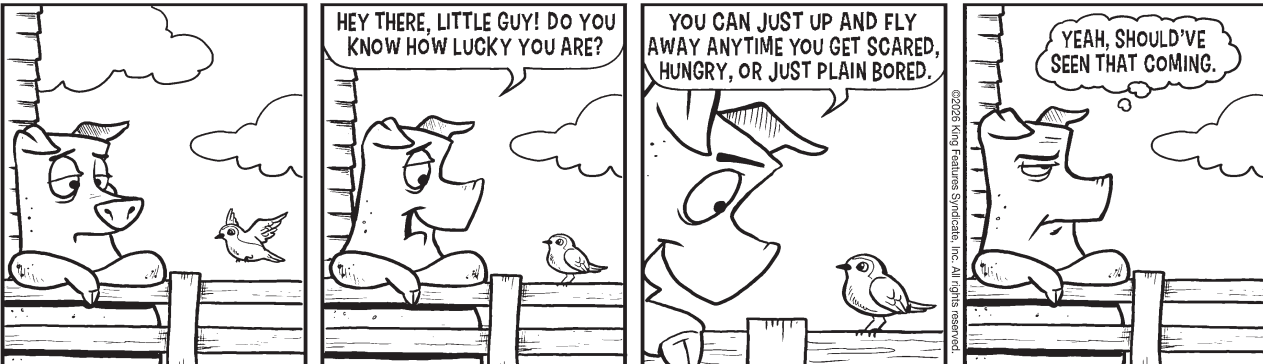
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Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

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Investigating the Bible: July 4th Prayers

By DAVID CARLSON PASTOR

Will Rogers was a beloved Native American humorist of the 1920s until 1935. A popular quote from him is about politicians: “Ancient Rome declined because it had a Senate, now what’s going to happen to us with both a House and a Senate?”

Search the internet for the 10 most hated professions in America; lawyers are second and politicians consistently have the dishonorable distinction of being first. However, the apostle Paul’s instruction about government leaders is surprising and is beneficial to remember as America celebrates its birth.

The government in Paul’s day was corrupt and deadly. Pilate oversaw the execution of Jesus. The disciple James, the brother of John, was killed by the Roman king Herod (Acts 12:2). Paul would be executed by an emperor. If they had taken polls in those ancient

days, government leaders from Rome would likely have been the most hated and the church would be tempted to want their destruction. Paul gave Timothy and the church the opposite instruction: Pray for them and follow these three guidelines.

PLANT SEEDS OF PEACE WITH PRAYER

Paul wrote: “This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies made about you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience.” (1 Timothy 1:18-19, English Standard Version used throughout).

AND HOW WOULD TIMOTHY DO THIS?

“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.” (1

Timothy 2:1-2).

Government leaders have the means and the power to keep order in society. Pulitzer Prize winner Charles Krauthammer wrote, “Politics, the crooked timber of our communal lives, dominates everything because, in the end, everything – high and low and, most especially high – lives or dies by politics. Get your politics wrong, however, and everything is swept away. This is not ancient history. This is Germany 1933.”

BE SPECIFIC WITH PRAYER

Paul used three words to remind Timothy to pray: “Supplications, prayers, and intercessions”. Greek scholars recommend not searching for unique meanings in each word, however, each term brings a nudge of a difference in guidance for prayer. “Supplications”, which others translate as “requests”, identifies a specific need. The Greek word for “prayer” is only

used when addressed to God. “Intercessions” is used twice in the New Testament, here and later by Paul in 1 Timothy 4:4,5: “For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer.”

Even a sinful government could be made holy with specific prayers and God’s word.

GIVE THANKS IN PRAYER

The most challenging part of Paul’s instruction is to find reasons for thanksgiving in a godless government. Paul’s life was the model. As a Roman citizen, he “appealed to Caesar” to avoid flogging and death at the hands of angry Jews in Jerusalem.

Roman soldiers transported him to Rome for his hearing with the emperor. When he came to Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself with soldiers who guarded him.

Paul used his house arrest freedom to its fullest.

“He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.” (Acts 28:30-31).

Imagine how many of the soldiers guarding him became believers!

Jesus gave this high challenge for prayer, even for a hostile government: “You have heard that it is said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy’, But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:43-45).

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

Sweet taste of Mexico comes to Independence

By LANCE MASTERSON
For The Itemizer-Observer

After years of working in panaderias across California and Oregon, as well as in Mexico, Sabas Gonzales decided it was time to open one of his own.

And that he did, in Independence, with help from his sons.

El Kora Panaderia specializes in sweet pastries. Gonzales said his goal is simple – to make quality products with quality ingredients. So he uses milk (not water), eggs and premium ingredients to produce pastries that stay fresh longer and deliver better flavor. He also keeps the sugar level low, relying on natural flavors and fresh fruit instead.

“I use the best quality,” Gonzales said. “People don’t want too much sugar anymore.”

Freshness is a priority. The bakery makes pastries daily because



EL KORA PANADERIA

206 South Main St.
Open Monday through Saturday
8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Closed on Sundays

Gonzales believes products are at their best the day they are baked.

El Kora also serves

drinks made with fresh fruit, milk or juice, as well as vegetable drinks, coffee and chocolate



PHOTOS BY LANCE MASTERSON

Sabas Gonzales opened El Kora Panaderia in downtown Independence which features Mexican pastries and a variety of drinks.

milk. Popularity of the vegetable drinks have surprised Gonzales.

His recipes come from years of experience in the industry. Gonzales has worked in a number of panaderias, and learning techniques and refining recipes along the way. He said many bakeries

use mostly water in their dough, while he prefers richer ingredients that improve texture, flavor and shelf life.

Independence was chosen because the location is affordable and centrally located in the old town area. He saw strong demand for Mexican

pastries and few panaderias serving that niche. He added both Hispanic and non-Hispanic customers regularly stop in for his fresh baked goods.

As business grows, Gonzales hopes to hire additional employees so customers will receive even better service.

HEALTH DIRECTORY

CHIROPRACTIC

• **JOYNT FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC** — Dr. Brian Joynt, DC - 629 Clay Street East, Monmouth, OR 97361 Family-oriented chiropractic clinic, dedicated to creating an unparalleled experience of service, quality and care by teaching the true principles of chiropractic. We look forward to empowering each of you to help your family participate more fully in life. New patients welcome. Accept most insurance. Auto/personal injury and work comp. Massage therapist on site. Complimentary consultations. Call us today to make your appointment (503) 837-0550.

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Monmouth — 512 Main St., Suite 300, 503-838-1182

Call the Itemizer-Observer at
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listed in this directory.

BEAT

From Page A1

Each man brought something different to this partnership. Ando brought his knowledge of Japanese culture and connections to the island nation. Wilson brought space for rehearsals, tools and an expertise and willingness to build.

Authentic taiko drums were financially out of reach for most American groups, especially one that was very much in its infancy. Traditional Japanese drums are carved from a single tree trunk and imported at considerable expense.

So Wilson and his fellow drummers turned to Plan B.

A Buddhist community in Southern California had developed a method of converting wine barrels into drums by reinforcing the barrels and stretching cowhide across the openings. Monmouth Taiko Drummers

followed their lead. A tannery in Dallas supplied the hides.

There were setbacks along the way, but within a few years enough drums had been completed to begin performing. The timing aligned with taiko's growth in popularity across the West Coast. Groups were emerging in San Francisco, San Jose, Seattle, Vancouver, Eugene, Portland and other cities.

Personal relationships and old-fashioned communication – not Youtube or online tutorials – fostered this growth. Japanese cultural organizations, universities and community outlets took the lead by sharing information and passing their traditions along.

Taiko as performance art emerged in Japan during the 1950s and 1960s, when musicians transformed ceremonial drumming into choreographed stage performances that featured

synchronized movement and layered rhythms.

This style eventually crossed the Pacific. Western Oregon's international program provided an early introduction into this art form.

Ando regularly brought Japanese students to the campus through his university connections. Some of these students became involved with Monmouth Taiko Drummers.

"For many of these students, the group became more than an extracurricular activity. It became a community," Wilson said.

Members gathered weekly, spoke Japanese together and shared a piece of home while living abroad. Uniforms arrived from Japan. Sheet music followed.

Taiko notation looked unlike anything most local musicians had ever seen, Wilson noted. He added stick figures illustrated choreography while written instructions

explained movement and timing.

"I didn't know it was going to be a performance group," Wilson said of his expectations. "I thought it was just about having fun."

Taiko is highly choreographed, with movements mirroring rhythm. Many songs represent elements of nature – rain, rivers, fishing boats moving across water, for example. Members often explain to their audience the meaning behind a piece before playing it.

"Understanding the story can change how audiences hear the music," Wilson said. Around 2000, Ando accepted a teaching position in Japan. At that time, Western Oregon's international recruitment focus shifted and fewer Japanese students arrived, thus nearly closing the pipeline that sustained the drum group's early years. But enough long-time members still lived in the area to keep the

group alive.

