

Indy

Drone assists police in locating wanted suspects

See A2



H&G

Summer tips around the yard, house

See B1



TALES OF THE SEASON

Local columnist debuts first book
'Ghosts, Witches, Graveyards and More'

By DAVID HAYES
I-O Editor

Gary Derowitsch by trade logged 33 years as a mailman for the cities of Independence and Monmouth.

Now 73, he has the time to follow a passion he's had since childhood – writing.

Recalling his wonderful memories from childhood was the first step to fulfilling that passion.

"One of the things we were allowed to play until like 8 or 9 o'clock at night during the winter. So, being dark and everything, I used to love walking home and seeing the full moon. And loved all that, anything Halloween," Derowitsch said.

In the 80s, he said he got an unlikely motivation to start retelling those tales from yesteryear.

"So, back in 1986, roughly, I was really sick. And I ended up at the Mayo Clinic. So, I thought I better get busy and write about something I really enjoyed as a kid. So, that was this story," said.

That first recollection about his favorite time of year would appear in the pages of the Itemizer-Observer in his regular column, Special Memories: Fall in Independence.

After penning that first recollection, Derowitsch said going through Oregon College of Education (now Western Oregon University) he had all these stories in mind, but just couldn't get them all down on paper.

"And finally, I just sat down one day and said, Okay, you

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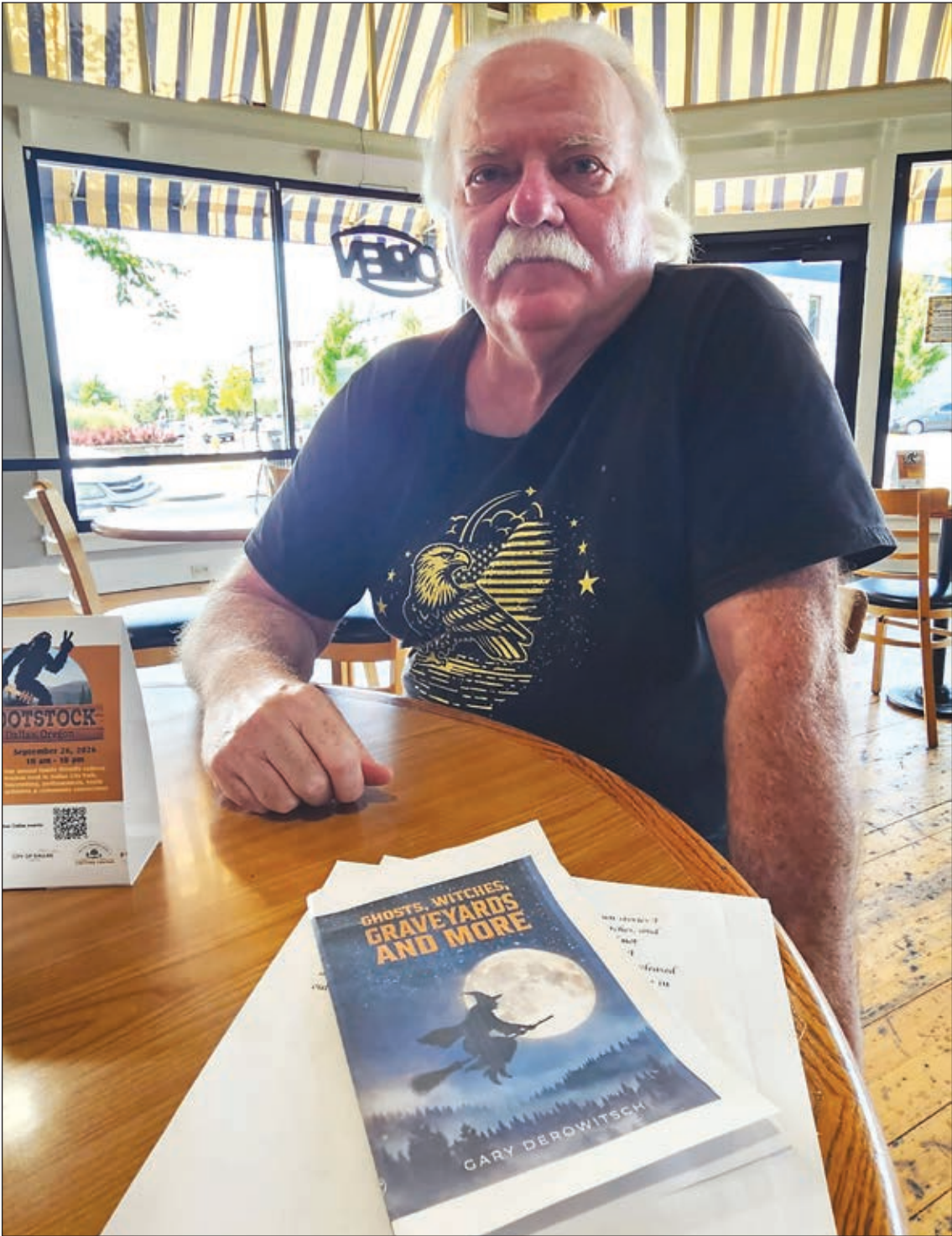


PHOTO BY DAVID HAYES

Gary Derowitsch, a retired mailman, shares a printout of the cover of his first book 'Ghosts, Witches, Graveyards and More' which collects the favorite columns he's written set in the autumn months.

County weighs need for increased safety levy

By DAVID HAYES
I-O Editor

The county commissioners began discussions Aug. 19 to determine which path to take in renewing their safety levy for the May 2027 ballot.

Facing ever growing expenses to the general fund, county staff proposed several levy options for the commissioners to consider approving to send to voters.

County Administrator Greg Hansen said two key factors went into drawing up the options – the rate of growth in county assessed property values, which he placed at an average of 3.5 % growth, and the increased budgeted expenses the county faces, which he averaged out at 8%.

His calculations included three upcoming PERS (public employee retirement) cost increases through 2031, including health-insurance step increases. He explained the safety levy is a employee-based levy, meaning it does not cover materials and services nor does it include the increase in health and costs in the jail.

"With that said, I think all of the people involved in this levy are aware that the levy amount from the 49 ½ cents that we currently have will need to increase and will need to increase significantly over the next reauthorization," Hansen said. "And as a result, I've

See LEVY, page A8

Referendum on Indy library, parks fee going to voters

By DAVID HAYES
I-O Editor

Residents of Independence will get to vote in November whether the city can implement its plan to impose a new fee to keep the public library and parks open.

When voters rejected a levy in 2024 to maintain operations at the library, museum and city parks, the administration went an alternative route rather than out right closing the locations.

Emmanuel Goicochea, city communications director, explained that when the City Council adopted its 2026-27 budget, it incorporated revenue from a Community Services and Parks Fee to fund library, museum and parks services. The Council also adopted the ordinance establishing the fee. The fee is \$11.50 per month for Community Services, which funds library and

museum services, and \$8.15 per month for parks. With the Public Safety Fee decreasing by \$7 per month, the net monthly change is \$12.65.

Many within the community felt this move circumvented the will of voters, including former city manager Greg Ellis.

"When the ordinance came out, it really bothered me. In 2024, the November local option levy on the ballot for tax on property, failed 60 to 40," Ellis said. "The council didn't go out and sell it well enough."

The proposed 2024 operations levy would have charged property owners \$1.82 per \$1,000 of assessed value to fund the library, museum and parks. After it failed, Ellis said instead of trying again with a better support campaign, the

See LIBRARY, page A8



FILE PHOTO

A referendum to allow Independence residents to vote on a new city utility fee to pay to keep the Independence Library, museum and city parks open has qualified for the November ballot.

IN THIS ISSUE

Send us a news tip at [www.polkio.com/site/forms/news tip/](http://www.polkio.com/site/forms/news%20tip/) | Your message could be the first thing our readers see!



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Weather

W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu
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Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Showers

Drone assists Independence Police in locating wanted suspects

In the early morning hours of Aug. 14, Independence Police arrested two individuals wanted in connection with domestic disturbance investigations from several months earlier.

An Independence Police officer was driving through the 300 block of North Gun Club Road when the officer recognized two individuals wanted in connection with those investigations. When the officer turned around to contact them, one individual left the area. The other, Sebastian Ortellao, 37, of Independence, was taken into custody without incident on an outstanding warrant charging

strangulation.

With permission from several local property owners, officers deployed a drone equipped with a thermal camera to search for the second individual. The drone allowed officers to search the area from a safe distance while providing information about the individual's location before officers made contact.

The drone located the individual hiding on one of the properties. Officers then safely took Autumn Snyder, 32, of Independence, into custody. A firearm was located on Snyder's person at the time of the arrest.

Snyder was charged with menacing, unlawful

use of a weapon, recklessly endangering another person, pointing a firearm at another, unlawful possession of a firearm and trespass.

Both individuals were lodged at the Polk County Jail.

Independence Police were assisted by the Monmouth Police Department and Polk County Sheriff's Office.

PHOTO COURTESY IPD
A drone photo shows Independence Police Officers moving in on Autumn Snyder, 32, of Independence, who had been hiding on private property off North Gun Club Road.



News Briefs

INDEPENDENCE MAN KILLED IN DOUGLAS COUNTY ACCIDENT

An Independence was killed Monday evening in a single vehicle accident on northbound Interstate 5 near Sutherland, according to the Oregon State Police.

At 11:47 p.m., OSP officers responded to a single-vehicle fatal crash near milepost 138.

Their preliminary investigation indicated a silver Kia Rondo, operated by Carl Leslie Earhart, 80, of Independence, was traveling northbound on Interstate 5 when it left the roadway for unknown

reasons. The vehicle struck a group of trees, rolled over, and caught fire.

Earhart was pronounced deceased at the scene.

OSP was assisted by the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Sutherlin Police Department, Douglas County Fire District No. 2, and the Oregon Department of Transportation.

SHERIDAN MAN SENTENCED FOR SEXUALLY ABUSING MINORS

Frederick Johnston, of Sheridan, was sentenced today by Polk County Circuit Judge pro tem



Frederick Johnston

Timothy R. Park to serve 12 1/2 years in prison for convictions of sex abuse involving two related minor victims under the age of 14.

Johnston, 69, pleaded

guilty to two counts of sex abuse in the first degree after participating in a judicial settlement conference conducted by Park. The court sentenced Johnston to 75 months on each count to be served consecutively, followed by a period of 45 months of post-prison supervision. Johnston is not eligible for early release or any other form of sentence reduction program.

During the course of the investigation, more than 30 weapons were located in Johnston's possession. All of the weapons were forfeited due to Johnston having a prior felony weapons related

conviction.

The case was investigated by the Polk County Sheriff's Office and prosecuted by Polk County Deputy District Attorney Shannon Clausen.

SHERIFF'S DOG KENNEL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Polk County Sheriff's Dog Kennel needs volunteers who love dogs. Located at the southeast corner of the Polk County Fairgrounds, the dog shelter has 12 kennels made for temporarily housing dogs that are looking to be reunited with their owners.

Applicants must be ages

18 and older. As a volunteer, you would complete a short training and essentially be part of an on-call list. Our animal control deputy or a volunteer coordinator would be in touch when we have a dog or multiple dogs in the shelter that need feeding, potty breaks, play time, etc, and you could decide if/when it works for you to provide assistance at the shelter. Volunteers then log when they were there and what services they provided so we can ensure the dogs are getting adequate care.

If you have any questions, contact the PCSO at (503) 623-9251.

Red Cross, Hello Kitty join forces to help save lives

The American Red Cross urges people to celebrate the power of kindness by making an appointment to give life-saving blood or platelets. Every donation is critical to helping prevent the next blood shortage.

The Red Cross and Hello Kitty® and Friends are partnering in September to remind donors that comfort and care are always better

when shared. Just one blood or platelet donation can help more than one patient enjoy a happier future. As a thank-you, those who come to give Sept. 1-20, 2026, will get an exclusive Red Cross x Hello Kitty plush mascot clip and surprise sticker pack, while supplies last. For details, visit RedCrossBlood.org/HelloKitty.

Thanks to the generosity

of thousands of people who rolled up a sleeve this summer, the blood supply continues to recover from critically low levels. As we enter September, the blood supply remains vulnerable — especially as we approach new seasonal challenges such as back-to-school activities that can cause donors to be less available to give, and the ongoing potential for tropical systems in the

Atlantic, which can further threaten the blood supply by disrupting blood drives. By making and keeping appointments now, donors can help the Red Cross ensure lifesaving blood products are on hand wherever they are needed, including communities where donations may not be possible due to severe summer weather and natural disasters.

One small act of

kindness can travel far. Spark joy and book a time to give blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS.

September blood donation opportunities in Polk County:

DALLAS
Sept. 8: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Dallas Aquatic Center,

1005 SE La Creole Dr.
Sept. 11: 12-5 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 320 SE Fir Villa Road

INDEPENDENCE
Sept. 4: 12-4:30 p.m., Independence Civic Center, 555 S Main St.

MONMOUTH
Sept. 1: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Partnerships in Community Living, 480 E Main St.

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Open auditions planned for ‘Charles Dickens Writes A Christmas Carol’

Pentacle Theatre is hosting open auditions from 1-5 p.m. Sept. 26 for its next production, “Charles Dickens Writes A Christmas Carol” at their downtown Salem rehearsal studio at 197 Liberty St. SE.

Directed by Chris Davidson and adapted by Scott Palmer, “Charles Dickens Writes A Christmas Carol” follows Dickens while he writes, the characters from his own mind come to life right in his room. They argue, debate, and push him to finish the book.

Producers call it “a fast, funny, and highly imaginative comedy. It skips the overused clichés of traditional versions to focus on how hard it is to create art.”

Pentacle Theatre is looking to cast seven actors – four male three female. For a full list of roles, genders, and ages, go to www.pentacletheatre.org/auditions.

Pentacle Theatre affirms, promotes, and celebrates inclusivity in theater arts, embracing and welcoming people of every race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, age, religion, socioeconomic status, and other lived experiences.

Doors open at 12:30 p.m. and open auditions for all roles begin promptly at 1 p.m. Please be on time and plan to stay through 5 p.m. Also, arrive early to fill out an audition form. Producers encourage actors to download the form at www.PentacleTheatre.org/auditions and complete it in advance. Please write clearly, especially contact information. Headshots and resumes are not required but are always appreciated.

Bring your calendar and provide a complete list any conflicts through Dec. 12. If you have a conflict with the audition date, please contact the director. Rehearsals will generally from 6:30-9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

Oregon lawmaker says she’ll push for more cannabis regulations in 2027 to protect kids

MIA MALDONADO
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Karma Clarke, a Douglas County mother, thought marijuana was harmless in 2014 when she voted in favor of the ballot measure legalizing recreational cannabis in Oregon.

She believed that until six years later, when her then-20-year-old son began smoking marijuana regularly.

He had played sports and maintained good grades in college, but when he returned home after completing his associate degree, Clarke said her son began acting strangely. He stopped leaving his room, and he lost the ability to perform everyday tasks such as reading a tape measure or answering questions.

After several doctor visits, her son was admitted in two different psychiatric hospitalizations. Although his drug tests came back clean, something had switched in his brain, she said.

Clarke shared her story of witnessing her son develop a psychotic disorder at a virtual meeting Wednesday, where state Sen. Lisa Reynolds, D-Portland, invited her and public health experts to speak about policy proposals aimed at preventing youth access to cannabis.

“I’m hoping that the cannabis industry will take the lead, and they’ll decide they don’t want to be like the tobacco industry and they don’t want to keep denying that there’s a link between their products and people’s lives being ruined,” Clarke said.

Reynolds looks to THC caps again, and more warning labels

Recreational cannabis has been legal in Oregon for adults 21 and older for more than a decade, but it remains illegal for minors. Still, an estimated 13,000 youth between ages 12 and 18 use cannabis in Oregon, according to Dr. Julia Dilley, a Multnomah County epidemiologist who led a 10-year study looking at cannabis legalization and public health impact in Oregon and Washington.

Reynolds, a pediatrician who has served in the Legislature for five years, is seeking to improve cannabis prevention education in schools, cap individual edibles at 10 milligrams of THC and require manufacturers provide more warning labels on their products.

Reynolds’ efforts are inspired by her work as a pediatrician, and because she believes her brother’s habitual marijuana use in the ’70s contributed to his severe mental health problems as an adult.

Teens using cannabis are at 11 times higher risk of developing a psychotic disorder compared to teens not using cannabis, studies show.

“When we talk about the risk of psychosis, this isn’t just what we would call a bad experience while you are actually intoxicated by cannabis,” Reynolds said. “This is a long-term disability.”

Additionally, more children are turning up in hospitals after consuming edibles resembling desserts such as brownies or cookies.

She spearheaded legislation earlier this year to cap individual edibles at 10 milligrams of THC. Her bill made it past the Oregon Senate, but it died in the committee process on the House side as members received intense pushback from marijuana industry groups. Reynolds said she’ll propose the legislation again, but this time with the help of a lobbyist.