New members arrived through personal connections and performances. Today, the roster remains heavily connected to Japan while also including longtime local members like Tom Jenkins and Wilson.

Rehearsals are no longer held at Wilson's farm. They're now held at an airplane hangar near Independence. Monmouth Taiko Drummers have never been more popular. Performances at schools and festivals are common. They often perform near the state Capitol during cherry blossom season.

Whether performing before a few or before hundreds, their goal remains the same, to share the experience. This philosophy extends beyond the stage. Taiko is not competitive. Groups share songs, exchange ideas and borrow inspiration from one another while still

maintaining separate identities.

In recent years, Monmouth Taiko members have begun creating original compositions. One piece, called Tsuki, which is Japanese for moon, draws inspiration from folklore surrounding rabbits on the moon pounding rice to make moochi. The Monmouth group modified this image so that the rabbits are pounding drums instead of rice. This image became part of their logo.

Three decades later, fueled by the joy of playing taiko, Monmouth Taiko Drummers are keeping the beat alive without compensation. What money they make from performances is funneled back into instruments, uniforms, repair and travel costs.

This isn't a problem since the goal never was about making money. It was always about making connections – musically, personally and globally.

NONPROFIT

From Page A1

approached several local organizations to take on the task, but none had the manpower or infrastructure to take it on. So, they started from scratch.

"I got involved because of my tax background," she said.

They discovered creating a non profit organization, fundraising was a major component.

Their board of directors now have seven members and between 10 to 20 regulars who attend planning meetings before the next layer of volunteers, Graham said.

"We want the community to know we're constantly going to need volunteers again," she added. "We've had a good

response this year."

To sign up for volunteer opportunities, go to www.friendsofcommunityparks.org and click on the "More" tab and select "Donate and Volunteer."

Graham said once they had their organization in place, the plan from the beginning was to keep the two-day festival the same as the previous year. The same applied for bringing Indy Days back this year.

"We had the road map of 2025 of what went really well. We did end up adding a few small things," she said.

Foremost, FOCP worked with the city of Monmouth to develop a combined theme between Indy Days and Monmouth's 4th of July Festival revolving around America's 250th

Anniversary. Graham said that work included input from local organizations like the Rotary Club and the Heritage Museum.

"The theme was our community story," she said. "For us, the approach was honoring people who made contributions to the community."

For example, they honored Independence resident Clarice Lafreniere, now 104, a surviving original "Rosie the Riveter" who worked in naval shipyards during World War II.

In addition a FOCP board member, a retired military serviceman, created Challenge Coins, akin to the one associated with the traveling Wall That Heals, to hand out to honor community service, not just service members.

Graham said another new feature that came via community feedback was more to do during the festival for youth and younger kids. She said thanks to the YMCA and Gilbert House there will be a pop up museum. Also new, members from the Independence Air Park will perform a flyover of the event down the adjacent Willamette River.

A big goal for this year, she said, was to expedite the process for acquiring entry wristbands.

"We don't want people to wait in long lines. So we added additional wristband locations," Graham said.

They offered many early ticket locations leading up to the event. They have also kept the events at Riverfront Park

free for kids six and under.

"The wristband still gives in and out privileges the whole day with access to all the entertainment, fun and games," Graham said. "The only thing not included are the rides at the carnival."

Once Independence Days is over, she added Friends of Community Parks's work continues.

"The way it works with us as a non profit, grant-making organization, once the event is over figure. We get to figure out what to do with money left over. We want to use it to improve our outdoor areas," Graham said.

She encourages everyone to take the survey online at www.friendsofcommunityparks.org to steer the organization toward its next priority.

BIG BAND

From Page A1

FWC also brings something rarely seen at a community concert venue: a 10- to 12-piece ensemble complete with horns, layered harmonies and enough equipment to stock a small music store.

Group members embrace the excess.

"We're a huge band barely fitting on stage, dressed in sequins, robes and tassels," Andy Krissberg said of FWC. "We're channeling equal parts tent revival and Mad Dogs & Englishmen."

The visual spectacle is only part of the appeal.

FWC describes itself as a "rock and roll commune" that began in Nashville before eventually settling in Portland.

Its music draws inspiration from humor, uncertainty and the search for meaning.

"Most of our songs are inspired by trying to find sense and humor in it all," Krissberg said. "We try to offer a place of comfort for all."

The band's unusual name traces back to 2016, when Krissberg discovered literature connected to a now-defunct 1960s commune called Family Worship Center while collecting field recordings.

The material came from a rundown record store.

The message stayed with him.

Krissberg borrowed the name and reinterpreted many of the commune's ideas as the foundation for the project's first EP, Sunday A.M.

At the time, FWC

existed only in the studio. Krissberg was still living in Nashville and assembled a group of collaborators with ties to artists including The Band, The Rolling Stones, Kevin Morby, Faye Webster and Sturgill Simpson.

The move west transformed FWC from a recording project into a touring band. Today, the group includes more than a dozen musicians who contribute to recordings and live performances.

Its influences are equally expansive.

The group cites 1960s vocal and gospel harmonies alongside artists such as Little Feat, The Band, Fleetwood Mac, Steely Dan, Curtis Mayfield and Leon Russell, along with sounds that emerged from Alabama's famed Muscle Shoals recording

scene.

Most of what Wednesday's audience will hear comes from FWC's original catalog, though cover songs occasionally make their way into the set.

Among the band's favorites are "FOY," known for its groove and extended finale, and "Malibu by Midnight," a song members say consistently brings the ensemble together.

FWC performs throughout the western United States and regularly appears at larger venues and music festivals.

Dufner first saw the band perform at the Wildwood Music Festival last summer and came away impressed with both its musicianship and showmanship.

"It was like watching a party on stage," she said.

"They have great stage presence and a passion for playing good music."

Dufner described the band's sound as soulful and retro, pairing strong vocals with an energy she believes will translate well to an outdoor summer setting.

Wednesday's concert is the first of eight scheduled this summer as part of the Music in the Park series.

Organizers sought a lineup that balances familiar names with first-time performers. Returning acts include locally based The Shinkle Band and DTW, along with Ben Rice and the PDX Hustle, Pachanga, Coming Up Threes and Jujuba.

The only other act making its Monmouth debut this summer is Rose's Pawn Shop, an American rock, folk and

bluegrass band.

Also new this summer, Struts and Frets Theatre Company will present a Wild West-inspired production of Twelfth Night. Performances are Aug. 7-9 and Aug. 13-15 at the park.

Organizers are also bringing back the beer garden, art displays and food offerings from downtown businesses as part of the weekly community gathering. For more information about the play, visit strutsandfretstheatre.org.

Concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, go to www.mbamonmouth.com/music-in-the-park/.

The highly-anticipated annual event is sponsored by the Monmouth Business Association, the city of Monmouth and other community partners.



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PHOTOS BY SMY PHOTOGRAPHY

The annual Willamina Mud Drags & Side By Sides races were June 27. Overall, 71 trucks raced in the main events. Nine of those came back to race in four different classes of Pit Crew races. There were 11 Side by Sides racing in two different classes. Plus eight Side by Sides raced on the new short course. Here's a look at some of the images captured during the event and a list of the top winners in each class and the vehicle driven.

Mayhem in the Mud



OPEN CLASS

- 1st - Jeff Lockwood, of McMinnville, 1932 Ford "Never Enough" (Total Destruction Racing Team)
- 2nd - Bob Ireton, of Kelso, Washington, 1947 Willies "Scorpion"
- 3rd - Scott Berry, of McMinnville, 1998 Chevy S10 "Bad Barney" (RIP Racing)

SUPER MODIFIED

- 1st - Bob Ireton, of Kelso, 1947 Willies "Scorpion"
- 2nd - Josh Hermens, of McMinnville, 1986 Toyota Pu (RIP Racing)
- 3rd - Garratt Stookes, of Roseburg, 1942 Jeep Willies "Junkyard Dog"

MODIFIED

- 1st - Jazmin Dawkins, of Tillamook, 1995 Chevy S-10 (Total Destruction Racing Team)
- 2nd - Matt Phillips, of Gervais, 1990 Toyota pickup "Punished" (RIP Racing)
- 3rd - Cliff Roselle, of Grand Ronde,

1985 Chevy Blazer "ZR2" (Total Destruction Racing Team)

8 CYLINDER ROAD & TRAIL

- 1st - Matt Phillips, of Gervais, 1990 Toyota pickup (RIP Racing)
- 2nd - Jimmy Bethel Boylan, of Willamina, 1969 Chevy K10
- 3rd - Rondy Beacker, of McMinnville, 1991 Chevy Blazer "Cliff Diver"

8 CYLINDER STOCK/6 CYLINDER MODIFIED

- 1st - Jack Scott, of McMinnville, 1980 Toyota PU "Nitro Dragin"
- 2nd - Bill Cawley, of Grand Ronde, 1987 Suzuki Samari (Total Destruction Racing Team)
- 3rd - Nathan Conant, of Newberg, 1992 Jeep XJ

6 CYLINDER STOCK/4 CYLINDER MODIFIED

- 1st - Isaak Johnson, of McMinnville, 2000 Jeep Cherokee "Hank" (Hell

Bound Racing)

- 2nd - Kelly Sullinger, of Aurora, 1992 Jeep
- 3rd - Stephanie Nelson, of Willamina, 1986 Toyota pickup (Total Destruction Racing Team)

4 CYLINDER STOCK

- 1st - Tom Haight, of Grand Ronde, 1999 Toyota Tacoma pickup "Green Machine"
- 2nd - James Peterson, of Sheridan, 1982 Toyota Truck
- 3rd - place winner Brad Roselle, of Grand Ronde, 1992 Toyota Prev (Total Destruction Racing Team)

MODIFIED PIT CREW

- 1st - Sherry Dawkins, of Grand Ronde, 1996 Chevy pickup (Total Destruction Racing Team)
- 2nd - Rose Hermens, of McMinnville, 1986 Toyota pickup (RIP Racing)
- 3rd - Priscilla Sattergren, of Gervais, 1990 Toyota pickup "Punished" (RIP

Racing)

ROAD & TRAIL PIT CREW

- 1st - Priscilla Sattergren, of Gervais, 1990 Toyota pickup "Punished" (RIP Racing)
- 2nd - Brad Roselle, of Grand Ronde, 1985 Chevy Blazer "ZR2" (Total Destruction Racing Team)

8 CYLINDER STOCK PIT CREW

- 1st - Candic Linton, of Grand Ronde, 1987 Suzuki Samurai
- 2nd - Charles Bafmes, of Sheridan

4- & 6-CYLINDER PIT CREW

- 1st - Elise Kelly, of Portland, Jeep "Little Digger" (No Budget Racing)
- 2nd - Raffle car

SIDE BY SIDES - FACTORY CLASS

- 1st - Brad Himes, of Tillamook, 2019 Honda Talon (Total Destruction Racing

See MUD, page B8



OSAA ALL-STATE SELECTIONS

2026 Spring Sports Central High School Class 5A Baseball

- Coach of the Year: Ben Kramer
- Co-Player of the Year: Joe Mendazona
- Pitcher of the Year: JT Girod
- Class 5A Softball
- Honorable Mention: Maeci Brown, infielder.
- Class 5A Boys Track and Field
- Third Team: Ryan

- Perkins, Long Jump.
- Honorable Mention: Ty Cirino, 3000m, 1500m; David Rice, Jacob Tamayo, Ryan Burgett, Perkins, 400m Relay;
- Class 5A Girls Track and Field
- Third Team: Anna Cole, Shot Put.

Dallas High School

- Class 5A Baseball
- First Team: Thomas Hess, outfielder
- Second Team: Hunter Rivers, infielder
- Class 5A Softball

- First Team: Maddi Jones, pitcher.
- Second Team: Ruby Halligan, infielder.
- Third Team: Ashaley Trine, designated hitter/utility.
- Honorable Mention: Harlow Nelson, infielder.

Class 5A Boys Track and Field

- First Team: Bertram Latta, Discus.
- Honorable Mention: Xander Hammill, 300m Hurdles; Latta, Shot Put; Nicholas

Walker, 400m

Class 5A Girls Track and Field

- Third Team: Harlow Nelson, 200m.
- Honorable Mention: Nelson, 100m; Savannah Dezotell, Shot Put; Tanya Green, 300m Hurdles; Amber Green, Nelson, Merced Ward, T. Green, 1600m Relay; Elizabeth Walker, Nelson, Jana Deming, T. Green, 400 Relay; Kelsey Rodli, 3000m; A. Green, 800m;

Walker, High Jump; Ward, 300m Hurdles.

Class 5A Boys Golf

- Third Team: Lukas Lawless.

Class 5A Girls Golf

- Honorable Mention: Bethany West.

Perrydale High School Class 2A/1A Softball

- Second Team: Brooklyn Barcroft, outfielder.
- Third Team: Alizabeth Yates, infielder; Isabelle Arthur, pitcher.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 9 a.m. - Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 9 a.m. - Seniors Trip to Portland Art Museum, meet at Monmouth Senior Community Center
 10 a.m. - 4-Handed Pinochle/Card/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center
 10 a.m. - Tai Chi with John/Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 10:30 a.m. - Little bitty story time, for babies and very young toddler, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.
 11 a.m. - Blood pressure check, Dallas Area Senior Center
 11 a.m. - Lunch w/Meals on Wheels, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 11 a.m. - Mah-Jongg, Dallas Area Senior Center
 11:45 a.m. - Better Together, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 12 p.m. - Watch Repair & Knife Sharpening, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 1 p.m. - Walking Group, Dallas Area Senior Center
 1 p.m. - Ten Minute Writing, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 1 p.m. - Wii bowling, Dallas Area Senior Center
 4 p.m. Connecting Loose Threads for Charity, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 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, JULY 2

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 9 a.m. - Chari Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 10 a.m. - Cards/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center
 10 a.m. - Age Cafe, Monmouth Senior Community 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, 168 Ecols St. S.

11:10 a.m. - Low Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center
 11:30 a.m. - Lunch Bunch, Dallas Area Senior Center
 12 p.m. - Watch Repair & Knife Sharpening, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 12 p.m. - Pinochle, Monmouth Senior Community Center, City Hall, 555 South Main St.
 12 p.m. - Bridge, Dallas Area Senior Center
 5:30 p.m. - Women's Bunko Night, \$5 to play, 1079 SE Jefferson St., Dallas
 6 p.m. - Sam's Music Trivia: Celebrate Freedom, Embrace Liberty, West Valley Taphouse, 957 S Main St., Dallas
 6:30 p.m. - Connecting Loose Threads, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 6:30 p.m. - Live Music: Big Foo (Foo Fighters tribute band) plus special guest, 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, JULY 3

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 8 a.m. - Oregon RV Campers Association Rally, celebrating America's 250th Birthday, Polk County Fairgrounds & Event Center, 520 S Pacific Hwy W., Rickreall
 9 a.m. - Stretch exercise 1, 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. - Pottery Class with Elinor, 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, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 1 p.m. - Munchies & Melodies, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 1:30 p.m. - 10-Minute

Writing, Dallas Area Senior Center
 6:30 p.m. - Live Music: Remedy (70s, 80s, 90s 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, JULY 4

8:30 a.m. - Friends of the Senior Center Pancake Breakfast, Monmouth Senior Center, 180 S Warren St.
 9 a.m. - Independence Riverview Farmers Market, top of Riverview Park
 9 a.m. - Yoga in the Park, Riverview Park, Independence, free
 9 a.m. - Independence Farmers Market, Umpqua Bank parking lot, 302 S. Main St.
 1 p.m. - Bingo at the Independence Elks Lodge, 289 S. Main St.
 6 p.m. - Live Music: Caught Dead Handed (Grateful Dead tribute band), 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, JULY 5

9 a.m. - Polk Flea Market, Polk County Fairgrounds & Events Center, 520 Highway 99 W., Rickreall
 7 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Monmouth Big Book Study, Faith Lutheran Church, 200 Monmouth-Independence Highway, Monmouth

MONDAY, JULY 6

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/Card/ Table Games, Dallas

Area Senior Center
 10 a.m. - Stretch Exercise/Hand & Foot/Cribbage/ASL Class, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 10 a.m. - Accessibility Workshop, Monmouth City Hall, 151 Main St. W.
 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
 1 p.m. - Bunco Game, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 1 p.m. - Walking Group, Dallas Area Senior Center
 1 p.m. - Tai Chi with Cheryl/Technology Help with Ian, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 4 p.m. - Karaoke, Dallas Area Senior Center
 6 p.m. - Dallas City Council work study session, City Hall, 187 SE Court St.
 6 p.m. - Trivia Nights, Forest Pass Brewing, 735 SW Maple St., Dallas
 6:30 p.m. - Live Music: New Horizons Orchestra Concert, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 6 p.m. - Dallas City Council meeting, City Hall, 187 SE Court St.
 7 p.m. - Independence Planning Commission meeting, City Hall, 555 South Main St.
 7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Old Guthrie Park, Guthrie Park Community Center

TUESDAY, JULY 7

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 9 a.m. - Chair Yoga/Wii Bowling, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 10 a.m. - Cards/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center
 10 a.m. - Age Café, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 10:15 a.m. - Low Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center
 10:30 a.m. - Children's Story Time, for ages 5 and under, Dallas Public library at 950 Main St.
 10:30 a.m. - Circle of Friends, Dallas Area Senior Center
 10:30 a.m. - Summer Stories and Play, for ages 3-5, Monmouth Public Library, 168

Ecols St. S.
 11:10 a.m. - Low Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center
 12 p.m. - Pinochle, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 1 p.m. - Bunko, Dallas Area Senior Center
 6 p.m. - Trivia Night, West Valley Taphouse, 957 S Main St., Dallas
 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, JULY 8