The Cannabis Industry Alliance of Oregon did not immediately respond to the Capital Chronicle’s request for comment.

Oregon is one of the most loosely regulated marijuana states

More than 800 calls since 2025 to the Oregon Poison Center were related to cannabis, said Dilley, the Multnomah County epidemiologist. One-third of those calls were for children younger than 5.

Cannabis use among youth is higher in Oregon than it is in Washington because it doesn’t have the same protective measures, she said.

Unlike Washington which requires that cannabis manufacturers individually wrap all edibles with a 10 milligram THC cap, Oregon cannabis manufacturers can sell individual edibles with more than 10 milligrams of THC, such as sodas or cookies containing 100 milligrams of THC that are meant to be split into several portions. Both states require an edible package contain no more than 100 milligrams of THC.

Unlike Oregon, it’s illegal to grow nonmedical marijuana at home in Washington. Washington also caps the number of retail cannabis outlets and applies a 37% sales tax. Oregon’s cannabis sales tax ranges from 17% to 20%, depending on where it’s bought. Both states require cannabis businesses to be located at least 1,000 feet away from public schools. Washington requires this buffer also apply to private schools, playgrounds, childcare facilities, libraries and other locations, though Oregon localities can establish additional buffers under state law.

Oregon does require warning labels on cannabis products related to pregnancy. These labels are working and preventing people from using cannabis during pregnancy, Dilley said, adding that Oregon could go a step further at providing more warning labels about cannabis use contributing to worse mental health outcomes.

“These products should not be designed or marketed to appeal to children,” pediatrician Dr. Jill Pearson said. “Yet, time and time again, we are just repeating Joe Camel, Big Tobacco and all the things all over again to addict the next generation.”

<https://oregoncapital-chronicle.com/2026/08/19/oregon-lawmaker-says-shell-push-for-more-cannabis-regulations-in-2027-to-protect-kids/>

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Five ways to add fruits and vegetables into your child’s diet

Getting kids to eat more fruits and vegetables doesn’t have to be a daily negotiation.

Here are a few ways to make produce accessible, familiar and fun:

- 1. **Keep healthy options readily available.** Washed fruit on the counter and cut vegetables in the fridge create a simple choice when hunger strikes.
- 2. **Add a fruit or vegetable option to every meal and snack.** This can include berries with cereal, cucumber slices with lunch or carrots and hummus after a nap.
- 3. **Lead by example.** When parents regularly eat and enjoy fruits and veggies, children are more likely to try them

too. Research shows children tend to consume more produce when eating with family.

- 4. **Progress over perfection.** Frozen and canned produce are also nutritious choices.
- 5. **Involve your children in the prep.** Include them in grocery shopping or helping to prepare meals. Take your child to a local market to pick out new produce. Letting them help wash, chop (with safe tools), or assemble their own fruit and vegetable creations often boosts their willingness to try the food.

Keep the vibe positive. Celebrate curiosity and don’t worry about leaving a clean plate. These small opportunities can build healthy habits that last a lifetime.

NEWS & VIEWS

The Extensive Reach of Polk County Fairgrounds

By MITCH LIES

Polk County Fair Board Chair Tim Ray has this fear that three or four years from now, Polk County residents will regret the closure of the county fairgrounds.

“The community will be like, ‘Boy, wouldn’t it be nice to have a place where we could hold such and such an event?’” Ray said. “And the answer is, we had one.”

Ray’s fear stems from a concern that voters will fail to pass the five-year, \$5 million fairgrounds operating levy that will be on the ballot in the November general election, a failure that will result in the closure of the Polk County Fairgrounds and Event Center.

“The bottom line is if we don’t pass the levy, we will have to close the fairgrounds,” said Polk County Commissioner Craig Pope. “There just isn’t the money in the general fund to keep it going any longer.”



MITCH LIES

If approved, the levy will raise property taxes 12 cents per \$1,000 assessed value, meaning the owner of a home assessed at \$250,000 will pay an extra \$30 per year.

The county has arrived at this juncture in large part because it has pushed off facility upgrades for decades, to the point where the liability involved in operating the fairgrounds has become untenable. The electrical system, for example, was installed in 1952, Pope said, and needs a complete overhaul, a renovation that

alone will cost upwards of \$1 million.

“We don’t have that (in the general fund),” Pope said.

The fairgrounds would be a huge loss for a county that uses the property for everything from emergency evacuations during catastrophic events like floods and wildfires, to RV rallies, ham-radio shows, craft shows, 4-H club meetings and, of course, the county’s annual fair and rodeo.

Rachel Brandon, 4-H faculty for Polk County Extension, said many of the 4-H clubs that she supervises would have a hard time finding sites to meet if the fairgrounds were to close.

“It would be very sad for the kids in our county,” she said. “For many of our clubs, I’m not sure we could find somewhere else to meet.”

Fairgrounds Manager Tina Andersen agreed.

“Not only will it be a loss to all the kids because of all the programs that

are done here for kids, but we are the emergency center, so we take in families and animals anytime that there is an emergency,” Andersen said. “We also are the reunification site for several Polk County school districts: If something happens at those schools, those kids are immediately bused to the fairgrounds. There is so much that we do here.”

Without the fairgrounds, Andersen wonders where many of the more than 700 events the fairgrounds and events center hosts each year will go. She added that many residents would have to find new storage.

“We store boats, RVs, farm equipment and it all brings in money,” she said. “We have looked at everything that we do and tried to make every dime out of every little piece that we have.”

In all, the fairgrounds generates about \$300,000 in revenue each year, Andersen said. It also receives about \$50,000

from Oregon lottery funds each year and between \$150,000 and \$250,000 from the Polk County general fund. Out of that, the fairgrounds pays for general upkeep, salaries of Andersen and two other full-time employees as well as two part-time employees.

The vast majority of the fairgrounds’ five-year, \$5 million levy is earmarked for overdue maintenance, including \$1.25 million to upgrade the electrical system, \$750,000 for improvements to building interiors and the parking lot, \$500,000 to replace the roof of the main building and another \$500,000 for exterior work on the 74-year old structure.

An additional \$350,000 will be used in the first year for operational costs. County staff expect to go back to voters for an additional operating levy at the conclusion of the five-year levy, but at a reduced rate.

Ray acknowledged that the levy will be up against

an anti-tax sentiment.

“If you ask people, do you want the fairgrounds to close, nobody says yes,” Ray said. “The challenge is are you willing to spend \$3 a month to keep the fairgrounds open. And nobody wants more taxes. I don’t want more taxes. But I also know not only the intrinsic value of the fairgrounds but the extrinsic value to a community of a fairgrounds and event center and the 700-plus events that would have to find someplace else to go.”

Andersen noted that she recently talked to a resident who said he never uses the fairgrounds and doesn’t plan to vote for the levy.

“I said, ‘So where does your son go when there is a shooting or an emergency at his school?’ And he said, ‘Well, I don’t know.’ And I said, ‘Well I do. It’s here.’”

Mitch Lies is a freelance writer based in Salem who specializes in reporting on agriculture.

Your Environment: Whoa! That climate change is some hoax

“If we really expect to put out every single fire before it gets big, we would need double the workforce and probably triple the budget.”

— Bobbie Scopa, retired fire chief and officer in Grassroots Wildland Firefighters.

By PHILIP S. WENZ

In recent weeks, massive wildfires, fueled by intense heat waves, ravaged vast areas of France and Spain, forcing 375,000 people to evacuate their homes. Those fires have mostly abated, but extreme heat conditions persist in much of Europe, especially the Mediterranean basin where, as I write this on the weekend of Aug. 8-9, virtually all of Italy and Greece are on “Red Alert,” with day-time temperatures at or above 104°F. Wildfires are

also raging in Scotland, England, Norway, Iceland and Algeria.

Closer to Oregon, about 9.5 million acres of Canadian forests burned in July. Thick clouds of smoke from those blazes drifted across the U.S. Mid-Atlantic states, making the air unsafe to breathe and life miserable for millions of people. And even as I type these words, 22,000 people are evacuating areas of British Columbia to escape “explosive” wildfires.

In the U.S. Pacific Northwest, early-August wildfires forced 65,000 people to evacuate from suburban Spokane, Washington, and torched 850 structures. Other Washington fires burned at least half a million acres in that state.

Here in Oregon’s Cascade Range, the Akawa Butte fire expanded in pulses of

5,400 acres in a single night and 7,000 acres in a separate 72-hour period, turning back on itself just five miles from the charming mountain town of Sisters. The blaze was so intense that it created 150- to 200-foot-long flames and smoke-laden cumulus clouds that spat lightning. This is Oregon’s worst fire season ever, with over 2.2 million acres already burned and the fire-prone May-through-October period only half over.

Smoke from the Cascades fires settled in the Willamette Valley, polluting the air and, combined with high heat, making outdoor life dangerous for vulnerable people, including older adults, those with asthma and others, and generally unpleasant for everyone.

Locally, a wildfire erupted at the Beal Christmas tree farm and pumpkin patch on the

outskirts of Dallas home to this newspaper, on July 21. Extinguishing that three-alarm blaze required firefighters from 11 nearby fire districts, the Oregon Department of Forestry and the State Fire Marshall, as well as 103 helicopter water dumps. The quickly spreading fire scorched about 50 acres and 5,000 commercial trees. Fire incident commander Lt. Zach Leigh of Southwestern Polk Fire District said extinguishing the blaze before it did more damage was possible because of prior mitigation efforts by the farm’s owners, the proper alignment of the needed resources, and that “... it comes down to this, we were lucky.”

Zooming back out, this will probably be the planet’s hottest year ever, with some of its warmth and erratic weather driven by a “super” El

Niño releasing copious quantities of stored heat from the southern Pacific Ocean, where the waters are warmer than they’ve ever been. Weird, massive storms will likely follow this summer and fall’s heat surge, and many areas of the planet that are currently suffering from record heat will experience record flooding this coming winter.

It’s enough to make one think that rapid man-made climate change, which President Trump famously called a “hoax” in 2012, might be real after all.

If that’s the case, what should we do? As someone who’s carefully followed the climate crisis for more than a decade, I think we need to recognize that we have reached a new phase in its development where it’s too late for a renewable energy revolution to keep us from suffering many

of the consequences of man-made warming. We should continue to move away from fossil fuels, of course, but it’s time to recognize that we are now in a situation akin to war, and prepare and finance our response accordingly.

Philip S. Wenz reports on environmental issues, and is active in the Monmouth-Independence Climate Group. Visit his website at Firebird Journal, firebirdjournal.com.

TEMP/RAINFALL

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AUG. 18 - 87 55 0.00
AUG. 19 - 88 54 0.00
AUG. 20 - 93 57 0.00
AUG. 21 - 80 58 0.00
AUG. 22 - 78 53 0.00
AUG. 23 - 80 62 0.00
TOTAL AUG. 17-80 0.00
TOTAL THROUGH AUG. 23 - 0.00

Online poll results

Which decade had the best guilty pleasure music genre?

70s Disco - 45.5%

80s Bubble gum pop - 9.1%

90s Grunge - 27.3%

2000s Emo Pop Punk - 18.2%

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

AN EVENTFUL EXCURSION TO DALLAS MERCHANTS

Grandmothers are expected to be wise.

Dallas small businesses recently contributed to honing my skills. My 13-year-old granddaughter was gifted a small, gold ring to contribute to fund-raising efforts towards a 2027 trip to DC. Our mission was to transfer the ring to dollars.

The first logical stop was the lovely Main Street Jewelers. They kindly gave us a ball-park value and directed us to a

pawn shop three doors down who actually purchases gold items. The proprietor greeted us cordially and proceeded to provide big sister, 10-year-old sister and me with a fascinating science lesson in grading gold. He offered a price to the future traveler and she accepted the exchange.

Our excursion was wonderful on many levels. Thank you, local businesses, for the integrity, respect and instruction you provided.

Kristine Dalton,
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 strongly discourage and will attempt to weed out form letters, letters mailed to other news outlets, or letters written and edited by a third party, including but not limited to political parties. We try to restrict the printing of one submission per author per month. We do not publish anonymous letters, personal attacks, personal complaints, poetry, consumer complaints, or letters written in bad taste. To send a letter: Mail: Editor, Polk County Itemizer-Observer, P.O. Box 108, Dallas, OR 97338. Email: ionews@polkio.com. Office: 147 SE Court St., Dallas.

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David Hayes | News Editor
dhayes@polkio.com

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

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: News Magazine with Four Letters

Allure

Elle

Esquire

Forbes

Fortune

Futures

Glamour

Gourmet

McCall's

Muse

People

Redbook

Saveur

Spider

Vogue

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Glass is larger. 2. Hand is longer. 3. Bow tie is missing. 4. Mug is reversed. 5. Arm is reversed. 6. Label is missing.

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Americanisms

"I let my feet spend as little time on the ground as possible."
— Jesse Owens

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Super Crossword

SHORT MONTHS

ACROSS

1 Gentle

5 Not active

9 Hockey great

13 Certain utility meter reader

19 "Pronto!"

20 Back end

21 Notion

22 Hun leader

23 "Klute"

25 Line of air fresheners requiring an outlet

27 Element #10

28 See 38-Down

29 Texting format, for short

30 Land in eau

32 Strong-arms

36 Lobbying org.

37 Singer Ross

39 "Let's Get It On" singer

41 Certain fruit stone

43 "— fair in love and war"

44 Stood to lose

46 Idyllic places

47 City official on "Family Guy"

50 Part of UCLA

52 Make tidy

58 Noted Deco master

57 Notion

60 Go in haste

61 Fogged up, as a sauna

65 School for associate's degrees

68 Caribbean resort

69 "Let it stand"

71 Goes after in court

72 Intended (to)

73 Bartending tool with holes

76 1841-45 first family

77 Primo pitcher

78 Cape Cod resort village

79 Dried up

81 Heptath-lete Jackie Joyner: —

84 Railroad depot: Abbr.

85 Portend a good outcome

90 Dog's reward

93 Scored a major victory

95 Mine, in France

96 Brownish-toned picture

100 Stuff squinted by a cephalopod

103 Slow to react

104 NFL notable

105 Some private planes

106 "Is that so!"

107 Univ. senior's test

108 Weapons depot

110 Tiger's sound, to tots

112 Halifax native

115 Poolside seat

120 Large moon of Uranus

121 "I'm buying"

122 Region

123 Rebuke from Caesar

124 Lie comfily close

125 Belgian river

126 Frat guys

127 Span represented by the first three letters of 12 answers in this puzzle

8 Time of note

9 Old LP players

10 Polish river

11 Program running in a browser

12 Topic of an otologist's instructions

13 Intent stare

14 Munched on

15 Fuel additive brand

16 Country singer

17 School reunion-goers

18esters

24 Central points

26 "Champion" of Spain

28 Overly docile

30 Muslim prayer leader

31 See

33 Heron variety

34 Elevate

35 Sac in anatomy

37 "Finish!"

38 With

28-Across, church meeting cry

40 Abbr. on a brandy bottle

41 Dreamy guys

42 Italian for "hundred"

45 SpaceX head

48 Chart anew

49 Ironic, as wit

51 Rub to clean

53 Main topic

54 "The — Sanction" (1975 film)

55 Must have

57 Halve with an ax, say

58 Prior to, to a bard

59 Mac rivals

61 "Wheel of Fortune"

62 Halting of hostilities

63 Leonhard of pure mathematics

64 Prez Lincoln

65 Denim pants

66 Cakc tier

67 "— Abner"

69 Hog's pen

70 With

31-Down, lilting song syllables

74 Ovine animal

75 El — (ocean current)

76 —TV ("Tacoma FD" channel)

79 Armani offerings

80 Incite

82 Incite

83 Part of QED

85 Basic lessons

86 Once lived

87 Move to a new country

88 Individual

89 Similar to

91 "Billy, Don't Be —"

92 "Anna Karenina" novelist

94 Yule tune

96 Join the team

97 Get dressed

98 Irritates

99 Promotional connections

101 Ski jackets

102 Quadrantal games org.

105 Seat weaver

108 Clearasil target

109 Moniker

111 Curds and —

113 Craft

114 Pine —

115 Small dollie

116 Make a gaffe

117 Co. top dog

118 Give — shot

119 Classic Karel Capek play

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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: W equals L

UXHMMINNVWB CXBW OXIOBT UH
U KHUHV MQ MQ UQ MCCVLVUW
WVQB NBHJBBQ HJM LMXQHSVBK:
NMSTBS OBHSMW.

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

MNZ CVIQZLWZKK NPIQK
SWKCZLK MP HXZKMVPWK CZ
NSUZ WPM GZM IZSLWZQ
MP SKA.
— WSWBG CGWWZ WZCNSII

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Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

OK, DON'T JUDGE. I'M ONLY WATCHING THIS BECAUSE THE BATTERIES IN THE REMOTE DIED ABOUT AN HOUR AGO.

Out on a Limb

ISN'T IT IRONIC, DON'T YOU THINK?

by Gary Kopervas

SMIFF SMIFF SMIFF

OW!