7 a.m. - Monmouth Library Board meeting, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S.
 8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 9 a.m. - Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 10 a.m. - 4-Handed Pinochle/Card/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center
 10 a.m. - Tai Chi with John/Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 10:30 a.m. - Little bitty story time, for babies and very young toddler, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.
 11 a.m. - Live Music: Jessa Campbell and the Saplings, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S., Monmouth
 11 a.m. - Blood pressure check, Dallas Area Senior Center
 11 a.m. - Lunch w/Meals on Wheels, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 11 a.m. - Mah-Jongg, Dallas Area Senior Center
 11:45 a.m. - Better Together, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 12 p.m. - Watch Repair & Knife Sharpening, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 1 p.m. - Walking Group, Dallas Area Senior Center
 1 p.m. - Ten Minute Writing, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 1 p.m. - Wii bowling, Dallas Area Senior Center
 4 p.m. Connecting Loose Threads for Charity, Monmouth Senior Community Center
 5:30 p.m. - Independence Heritage Museum Advisory Board meeting, Heritage Museum

See CALENDAR, page A7

Community Briefs

BREAKFAST IN THE PARK TICKETS ON SALE AT DALLAS NIGHTS

Discounted tickets for Dallas Rotary Club's signature Breakfast in the Park fundraising event will be available during Dallas Nights through July 17. Adults save \$2 per ticket by purchasing tickets by July 26. The breakfast is from 7-11 a.m. July 26 at Dallas City Park, 690 SW Brandvold Dr. The menu includes scrambled eggs, sausage, pancakes, coffee and juice. Proceeds benefit club community projects, grants to local nonprofits and student scholarships. Tickets are \$13 for adults at the gate or \$11 in advance, \$6 for ages 6-12, children 5 and younger are free. A family ticket for two adults and three children is \$30 in advance or \$32 at the gate. Purchase tickets online at www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/breakfast-in-the-park.

INDEPENDENCE DAYS RETURNS JULY 3-4

The Friends of Community Parks makes

its debut as the new sponsor of the annual Independence Days celebration at Riverview Park July 3-4. The two-day festival features a fun & games field, a Duck Derby Race, a Talent Show, a Variety Show, performances by the 234th Army Band from the Army Reserve National Guard, more live music and fireworks shows both nights. For a schedule of events or to purchase tickets, go to www.friendsofcommunityparks.org/independence-days-2026.

MONMOUTH HOSTS 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION JULY 3-4

The city of Monmouth sponsors a July 4th Festival for the entire family July 3-4 in Main Street Park. The festival emphasizes the arts including music, dance and theater, with food, craft vendors, and live entertainment. Be sure to also catch the classic car show and the grand parade. For more information, go to www.ci.monmouth.or.us/pview.aspx?id=26838&catid=554.

POLK COUNTY DEMOCRATS HOST INDY DAYS BOOTH

The Polk County Democrats invite the public to stop by their booth at Independence Riverview Park July 3-4 from noon to 11 p.m. They'll have voter and candidate information, pins, bumper stickers, and yard signs.

CLIMATE CAFÉ RETURNS JULY 9

The Monmouth-Independence Climate Group invites the community to join their informal Climate Cafés from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Monmouth Senior Community Center, 180 Warren St. S., They explore feelings about the climate situation. The group finds that sharing in an open, supportive environment helps them understand and manage sometimes overwhelming climate concerns. Anyone may attend.

PRISMS GALLERY PRESENTS MONMOUTH ART WALK JULY 11

Join Prisms Gallery for

Monmouth Art Walk from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 11 to support Kid's Art in the Park, 215 Main St E. Prisms Gallery is raising funds to supply the kids with art supplies, and space to work. Art in the Park is during Music in the Park every Wednesday through August.

HERITAGE AUTO SHOW HOSTS NW ROD & CLASSIC AUTO SHOW JULY 12

The Heritage Auto Show presents the NW Rod & Classic Auto Show from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 12 at the Riverview Park in Independence. Registration is \$20 and a can of food to donate to the Ella Curran Food Bank. There will be a Stump The Gear Head game, awards, a Club Participation Award, food booths, vendors, dash plaques, drawings and more. A portion of the proceeds will go to a scholarship fund.

DDA HOSTS A BINGO, SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE JULY 14

The Dallas Downtown

Association hosts a bingo event to generate school supplies on July 14 at 6 p.m. at Two Wolves Tap Room, 171 Court St. Buy-in is \$15, which includes a blackout round. School supplies needed include markers, colored pencils, pencils, crayons, erasers, paper, notebooks, sharpeners, rulers and white board markers.

DALLAS CHRISTMAS CHEER'S ANNUAL BBQ FUNDRAISER IS JULY 18

Dallas Christmas Cheer is at 3 p.m. July 18 at Benedetto Vineyards, 14042 Orchard Knob Road, in Dallas. There will be live music, a silent auction, ring toss and wine pulls and a delicious BBQ dinner. Tickets are \$45 each and include dinner, a first drink and a complimentary wine glass. To purchase a ticket, go to <https://benedettovineyards.com>.

PACWEST MOTORCYCLE SHOW COMES TO DALLAS JULY 18-19

The Annual PacWest

Motorcycle Show rumbles into downtown Dallas July 18-19. This free custom bike show invites participants with all types of motorcycles. There will be more than 30 vendors, performances by the Seattle Cossacks stunt riding team, food carts and drinks, tattoo artists, a live DJ, biker games and poker run with custom trophy prizes, giveaways, raffles and more.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers needed at Hunter Arboretum on Park Street, every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to noon. Choose the work you want to do and take a break with us at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome.

PolkMarket

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Great location in a 55+ community. Great home, affordable price. Southern facing that provides nice light. 3bd/2 bath. Home has a nice flow with the primary suite separate from bedrooms 2 & 3. Laundry room off the kitchen. Electric furnace. **\$89,900.00** (#840156)



Bring your ideas for this solid bones home!! This value-added home can sparkle once again with fresh interior paint, floor covering and completion of bathroom remodel. The classic floor plan offers generous sized rooms and functionality in this 2bd/2bath home. **\$52,500.00** (#819751)



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702 GARAGE SALES

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PUBLIC SALE Public Sale at Godsey Secure Storage, LLC, 1360 SE Godsey Road, Dallas, OR 10:30AM Saturday, JULY 18, 2026. All sales CASH, VISA or MASTER CARD ONLY. Units will be sold as a whole. Call (503) 831-0234 for details. Boatman, Robert, C135 Blanton, Mike, B100 Davidson, Jared, F372 Dennis, Drew, A034 Fowler, Josh, E255 Gilley, Kathlene, F369 Groling, Charles, B081 Hamilton, Bethany, C170 Hillis, Chris, C139, C146 Latdrick, Martin, F327 Sickles, Sherie, D176 Vallez, Cynthia, F380

800 RENTALS

Countrywood Manor 217 SE LaCreole Dr Dallas, OR 97338 503-623-9667 TDD/TYY : 1-800-735-2900 SUBSIDIZED UNITS FOR PERSONS 62 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, HANDICAP/DISABLED, REGARDLESS OF AGE MAY BE AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME. If subsidized units are not available at this time, qualified applicants may be placed on a waiting list. This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider

903 CONDOS

For Rent 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath condo in Dallas. \$1350/month. Water, sewer, garbage paid. For appointment call 503-580-8875

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PCIO26-328 Notice of Permit Amendment T-14722 T-14722 filed by the City of Monmouth 151 West Main St Monmouth, OR 97361 proposes a change in point of diversion; and a change from surface water to ground water under Permit S-54332. The permit allows the use of 4.46 cubic feet per second from the Willamette River in Sec. 28, T8S, R4W, W.M. for municipal use within the service area of the City of Monmouth. The applicant proposes to change the point of diversion within Sec. 28, T 8S, R4W, W.M. and to change the point of diversion to groundwater points of appropriation in Sects. 28 and 33, T8S, R4W, W.M. The Water Resources Department has concluded that the proposed permit amendment appears to be consistent with the requirements of ORS 537.211. The last date of newspaper publication is 07/08/2026. 07/01/26, 07/08/2026

PCIO26-325 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE TS NO.: 26-78544 Reference is made to that certain Deed of Trust (hereinafter referred as the Trust Deed) made by JUSTIN H HULL as Grantor to TICOR TITLE, as trustee, in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), as designated nominee for GO MORTGAGE, LLC, beneficiary of the security instrument, its successors and assigns, as Beneficiary, dated 2/28/2025, recorded 2/28/2025, as Instrument No. 2025-001408, in mortgage records of Polk County, Oregon covering the following described real property situated in said County and State, to-wit: Lot 20, GREEN VIEW ESTATES, in the City of Dallas, County of Polk and State of Oregon. The street address or other common designation, if any for the real property described above is purported to be: 790 SE CYNTHIAN DR, DALLAS, OREGON 97338 The Tax Assessor's Account ID for the Real Property is purported to be: 540951 I 0201 - 540951 I 07533-AD-03700 Both the beneficiary and the trustee, ZBS Law, LLP have elected to foreclose the above referenced Trust Deed and sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by the Trust Deed and a Notice of Default and Election to Sell has been recorded pursuant to ORS 86.752(3). All right, title, and interest in the said described property which the grantors had, or had power to convey, at the time of execution of the Trust Deed, together with any interest the grantors or their successors in interest acquired after execution of the Trust Deed shall be sold at public auction to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy the obligations secured by the Trust Deed and the expenses of sale, including the compensation of the trustee as provided by law, and the reasonable fees of trustee's attorneys. The default for which the foreclosure is made is: The monthly

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installment of principal and interest which became due on 7/1/2025, late charges, and all subsequent monthly installments of principal and interest. You are responsible to pay all payments and charges due under the terms and conditions of the loan documents which come due subsequent to the date of this notice, including, but not limited to, foreclosure trustee fees and costs, advances and late charges. Furthermore, as a condition to bring your account in good standing, you must provide the undersigned with written proof that you are not in default on any senior encumbrance and provide proof of insurance. Nothing in this notice should be construed as a waiver of any fees owing to the beneficiary under the deed of trust, pursuant to the terms and provisions of the loan documents. The amount required to cure the default in payments to date is calculated as follows: From: 7/1/2025 Total of past due payments: \$40,331.83 Late Charges: \$1,239.90 Additional charges (Taxes, Insurance, Corporate Advances, Other Fees): \$1,702.50 Trustee's Fees and Costs: \$2,455.00 Total necessary to cure: \$45,729.23 Please note the amounts stated herein are subject to confirmation and review and are likely to change during the next 30 days. Please contact the successor trustee ZBS Law, LLP, to obtain a "reinstatement" and or "payoff" quote prior to remitting funds. By reason of said default the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by the Trust Deed due and payable. The amount required to discharge this lien in its entirety to date is: \$506,732.16 Said sale shall be held at the hour of 11:00 AM on 9/25/2026 in accord with the standard of time established by ORS 187.110, and pursuant to ORS 86.771(7) shall occur at the following designated place: At the front entrance of the Courthouse, 850 Main Street, Dallas, OR 97338 Other than as shown of record, neither the said beneficiary nor the said trustee have any actual notice of any person having or claiming to have any lien upon or interest in the real property hereinabove described subsequent to the interest of the trustee in the Trust Deed, or of any successor(s) in interest to the grantors or of any lessee or other person in possession of or occupying the property, except: NONE Notice is further given that any person named in ORS 86.778 has the right, at any time prior to five days before the date last set for sale, to have this foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the Trust Deed reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred) and by curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation(s) of the Trust Deed, and in addition to paying said sums or tendering the performance necessary to cure the default, by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Trust Deed, together with the trustee's and attorney's fees not exceeding the amounts provided by ORS 86.778. The mailing address of the trustee is: ZBS Law, LLP 5 Centerpointe Dr., Suite 400, Lake Oswego, OR 97035 (503) 946-6558 In construing this notice, the masculine gender includes the feminine and the neuter, the singular includes plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other persons owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by said trust deed, the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. IMPORTANT NOTICE: Starting March 1, 2026, Federal Law may prohibit ZBS Law from issuing a Trustee's Deed Upon Sale in connection with this trustee's sale until information about the winning bidder is reported to the U.S. Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network. See, 31 CFR § 1031.320 (https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-31/subtitle-B/chapter-XI/part-1031/subpart-C/section-1031.320). If this trustee's sale qualifies as a "reportable transfer" under 31 CFR § 1031.320(b), and you, as buyer, qualify as a

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"transferee entity" under 31 CFR § 1031.320(e)(1) or "transferee trust" under 31 CFR § 1031.320(e)(2), you will be obligated to provide information about the Beneficial Owner(s) of the transferee to ZBS Law or ZBS Law's designated representative. If you qualify as an exempt entity or trust under 31 CFR § 1031.320(n)(10)-(11), you may be required to provide evidence of the exemption supported by a declaration under penalty of perjury. If the Trustee's Deed Upon Sale cannot be issued due to a qualified transferee's failure or inability to provide the necessary reporting information, the qualified transferee will be responsible for all fees and costs to re-notice the trustee's sale. Dated: 5/12/2026, ZBS Law, LLP, By: Amber L. Labrecque, Esq., OSB#094593 ZBS Law, LLP Authorized to sign on behalf of the trustee EPP 47906 Pub Dates 07/01, 07/07, 07/15, 07/22/2026

PCIO26-327 PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ABOLISHING THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE LIBRARY NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Independence will hold two public hearings pursuant to ORS 357.621 to hear comments regarding the proposed closure of the City of Independence Library. The hearings will be held at the Independence City Hall, located at 555 S Main St, Independence, OR 97351, at 6:30p.m., on the 11th day of August 2026 and at 6:30 p.m., on the 10th day of November 2026. 07/01/26, 07/08/26

PCIO26-324 PUBLIC SALE Public Sale at Godsey Secure Storage, LLC, 1360 SE Godsey Road, Dallas, OR 10:30AM Saturday, JULY 18, 2026. All sales CASH, VISA or MASTER CARD ONLY. Units will be sold as a whole. Call (503) 831-0234 for details. Boatman, Robert, C135 Blanton, Mike, B100 Davidson, Jared, F372 Dennis, Drew, A034 Fowler, Josh, E255 Gilley, Kathlene, F369 Groling, Charles, B081 Hamilton, Bethany, C170 Hillis, Chris, C139, C146 Latdrick, Martin, F327 Sickles, Sherie, D176 Vallez, Cynthia, F380 07/01/26, 07/08/26, 07/15/26

PCIO26-323 PUBLIC SALE NOTICE at Dallas Secure Storage, LLC, 1497 SE Brookside Avenue, Dallas, OR (east of Godsey Road) 10 AM Saturday, July 18, 2026. All sales CASH, VISA, M/C ONLY. Units sold as a whole. Call (503) 623-3703 for details. Marcy Dodge C051 Travis Ferguson B031 Stephanie Gouveia L356, L436 Robert Lewis M459 Sandra Page I300, L440 Neal Read I205 Colton Sanford E111 07/01/26, 07/08/26, 07/15/26

PCIO26-319 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE Loan No.: 9783662985 T.S. No.: 26-18601 Reference is made to that certain deed made by, ERIC R GUARDIOLA; MARRIED MAN as Grantor to FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE COMPANY OF OREGON, as trustee, in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. ("MERS"), AS BENEFICIARY, AS NOMINEE FOR CALIBER HOME LOANS, INC. ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as Beneficiary, dated 10/20/2017, recorded 10/20/2017, in official records of Polk County, Oregon as Instrument No. 2017-012620 (indicated which), covering the following described real property situated in said County and State, to-wit: APN: 250340 LOT 3, BLOCK 2, PARKWAY SUBDIVISION, IN THE CITY OF SALEM, COUNTY OF POLK AND STATE OF OREGON. Property Commonly known as: 1237 LOTTIE LN NW, SALEM Oregon 97304 Both the beneficiary and the trustee have elected to sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by said trust deed and notice has been recorded pursuant to Section 86.735(3) of Oregon Revised Statutes: the default for which the foreclosure is made is the grantor's: The installment of principal and interest and escrow amounts, if applicable, which became due on 10/1/2025, and all subsequent installments of principal and interest and escrow amounts through the date of this Notice, plus amounts that are due for late charges, delinquent property taxes, insurance premium, advances made on senior liens, taxes and/or insurance, trustee's fees, and any attorney fees and court costs arising from or associated with the beneficiaries efforts to protect the preserve its security, all of which must be paid as a condition of reinstatement including all sums that shall accrue through reinstatement or payoff. By this reason of said default the beneficiary has declared all obligations secured by said deed of trust immediately due and payable, said sums

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being the following, to-wit: The sum of \$242,646.28 together with interest thereon at the rate of 7.25 % per annum from 9/1/2025 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 deed of trust. Whereof, notice hereby is given that Ghidotti Berger, LLP, the undersigned trustee will on 11/19/2026 at the hour of 11:00 AM, Standard of Time, as established by section 187.110, Oregon Revised Statutes, at At the front entrance of the Courthouse, 850 Main Street, Dallas, OR 97338 County of Polk, State of Oregon, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the interest in the said described real property which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time of the execution by him of the said trust deed, together with any interest which the grantor or his successors in interest acquired after the execution of said trust deed, to satisfy the foregoing obligations thereby secured and the costs and expenses of sale, including a reasonable charge by the trustee. Notice is further given that any person named in Section 86.753 of Oregon Revised Statutes has the right to have the foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the trust deed reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than such portion of said principal as would not then be due had no default occurred), together with the costs, trustee's and attorney's fees and curing any other default complained of in the Notice of Default by tendering the performance required under the obligation or trust deed, at any time prior to five days before the date last set for sale. In construing this notice, the masculine gender includes the feminine and the neuter, the singular includes plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other persons owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by said trust deed, the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. The Trustee has authorized the undersigned attorney to sign this instrument on behalf of the Trustee. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representation 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. For Sale Information Call: (866) 539-4173 website: https://www.servicelink.auction.com For further information, please contact: Ghidotti Berger, LLP 1920 Old Tustin Ave., Santa Ana, California 92705 Phone: 949-427-2010 Dated: 6/16/2026 Ghidotti Berger, LLP Signatory By: Daniel Ross OSB #112979 PPP #26-006710 07/01/26, 07/08/26, 07/15/26, 07/22/26