A GUY GETS A DULL PAIN IN HIS HEAD FROM SNIFFING A SHARPIE

Amber Waves

UGH, I'M SO TIRED OF HAY AND PASTURE GRASS DAY AFTER DAY. I NEED A CHANGE.

OOH, HEY, TRAVIS, CHECK IT OUT. IT LOOKS LIKE THE NEIGHBOR ORDERED PIZZA.

GEEZ, I WISH THE FARMER WOULD GET US SOME DEEP DISH WITH EXTRA CHEESE.

YEAH, YOU HAVE A BETTER CHANCE OF BEING ON THAT PIZZA THAN GETTING ONE.

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the only mammal that can't jump?
- MOVIES: Which movie has the tagline, "They're young, they're in love, and they kill people"?
- HISTORY: When is Labor Day celebrated every year in the United States?
- LANGUAGE: What's the name of a punctuation mark that combines a question mark and an exclamation point?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which country was called Kampuchea from 1975 to 1979?
- ASTRONOMY: What are the names of the twin stars in the Gemini constellation?
- MYTHOLOGY: What is the only thing left in Pandora's box after it was opened?
- FOOD & DRINK: Which country is associated with the fermented cabbage dish kimchi?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who is the first president to die in office?
- TELEVISION: What are the Halloween episodes of "The Simpsons" called?

Trivia answers

- Elephant.
- "Bonnie and Clyde," 1967.
- The first Monday in September.
- Interrobang.
- Cambodia.
- Pollux and Castor.
- Hope.
- South Korea.
- William Henry Harrison.
- "Treehouse of Horror."

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Investigating the Bible: The Edited Life

By DAVID CARLSON
PASTOR

E.B. White’s short book, “The Elements of Style,” has elementary rules of composition to improve English usage; these are too often broken, yours truly included.

Some violations are silly. White gave the example of the writer who neglected his rule to Keep related words together: “New York’s first commercial human-sperm bank opened Friday with semen samples from 18 men frozen in a stainless steel tank.”

Those poor donors! Editing helps catch errors, just as honest self-examination improves a life. Many Pharisees and respected religious leaders in the New Testament lived unedited lives, harming others and themselves. Here’s a few of the actions they neglected.

BE GENEROUS

A Pharisee invited Jesus to dinner and “...he was astonished to see that he did not wash before dinner.” (Luke 11:38, English Standard Version used throughout).

This wasn’t poor

hygiene. Jewish traditional laws required ceremonial washing to remove exposure to sinners.

Jesus noticed his surprise: “...Now you Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. You fools!” (Luke 11:39-40).

Instead, Jesus told him to “give alms”, meaning be generous.

Oliver Goldsmith was a successful British novelist and playwright who died in 1794. Before that occupation, he was a physician. Once he cared for a patient who was very poor. He treated him and then put all the money he was carrying in a large pill box. He wrote this prescription on the label: “To be taken as the occasion requires.”

PUT JUSTICE AND LOVE FIRST

Jesus continued: “But woe to you Pharisees! You tithe mint and rue and herb, and neglect justice and the love of God.” (Luke 11:42).

The religious leaders meticulously separated a tenth of their herbs and spices for the priest.

Tithing rue was not even required. Jesus put love first and healed on the Sabbath, saying “Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?” (Luke 14:5).

In Chicago, a friend of author Philip Yancy met with a prostitute who was homeless, sick, and unable to buy food for her two-year-old daughter. She admitted the evil things she did to make money, even involving her little girl, which required his mandatory reporting. The friend asked her if she had ever thought of going to church for help? She gave this shocked look.

“Church! Why would I ever go there? I’m already feeling terrible about myself. They’d just make me feel worse.”

The Bible offers hope: “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9).

Evangelist Vance Havner said, “The church is a hospital for sinners, and not a museum for saints.”

BE HUMBLE

Jesus said, “...Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the best seat in the synagogues and greetings in the market places.” (Luke 11:43). They had hungry egos.

When Johnny Cash was 61, he was an addict and in a hospital’s ICU for infections and complications from intestinal surgery. From his secret cocktail of drugs, he had terrifying hallucinations and screamed like a wild man. Those close to him

finally had enough.

Twenty-five family and friends gathered around his hospital bed and read to him letters of his lies and broken promises. The letters weren’t to hurt; they expressed love and deep concern. The letter of his 13-year-old son John, who read with tears, was the hardest. Young John remembered the night Cash came home drunk, stumbled into the room, and embarrassed him and his friends. Their messages worked.

Cash wrote: “I had to humble myself before God.”

He stayed sober the last 20 years of his life. Just before he died, he released the song, “Personal Jesus” with these opening lyrics: “Your own personal, Jesus. Someone to hear your prayers. Someone who cares.”

[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.]

Who cares about public notices?

YOU SHOULD

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

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

Public notices keep you informed about your government.

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

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

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

Polk County Itemizer-Observer

CHILD FIND Notice

Parents who believe their child may benefit from special education services and programs offered by the Dallas School District are invited to call the district at 503-623-5594. Also, those who wish to inquire about what services and programs are available are encouraged to call. Any inquiries will be treated with all due respect and confidentiality.

HEALTH DIRECTORY

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& 2pm-5pm, Tues & Thursday 8am-12pm & 2pm-6pm, Wed 8am-1pm.

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• **SALEM HEALTH** — provides lab services at three convenient locations in Dallas, Monmouth and Independence. Both fully accredited labs accept health care provider referrals for collections and testing. The labs also offer employment and self-referral drug testing. Appointments are not required at either location. Learn more at saalemhealth.org/lab.

WEST VALLEY HOSPITAL — outpatient lab available weekdays 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., weekends 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., at 525 SE Washington St., Dallas, 503-814-5227
SALEM HEALTH MEDICAL CLINIC — MONMOUTH is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m., 512 Main St., Suite 300, 503-814-5227.
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Independence — Central Health and Wellness Center — 1601 Monmouth St., Suite 100, 503-838-0045
Monmouth — 512 Main St., Suite 300, 503-838-1182

Call the Itemizer-Observer at 503-623-2373 to have your business listed in this directory.

Book

From Page A1

need to discipline yourself and try. So, that’s where it started. So, I just started writing,” he said.

He’s been writing ever since, regardless of the feedback he got at the time.

“I was actually inspired by a professor at the college, who at one point said I was illiterate,” Derowitsch recalled. “And that really bothered me, so I thought, I’ve got to prove the guy wrong.”

He’s written enough over the years to keep a steady stream of columns coming into the

I-O regularly. However, Derowitsch found a newspaper had an unfortunate space limitation. So, the longer tales that didn’t make it into the pages of his local newspaper can now be found in his own publication, “Ghosts, Witches, Graveyards and More.” All of the stories within are not true tales, but reflections of his childhood, running about from the Willamette Valley River to the hills of West Salem.

“I always thought I love reading about the Salem witch trials and that sort of thing. And I thought, well, there isn’t a whole lot of folklore

up in the cities of the Northwest, so I thought, hey, maybe I can bring it this direction. So my book is what I’m trying to do, bring stories that maybe someday will be told to the kids, to their kids, whatever, about the city of Northwest and all the folklore that’s involved in it,” he said.

For example, in one chapter he based the tale on seeing some girls out at Coney Park who were dressed as witches.

“When I walked up to them and said, can I take some pictures, they were very blunt, saying, no, you can’t. So I thought, this is even more real than just having a good

time and really practicing witchcraft. So that stimulated me into a story called ‘A Coven of Witches’ in my book,” Derowitsch said.

Other tales are purely fiction.

“There’s actually a story in there called ‘Utopia,’ and it’s a story, strictly fiction, out of my mind, about a world that you can access through your mind, and it’s basically Utopia. It’s a wonderful place, a place you always want to stay and be in, and in the story, the guy that goes there, sometimes had difficulty coming back to his real world, but he’s fine with that because if he were to

stay in his Utopia world, it would be wonderful. That’s the last story in my book,” he said.

Derowitsch said he really enjoyed the writing process because he wants to share the feeling that his stories take him somewhere.

“I really feel like I’m there in the environment that I’m writing about. And I wanted to write stories in such a way that somebody reading them would feel like they’re right there in the middle of the story and they’re part of the story. So that’s what kind of gave me the incentive to write these stories,” he said.

For his first book,

Derowitsch went with a publisher, Palmetto, that helped him through the entire process. He’s enjoyed the process so much, Derowitsch is already working on his second collection of stories, even though his first collection within “Ghosts, Witches, Graveyards and More” came out just two weeks ago.

“I didn’t actually write it to sell books. I wrote it to have my own book that my kids could have someday when I pass away,” he said.

“Ghosts, Witches, Graveyards and More” is available now on Amazon and other booksellers online.

Levy

From Page A1

given you six options.”

Option one keeps the levy status quo that funds 19 positions in the Sheriff’s Office – including 14 for patrol, four for the jail and one control room tech – five at the District Attorney’s Office – three prosecutors and two support staff legal secretaries – and provide for detention beds and community service. However, to pay to keep staffing levels static, Hansen said the levy rate would probably have to be raised from 49 ½ cents per \$1,000 valuation to 65 cents.

Option two would add an increase of \$50,000 in the juvenile and community service column that increases the cost to 65 ½ cents.

Option three has a backfill for community corrections funding. Hansen explained the state Legislature was supposed to provide funding from the Department of

Corrections to community corrections. That amount has continued to drop over the years below a baseline funding amount. As a result, two counties, Lynn and Douglas, opted out of the of the program and counties like Polk has been unable to fill vacant or backfilled openings as a result.

“I foresee that that funding will continue to tighten up so if you wanna maintain community corrections funding in the future, you’re probably going to have to add that element to the public safety levy, which has not been there before,” Hansen said.

The next few levy options added differing amounts of additional positions to the various offices it pays for.

For example District Attorney Aaron Felton said he preferred option six, which would add an investigator position to his office, a position he’s done without for years.

“An investigator focused on prosecution issues for larger cases, all

cases really, is invaluable to us. It is a cost savings measure,” Felton said.

Hansen explained the DA’s preferred option would raise the levy rate by approximately 2 cents, as every penny represents about \$85,000 brought into the budget.

Felton added if the levy was to fail, the immediate impact to his office would be the loss of three lawyers and two staff people.

Community Corrections Director Jodi Merritt has seen the state make regular cutbacks in funding to her department. This curtails their ability to hold offenders accountable and get services in areas the state devalues yet is important in Polk County, she said, including sex offenses, domestic violence, DUI’s, driving offenses and mental health related crimes, from disorderly conduct to thefts.

Merritt added she’s seen staffing in Community Corrections drop from 10 FTE in the 2019-21 biennium to her current budgeted amount of seven, with only five positions

filled.

Rather than pick her preferred levy option, Merrit left the decision up to Hansen and the commissioners.

“Because the state only pays for certain supervision of crimes. So if we get to the point this levy doesn’t pass and we have to throttle back, that my budget and the DA’s budget are directly impacted that he can’t prosecute these crimes livability crimes won’t be supervised,” Merritt said.

“And potentially you’ll have that question in front of you – do we just stop supervising those.”

When the discussion got around to Sheriff Mark Garton’s input, he began by looking to the past. His research showed the levy baseline has only gone up 11 ½ percent over 10 years, which has not kept up with everyday costs he said. Due to funding cutbacks, Garton said he’s seen his staffing reduced from 28 FTE in 2203 to 23 today, with multiple positions eliminated to reduce the budget, despite

no similar reduction in workload.

“I don’t necessarily want to add new bodies to the levy, because I know how much it hurts the people to pay it,” Garton said. “We’ve done everything we can within the Sheriff’s office we can to reduce our costs to say, hey, this is the bare minimum number of people we need to do our job. Which is where we’re at.”

So he preferred the status quo of option one.

Garton added if there were a reduction in funds if the levy failed, the patrol side would take the brunt of the hit as those personnel would have to be moved to maintain the staffing at the jail, which is already working at a

skeletal level.

Before they met for their next levy discussion, Commissioner Craig Pope, who retires at the end of the year, wanted staff to map out the budget increases, on paper, what the increases have been over the past five years, if not over the last two five-year levy cycles. This would help them craft a better message to sell the need for an increased levy amount.

“I want to see the average of what those expenses are. And then the same on the growth side, an average over the last two levy cycles. So we can use those in part of our talking points, et cetera, going forward,” Pope said.

Library

From Page A1

council created the fee.

“To me if people said no, go out and sell it and let them vote again. It doesn’t sit well with me that people said no and then they came back as this was their only option to put a fee on the utility bill.”

So, Ellis filed a referendum on June 24, asking Independence voters whether they wanted to adopt the new fees. He had until July 24 to turn in enough signatures to qualify for the November ballot. Ellis said he met the deadline and threshold, turning in nearly 1,000 signatures to the county.

County Clerk Kim Williams confirmed last week that she completed the count. She said 671 signatures were required and she was able to verify 771.

Goicochea said without

the fees as part of their funding, the library would close and that officials would stop maintaining parks without the revenue from those new fees.

The administration initiated the process for closing the facilities by scheduling public hearings, the first was Aug. 11 with the second for Nov. 10.

“State law requires the two public hearings to be at least 90 days apart before a public library can be abolished, or its support withdrawn. However, state law does not establish a specific deadline for the City Council to make a final decision following the second hearing,” Goicochea explained. “So, at this point, Nov. 10 is the date of the second required public hearing, not a predetermined library closure date or a statutory deadline for the council to vote.”

More than 20 citizens spoke before the city

council on Aug. 11 in support of keeping the library open, including Ellis.

“Everybody got up there wanted the library and parks to stay open. I feel that fee should have been voted on. Nobody wants the park to close,” said Ellis.

He is currently running as a candidate for City Council Position 1 against incumbent Shannon Corr.

Goicochea said the City Council is going through the process required under Oregon law to consider closure.

“Without the Community Services and Parks Fee revenue, the city does not have sufficient ongoing funding in the adopted budget to continue operating the library, parks and museum at their current levels,” Goicochea said. “The Council will consider the library’s future as part of the required public process.”

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Polk County Courthouse
Conference Room First Floor
550 Main St Dallas, OR 97338



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How to create a dedicated backyard game space

(StatePoint) What distinguishes a good backyard gathering from a great one? More often than not, a little friendly competition.

Exmark has partnered with landscape designer, Doug Scott with Redeem Your Ground, on a new video that helps you break down the most common considerations for building a versatile backyard game space suitable for everything from cornhole to bocce to Kubb.

LOCATION

“Location makes or breaks everything else. Get it right, and your space invites people in without saying a word. Get it wrong, and it becomes just another stretch of grass,” says Scott.

A good game space will be ideally sized, on flat ground, and receive shade during peak afternoon playing hours. Kubb, for example, only requires a 16 by 26-foot footprint, making it one of the most space-efficient options out there. If you want room for larger games like cornhole or football, aim for a 40 by 60-foot area.

Your space should feel like a natural extension

of where people naturally congregate. Situate it close enough to the house that nobody’s making long treks for bathroom breaks—but far enough that a late-night game doesn’t carry into any bedrooms. Also, watch for overhead utility lines, exposed tree roots, and fences that could cut the fun short.

SEATING

Giving spectators comfortable seating keeps the energy going between rounds. Options to consider include:

- A cluster of adiron-dack chairs with a side table gives you a movable conversation spot that adapts to wherever guests want to settle. Orient them so the sun is behind spectators during prime playing hours.
- For a more permanent setup, a simple L- or U-shaped built-in bench along the perimeter is hard to beat. It frames the space, and can be topped with cushions.
- A picnic table pulls triple duty, offering seating, a surface for food and drinks, and a natural gathering point between games.
- A fire pit just outside the perimeter is the perfect pre- and post-game



PHOTO COURTESY STATEPOINT

Few things bring the fun to summer parties like a backyard game space.

hangout that extends your space’s usability into cool-weather season.

STORAGE

Accessibility is key. If equipment is stuffed in a bag under the porch, games won’t happen spontaneously. But when everything is right there? Game on! Whether you use a storage bench, a custom-built bin locker or shelving in your shed, the common thread should be proximity.

LIGHTING

Good lighting separates a space that’s useless after sundown from one that keeps the energy

going all night. Just be sure to keep the light warm and out of players’ eyes. A simple layered approach works great:

- Warm string lights overhead at 10 feet or higher
- Solar lanterns around the perimeter to define the space
- A lit path connecting the game area back to the main patio. It’s a safety feature and says, “something’s happening over there.”

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping transforms any patch of grass into an actual outdoor room. Here’s what to

include:

- Low shrubs or ornamental grasses along the sides, well outside the playing area. They define the space, add a little privacy, and frame the action without blocking sightlines.
- Edging and borders. Natural stone, timber borders, pavers, or bricks give the court a clean, defined edge that tells everyone exactly where the play space begins and ends. It’s a small detail with a big visual payoff.
- Shade trees. Planting a tree at the southwest corner is a long-term investment worth considering.