PCIO26-318 Notice of Self Storage Auction Monmouth Mini Storage (503)838-0803, 555 Gwinn Street E, Monmouth, OR 97361 Units to be auctioned off verbally on July 11th at 10am. All units sold as a whole. Unit 297 Jasen Stephens, Unit 24, 36, 330 Trina Perrault, Unit 187 Virginia Hernandez/ Charline Durchanek, Unit 142 Angela Trinidad. 06/24/26, 07/01/26

PCIO26-317 NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF COLLATERAL THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE OF OREGON Polk County Storage 590 Hoffman Rd., Independence, OR 97351 NAME UNIT SIZE DEREK RARDIN 2-2 10x10 JODY BUKTENICA 11-17 10x10 Leonardo Maciel 13-15 5x10 JENNIFER GOODMAN 14-1 10x35 Eric Kelsey 16-18, P65 5x10 Max Lydum 18-11 10x15 Juan Ramos 18-32 10x20 Stephanie Brown SV-5 6x8 JOSEPH MIERAU SV-17 6x8 AMANDA ELIZONDO P82 Notice is hereby given that at the hour of 1:00 pm on July 12, 2026 the undersigned will sell at Public Sale the personal property of the above-named debtors which is now stored at the above-referenced storage complex and is being sold for past due rent. The said goods are held by the above-referenced storage complex as collateral securing obligations of the above-named debtors to the above-named storage complex and are to be sold pursuant to The Uniform Commercial Code of Oregon which provides for the sale of collateral by a secured party following default by a debtor. Goods will be sold at 590 Hoffman Rd. Independence,

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OR where they are now located. The sale will be conducted as a verbal auction where the highest bidder gets the entire unit. Each unit will be open for viewing for 10 minutes before bidding begins. The auction will begin at 1:00 pm. The goods will be offered as a unit and the right to reject any or all bids is reserved. 06/24/26, 07/01/26

PCIO26-315 Notice of Self Storage Sale Please take notice Grand Storage located at 29005 Salmon River Hwy, Grand Ronde, OR, 97347 intends to hold a sale to sell the property stored at the Facility by the below list of Occupants whom are in default at an Auction. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storage-treasures.com on 7/15/2026 at 12:00PM. William A Forrest Units #7 & #D. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. 06/24/26, 07/01/26

PCIO26-312 Notice of Self Storage Sale Please take notice Downtown Storage and Warehouse located at 889 Liberty St NE Salem OR 97301 intends to hold a sale to sell the property stored at the Facility by the below list of Occupants whom are in default at an Auction. The sale will occur as an online auction via bid13.com on 7/14/2026 at 10:00AM. Leah D Degroat Unit #A4216; Lisa Henkel Unit #A4266. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. 06/24/26, 07/01/26

PCIO26-313 Notice of Self Storage Sale Please take notice IN Self Storage - Salem West located at 2401 Salem Dallas Hwy NW, Salem, OR 97304 intends to hold a sale to sell the property stored at the Facility by the below list of Occupants whom are in default at an Auction. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storage-treasures.com on 7/15/2026 at 10:00AM. Brian K Walsh Unit #037; Dwight Keightley Unit #167; Jacob DeCeault Unit #286; Shawn E Everette Unit #400; Stephenie Riker Unit #425. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. 06/24/26, 07/01/26

PCIO26-314 Notice of Self Storage Sale Please take notice IN Self Storage - Salem Wallace located at 300 Musgrave Ave., NW Salem OR 97304 intends to hold a sale to sell the property stored at the Facility by the below list of Occupants whom are in default at an Auction. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storage-treasures.com on 7/15/2026 at 10:00AM. Kathleen Price Unit #5002. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. 06/24/26, 07/01/26

PCIO26-306 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE T.S. No.: OR - 26 - 1037914 - RM Reference is made to that certain deed made by, BILLY W BURR AND SHARON E BURR, AS TENANTS BY THE ENTIRETY as Grantor to WFG NATIONAL TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY, as trustee, in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR CALIBER HOME LOANS, INC., ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as Beneficiary, dated 6/8/2021, recorded 6/15/2021, in official records of POLK County, Oregon in book/reel/volume No. and/or as fee/file/instrument/microfilm/reception number 2021-009885 and subsequently assigned or transferred by operation of law to NewRez LLC dba Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing covering the following described real property situated in said County, and State. APN: 266769 / 07305-00-01401 Beginning at a point which is 24.775 chains South and 53.81 chains East from the Northwest corner of the Robert Hamilton Donation Land Claim No. 63 in Township 7 South, Range 3 West of the Willamette Meridian in Polk County, Oregon; thence South 180.15 feet; thence East 288.18 feet to the center of Wallace Road; thence North along the center of said Wallace Road 180.15 feet; thence West 289.61 feet to the place of beginning. SAVE AND EXCEPT the Easterly 30 feet of the above described tract of land lying within the boundaries of public highways. ALSO SAVE AND EXCEPT that portion of said property conveyed to the State of Oregon, recorded November 13, 1998 as Book 366, Page 1927, Book of Records Commonly known as: 3659 WALLACE RD NW, SALEM, OR 97304 The undersigned hereby certifies that based upon business records there are no known written assignments of the trust deed by the trustee or by

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the beneficiary, except as recorded in the records of the county or counties in which the above described real property is situated. Further, no action has been instituted to recover the debt, or any part thereof, now remaining secured by the trust deed, or, if such action has been instituted, such action has been dismissed except as permitted by ORS 86.752(7). Both the beneficiary and the trustee have elected to sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by said trust deed and notice has been recorded pursuant to Section 86.752(3) of Oregon Revised Statutes. There is a default by grantor or other person owing an obligation, performance of which is secured by the trust deed, or by the successor in interest, with respect to provisions therein which authorize sale in the event of such provision. The default for which foreclosure is made is grantor's failure to pay when due the following sum: TOTAL REQUIRED TO REINSTATE: \$24,653.48 TOTAL REQUIRED TO PAYOFF: \$348,351.77 Because of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day-to-day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. It will be necessary for you to contact the Trustee before the time you tender reinstatement or the payoff amount so that you may be advised of the exact amount you will be required to pay. By reason of the default, the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by the trust deed immediately due and payable, those sums being the following, to-wit: The installments of principal and interest which became due on 8/1/2025, and all subsequent installments of principal and interest through the date of this Notice, plus amounts that are due for late charges, delinquent property taxes, insurance premiums, advances made on senior liens, taxes and/or insurance, trustee's fees, and any attorney fees and court costs arising from or associated with the beneficiaries efforts to protect and preserve its security, all of which must be paid as a condition of reinstatement, including all sums that shall accrue through reinstatement or payoff. Nothing in this notice shall be construed as a waiver of any fees owing to the Beneficiary under the Deed of Trust pursuant to the terms of the loan documents. Whereof, notice hereby is given that QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION, the undersigned trustee will on 10/6/2026 at the hour of 09:00 AM, Standard of Time, as established by section 187.110, Oregon Revised Statutes, at the Front Entrance to the Polk County Courthouse, located at 850 Main Street, Dallas, OR 97338 County of POLK, State of Oregon, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the interest in the said described real property which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time of the execution by him of the said trust deed, together with any interest which the grantor or his successors in interest acquired after the execution of said trust deed, to satisfy the foregoing obligations thereby secured and the costs and expenses of sale, including a reasonable charge by the trustee. Notice is further given that any person named in Section 86.778 of Oregon Revised Statutes has the right to have the foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the trust deed reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than such portion of said principal as would not then be due had no default occurred), together with the costs, trustee's and attorney's fees and curing any other default complained of in the Notice of Default by tendering the performance required under the obligation or trust deed, at any time prior to five days before the date last set for sale. Other than as shown of record, neither the beneficiary nor the trustee has any actual notice of any person having or claiming to have any lien upon or interest in the real property hereinabove described subsequent to the interest of the trustee in the trust deed, or of any successor in interest to the grantor or of any lessee or other person in possession of or occupying the property, except: Name and Last Known Address and Nature of Right, Lien or Interest SHARON BURR 3659 WALLACE RD NW SALEM, OR 97304 Original Borrower BILLY BURR 3659 WALLACE RD NW SALEM, OR 97304 Original Borrower Information Call: 800-280-2832 or Login to: www.auction.com In construing this notice, the singular includes the plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to this grantor as well as any other person owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the trust