- Rain garden or dry creek bed. Both are functional, attractive, and help keep the play surface from becoming muddy and washed out after a heavy rain.

Remember to avoid mulch adjacent to the playing surface, which migrates, and thorny shrubs. You don’t want a ball—or guest—rolling into a rose bush.

For more insights, watch the Done-In-A-Weekend Projects episode “How to Create a Dedicated Backyard Game Space” on Backyard Life, a unique multimedia destination with a focus on helping homeowners improve their outdoor living spaces. There you can also find the full rules of the Scandinavian lawn game Kubb, DIY instructions for building specific game spaces, and Exmark Original Series videos that make it easy to make meaningful improvements to your outdoor living experience.

“Remember, the best backyard game spaces are dialed in over a few seasons, as you get a feel for how you actually use the space,” says Scott. “Each addition makes the space more inviting, more functional, and more yours.”

From the Field: What code inspectors wish homeowners knew

(StatePoint) When homeowners doing work on their property consider a cheaper route, for example, hiring a contractor who doesn’t want to pull permits, they may not realize the risk they are taking. But they should know that there is no “undo” button on a disaster.

That’s one reason behind the International Code Council (ICC) Building Safety Month, a campaign that reinforces the need for the adoption of modern, regularly-updated building codes, and helps communities understand what it takes to create safe, sustainable structures. As part of the campaign, two seasoned building safety professionals are sharing some important basics they wish homeowners knew.

important safety concepts is the “The Path of Egress.” Codes require bedroom windows to be a specific size so occupants can escape a fire, and so firefighters can get in while wearing their equipment.

“Any modification, like adding bars to windows or changing a floor plan, must preserve that clear path to the outside,” Rocco said.

Rocco also recommends keeping the area around bedroom windows clutter-free.

“In an emergency, time spent removing items from the exit path are valuable seconds that might make the difference,” he said.

DECKS AND BALCONIES

Rocco notes that one often-ignored at-home maintenance task is inspecting exterior deck and balcony framing integrity. Deck ledger boards often fail because the connection to the house rots or was never

flushed correctly. This is something people don’t think about until it collapses.

“If you see the wood deteriorate, if it feels soft or is cracking, have a professional check it out. Basically, if it doesn’t look safe, it’s probably not,” he said. “And pay attention to deck railing to ensure it’s not loose. The last thing you want is for a guest to lean on it during a BBQ and fall through to the ground, however far that is.”

Rocco also warns that decks must be used safely. For example, a hot tub filled with water may be heavier than a deck can handle. Homeowners intending to place a hot tub on their deck should check with a licensed professional to verify if additional support will be needed. Also, it’s not recommended to cook on decks with roofs.

“BBQ fires can happen easily if left unattended. If those flames get hot and high enough, your steak won’t be the only

thing burnt,” said Rocco.

WATER INTRUSION

Slow plumbing leaks are the biggest “snowball” culprits, according to Rocco. A tiny drip can lead to structural rot and toxic mold before a spot on the drywall appears. Another is foundation drainage. If soil settles and slopes toward the house, water will eventually undermine the foundation, leading to costly structural failure.

“Beyond structural damage and harmful mold, water intrusion can damage electrical systems, increasing the risk of fire or shock, and it often goes undetected until significant harm has already occurred,” said Ryan Smith, the building official for the City of Columbia Heights, Minnesota.

WATER HEATERS

Homeowners often overlook sediment flushing for water heaters, warns Rocco. Mineral buildup at the bottom

reduces efficiency and can cause the tank to overheat and fail prematurely.

VENTS

Smith reminds homeowners that snow buildup on the side of the house can plug up vents and turn off the furnace.

“You have to clear snow around the furnace vents – and if they turn off, that is the first place to check,” Smith said.

SCOPE

Homeowners should never go beyond the scope of an approved building project.

“We don’t know if requirements are met, what materials are used, or if there’s proper ventilation. Going beyond the scope of what’s approved is dangerous,” said Smith.

PRODUCTS

“We’re seeing products being purchased from Amazon sellers that don’t meet minimum code requirements,” said

Smith.

From luxury sinks to bogus smoke detectors, homeowners should ensure any product they purchase is UL listed and approved for use in their jurisdiction.

INTERNATIONAL CODES

ICC’s codes and standards play an important role in creating safe, affordable and sustainable structures. Homeowners can read up on I-Codes and consult with a local professional before starting a project to avoid violations.

“When it comes down to it, most people assume that because their home is standing, it is safe. The truth is, electrical systems age, wood rots, and safety devices expire. The most dangerous home is the one where the owner assumes ‘it’s fine because it’s always been that way’,” said Rocco.

For more home safety tips, visit ICC’s Building Safety Month at <https://www.iccsafe.org>.

Maintaining great indoor air quality at home during wildfires

(StatePoint) Wildfire smoke can travel hundreds or even thousands of miles, impacting indoor air quality well beyond active fire zones. While you can’t control the air outside, you can create a cleaner indoor environment by taking these steps:

1. Monitor your local Air Quality Index (AQI) and wild-fire smoke forecasts before conditions worsen. Visit www.airnow.gov to get real-time local data.
2. Run a HEPA air purifier continuously in frequently

used spaces, such as living rooms and bedrooms.

3. Consider an air purifier with an air quality monitor that automatically adjusts as indoor air quality changes, such as the GermGuardian 22” Intelligent Tower Air Purifier (AC4880). Beyond smoke, it provides whole-room coverage, capturing 99.97% of dust, pollen and pet dander, while an optional UV-C light reduces airborne allergens, germs, bacteria and mold spores. Its IntelliSense technology monitors air quality 60 times

per minute and automatically adjusts fan speed, and its digital panel displays real-time air quality, so you always know your air is clean. Another choice designed with smart home enthusiasts in mind is the GermGuardian AirSafe+ XL Smart Air Purifier, which is equipped with four layers of protection including a HEPA PURE 360-degree filter, UV-C light, carbon filter, and washable fabric pre-filter, capturing 99.97% of dust, pollen, and pet dander. Also featuring IntelliSense technology, it

automatically adjusts fan speed when poor air quality is detected to deliver continuous, round-the-clock purification. Plus, it syncs with the Aria for Home app, Alexa, and Google Home so you can keep your air quality visible; monitor real-time AQI, set timers, and get filter replacement reminders, whether you’re home or not.

4. Check whether your air purifier’s filter needs replacing. GermGuardian recommends replacing the filter every 6-8 months depending on use.

When purchasing a new filter, be cautious of inexpensive “compatible” filters sold online and seek out genuine replacement filters designed specifically for your unit. Doing so will help ensure proper fit and optimal filtration performance when it matters most.

With wildfires increasing in both frequency and intensity, having a way to protect the air you breathe at home is essential. Be sure that your home is equipped with top notch air purifiers, and that you properly replace their filters often.

PAGES OF THE PAST

40 YEARS AGO

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 27, 1986

Flames' haze initiates new burn season
It doesn't even come from Polk County.

That sweet, hempy smoke that cast an orange-pall over Dallas and much of Polk County Monday was the result of burns in south Yamhill County, including a 5- to 10-acre "wildcat" fire out of control near Sheridan.

Fire officials said Monday that it's impossible to predict the burning patterns, that it's a day-by-day question of how much burning – and resulting haze – will occur.

Polk County did have fires of its own in the north part of the county, near Perrdale, but they burned as planned.

Local Heifer Project support provides livestock where it's needed most

Mexico's national debt stands at nearly \$100 billion, and President Regan recently conferred with Mexican leader Miguel de la Madrid to seek ways of curbing that rising deficit. The effort will require austerity measures, rescheduling of loans and re-organization of Mexican industry.

These are two complicated measures that the two governments hope will work. But other, less complicated steps are being taken to assist the struggling Mexican citizens at making a living in the face of a strapped economy.

One such measure was taken in Polk County Aug. 23.

The Heifer Project International held its Fourth Annual Round-Up at the Fairgrounds in Rickreall and raised

\$4,000 in funds for HPI.

Dragons enter AA league
If Dallas varsity football players can remain relatively free from injuries this season, then the Dragons should make a strong showing against a new batch of Class AA gridiron opponents.

Last year, Dallas finished second behind undefeated Forest Grove in the WVL standing. However, Dallas survived until the third round of the Class AAA high school playoffs in 1985 – farther than any WVL team.

The WVL was recently disbanded, though, and the teams in the league have been reshuffled into other leagues. Because its enrollment has been under 600 students for the third year in a row, Dallas High School has automatically been reclassified as a Class AA team, moving into the Capital Conference.

50 YEARS AGO

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 25, 1976

Larry Delphanche elected as nominee

Larry E. Delphanche Jr. was appointed Democratic nominee for Polk County Commissioner, Position 1, Friday Aug. 20 at a special meeting of the Democratic Central Committee. He succeeds Michael Harding who died in an auto accident three weeks ago.

Before being appointed, Delphanche stressed his background in fiscal management. "My background will balance the Board of Commissioners in areas of fiscal management."

Delphanche came out ahead on the first ballot over both Martin Wolfer and Eunice Brandt, but didn't have the needed 39 votes to win. On the

second ballot he won with 40 votes over Wolfer, who had nine.

Group homes help move out handicapped

The Teaching Research Infant and Child Center located on the Oregon College of Education campus in Monmouth is proving that institutionalized handicapped children can make it in the "outside world" if they are given the chance.

Under the direction of Mary Ann Gage, coordinator of the group homes program, handicapped children from Fairview have been placed in foster homes or, in some cases, back to their natural homes in the community.

"These homes provide a transition for the handicapped from the institution to the community,"

Gage said. "They provide a consistent atmosphere for the child between the classroom at the center to the group home. We work on the same things in both places."

Dallas drops alumni game

The Central Panthers continued their dominance of the annual Central-Dallas Alumni football game, rolling to a 13-0 win over the fumble-prone Dragons.

The game was played to a near draw on the statistics sheet, with Dallas leading the Panthers in rushing yardage and total yards and with better completion percentage than their Central opponents. Dallas rushed for 141 yards to Central's 67 and outgained the Panthers overall with a

total of 209 yards to 147.

Unfortunately for the Dragons, they also led the game in fumbles lost ...

with Dallas losing seven of eight fumbles to no fumble turnovers by the Panthers.

FLASHBACK



This week's Flashback is from Wednesday, Aug. 27, 1986: OLD GLORY GOES UP - A well-traveled American flag is placed on the standard at the Polk County Courthouse Aug. 20. Greg Hansen, director of General Services, attaches a Stars and Stripes that was donated to the County by Sen. Mark Hatfield of Oregon. The flag flew over the U.S. Capital Building on July 30, 1986. It was sent with the help of Dan Allen, Dallas Chamber of Commerce Manager, a friend of Hatfield's. Watching the flag raising are Commissioners Ben Magill and Bob Landdon, Allen, and Commissioner Craig Hanneman. (File I-O photo.)

Go Figure!
answers

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CryptoQuip
answer
Automobile fuel pumped at a station on an official line between two countries: border petrol.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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5	4	2	9	1	3	6	7	8

Community Achievement

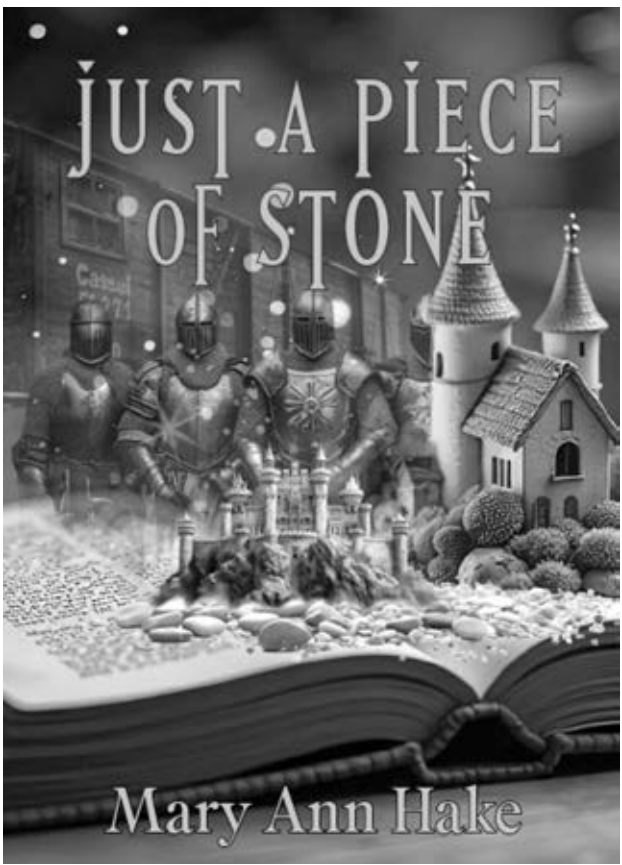
FALLS CITY AUTHOR WINS 2026 GOLDEN SCROLL AWARD

AWSA (Advanced Writers and Speakers Association) announced the winners of the 2026 Golden Scroll Awards at the Golden Scroll Banquet Aug. 2 at the St. Charles Convention Center in St. Charles, Missouri.

Mary Ann Hake, of Falls City, won Youth

Book of the Year for her Middle Grade historical novel "Just a Piece of Stone" published by Elk Lake Publishing, Inc. The judge called the novel a fascinating tale of Jewish history and recommended it for homeschoolers. The book has also been featured in Kirkus Review and received a 5-star review from Reader's Choice.

JUST A PIECE OF STONE



Mary Ann Hake

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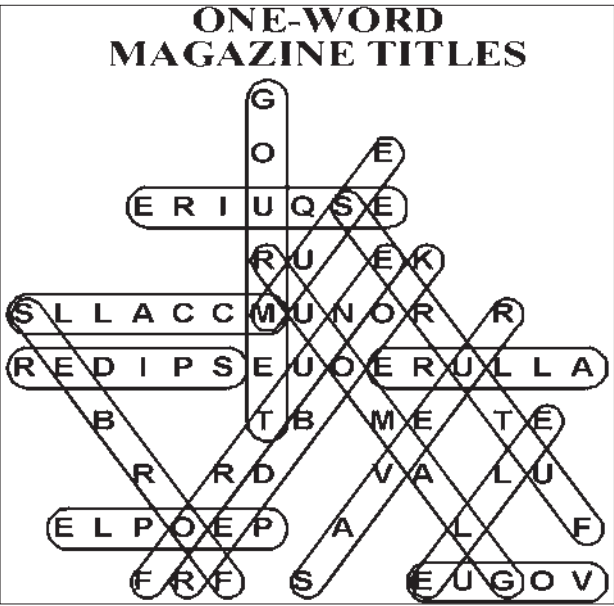
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ONE-WORD MAGAZINE TITLES



Super Crossword

Answers

T	A	M	E	I	D	L	E	H	O	W	E	G	A	S	M	A	N
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Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 26

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
9 a.m. - Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center
10 a.m. - 4-Handed Pinochle/Card/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center
10 a.m. - Strong People, Monmouth Senior Community Center
11 a.m. - Lunch w/ Meals on Wheels, Monmouth Senior Community Center
11 a.m. - Mah-Jongg, Dallas Area Senior Center
12 p.m. - Watch Repair & Knife Sharpening, Monmouth Senior Community Center
1 p.m. - Walking Group, Dallas Area Senior Center
1 p.m. - Ten Minute Writing, Monmouth Senior Community Center
1 p.m. - Wii bowling, Dallas Area Senior Center
4 p.m. Connecting Loose Threads for Charity, Monmouth Senior Community Center
6 p.m. - Open Mic Night, Brew Coffee & Tap House
6:30 p.m. - Live Music in the Park: DTW, Main Street Park, 120 Main St. E., Monmouth
7:10 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Newcomers Meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church, 320 SE Fir Villa Road, Dallas

THURSDAY, AUG. 27

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
9 a.m. - Trip to Oregon State Fair, meet at Monmouth Senior Community Center
10 a.m. - Cards/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center

10:15 a.m. - Low Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center
10:30 a.m. - Children’s Storytime, for ages 0-5, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.
10:30 a.m. - Bounces and Rhymes: Spring Series, for ages 0-2, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S.
11:10 a.m. - Low Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center
11:30 a.m. - Lunch Bunch, Dallas Area Senior Center
12 p.m. - Pinochle/ Watch repair & knife sharpening, Monmouth Senior Community Center
12 p.m. - Bridge, Dallas Area Senior Center
6 p.m. - Name That Tune Music Trivia with Sam, West Valley Taphouse, 957 Main St., Dallas
6:30 p.m. - Connecting Loose Threads, Monmouth Senior Community Center
6:30 p.m. - Conversation Project: Talking About Values Across Political Lines, Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.
7 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Back to Basics, Grace Baptist Church, 1855 E. Ellendale Ave., Dallas

FRIDAY, AUG. 28

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
9 a.m. - Stretch exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center
10 a.m. - Art Workshop/CardsTable Games/6 Handed Pinochle, Dallas Area Senior Center
10 a.m. - Writer’s Workshop, Monmouth Senior Community Center
10 a.m. - Gardening Class, Dallas Area Senior Center
10 a.m. - Strong People, Monmouth

Senior Community Center
10:30 a.m. - Storytime, Independence Public Library
11 a.m. - Jewelry Making, Monmouth Senior Community Center
11 a.m. - Summer Reading Wrap Party, Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S.
12 p.m. - Watch repair clinic, Dallas Area Senior Center
1 p.m. - Tai Chi with Chery/Munchies and Melodies, Monmouth Senior Community Center
1 p.m. - Sunshine Club, Monmouth Senior Community Center
1:30 p.m. - 10-Minute Writing, Dallas Area Senior Center
6 p.m. - Live Music: Danny Shaw, Two Wolves Taproom, 171 SW Court St., Dallas
6:30 p.m. - Live Music: Rewind Band (Rock n Roll, Pop & R&B from the 50’s & up), 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.
9 p.m. - Free Movie in the Park: “Hoppers,” Riverview Park, Independence

SATURDAY, AUG. 29

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: Poker Face (Lady Gaga tribute band), tickets \$10, tickets \$20, 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, AUG. 30

1 p.m. - Live Music: Ed Desmarteau (acoustic classic rock), Elysium Botanicals Wines and Vineyard, 8175 Buena Vista Road, Independence
7 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Monmouth Big Book Study, Faith Lutheran Church, 200 Monmouth-Independence Highway, Monmouth

MONDAY, AUG. 31

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

Baptist Church, 1855 E Ellendale Ave., Dallas
12:30 p.m. - Cornhole, Dallas Area Senior Center
1 p.m. - Bunko/ Tai Chi with Cheryl/ Technology Help with Ian, Monmouth Senior Community Center
4 p.m. - Karaoke, Dallas Area Senior Center
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
7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous Old Guthrie Park, Guthrie Park Community Center

TUESDAY, SEPT. 1

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. - 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 a.m. - Scrabble - Dallas Area Senior Center
11:10 a.m. - Low Impact Exercise, Dallas Area Senior Center
12 p.m. - Pinochle, Monmouth Senior Community Center
1 p.m. - Darts, Dallas Area Senior Center
4 p.m. - Dallas Ad Hoc Charter Review Committee meeting, City Hall, 187 SE Court St.
5:30 p.m. - Dallas Urban Renewal District Advisory Committee

Meeting, City Hall, 187 SE Court St.
6 p.m. - Trivia Night, West Valley Taphouse, 957 S Main St., Dallas
6 p.m. - Bingo Night, Two Wolves Taproom, 171 SW Court 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, SEPT. 2

8 a.m. - Yoga, Monmouth Senior Community Center
9 a.m. - Stretch Exercise, Monmouth Senior Community Center
10 a.m. - 4-Handed Pinochle/Card/Table Games, Dallas Area Senior Center
10 a.m. - Strong People, Monmouth Senior Community Center
11 a.m. - Lunch w/ Meals on Wheels, Monmouth Senior Community Center
11 a.m. - Mah-Jongg, Dallas Area Senior Center
12 p.m. - Watch Repair & Knife Sharpening, Monmouth Senior Community Center
1 p.m. - Walking Group, Dallas Area Senior Center
1 p.m. - Ten Minute Writing, Monmouth Senior Community Center
1 p.m. - Wii bowling, Dallas Area Senior Center
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

Community Briefs

LIBRARY HOSTS CONVERSATION PROJECT AUG. 27

The Oregon Humanities Conversation Project presents Talking About Values Across Political Lines, facilitated by Lowell Greathouse, is at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 27 at the Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St.

COURT STREET PUB HOSTS MICRO BURLESQUE SHOW AUG. 27

The Court Street Pub and Grub hosts the Micro Burlesque & Talent Show NW at 7 p.m. Aug. 27 at 186 SW Court St. It’s dance, comedy, audience interaction, acting, choreography, and larger than life personalities all wrapped up into one crazy party. The show features an all-female cast ranging from just 2’10” to 4’12”, every performer brings her own unique height and size. Tickets, which frequently sell out before show day, are available online at <https://avenueticket.com/event/dallas-or-micro-maidens-short-dancers-court-street-pub-grub>.

MOVIES IN THE PARK PRESENTS ‘HOPPERS’ AUG. 28

The River’s Edge

Summer Series concludes with the return of Movies In the Park Aug. 38 showing of “Hoppers” at Riverfront Park in Independence. Movies in the park are free and start at dusk - around 9 p.m. “Hoppers” is about when scientists discover a way to transform human consciousness into robotic animals, Mabel uses the new technology to uncover mysteries of the animal world that are beyond anything she could have ever imagined.

POLK COUNTY DEMOCRATS AT STATE FAIR AUG. 28

On Aug. 28, the Polk County Democrats will be manning the booth at the Oregon State Fair, helping to celebrate Polk County Day. Stop by to receive voter and candidate information, pins, bumper stickers, yard signs and lively conversation.

ELKS LODGE HOSTS WEEKLY BINGO AUG. 29

The Independence Elks Lodge #1950 hosts bingo from 1-3:30 p.m. at 289 S Main St., in Independence. This Cash Bingo is \$20 to play for everyone ages 18 and older. There’s multiple

games and real cash prizes. Bring your lucky dauber, grab a seat early, and get ready for laughs, friendly competition, and a solid chance to walk out with extra cash.

RIVER GALLERY HOSTS ANNUAL ART EXHIBITS SEPT. 3

River Gallery, a fixture in downtown Independence for nearly 30 years, opens its annual exhibit showcasing the work of the gallery’s Associate Artists and their Window Show, “Celebrating Pottery”. Both exhibits begin on Sept. 3. Meet up with your family and friends to admire the diverse and local art available at the gallery, located at 184 S. Main St. For more information, go to www.river-galleryart.com.

DALLAS MOSAIC LADIES HOST BUNCO NIGHT SEPT. 3

Join the Dallas Mosaic Ladies for a night of community, yummy food, and some belly laughs on Ladies Bunko Night, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sept. 3 at 1079 SE Jefferson St., in Dallas. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. for food and social time and the game play starts at 6 p.m. The cost to play is

\$5. Bring a dish/snack/ dessert to share if you want. For more information, text Jenny at (541) 300-8713.

PNW WILDFIRE WORSHIP HOSTS A WORSHIP NIGHT SEPT. 4

PNW Wildfire Worship hosts a Worship Night at 6 p.m. Sept. 4 at Monmouth City Park Amphitheater, 120 Main St. E. They will have testimonies and a resource table. Bring your blankets or chair and a favorite snack. Sit or stand and soak in the presence of our Lord. Dogs are not allowed at this event.

PENTACLE THEATRE ACTING WORKSHOP BEGINS SEPT. 12

Pentacle Theatre hosts the return of Acting Workshop with Jo Dodge from 9 a.m. to noon at the Pentacle Theatre Rehearsal Space at 197 Liberty St. SE, in Salem. Join skilled director and actress Jo Dodge in a fun, hands-on 11-week theater workshop exploring the human spirit. Students participate in improvisation and scene work in a safe, supportive and non-competitive environment. The focus is on individual

self-development. This workshop is for all skill levels, from beginners to the most experienced. You must be 18 yrs. of age to attend these classes. To sign up, go to <https://purchase.pentacletheatre.org/ChooseSeats/12401>.

MONMOUTH SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTER HOSTS CRAFT DAY SEPT. 19

Join the Monmouth Senior Community Center for an opportunity to craft in the company of other creative folks. The third Saturday of each month (10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 19), bring your hobby and meet new people. All ages and crafting styles are welcome at 180 Warren St. S.

IDA HOSTS 25TH ANNUAL HOP & HERITAGE FESTIVAL SEPT. 26

The Independence

Downtown Association hosts the Hop & Heritage Festival and 25th Annual Harvest Celebration at noon, Sept. 26. The day features the Fresh Hop Fiesta at Parallel 45 Brewing - the only weekend in Oregon where fresh hop beers are poured all in one place, in the town that grew them - alongside the Downtown Passport, a Vendor Marketplace, buskers, and a cornhole tournament. Tickets are available at <https://hopandheritage.com>.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help keep Hunter Arboretum on Park Street in Dallas looking good for visitors on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Choose the work you want to do and take a break with us at 10:30. All are welcome.

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Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-844-533-9173 today!

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150
MISC SERVICES

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602
BOATS & MOTORS

1988 Alaskan Smokercraft 15ft. with E-Z load trailer, 6HP Yamaha 4-stroke motor-low hours Included-anchor, life jackets, outboard motor stand on wheels \$3,600. call 541-274-1852.

702
GARAGE SALES

3 Family Yard Sale. Fri.8/28, 3-6 pm, Sat.8/29 9-1 pm. 1812 Sterling Dr. Monmouth. Toys, Games, Clothing, Chairs Yard, Outdoor/Camping, Sporting Good, Bicycle, Yakima carrier, DVD Movies/ music CD's, Home Decor and Kitchenware.

FISHING TACKLE GARAGE SALE I sold my boat and now have lots of quality fishing tackle, some of it collectible and some new. Rods, Reels, lots of Salmon, Trout, Kokanee and Steelhead lures not to mention everything one needs to to target their favorite fish. I will be selling over 40 pounds of various size home made lead weights. Too much to list here, come see for yourself. Saturday August 29, 9: 00 A.M. 796 East.Dalke Street, Monmouth 97361

702
GARAGE SALES

Downsizing Sale! So many things from crafts, kitchen, decor, some fishing and so much more. 145 SW Mill St, inside the ballet studio. Friday August 28th from 9AM-5PM and Saturday the 29th from 9AM to 3PM. NO EARLY BIRDS

999
PUBLIC NOTICES

PCIO26-370 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 9/10/2026 at 12:00PM. Belinda Mercier Unit #B. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. 08/26/26, 09/02/26

PCIO26-372 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE IS HEARBY GIVEN that the Monmouth City Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 6:30 PM to consider the annexation of a 15-acre property located in the easterly 800 - 900 blocks of Warren St. S. (A 26-01),

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902
HOMES FOR SALE

**Edwards Addition** - Beautiful open concept built with quality and efficiency. Large rooms, open space and wide hallways are perfect for entertaining. 3bd/2.5 bath. Primary suite on the main level with a gorgeous remodeled bathroom. Covered patio and water feature. **\$695,000.00** (#843220)

**Clean move in ready home in Monmouth!** 4bd/2 bath. New roof and exterior paint in 2025. New range 2026. Updated bathroom and flooring. Located blocks from Western Oregon University and downtown Monmouth. **\$350,000.00** (#841228)

**3bd/2 bath manufactured home in a lovely 55+ park.** Living area is open and spacious. Kitchen is adjacent to the laundry room where there is great storage space. Primary suite has a garden tub with shower and dual sinks. Yard is private with mature landscaping. Double carport. **\$100,000.00** (#844201)

**This affordably priced 2bd/2bath home** located in one of the nicest communities around will allow you to make your choice of improvements on it on a budget. **\$30,000.00** (#838091)

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including the adjacent street right-of-way (approximately 1.19 acres). The property has a comprehensive plan designation of Low-Density Residential. The property is also identified as Tax Lot 1300 on Polk County Assessor's Map 8.4.31. The City Council will consider testimony which addresses the applicable criteria listed in MCC 18.40. The public hearing will be conducted in a manner which permits testimony from the applicant and other interested parties. Additional information on how to attend the meeting will be posted with the meeting agenda on the City's website at: www.ci.monmouth.or.us. Written comments may be submitted by mail to the address of 151 Main St. W., Monmouth, OR 97361 or by email to: ccraig@ci.monmouth.or.us. Written comments need to be received by the City no later than 4:00pm one (1) day prior to the hearing. The staff report will be available at least seven (7) days prior to the hearing on the City's website. The documents and evidence submitted by the applicant, copies of the applicable criteria and the staff report are available for inspection at no cost and copies will be provided at no cost. Failure to raise an issue accompanied by statements or evidence sufficient to afford the Monmouth City Council and other interested parties an opportunity to respond to the issue precludes appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals based on that issue. For further information, please contact Carter Craig, Community Planner at 503)751-0148 or ccraig@ci.monmouth.or.us. 08/26/26, 09/02/26

PCIO26-374 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 9/16/2026 at 10:00AM. Mark Chaney Unit #069; Chris Christensen Unit #196; Tawnya Haverkost Unit #229. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. 08/26/26, 09/02/26

PCIO26-375 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 9/16/2026 at 10:00AM. Jacquelyn Petersen Unit #267. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. 08/26/26, 09/02/26

PCIO26-376 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF POLK PROBATE DEPARTMENT In the Matter of the Estate of: ROBERT THOMAS WALKER, Deceased. Case No.: 26PB06944 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Notice: The Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Polk, has appointed Amber Kay Calkins as Personal Representative of the Estate of Robert Thomas Walker, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers to the Personal Representative, c/o Stan Butterfield, P.C., Attorney at Law, 605 SW Church St., Dallas, OR 97338, within four months from the date of the publication of this notice as stated below, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative. Date published August 26, 2026. Amber Kay Calkins, Personal Representative c/o Stan Butterfield, P.C. Attorney at Law, 605 SW Church St., Dallas, OR 97338 Telephone: (503) 623-2427 Email: stan@stanbutterfield.com 08/26/26

PCIO26-377 CITY OF DALLAS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Public hearing will be held at 6:00 pm Thursday, September 10, 2026, on the following: Conditional Use #CUP-26-03 (Continuance) Establish a short-term vacation rental in the existing dwelling at 1866 SE Hankel Street. Approval Criteria: DDC.4.4 Conditional Use #CUP-26-05 Construct a medical oxygen storage system at 1156 SE Uglov Avenue. Approval Criteria:

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PUBLIC NOTICES

DDC.4.4 Conditional Use #CUP-26-06 Construct a drive-thru coffee shop and retail storefronts at 233 SW Washington Street, with variance to drive-thru standards. Approval Criteria: DDC.4.4 This meeting is being held at Dallas City Hall, 187 SE Court St. You may also participate via phone by dialing 1 253 215 8782 and entering code: 213 855 0622. The City will consider testimony which addresses the applicable criteria. Testimony may be submitted orally at the public hearing or writing the Planning Department, 187 SE Court St, Dallas, OR 97338. The staff report, the submitted application materials, and the approval criteria will be available online at least seven days prior to the hearing, at www.dallasor.gov/meetings. Copies will be provided at reasonable cost on request. Failure of an issue to be raised in a hearing, in person or by letter, or failure to provide statements or evidence sufficient for the decision maker to respond to the issue precludes appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals. For further information call (503) 831-3570 or email planning@dallasor.gov 08/26/26

PCIO26-378 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF POLK PROBATE DEPARTMENT Case No. 26PB05562 In the Matter of the Estate of Gary Lee Salleng NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Paul Anthony Salleng has been appointed as personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them to the undersigned personal representative at 1193 Liberty St. SE, Salem, OR 97302, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All person whose rights may be affected by the proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published on August 26, 2026 Personal Representative: Paul Anthony Salleng Attorneys for Personal Representative: Ryan M. Johnson, OSB No. 093967 Johnson & Taylor LLC 1193 Liberty St. SE, Salem, OR 97302 Telephone: 503-990-6641 Fax: 503-990-7378 Ryan@johnsontaylorlaw.com Published August 26, 2026

PCIO26-379 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF POLK PROBATE DEPARTMENT In the Matter of the Estate of: CAROL KAYE WUERCH, Deceased. Case No.: 26PB06836 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Notice: The Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Polk, has appointed Edith Marie Wuerch as Personal Representative of the Estate of Carol Kaye Wuerch, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers to the Personal Representative, c/o Stan Butterfield, P.C., Attorney at Law, 605 SW Church St., Dallas, OR 97338, within four months from the date of the publication of this notice as stated below, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative. Date published August 26, 2026. Edith Marie Wuerch, Personal Representative c/o Stan Butterfield, P.C. Attorney at Law 605 SW Church St., Dallas, OR 97338 Telephone: (503) 623-2427 Email: stan@stanbutterfield.com 08/26/26

PCIO26-380 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF POLK (Probate Department) In the Matter of the Estate of GREGORY C. LEEK, Deceased. Case No.: 26PB04856 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Christine Leek has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the Decedent's Personal Representative's attorney, Cassie N. Hutton-Ross, Howard Law Group, LLC, at 1114 12th Street SE, Salem, OR 97302, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the lawyer for the personal

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PUBLIC NOTICES

representative, Cassie N. Hutton-Ross, 1114 12th Street SE, Salem, Oregon 97302. Dated and first published on August 26, 2026. /s/ Cassie N. Hutton-Ross, OSB No. 191678 Attorney for Personal Representative 08/26/26