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deed, and the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Pursuant to Oregon Law, this sale will not be deemed final until the Trustee's deed has been issued by QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION. If any irregularities are discovered within 10 days of the date of this sale, the trustee will rescind the sale, return the buyer's money and take further action as necessary. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit report agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. NOTICE TO TENANTS: TENANTS OF THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY HAVE CERTAIN PROTECTIONS AFFORDED TO THEM UNDER ORS 86.782 AND POSSIBLY UNDER FEDERAL LAW. ATTACHED TO THIS NOTICE OF SALE, AND INCORPORATED HEREIN, IS A NOTICE TO TENANTS THAT SETS FORTH SOME OF THE PROTECTIONS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO A TENANT OF THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY AND WHICH SETS FORTH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS THAT MUST BE COMPLIED WITH BY ANY TENANT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE AFFORDED PROTECTION, AS REQUIRED UNDER ORS 86.771. TS No: OR-26-1037914-RM Dated: 5/15/2026 Quality Loan Service Corporation, as Trustee Signature By: Jeff Stenman, President Trustee's Mailing Address: QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION 108 1st Ave South, Suite 450, Seattle, WA 98104 Toll Free: (866) 925-0241 Trustee's Physical Address: Quality Loan Service Corporation 2763 Camino Del Rio South San Diego, CA 92108 Toll Free: (866) 925-0241 IDSPub # 0314933 6/17/2026 6/24/2026 7/1/2026 7/8/2026

PCIO26-307 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE TS NO.: 26-78621 Reference is made to that certain Deed of Trust (hereinafter referred as the Trust Deed) made by RICARDO ARCINIEGA PELAYO, A MARRIED MAN as Grantor to FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE COMPANY OF OREGON, as trustee, in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), as designated nominee for LOANDEPOT.

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COM, LLC, beneficiary of the security instrument, its successors and assigns, as Beneficiary, dated 2/14/2022, recorded 2/23/2022, as Instrument No. 2022-002374, in mortgage records of Polk County, Oregon covering the following described real property situated in said County and State, to-wit: BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF TRACT TWO (2), ELLENDALE HOMES ADDITION, DALLAS, IN POLK COUNTY, OREGON; AND RUNNING THENCE SOUTH A DISTANCE OF 12.0 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 56-1/2' WEST A DISTANCE OF 122.0 FEET; THENCE NORTH A DISTANCE OF 110.5 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 56-1/2' EAST A DISTANCE OF 122.0 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 4 DISTANCE OF 98.5 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, BEING A PART OF TRACT TWO (2) AND FOUR (4) IN SAID ADDITION. ALSO: BEGINNING AT A POINT 12.0 FEET SOUTH AND 122.0 FEET NORTH 89 DEGREES 56-1/2' WEST FROM THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF TRACT NUMBERED TWO (2), ELLENDALE HOMES ADDITION TO DALLAS, POLK COUNTY, OREGON; AND RUNNING THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 56-1/2' WEST 20.0 FEET; THENCE NORTH 110.5 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 56-1/2' EAST 20.0 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 110.5 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. The street address or other common designation, if any for the real property described above is purported to be: 415 SOUTHWEST RIVER DRIVE, DALLAS, OR 97338 The Tax Assessor's Account ID for the Real Property is purported to be: 137164 / 07532-BA-02601 Both the beneficiary and the trustee, ZBS Law, LLP have elected to foreclose the above referenced Trust Deed and sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by the Trust Deed and a Notice of Default and Election to Sell has been recorded pursuant to ORS 86.752(3). All right, title, and interest in the said described property which the grantors had, or had power to convey, at the time of execution of the Trust Deed, together with any interest the grantors or their successors in interest acquired after execution of the Trust Deed shall be sold at public auction to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy the obligations secured by the Trust Deed and the expenses of sale, including the compensation of the trustee as provided by law, and the reasonable fees of trustee's attorneys. The default for which the foreclosure is made is: The monthly installment of principal and interest which became due on 12/1/2025, late charges, and all subsequent monthly installments of principal and interest. You are responsible to pay all payments and charges due under the terms and conditions of the loan documents which come due subsequent to the date of this notice, including, but not limited to, foreclosure trustee fees and costs, advances and late charges. Furthermore, as a condition to bring your account in good standing, you must provide the undersigned with written proof that you are not in default on any senior encumbrance and provide proof of insurance. Nothing in this notice should be construed as a waiver of any fees owing to the beneficiary under the deed of trust, pursuant to the terms and provisions of the loan documents. The amount required to cure the default in payments to date is calculated

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as follows: From: 12/1/2025 through 5/1/2026 Total of past due payments: \$7,938.72 Late Charges: \$205.20 Additional charges (Taxes, Insurance, Corporate Advances, Other Fees): \$757.50 Trustee's Fees and Costs: \$2,582.75 Total necessary to cure: \$11,484.17 Please note the amounts stated herein are subject to confirmation and review and are likely to change during the next 30 days. Please contact the successor trustee ZBS Law, LLP, to obtain a 'reinstatement' and or 'payoff' quote prior to remitting funds. By reason of said default the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by the Trust Deed due and payable. The amount required to discharge this lien in its entirety to date is: \$247,291.17 Said sale shall be held at the hour of 9:00 AM on 9/8/2026 in accord with the standard of time established by ORS 187.110, and pursuant to ORS 86.771(7) shall occur at the following designated place: At the front entrance of the Polk County Courthouse, 850 Main Street, Dallas, OR 97338 Other than as shown of record, neither the said beneficiary nor the said trustee have any actual notice of any person having or claiming to have any lien upon or interest in the real property hereinabove described subsequent to the interest of the trustee in the Trust Deed, or of any successor(s) in interest to the grantors or of any lessee or other person in possession of or occupying the property, except: NONE Notice is further given that any person named in ORS 86.778 has the right, at any time prior to five days before the date last set for sale, to have this foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the Trust Deed reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred) and by curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation(s) of the Trust Deed, and in addition to paying said sums or tendering the performance necessary to cure the default, by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Trust Deed, together with the trustee's and attorney's fees not exceeding the amounts provided by ORS 86.778. The mailing address of the trustee is: ZBS Law, LLP, 5 Centerpointe Dr., Suite 400, Lake Oswego, OR 97035 (503) 946-6558 In construing this notice, the masculine gender includes the feminine and the neuter, the singular includes plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other persons owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by said trust deed, the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. IMPORTANT NOTICE: Starting March 1, 2026, Federal Law may prohibit ZBS Law from issuing a Trustee's

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Deed Upon Sale in connection with this trustee's sale until information about the winning bidder is reported to the U.S. Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network? See, 31 CFR § 1031.320 (https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-31/subtitle-B/chapter-X/part-1031/subpart-C/section-1031.320).? If this trustee's sale qualifies as a "reportable transfer" under 31 CFR § 1031.320(b), and you, as buyer, qualify as a "transferee entity" under 31 CFR § 1031.320(e)(1) or "transferee trust" under 31 CFR § 1031.320(e)(2), you will be obligated to provide information about the Beneficial Owner(s) of the transferee to ZBS Law or ZBS Law's designated representative.? If you qualify as an exempt entity or trust under 31 CFR § 1031.320(n) (10)-(11), you may be required to provide evidence of the exemption supported by a declaration under penalty of perjury.? If the Trustee's Deed Upon Sale cannot be issued due to a qualified transferee's failure or inability to provide the necessary reporting information, the qualified transferee will be responsible for all fees and costs to re-notice the trustee's sale. Dated: 4/23/2026, ZBS Law, LLP, By: Dirk Schouten, OSB#115153 ZBS Law, LLP Authorized to sign on behalf of the trustee EPP 47681 Pub Dates 06/17, 06/24, 07/01, 07/08/2026