PCIO26-371 Sale of Abandoned Manufactured Home: One (1) 1966 FLTWD manufactured dwelling, Plate number X088305, Home identification number 170325, Manufacturer's serial number(s) NF6FS5606, with contents (if any) has been abandoned by Zeferina Jacobo Espinoza. The home is located at 573 E Ellendale Ave, Spc 45, Dallas, OR 97338. Sale shall be by private bidding, with sealed bids, and "as is" (there is no warranty relating to title, possession, quiet enjoyment or the like). Bids must be for a specific stated dollar figure and must be delivered to: Dallas Mobile Home Village at 4915 Swegle Rd NE, Salem, OR 97301, no later than the end of the day on the 31st day of August, 2026. The minimum bid shall be \$10,572.66 which represents an opening bid by Dallas Mobile Home Village and which any winning bidder must match or exceed. Upon confirmation of the winning bid, the purchaser must promptly tender full payment in secured funds, only; money order, wire transfer, or cashiers' check and promptly remove the dwelling from the manufactured home park unless a storage agreement can be promptly negotiated between the successful bidder and the Park. Future owner occupancy of the dwelling onsite would require successful application for tenancy, screening, and entry into a written rental agreement, none of which will be considered until after the sale is complete. This auction may be cancelled at any time prior to the start of bidding without notice. Please contact Jessica Sager, Community Manager for more information and/or questions at 206-900-4599. 08/19/26, 08/26/26

PCIO26-360 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE TS No.: 149831-OR Loan No.: **1844** Reference is made to that certain trust deed (the "Deed of Trust") executed by JAMES M WORRELL, AN UNMARRIED MAN, as Grantor, to FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY, as Trustee, in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS DESIGNATED NOMINEE FOR GUILD MORTGAGE COMPANY LLC, BENEFICIARY OF THE SECURITY INSTRUMENT, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as Beneficiary, dated 5/5/2023, recorded 5/11/2023, as Instrument No. 2023-003521, in the Official Records of Polk County, Oregon, which covers the following described real property situated in Polk County, Oregon: LOTS NUMBERED FIVE (5) AND SIX (6), BLOCK NUMBERED THREE (3), IN EARL J. RICHARDSON ADDITION TO THE CITY OF WILLAMINA, POLK COUNTY, OREGON. APN: 480338 / 482204 / 06701-CD-01502 Commonly known as: 931 SW BARBER AVENUE WILLAMINA, OR 97396 The current beneficiary is: GUILD MORTGAGE COMPANY LLC Both the beneficiary and the trustee have elected to sell the above-described real property to satisfy the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust and notice has been recorded pursuant to ORS 86.752(3). The default for which the foreclosure is made is caused by the death of the borrower. TOTAL REQUIRED TO PAYOFF: \$98,731.56 By reason of the default, the beneficiary has declared all obligations secured by the Deed of Trust immediately due and payable, including: the principal sum of \$70,599.25 together with interest thereon in the total amount of \$18,743.16, plus all accrued late charges, and all trustee's fees, foreclosure costs, and any sums advanced by the beneficiary pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Deed of Trust Whereof, notice hereby is given that the undersigned trustee, CLEAR RECON CORP, whose address is 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225, San Diego, CA 92108, will on 12/10/2026, at the hour of 11:00 AM, standard time, as established by ORS 187.110, AT THE MAIN STREET ENTRANCE TO THE POLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 850 MAIN STREET, DALLAS, OR 97338, sell at public auction to the highest bidder in the form of cash equivalent (certified funds or cashier's check) the interest in the above-described real property which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time it executed the Deed of Trust, together

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PUBLIC NOTICES

with any interest which the grantor or his successors in interest acquired after the execution of the Deed of Trust, to satisfy the foregoing obligations thereby secured and the costs and expenses of sale, including a reasonable charge by the trustee. Notice is further given that any person named in ORS 86.778 has the right to have the foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the Deed of Trust reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than the portion of principal that would not then be due had no default occurred), together with the costs, trustee's and attorneys' fees, and curing any other default complained of in the Notice of Default by tendering the performance required under the Deed of Trust at any time not later than five days before the date last set for sale. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. In construing this notice, the masculine gender includes the feminine and the neuter, the singular includes plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other persons owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the Deed of Trust, the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Dated: 7/28/2026 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225 San Diego, CA 92108 Phone: 858-750-7777 866-931-0036 By: Name: Hamsa Uchi, Authorized Signatory of Trustee 08/19/26, 08/26/26, 09/02/26, 09/09/26

PCIO26-359 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE TS No.: 147340-OR Loan No.: ***2923** Reference is made to that certain trust deed (the "Deed of Trust") executed by CHRISTOPHER E. WARD AND MYRNA E. WARD, HUSBAND AND WIFE, as Grantor, to FIRST AMERICAN TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY, as Trustee, in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS DESIGNATED NOMINEE FOR ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC, BENEFICIARY OF THE SECURITY INSTRUMENT, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as Beneficiary, dated 3/3/2023, recorded 3/8/2023, as Instrument No. 2023-001540, in the Official Records of Polk County, Oregon, which covers the following described real property situated in Polk County, Oregon: BEGINNING AT AN IRON ROD WITH CAP THAT IS SOUTH 00°08'00" EAST 485.40 FEET FROM THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 1, BLOCK 6, WESTWOOD HEIGHTS ADDITION NO. 2, SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 7 SOUTH, RANGE 3 WEST, WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, CITY OF SALEM, POLK COUNTY, OREGON; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID WESTWOOD HEIGHTS SOUTH 00°08'00" EAST 262.96 FEET TO THE NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY OF COUNTY ROAD NO. 736 (EOLA DRIVE) AND AN IRON PIPE; THENCE ALONG SAID NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY NORTH 57°30'09" WEST 135.84 FEET TO THE BEGINNING OF A CURVE AND AN IRON ROD WITH CAP; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY THROUGH A 348.31 FOOT RADIUS CURVE TO THE LEFT (DELTA = 02° 26'09", L = 14.81 FEET, LC = 14.81 FEET AND BEARS NORTH 58°43'15" WEST), TO AN IRON ROD WITH CAP; THENCE LEAVING SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY NORTH 03°16'07" EAST 183.80 FEET PARALLEL AND 25' EQUIDISTANT FROM THE WEST LINE OF THAT PARTICULAR PARCEL DESCRIBED IN POLK COUNTY BOOK OF RECORDS REEL 244, PAGE 29, TO AN IRON ROD WITH CAP; THENCE NORTH 86°39'54" EAST 62.90 FEET TO AN IRON ROD WITH CAP; THENCE SOUTH 84°47'22" EAST 53.56 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, AND CONTAINING 27,592 SQUARE FEET. APN: 263234 / 07329-AA-10200 Commonly known as: 2091 EOLA DR NW SALEM, OR 97304-4442 The current beneficiary is: ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC Both the beneficiary and the

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trustee have elected to sell the above-described real property to satisfy the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust and notice has been recorded pursuant to ORS 86.752(3). The default for which the foreclosure is made is the grantor's failure to pay when due, the following sums: Delinquent Payments: Dates: 11/1/2025 - 7/1/2026 Total: \$21,734.64 Late Charges: \$386.40 Beneficiary Advances: \$9,688.38 Total Required to Reinstate: \$31,809.42 TOTAL REQUIRED TO PAYOFF: \$451,901.38 By reason of the default, the beneficiary has declared all obligations secured by the Deed of Trust immediately due and payable, including: the principal sum of \$426,898.56 together with interest thereon at the rate of 5.125 % per annum, from 10/1/2025 until paid, plus all accrued late charges, and all trustee's fees, foreclosure costs, and any sums advanced by the beneficiary pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Deed of Trust Whereof, notice hereby is given that the undersigned trustee, CLEAR RECON CORP, whose address is 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225, San Diego, CA 92108, will on 12/9/2026, at the hour of 11:00 AM, standard time, as established by ORS 187.110, In the new lobby of the Jefferson Street entrance of the Polk County Courthouse, 850 Main Street, Dallas, Oregon 97338, sell at public auction to the highest bidder in the form of cash equivalent (certified funds or cashier's check) the interest in the above-described real property which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time it executed the Deed of Trust, together with any interest which the grantor or his successors in interest acquired after the execution of the Deed of Trust, to satisfy the foregoing obligations thereby secured and the costs and expenses of sale, including a reasonable charge by the trustee. Notice is further given that any person named in ORS 86.778 has the right to have the foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the Deed of Trust reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than the portion of principal that would not then be due had no default occurred), together with the costs, trustee's and attorneys' fees, and curing any other default complained of in the Notice of Default by tendering the performance required under the Deed of Trust at any time not later than five days before the date last set for sale. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. In construing this notice, the masculine gender includes the feminine and the neuter, the singular includes plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other persons owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the Deed of Trust, the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Dated: 7/27/2026 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225 San Diego, CA 92108 Phone: 858-750-7777 866-931-0036 Hamsa Uchi, Authorized Signatory of Trustee 08/19/26, 08/26/26, 09/02/26, 09/09/26

PCIO26-363 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF POLK No. 26PB06838 Probate In the Matter of the Arlene K. Smith Living Trust Agreement, Arlene K. Smith, Deceased NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Pioneer Trust Bank, N.A. is serving as Trustee of the Arlene K. Smith Living Trust, dated September 18, 2018 (Trust), and as Trustee has filed a Petition to Determine the Claims of Creditors of the Trust and Trustor/Settlor Arlene K. Smith, who is now deceased, in the Circuit Court of Polk County, State of Oregon, Circuit Court No.26PB06838. The Trustor/Settlor of the Trust is Arlene K. Smith. All claims are required to be presented to Pioneer Trust Bank, N.A., Trustee, P.O. Box 2305, Salem, Oregon 97308. Claims against the Trust estate may be barred unless presented to the Trustee at the address herein specified within four months from the date of the first publication of this notice. All persons whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may

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obtain additional information from the Trustee, from the records of the Court, or from the attorney for the trustee Dated and first published August 12, 2026. /s/ Pioneer Trust Bank, N.A., Trustee Sarah K. Rinehart, Attorney at Law OSB# 821142 117 Commercial Street NE, Suite 300 Salem, Oregon 97301 Attorney for Trustee 08/12/26, 08/19/26, 08/26/26

PCIO26-358 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE TS No.: 146730-OR Loan No.: ***0601** Reference is made to that certain trust deed (the "Deed of Trust") executed by ROBY T POTTER, MARRIED MAN, as Grantor, to FIRST AMERICAN TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY, as Trustee, in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS DESIGNATED NOMINEE FOR MORTGAGE RESEARCH CENTER, LLC DBA VETERANS UNITED HOME LOANS, BENEFICIARY OF THE SECURITY INSTRUMENT, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as Beneficiary, dated 11/30/2021, recorded 12/1/2021, as Instrument No. 2021-018773, in the Official Records of Polk County, Oregon, which covers the following described real property situated in Polk County, Oregon: A PORTION OF THAT TRACT CONVEYED TO JAMES A. BRIEDWELL AND T. CHRISTINE BRIEDWELL PER VOLUME 258, PAGE 1560 POLK COUNTY BOOK OF RECORDS AND A PORTION OF TRACT 2 OF THAT LAND CONVEYED TO RICKREALL FARM SUPPLY, INC. PER VOLUME 205, PAGE 312, SAID DEED RECORDS, LYING IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 30, TOWNSHIP 7 SOUTH, RANGE 4 WEST, WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: PARCEL 1, PARTITION PLAT NO. 2004-0010, POLK COUNTY, OREGON; TOGETHER WITH THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PORTION OF SAID RICKREALL FARM TRACT: BEGINNING AT A 5/8" IRON ROD AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID PARCEL 1, ON THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE HIGHWAY 99W, THENCE ALONG THE PARCEL 1 SOUTH LINE, S 89°56'54"E 135.43 FEET TO A 5/8" IRON ROD AT THE PARCEL 1 SOUTHEAST CORNER, THENCE S 00°00'00"E 2.77 FEET TO A STEEL FENCE POST LYING S 00°00'00"E 0.17 FEET FROM A 5/8" IRON ROD; THENCE S 87°21'37"W 74.34 FEET TO A 5/8" IRON ROD; THENCE N 89°19'29"W 61.15 FEET TO A 5/8" IRON ROD ON SAID EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE; THENCE ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, N 00°08'51"W 5.60 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. APN: 157531 / 07430-CA-00400 Commonly known as: 260 MAIN ST RICKREALL, OR 97371 The current beneficiary is: PennyMac Loan Services, LLC Both the beneficiary and the trustee have elected to sell the above-described real property to satisfy the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust and notice has been recorded pursuant to ORS 86.752(3). The default for which the foreclosure is made is the grantor's failure to pay when due, the following sums: Delinquent Payments: Dates: 10/1/2025 - 7/1/2026 Total: \$18,084.33 Late Charges: \$0.00 Beneficiary Advances: \$2,209.03 Total Required to Reinstate: \$20,293.36 TOTAL REQUIRED TO PAYOFF: \$311,605.23 By reason of the default, the beneficiary has declared all obligations secured by the Deed of Trust immediately due and payable, including: the principal sum of \$302,643.07 together with interest thereon at the rate of 2.625 % per annum, from 9/1/2025 until paid, plus all accrued late charges, and all trustee's fees, foreclosure costs, and any sums advanced by the beneficiary pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Deed of Trust Whereof, notice hereby is given that the undersigned trustee, CLEAR RECON CORP, whose address is 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225, San Diego, CA 92108, will on 12/1/2026, at the hour of 11:00 AM, standard time, as established by ORS 187.110, AT THE MAIN STREET ENTRANCE TO THE POLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 850 MAIN STREET, DALLAS, OR 97338, sell at public auction to the highest bidder in the form of cash equivalent (certified funds or cashier's check) the interest in the above-described real property which the grantor had or had power to convey at the time it executed the Deed of Trust, together with any interest which the grantor or his successors in interest

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acquired after the execution of the Deed of Trust, to satisfy the foregoing obligations thereby secured and the costs and expenses of sale, including a reasonable charge by the trustee. Notice is further given that any person named in ORS 86.778 has the right to have the foreclosure proceeding

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dismissed and the Deed of Trust reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than the portion of principal that would not then be due had no default occurred), together with the costs, trustee's and attorneys' fees, and curing any other default complained of in the Notice of Default by

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tendering the performance required under the Deed of Trust at any time not later than five days before the date last set for sale. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at

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a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. In

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construing this notice, the masculine gender includes the feminine and the neuter, the singular includes plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other persons owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the Deed of Trust, the words "trustee"

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and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Dated: 7/17/2026 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225 San Diego, CA 92108 Phone: 858-750-7777 866-931-0036 Hamsa Uchi, Authorized Signatory of Trustee 08/12/26, 08/19/26, 08/26/26, 09/02/26

PUBLIC RECORD

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

Dallas Police Department

FRIDAY, AUG. 7

At 1:46 a.m., an officer came across a female subject sleeping in her vehicle on Kings Valley Highway. She left the location without issue.

At 1:51 a.m., an officer came across a female subject sleeping in her truck on Park Street with a gun on her dash. The officer did not recognize her until she woke up and took custody of the gun.

At 2:19 a.m., an officer came upon an open door at a residence on Clay Street. The resident was cooling down his house.

At 4:30 a.m., an officer investigated a fire alarm at a building on River Drive. Dallas Fire ran their sensors around, noting nothing.

At 6:22 a.m., a male subject approached an officer on Jefferson Street and asked for a wipe to clean his face off. He had various facial injuries and blood on his face. The subject said he tripped and did not want medics.

At 7:44 a.m., a report of a F-350 side swiped on Fairview Avenue.

At 12:12 p.m., an officer investigated a burglar alarm on Bridlewood Drive but found everything secure.

At 10:24 p.m., officers responded to a report of four juveniles in the city park talking about drinking alcohol. Due to a 10-minute delay in response, the complainant stated the juveniles left in a vehicle by the time officers arrived.

At 11:03 p.m., an officer investigated a driving complaint of a motorist coming off Highway 22 toward Dallas. The officer stopped the motorist and had a conversation with a 19-year-old-driver about following too close and unsafe passing.

SATURDAY, AUG. 8

At 12:37 a.m., a resident on Walnut Avenue reported hearing yelling and a crash where two subjects live. No one answered when an officer knocked on the door.

At 12:55 a.m., a report of two vehicles doing donuts behind a location on Ellendale Avenue.

At 3:38 a.m., officers investigated a garage door activation on Jefferson Street. They found no one/no vehicles around, and got no answer at the door. All appeared secure.

At 12:58 p.m., officers responded to a report of a male placing bongos on the railing of the bridge in the park on Wyatt Street. The suspect was gone upon their arrival and the items

described were not seen.

At 6:18 p.m., an officer responded to a report of an ice cream truck being too loud with its music on Allgood Street. The officer was unable to find the truck.

At 8:57 p.m., an officer attempted to contact a male who appeared to avoid the officer near Main Street. The officer walked the path at Ian Tawney park in an attempt to find the male, but was unsuccessful.

SUNDAY, AUG. 9

At 2:14 a.m., officers responded to suspicious activity on Lyle Street. An officer deployed a drone for IR overwatch while another officer checked the area in a vehicle and on foot. They were unable to locate anyone in the area or in the mentioned building.

At 4:43 p.m., a report of an unknown white male juvenile who stole a bicycle on Main Street. An officer will follow up tomorrow when staff are available for video footage review.

At 10:45 p.m., a resident on Howe Street reported two to three juvenile females were playing Ding Dong Ditch. Officers were unable to locate the suspects.

MONDAY, AUG. 10

At 12:26 p.m., a subject on Academy Street had questions about his RV that was towed while at Polk County Jail. He was advised the RV was towed by TRS towing.

At 4 p.m., a bag of mushrooms seized from bondsmen after they lodged their client at Polk County Jail and the items were found in her possession.

At 6:16 p.m., an officer investigated a report of a silver Kia Sorento driving erratically and unable to maintain its lane on Ellendale Avenue but was unable to find the suspect vehicle.

At 7:02 p.m., a report of a female yelling at her kids on A Street. An officer spoke to the female who said her child was trying to break a window which is why she yelled.

At 10:13 p.m., a motorist on Oak Street was cited for driving uninsured and received a written warning for no lights.

At 10:45 p.m., a motorist on Jefferson Street was cited for speeding and received a verbal warning for improper display of registration sticker.

TUESDAY, AUG. 11

At 5:41 a.m., a motorist on Kings Valley Highway was cited for speeding 40 mph in a 20-mph zone, for expired registration, and for improper display of license plate.

At 8:16 p.m., a report of soliciting in the area of Walnut Avenue. An officer spoke to two males who stated they did not have any permits. They were picked up by a white van.

At 8:43 p.m., a female subject waved an officer down on Bridlewood Drive stating she believed her license plate fell off

somewhere in Marion County or Polk County. She added she did not think it was stolen.

At 10:29 p.m., an officer investigated a verbal domestic dispute on La Creole Drive but found no crimes.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 12

At 12:17 a.m., Jordan Eagen was arrested on Crater Lake Drive and was charged with trespass 2 after he jumped into the neighbor's backyard when he heard the police were coming to a verbal domestic dispute.

At 4:54 a.m., a possible EDP homeless male subject was found on Main Street wearing no pants. He claimed it was due to sleepwalking. He was trespassed from the location. The subject, Karl Salki, was arrested and lodged at Polk County Jail where he was charged with trespass 2 after he returned to Harvest Crossfit.

At 7:46 a.m., an officer responded to a minor fender bender on Ellendale Avenue. Upon the officer's arrival, the parties said they were able to exchange info and did not need any assistance.

At 9:10 a.m., a subject was trespassed from a location on Bonanza Avenue by the homeowner.

At 9:34 a.m. a resident on Augustus Drive turned in ammo for destruction.

At 10:24 a.m., a vehicle was towed by code services for blocking Tim's Automotive driveway on Washington Street.

At 1:14 p.m., City Code performed a hazardous vehicle tow for a Honda Civic on Washington Street.

At 3:53 p.m., a resident on Oak Street reported someone tried to victimize him with a federal jury scam. No money was lost.

At 4:37 p.m., an officer responded to a report of a vehicle vs bicycle crash on Hankel Street with no injuries. Information had been exchanged before the officer's arrival.

At 7:20 p.m., an officer spoke with a subject on Ellendale Avenue reported to be stabbing a tree with a knife. No knife was found – however had a small metal dart that he turned over to the officer.

At 7:59 p.m., a report of a juvenile riding a pocket bike on Orchard Drive. An officer was unable to locate the subject.

At 8:42 p.m., Perry Freeman III was arrested on Ellendale Avenue and was lodged at Polk County Jail where he was charged with disorder conduct 2.

At 9:25 p.m., a homeless person was trespassed from the entire complex on Ellendale Avenue by the manager, which includes Subway.

THURSDAY, AUG. 13

At 9:41 a.m., a wallet was found in the middle of Ellendale Avenue by Safeway and was turned into the police station. The owner was contacted

and picked it up.

At 11:25 a.m., a resident on Rosewood Lane reported both registration stickers were stolen off of both plates of their vehicle.

At 2:22 p.m., officers responded to a report of a subject walking in the road on Academy Street yelling at people. The subject denied both. He said he went for a walk after an argument. He was advised to keep it down and stay out of the road.

At 6:32 p.m., a subject reported losing a black Louis Vuitton bi-fold wallet in Dallas or Monmouth.

At 7:34 p.m., officers responded to an alarm on Main Street. The building appeared secured upon arrival. After searching the building, they found no sign of forced entry or anything susp.

At 8:10 p.m., two loose dogs, whose owner lives on Lyle Street, were found wandering on Maple Street, with one that was hit by a car before returning home.

At 9:02 p.m., Michael Charpentier was arrested on Ellendale Avenue on an outstanding Dallas Muni warrant and was lodged at Polk County Jail, where he was also charged with possession of a controlled substance - methamphetamine, unlawful delivery, and manufacture of meth.

FRIDAY, AUG. 14

At 8:22 a.m., a report of a vehicle with trash around on Brandvold Drive. An officer contacted the owner and told her to clean up her trash. She started cleaning it up before the officer left.

At 2:14 p.m., a report of a vehicle vs pedestrian accident in the Safeway parking lot. The driver was warned for careless driving and information exchange was provided to both parties. The pedestrian was transported to West Valley Hospital for an apparent minor injury.

At 7:07 p.m., a resident on La Creole Drive reported their car had been keyed.

At 7:49 p.m., an officer responded to a report of an aggressive dog off leash on Ellendale Avenue, but was unable to locate it.

At 10:01 p.m., reports of a shotgun being fired and a woman heard screaming on Fenton Street. An officer located video footage of an unknown person setting off a firework.

At 11:36 p.m., Charlotte Roberts was arrested on Ellendale Avenue on an outstanding failure to appear warrant. She was lodged at Polk County Jail where she was also charged with possession of a controlled substance - methamphetamine.

SATURDAY, AUG. 15

At 2:15 a.m., an officer responded to a report of two vehicles revving their motors and people talking loudly on Ellendale Avenue. When the officer arrived the described vehicles were not there.

At 1:29 p.m., an officer

investigated a report of a dog continuously barking inside a residence on Barberry Avenue. The officer heard nothing on arrival but the dog started barking when he knocked. After getting no answer, the officer advised the complainant to submit a report of concern.

At 1:48 p.m., Rebekarose Wright was arrested on Court Street and lodged at Polk County Jail on an outstanding Marion County Warrant.

At 3:27 p.m., an officer responded to a two-vehicle accident on Mill Street. It was unclear at the time who was at fault.

At 7:10 p.m., Robert Macpherson was arrested on Ellis Street and was lodged at Polk County Jail where he was charged with aggravated theft by deception.

At 7:53 p.m., a report of graffiti in the alley side of Lewis Street. Based upon artwork left behind, two known juveniles are the suspects.

At 11:30 p.m., Dallas officers assisted Independence Police with a custody at West Valley Hospital for blood draw for a DUII case.

SUNDAY, AUG. 16

At 5:21 a.m., a late report of theft 3 on Washington Street.

At 7:14 a.m., Kaden Roberts was arrested on Gooseberry Street and was lodged at Polk County Jail where he was charged with burglary 1, strangulation, harassment, and menacing.

At 7:35 p.m., a subject reported losing their cell phone on Mill Street over the weekend and was winding if anyone turned it in.

At 8:02 p.m., a resident on Gregory Drive found a 9mm pistol mag in another subject's belongings she was cleaning out. She did not have a use for it and turned it over to police for destruction.

SUNDAY, AUG. 17

At 8:44 a.m., a resident on Uglow Avenue reported an unknown suspect threw eggs on her window around 3 a.m. this morning.

At 9:30 a.m., Marcos Genera was cited and released on Church Street on an outstanding failure to appear warrant.

At 2:55 p.m., a resident on Walnut Avenue wanted guidance on child custody issues without a formal agreement. An officer told her it's a civil matter but to probably speak with an attorney and/or get a formal agreement in place.

At 6:37 p.m., a subject was looking for a wallet she thought she lost while at Court Street Bar. No wallet was turned in to the police.

At 7:58 p.m., a motorist on Mill Street was cited for careless driving.

MONDAY, AUG. 18

At 8:13 a.m., Isaiah Johnson was arrested on Hayter Street and lodged at Polk County Jail where he was charged with harassment.

At 8:36 a.m., officers

responded to a report of a dog getting out of a residence on Denton Avenue and biting at the complainant's dog. An officer warned the owner of the dog about potential citations/civil liability.

At 10:53 a.m., a motorist backed their truck out of a property on Howe Street and crashed into a parked vehicle on the street. Damage was over \$2,500.

At 1:17 p.m., a motorist from Dallas was cited for speeding 51 mph in a 35-mph zone on Ellendale Avenue.

At 3:14 p.m., a resident from Godsey Road turned in ammo for destruction.

At 9:01 p.m., a resident reported finding a purse/wallet with nothing inside. The complainant posted a picture of it and was no longer at the station to turn it over.

MONDAY, AUG. 19

At 6 a.m., an officer contacted a homeless subject on Main Street after seeing him holding a wood object by a window as if he was going to hit it. He said he was using it as a note pad and was not going to hit anything. The subject appeared to be under the influence.

At 11:03 p.m., an officer provided four juveniles on La Creole Drive with sunglasses from the Dallas Police Department.

At 11:18 a.m., an officer provided three juveniles on Washington Street with Dallas Police Department sunglasses.

At 11:39 a.m., an officer provided five pairs of DPD sunglasses to juveniles on Jefferson Street.

At 11:34 a.m., a subject was formally trespassed from House of his Presence Church on Oak Street.

At 2:09 p.m., an officer noticed a blue Subaru on Main Street with a broken side mirror and body damage parked with the hazards on. The officer learned the driver was waiting on someone and that the damage was old. No assistance was required.

At 5:27 p.m., an officer responded to a report of a dog in a hot car on Main Street. The officer was unable to locate the vehicle.

At 8:44 p.m., a report that a juvenile started a fire inside a detached garage on River Drive. A neighbor saw this and put the fire out.

At 9:18 p.m., a juvenile motorist on Hayter Street was cited for driving uninsured and failing to register the vehicle.

Independence Police Department

THURSDAY, AUG. 13

While on an unrelated matter, an officer spotted Sebastian Ortellao walking down the 300 block of North Gun Club Road with another wanted subject, Autumn Snyder. The officer turned around and upon returning, Snyder had disappeared but the officer was able to place

Police

From Page B6

Ortellao under arrest on an outstanding warrant out of Polk County.

FRIDAY, AUG. 14

Stemming from an incident that occurred in an apartment in the 300 block of North Gun Club Road on July 7, law enforcement developed probable cause to arrest Autumn Snyder on charges of menacing, pointing a firearm at another – intimidation/ threat, unlawful use/carry a weapon and reckless endangering. Family members, including children, were present when Snyder pointed a firearm at her significant other while a child slept in the same room. On Aug. 13, after Snyder was spotted out walking, she hid from officers on private property with a firearm concealed in her waistband. The Independence Police Department’s donated drone (named SAM) was launched and located Snyder. She was taken into custody and transported to the Polk County Jail where additional charges of criminal trespass and unlawful possession of a firearm - concealed were added.

SATURDAY, AUG. 15

Family members reported suspicious and aggressive behaviors that Adan Rincon had exhibited over the last several weeks. Rincon was arrested in the 500 block of Maple Drive for physically blocking a family member from leaving the residence and damaging a door. He was charged with criminal mischief 2 and coercion.

SUNDAY, AUG. 16

An officer observed a driver failing to maintain their lane of travel and initiated a traffic stop on Main Street at Monmouth Street. Upon contacting the driver, Magdaleno Cruz Marcelino, the officer detected signs of intoxication. Cruz Marcelino performed poorly on the field sobriety test and was transported to the Polk County Jail where he refused to provide a breath sample and requested a lawyer. Eventually a blood draw was performed. He was charged with driving under the influence of intoxicants and was cited for refusing to provide a breath sample.

Mark Sanner stopped and left items at a residence in the 100 block of South 18th Street that he’s restrained and trespassed from being nearby. Officers contacted Sanner in Monmouth and Sanner admitted that a scooter he’d left behind had been stolen from the Central Plaza area. Sanner was arrested and transported to jail where he was charged with violating a restraining order, criminal trespass 2 and theft 3.

TUESDAY, AUG. 18

Haley Patterson was cited and released in the 100 block of South 9th Street on a failure to appear warrant from Dallas Municipal Court. An argument between roommates in the 200 block of Independence Way turned physical and Kristopher Stock was arrested and charged with harassment after shoving and squeezing the victim’s arm. Stock was transported to jail.

Monmouth Police

Department

THURSDAY, AUG. 13

Animal: A report was made regarding a dog that had been barking intermittently for several nights. An area check was conducted, but no barking was heard.

Suspicious Person: An individual camping in a tent near local baseball fields was contacted. The individual explained they were homeless but employed. They were asked not to camp overnight in the park, and they complied.

Suspicious Activity: An individual sought assistance regarding a potential blackmail situation involving explicit photos sent to an unknown person. The individual was advised not to send further money and to cease communication.

Animal: A follow-up visit was conducted to deliver restrictions regarding a dangerous dog incident. The owner discussed the required muzzle and leash restrictions, and a follow-up check was scheduled for the end of the quarantine period.

Noise Complaint: A report of loud music was investigated. The surrounding area was checked, but no music was heard.

FRIDAY, AUG. 14

Assistance to Other Agency: Officers assisted another agency in locating a suspect who was armed. A high-risk approach was used to call the suspect out, and they were taken into custody without incident.

Overdose: Responding to an overdose report, medics administered on-site aid and the individual was transported for further care.

Open Door: A report of an open door at a residence was investigated. The property was cleared using a drone to ensure safety. Officers found the house secure and no one inside.

Theft: A report was made concerning the theft of power tools from a vehicle. The owner will provide serial numbers to assist with the investigation.

Harassment: An individual reported receiving threats regarding damage to their vehicle. The subject requested the individual making the threats be trespassed.

Citizen Contact: An individual reported concerns regarding harassment involving children, neighborhood disputes, and an off-leash dog.

Emotionally Disturbed Person: An individual requested assistance regarding what they believed to be fraudulent documents related to child support. Guidance on the documents was provided.

Driving Complaint: A report was received about a vehicle unable to maintain its lane. The area was checked, but the vehicle was not located.

Suspicious Activity: An individual was observed running in circles, appearing intoxicated. Contact was made, but the subject was safe and did not require further assistance.

Alarm: A business alarm was triggered. The building was found secure, but attempts to contact the reporting party were unsuccessful.

SATURDAY, AUG. 15

Suspicious Activity: A report of an intoxicated individual yelling and moving trash cans into the street. The trash cans

were returned to the sidewalk, but the individual could not be located. Some fence damage was also noted nearby.

Domestic Disturbance: A verbal domestic dispute was reported by a witness. Upon investigation, no physical altercations or crimes were discovered.

Welfare Check: A request was made to check on a family member. Contact was established, and the individual was found to be doing well.

Citizen Contact: An individual inquired about how to handle interactions with someone involved in a past incident. They were advised to avoid further contact.

Welfare Check: A report of an intoxicated person at a residential complex was investigated, but no one matching the description was found.

Civil Dispute: A dispute regarding parenting agreements and property access was reported. The parties were advised to work through appropriate legal channels.

Assistance to Other Agency: Officers investigated reports of individuals making threats with weapons. Suspects were not located during area searches.

Noise Complaint: A report of barking dogs was received. The noise ceased shortly after the report.

Hit and Run: A report of two parked vehicles that were sideswiped by an unknown driver. No surveillance footage was available in the area.

SUNDAY, AUG. 16

Assistance to Other Agency: Assisted another agency in locating several juveniles who had run away. Most were returned home safely.

Animal: A complaint of dogs barking frequently over several days. The animals appeared healthy, though their living conditions were noted.

Assistance to Other Agency: Officers provided support during a verbal domestic disturbance that did not involve criminal activity.

Civil Dispute: A dispute over keys and vehicle access was reported. No action was taken as it was a civil matter.

Assistance to Other Agency: Officers assisted during a reported domestic incident, which was determined to involve an emotionally disturbed person.

Assistance to Other Agency: Officers assisted in taking an individual into custody regarding an outstanding order.

Citizen Contact: An individual inquired about stopping a package delivery that had already been shipped. They were advised to work with the delivery company.

Hang-up Call: An emergency call with no audio was investigated. The area was checked, but no issues were found.

Arrest: An individual was arrested for theft and trespassing after being observed on video removing property from a porch.

Driving Complaint: A report about a tailgating vehicle. The area was searched, but the vehicle was not located.

MONDAY, AUG. 17

Driving Under the Influence: An individual was arrested for driving under the influence after exhibiting signs of impairment and performing poorly on sobriety tests.

Suspicious Activity: A report of a male on a bicycle behaving strangely near a daycare. The area was searched, but the individual was not located.