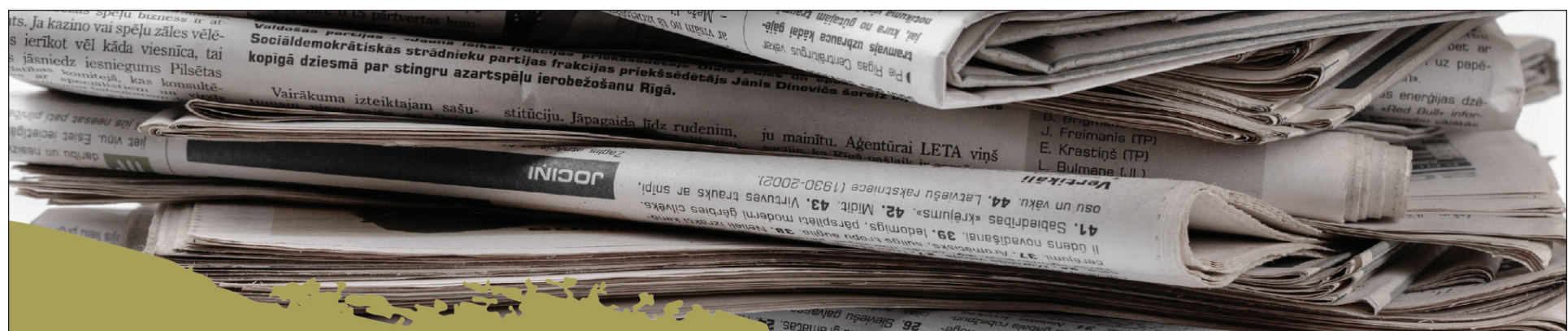
PCIO26-278 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE TS. No.: OR-26-1037551-BB Reference is made to that certain deed made by, FRANCISCO CONTRERAS as Grantor to AMERI-TITLE, as trustee, in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR ACCREDITED HOME LENDERS, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as Beneficiary, dated 2/24/2006, recorded 2/28/2006, in official records of POLK County, Oregon in book/reel/volume No. and/or as fee/file/instrument/microfilm/reception number 2006-003243 and subsequently assigned or transferred by operation of law to TOWD POINT MORTGAGE TRUST 2017-6, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE covering the following described real property situated in said County, and State. APN: 07316-DC-02100 243135 LOT 13, BLOCK 2, WESTHAVEN, POLK COUNTY, OREGON. Commonly known as: 1548 WESTHAVEN AVE NW, SALEM, OR 97304-2624 The undersigned hereby certifies that based upon business records there are no known written assignments of the trust deed by the trustee or by the beneficiary, except as recorded in the records of the county or counties in which the above described real property is situated. Further, no action has been instituted to recover the debt, or any part thereof, now remaining secured by the trust deed, or, if such action has been instituted, such action has been dismissed except as permitted by ORS 86.752(7). Both the beneficiary and the trustee have elected to sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by said trust deed and notice has been recorded pursuant to Section 86.752(3) of Oregon Revised Statutes. There is a default by grantor or other person owing an obligation, performance of which is secured by the trust deed, or by the successor in interest, with respect to provisions therein which authorize sale in

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the event of such provision. The default for which foreclosure is made is grantor's failure to pay when due the following sum: TOTAL REQUIRED TO REINSTATE: \$15,211.45 TOTAL REQUIRED TO PAYOFF: \$227,758.12 Because of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day-to-day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. It will be necessary for you to contact the Trustee before the time you tender reinstatement or the payoff amount so that you may be advised of the exact amount you will be required to pay. By reason of the default, the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by the trust deed immediately due and payable, those sums being the following, to-wit: The installments of principal and interest which became due on 9/1/2025, and all subsequent installments of principal and interest through the date of this Notice, plus amounts that are due (if applicable) for late charges, delinquent property taxes, insurance premiums, advances made on senior liens, taxes and/or insurance, trustee's fees, and any attorney fees and court costs arising from or associated with the beneficiaries efforts to protect and preserve its security, all of which must be paid as a condition of reinstatement, including all sums that shall accrue through reinstatement or pay-off. Nothing in this notice shall be construed as a waiver of any fees owing to the Beneficiary under the Deed of Trust pursuant to the terms of the loan documents. Whereof, notice hereby is given that QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION, the undersigned trustee will on 9/17/2026 at the hour of 1:00 PM, Standard of Time, as established by section 187.110, Oregon Revised Statutes, Inside the new lobby at the Jefferson Street entrance of the County Courthouse, 850 Main Street, Dallas, Oregon 97338 County of POLK, State of Oregon, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the interest in the said described real property which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time of the execution by him of the said trust deed, together with any interest which the grantor or his successors in interest acquired after the execution of said trust deed, to satisfy the foregoing obligations thereby secured and the costs and expenses of sale, including a reasonable charge by the trustee. Notice is further given that any person named in Section 86.778 of Oregon Revised Statutes has the right to have the foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the trust deed reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than such portion of said principal as would not then be due had no default occurred), together with the costs, trustee's and attorney's fees and curing any other default complained of in the Notice of Default by tendering the performance required under the obligation or trust deed, at any time prior to five days before the date last set for sale. Other than as shown of record, neither the beneficiary nor the trustee has any actual notice of any person having or claiming to have any lien upon or interest in the real property hereinabove described subsequent to the interest of the trustee in the trust deed, or of any successor in interest to grantor or of any lessee or other person in possession of or occupying the property, except: Name and Last Known

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Address and Nature of Right, Lien or Interest FRANCISCO CONTRERAS 1548 WESTHAVEN AVE NW SALEM, OR 97304-2624 Original Borrower For Sale Information Call: 855-882-1314 or Login to: https://www.hubzu.com/ In construing this notice, the singular includes the plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to this grantor as well as any other person owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the trust deed, and the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Pursuant to Oregon Law, this sale will not be deemed final until the Trustee's deed has been issued by QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION. If any irregularities are discovered within 10 days of the date of this sale, the trustee will rescind the sale, return the buyer's money and take further action as necessary. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit report agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. NOTICE TO TENANTS: TENANTS OF THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY HAVE CERTAIN PROTECTIONS AFFORDED TO THEM UNDER ORS 86.782 AND POSSIBLY UNDER FEDERAL LAW. ATTACHED TO THIS NOTICE OF SALE, AND INCORPORATED HEREIN, IS A NOTICE TO TENANTS THAT SETS FORTH SOME OF THE PROTECTIONS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO A TENANT OF THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY AND WHICH SETS FORTH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS THAT MUST BE COMPLIED WITH BY ANY TENANT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE AFFORDED PROTECTION, AS REQUIRED UNDER ORS 86.771. TS No: OR-26-1037551-BB Dated: 5/6/2026 Quality Loan Service Corporation, as Trustee Signature By: Jeff Stenman, President Trustee's Mailing Address: QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION 108 1st Ave South, Suite 450, Seattle, WA 98104 Toll Free: (866) 925-0241 Trustee's Physical Address: Quality Loan Service Corporation 2763 Camino Del Rio South San Diego, CA 92108 Toll Free: (866) 925-0241 IDSPub # 0314766 6/10/2026 6/17/2026 6/24/2026 7/1/2026



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MUD

From Page B1

Team)
 2nd - Mike Lucia, of Lafayette, 2024 Honda Talon
 3rd - Steven Brown, of Sheridan, 2021 Honda Talon

SIDE BY SIDES - MODIFIED CLASS

1st - Brad Himes, of Tillamook, 2019 Honda Talon

(Total Destruction Racing Team)
 2nd - Shawn Dobbins, of Sheridan, 2020 Yamaha YXZ "Black Sheep" (Ridiculous Riders)

3rd - Mike Lucia, of Lafayette, 2024 Honda Talon

SIDE BY SIDE SHORT COURSE

FACTORY CLASS

1st Steven Brown, of Sheridan, 2021 Honda Talon
 2nd - Brad Himes, of

Tillamook, 2019 Honda Talon (Total Destruction Racing Team)
 3rd - Mike Lucia, of Lafayette, 2024 Honda Talon

TURBO CLASS

1st - Chris Lucia, of Lafayette, 2024 Honda Talon (Total Destruction Racing Team)
 2nd - Steven Brown, of Sheridan, 2021 Honda Talon
 3rd - Shawn Dobbins, of Sheridan, 2020 Yamaha YXZ "Black Sheep" (Ridiculous Riders)

KIDS DASH FOR CASH

5 & Under

1st - Ruef Eckstrom, of Tillamook
 2nd - Nolan Cornell, of Sheridan
 3rd - Parker Danta, of McMinnville

6-7 years old

1st - Dausin Johnson, of McMinnville
 2nd - Piper Hopper, of McMinnville
 3rd - Graceland Johnson, of

McMinnville

8-10 years old

1st - Leo Simms, of Willamina
 2nd - Travis McKee, of McMinnville
 3rd - Wyatt Griffiths, of Sheridan

11-13 years old

1st - River Brown of Sheridan
 2nd - Brint Himes of Tillamook
 3rd - Dehvin Druery, of Sheridan



Four things to remember when babyproofing your home for your toddler

Babyproofing your home doesn't have to feel overwhelming. Here are just a few things to keep in mind when creating a safe space for your little one to explore with confidence.

- 1. Get down to your baby's level.** Look for hazards you might miss from above. Cover electrical outlets, secure heavy furniture to the wall and install safety gates at stairs. According to HealthyChildren.org, anchoring items like dressers and TVs is the best way to prevent tipping accidents.
- 2. Look around your kitchen.** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises storing medications, chemicals and sharp objects out of reach and in

childproof containers. Keep those cleaning supplies locked away and use stove knob covers.

- 3. Don't forget the bathroom.** Set your water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit to avoid burns and use nonslip mats in the tub.
- 4. Small changes add up quickly.** Doorknob covers, cabinet locks and corner guards can make everyday spaces much safer.

You've got this. With a few smart adjustments, your home can become a safe, happy place for your baby to learn, play and thrive. Go to [healthychildren.org](https://www.healthychildren.org) and search parent checklist for more tips.

Brought to you by
Salem Health Family Birth Center.
 Learn more at [salemhealth.org/FBC](https://www.salemhealth.org/FBC)



Don't forget to RECYCLE