Trespass: A dispute regarding the removal of property was resolved. A plan was made for the individual to retrieve their belongings within a set timeframe.

Citizen Contact: An individual inquired about lost keys that had been turned in.

Suspicious Activity: A report was made regarding an individual behaving strangely and handling a dead animal in a public park. The individual was advised to call if the behavior continued.

Crime: An individual reported ongoing harassment and stalking via social media, citing an existing order.

Emotionally Disturbed Person: An individual was taken into custody on a mental health hold after attempting an overdose.

Arrest: An individual was arrested on an outstanding felony warrant.

Vehicle Crash: A collision between a cyclist and a vehicle was reported. The parties involved had already spoken and declined further assistance or documentation.

Hang-up Call: An emergency call was confirmed to be accidental.

Civil Dispute: An individual requested information regarding eviction procedures.

Noise Complaint: A report of loud individuals at a skate park was addressed; the individuals agreed to leave.

Emotionally Disturbed Person: An individual expressing suicidal ideations was taken into custody for a mental health evaluation.

TUESDAY, AUG. 18

Driving Under the Influence: An individual was arrested for driving under the influence after exhibiting signs of impairment.

Arrest: An individual was arrested following a reported physical domestic disturbance.

Suspicious Person: An individual preaching in a public park was contacted after complaints were made. The individual was informed that they were making others uncomfortable but were within their rights to continue.

Driving Complaint: A report of road rage involving a vehicle forcing another off the road was documented for potential follow-up.

Driving Complaint: A report was made regarding a tailgating vehicle. An area search was conducted, but the vehicle was not located.

Information: A report of a lost wallet was documented.

Harassment: An individual sought advice regarding ongoing telephonic harassment. They were advised on legal options regarding contact orders.

Trespass: A request was made to trespass an individual from public property due to concerning letters and threats.

Citizen Contact: A concern was raised regarding a juvenile riding a motorized scooter in an unsafe manner.

Fraud: An individual reported being scammed out of money through a digital currency and check scheme. They were advised to cease communication.

Assistance to Other Agency: Officers assisted

with a vehicle crash investigation involving a driver who was potentially impaired.

Crime: Officers investigated a report of juveniles using a vaping device.

Trespass: An individual was warned regarding trespassing on private property after being observed on an unoccupied lot.

Driving Complaint: A report of a vehicle failing to maintain its lane was investigated, but the vehicle could not be located.

Assistance to Other Agency: Assisted with a physical domestic disturbance, resulting in an arrest.

Welfare Check: A welfare check was conducted regarding children; no issues were found.

Civil Dispute: A request to have a guest removed from a property was addressed.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 19

Suspicious Activity: A report of juveniles attempting to take a beverage from an outdoor table. The area was checked, but the individuals were not located.

Information: A report of a lost wallet was documented.

Found Property: A set of keys found in a public park was turned into evidence for safekeeping.

Assistance to Other Agency: Assisted another agency with the execution of a search warrant.

Found Property: An abandoned bicycle was documented. It did not meet the criteria for formal impoundment, but the information was recorded.

Fraud: An individual reported being scammed out of money by someone claiming to be from a local jail. The importance of not sending money to unknown callers was emphasized.

Animal: A lost dog was located in a park and safely returned to its owner.

Found Property: A debit card found at a laundromat was turned into evidence for safekeeping.

Animal: A report of an aggressive dog was investigated, but the animal could not be located.

Driving Complaint: A report of a vehicle failing to maintain its lane was investigated; the driver showed no signs of impairment.

Welfare Check: A welfare check was requested for an individual who had not been in contact with family. The individual was found to be doing fine.

Polk County Sheriff’s Office

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 12

At 7:27 a.m., a motorist was stopped for expired tags. The driver was cited for driving while suspended - violation, and expired tags.

At 8:46 a.m., a female resident on Archer Court was discovered deceased by her daughter in law. The resident had no known major medical issues. The medical examiner and district attorney released the deceased and nothing was noted as suspicious.

At 9:14 a.m., Jason Findley was arrested on Salmon River Highway on charges from an assault case and was lodged at Polk County Jail.

At 12:08 p.m., a deputy investigated a report from Oregon State Police of someone walking in the highway. The deputy witnessed a very distressed

and apparent emotionally disturbed female subject run across the highway causing several vehicles to brake hard to avoid her. She was arrested for disorderly conduct 2 and unlawful possession of meth.

At 12:51 p.m., a deputy attempted to serve a restraining order at a residence on Corvallis Road. No contact was made at the door because a not so friendly dog didn’t seem to want to let the deputy near the house. The deputy decided not to push the issue with the dog.

At 2:20 p.m., deputies responded to a crash on Salem Dallas Highway due to reports of injuries. Upon their arrival, they were not needed as Oregon State Police had control of the scene.

At 4:47 p.m., a motorist on Bridewell Road was stopped for expired tags. She was cited for driving while suspended - violation and was warned for the expired tags. The deputy told her to go to court with the proof of reinstatement so her ticket could potentially get waived.

At 9:48 p.m., a deputy contacted a group off highway 22. They said they were there to watch a meteor shower tonight and tomorrow night. The deputy educated them that the area was closed after dark.

At 10:38 p.m., a deputy contacted five subjects in a vehicle off Halls Ferry Road there to watch the meteor show. The deputy informed them the park was closed and to go to a different location.

At 11:02 p.m., deputies responded to a report of a vehicle blocking a lane of travel off Cooper Hollow Road. The driver was having mechanical failure. The deputies helped push the vehicle out of the roadway. The driver will work on getting the vehicle towed and the vehicle was taped off.

At 11:08 p.m., a deputy contacted multiple subjects who were watching the meteor shower at Eagle Crest Overlook. The deputy advised them they were trespassing on private property and to move along to other locations for viewing.

At 11:30 p.m., a motorist on Hopewell Road was cited for speeding 75 mph in a 55-mph zone and for driving uninsured.

THURSDAY, AUG. 13

At 7:18 a.m., a deputy came across a vehicle pulled off Greenwood Road in a private pull out. A note on the dash stated the vehicle had a blown radiator hose and asked not to tow. The note also stated the owner would be back to fix it ASAP.

At 8:37 a.m., a deputy took photos and got a statement from a domestic violence victim on McPherson Road. While on scene, the deputy learned of a new domestic incident which occurred two days prior that involved a knife being held to the victim’s throat. The deputy added that charge to the suspect accordingly at Polk County Jail.

At 9:38 a.m., a resident on Smithfield Road reported he had been scammed by someone claiming to be from the Publisher’s Clearing House. A deputy informed him that this was a common scam in the area. The victim had purchased a \$500 Amazon gift card and gave the scammer the code. The resident

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showed the deputy he had already reported the fraud to the internet scam reporting links. The deputy educated him and his wife on various scams that were occurring in the area.

At 2:01 p.m., a motorist on Ellendale Avenue was stopped for expired tags. The driver was cited for failure to install an ignition interlock device.

At 3:39 p.m., a deputy tagged an abandoned vehicle off Corvallis Road, filled out a tow slip and put the sticker on the back of the vehicle.

At 4:04 p.m., a motorist on Independence Highway was stopped for expired tags. The driver was cited for no insurance and expired tags.

At 6:25 p.m., Rebecca Murray was taken into custody on Falls City Road and lodged at Polk County Jail where she was charged with driving under the influence, reckless driving and failure to perform duties of a driver.

At 7:34 p.m., a deputy covered Dallas Police on a building alarm on Main Street. The building appeared secured upon arrival. They searched the building with the reporting person, finding no sign of forced entry or anything suspicious.

At 8:48 p.m., deputies responded to a possible physical domestic disturbance and shots heard at a park off Salmon River Highway. They spoke with multiple individuals at the park, but found no one in distress and heard no further shots.

At 10:17 p.m., a deputy contacted a driver going the wrong way on Main Street in Dallas. She said she had just gotten off work at West Valley Hospital and was headed home to Salem. She was unfamiliar with the area. The deputy did not observe any signs of intoxication. She set her google maps and the deputy had her turn around and go the correct way.

FRIDAY, AUG. 14

At 12:09 a.m., a deputy was the closest to respond to a report of a female subject who had used fentanyl off Knox Street. The deputy administered one dose of Narcan and within 30 seconds she came around and was agitated. Monmouth Police and Polk County Fire showed up. The female was transported to Salem Hospital.

At 1:19 a.m., a deputy responded to a report of an apartment door left open on Jackson Street. With the help of Monmouth Police, the deputy cleared the house. No one was found inside and nothing was missing or broken.

At 3:22 a.m., a deputy responded to a call of a struck deer that was blocking the left eastbound lane. The deputy located a large elk in the roadway and pulled it into the center median next to the concrete barrier. ODOT is aware and will be sending people in the morning.

At 6:25 a.m., a deputy investigated a report of a vehicle parked off Oakdale Road with a male subject sleeping in a sleeping bag in the driver's seat. The complainant was unsure if the male was even breathing. The deputy contacted the subject who said he was on a waterfall road trip from Australia. His rear right tire was flat and he planned on limping to

Les Schwab when they opened at 8 a.m.

At 8:01 a.m., deputies responded to a report of a three-vehicle accident on Pacific Highway. The rear driver stated he was attempting to plug in his phone and did not see the vehicles stopped in front of him and hit them. They held the scene until ODOT and OSP arrived.

At 12:04 p.m., a male subject went swimming and got locked behind the mill creek gate. He was cited for a travel management area violation and retrieved his vehicle.

At 1:52 p.m., deputies investigated a report of a single vehicle crash into a field off Rickreall Road. The driver reported she was eastbound on Highway 22 and began to exit too quickly. She said she adjusted to try to stay on the highway. Failing to do either, she ended up crashing in the orchard on the Rickreall Road exit. She had moments of memory loss regarding where she was/was going and agreed to be transported to West Valley Hospital.

At 4:40 p.m., deputies responded to a two vehicle injury blocking crash on Zena Road. An eastbound motorist went off the shoulder of the road, crossed over into the westbound lane of travel and crashed into the other vehicle. The driver of the second vehicle was transported to Salem Hospital by Salem Fire. The first driver said he was heading home after work and was tired, causing the crash. He was cited for failure to maintain a lane.

At 9:48 p.m., a resident on Simpson Road reported a male subject had been contacting her for the last three years. She stated she had blocked him on various accounts and numbers but he had found a way around it. Today an Amazon package at her home from Alec with his phone number listed. She did not know how he had gotten her home address. The deputy contacted the male subject and warned him for telephonic harassment and told him he cannot contact her again. He understood and said he will remove her from his phone.

At 10:01 p.m., reports of a shotgun being fired and a woman heard screaming near Fenton Street. A deputy located video footage of an unknown person setting off a firework.

At 10:25 p.m., a deputy covered Dallas police while they gave a motorist a field sobriety test. While the driver passed the test, he was cited for speeding 45 mph in a 25-mph zone and use of a cell phone while driving (first offense). He also received a written

warning for illegal display of license plate.

SATURDAY, AUG. 15

At 1:06 a.m., a motorist on Highway 99 was cited for speeding 88 mph in a 55-mph zone.

At 1:33 a.m., a deputy stopped a motorist on Highway 18 near milepost 26 for erratic driving and failure to maintain a speed between 40 and 65 mph. The driver, who did not have a valid driver's license, had three passengers, none of which were authorized to drive the vehicle. She was cited for driving while suspended - violation and failing to drive within lane. The deputy told her repeatedly she was not allowed to drive due to her driver's license being suspended. Shortly after, the deputy observed the vehicle had left, and believed she had chosen to drive it away.

At 2:20 a.m., a deputy responded to a report of a possible intoxicated driver westbound on Highway 22. The deputy located the vehicle and observed it drifting within the lane and at varying speeds, as well as exceeding the speed limit by 5-10 mph. The driver showed no signs of impairment; he was elderly, tired and on his way home.

At 6:45 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 77 mph in a 55-mph zone.

At 7:34 a.m., deputies responded to a two-vehicle blocking crash on Kings Valley Highway. They provided traffic control until OSP and ODOT took over.

At 8:05 a.m., a resident on Orrs Corner Road reported angus cows were roaming his property and he was worried about them getting onto the road. When the deputy arrived, a white pickup was already herding the cows north. The owners said the cows got out earlier in the morning and they had been trying to find them.

At 12:15 p.m., a resident reported being called and texted by a scam number stating he missed US District Court and had a warrant for his arrest. A deputy verified this was a scam number and the

resident did not have any warrants.

At 2:14 p.m., deputies responded to a two-vehicle non injury, blocking accident at North Kings Valley Highway and Highway 22. They assisted with traffic control until OSP and ODOT arrived then assisted with moving the vehicles out of the roadway until a tow arrived.

At 4:13 p.m., multiple reports of a male subject walking in the roadway on Oregon Trail Drive. A deputy contacted Kyle Casey who walked out into the road while talking to the deputy, causing a vehicle to slow down. Casey was arrested and lodged at Polk County Jail where he was charged with disorderly conduct 2.

At 7:57 p.m., a motorist was stopped on Highway 22 for expired registration. The driver was cited for driving while suspended - violation, illegal alteration or display of plate, and expired registration stickers. He was advised he was not allowed to drive.

At 9:40 p.m., a motorist on Highway 22 passed a deputy vehicle traveling so fast, it shook the vehicle. The deputy conducted a traffic stop and cited the driver for speeding 101 mph in a 55-mph zone.

At 11:22 p.m., deputies responded to provide assistance in the apprehension of a male subject on Ellendale Avenue. When the deputy arrived the subject was in handcuffs being restrained by two Dallas officers. However, the subject was still actively resisting and non-compliant. Apparently, the subject came back to the residence extremely intoxicated on alcohol and other recreational drugs and was actively trying to fight his friends. Dallas medics later arrived and medicated the subject, who was then carried out to a gurney and transported to Salem Hospital.

SUNDAY, AUG. 16

At 7:47 a.m., a juvenile motorist on Highway 99 near milepost 51.5 was cited for speeding 75 mph in a 55-mph zone.

At 12:31 p.m., a report of a deer struck by a vehicle on Main Street. A deputy responded and dispatched the deer. Due to a resident's concern about coyotes and kids out and about in the area, the deputy collected the deer and disposed of it.

At 2:52 p.m., Daniel Rayos was arrested on Church Street on an outstanding warrant and was transported to Polk County Jail.

At 8:42 p.m., a resident on James Howe Road reported a dog with a leg injury wandered onto her property. A deputy located the owner in Falls City who said the dog jumped from her truck when she was driving near Red Prairie Road and Highway 22. The owner was given the address to retrieve the dog.

At 9:05 p.m., Wayne Gabriel was arrested on Main Street in Falls City and charged with driving while suspended - misdemeanor. He was transported to Polk County Jail.

MONDAY, AUG. 17

At 1:39 a.m., a motorist was stopped on Bassett Street for no front plate. The driver was cited for driving while suspended - violation and on a cite and release warrant out of Dallas Muni.

At 1:48 a.m., a deputy provided backup for Monmouth Police traffic stop after the subject's brother arrived on scene and began causing a disturbance. Edward Jackson, Jr., was stopped for failure to obey a traffic control device, making an improper left turn and reasonable suspicion of DUII. He exhibited indicators of impairment and consented to a field sobriety test. After failing, he was arrested and transported to Polk County Jail, where he registered a BAC of 0.11% within two hours of driving. He was charged with DUII and recklessly endangering another Person. Jackson is also a registered sex offender who is out of compliance; however, he was recently cited and released by Benton County Sheriff's Office

for this offense and has court on Aug. 19. As such, he was not charged again.

At 7:56 a.m., Zack House was arrested on Palmer Road and transported to Polk County Jail where he was charged with criminal mischief and harassment.

At 5:35 p.m., a resident on Salem Dallas Highway reported two unconscious people in a camper with a white substance and torch lighter nearby. A deputy arrived after medics who reported were very alert and oriented and had no medical need. After speaking with them, by request of the property owner, the deputy formally trespassed the two subjects.

TUESDAY, AUG. 18

At 2:18 a.m., a deputy was dispatched on a single vehicle crash on Red Prairie Road. There, a vehicle had driven through a utility pole and approximately 10- to 12-feet down an embankment off the southbound side of the road. The driver failed a field sobriety test and was arrested and charged with DUII and reckless driving. He was transported to West Valley Hospital. After receiving care, he was lodged at Polk County Jail.

At 3:41 a.m., a resident on Greenwood Road reported a burglary in progress after witnessing a male subject peering into vehicles and possibly hearing a car door open. Deputies were unable to lactate a suspect nor find physical evidence of a burglary.

At 10:06 a.m., a deputy patrolling Helmick Road observed a spray painted road sign. Polk County Public Works was notified.

At 8:36 a.m., a report of a dog getting out of a residence on Denton Avenue and biting at the complainant's dog. A deputy warned the owner of the dog about potential citations/civil liability.

At 5 p.m., a motorist on Pacific Highway was stopped for expired tags. The driver was cited for driving uninsured.

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