

COMMUNITY NOTEBOOK

Artists will display favorites at exhibit

The Ash Creek Arts Center is hosting an exhibit through Feb. 28 featuring favorite art pieces collected by artists from other artists or cultures. The unusual collection will include a note from each contributor about the significance of the item on display. An artist reception will be held Thursday from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Ash Creek Arts Center gallery at MaMere's Bed and Breakfast, 212 Knox St. N., Monmouth. The exhibit is open by appointment only. For more information: www.ashcreekarts.org.

Ice cream social fundraiser on tap

A Valentine's ice cream social hosted by West Valley Hospital Volunteers will be held Friday in the hospital cafe, 525 SE Washington St., Dallas. From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., made-to-order ice cream sundaes will be available for \$1 each. Proceeds benefit the group's scholarship fund. For more information: 503-623-7323.

Sweetheart Dance planned for Friday

A pre-Valentine's Day Sweetheart Dance will be held Friday from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Dallas Civic Center, 945 SE Jefferson St. All ages are welcome for the event, hosted by the Dallas Area Seniors, that will feature live music from the 1940s, 50s and 60s. Admission is \$5 per person. A portion of the admission fee will benefit the Dallas Senior Center building fund. Those planning to attend are asked to bring a snack to share. For more information: Judy Reid, 503-580-7992.

Electronics swap meet set Saturday

The Salem Repeater Association will host its 34th annual Salem Hamfair computer and electronics swap meet Saturday at the Polk County Fairgrounds and Event Center, 520 S. Pacific Highway (99W), Rickreall. The event runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is \$9, with children 12 and under free with a paying adult. A raffle will be held, with the drawing taking place at 2:30 p.m. For more information: Wayne Siver, 971-599-1270; email to hamfair@w7sra.org.

A Sign of Spring



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

It's still early February and very stormy, but clues that spring is on the way are beginning to emerge. Daffodils are sprouting and bright pink blossoms appeared on two trees off East Ellendale Avenue in Dallas this last week. The rain and wind storm that blew through Sunday and Monday were a reminder that Old Man Winter still has his grip on the weather, but drier conditions and spring-like temperatures are on the way.

Extension offering activities for youths

Polk County-OSU Extension Service is offering two STEP up to 4-H classes this weekend. A Valentine's Day activity featuring cupcake decorating and crafts is planned Saturday from 1:30 to 3 p.m. for youths in grades K-6. Cost is \$2, free for 4-H members. On Monday, a free science exploration program, "WIND!" will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for those in grades K-8. Participants will use a wind-generated machine to see who can build the "fastest" propellers. Both events take place at the Polk County-OSU Extension Service office, 289 E. Ellendale Ave., Suite 301, Dallas. Space is limited for both programs. To register or for more information: 503-623-8395.

Valentine's square dance set Saturday

Guthrie Park Community Center will host a Valentine's Day dance Saturday from 7 to 10 p.m. All ages are welcome for an evening of dancing to the music of Cash & Company. Caller is Truman Price. Dances include old-time squares, big circles, longway sets and waltzes. No experience is necessary; all dances are taught. Admission is \$5 per person. Children 12 and under

are free. A family rate of \$15 for four or more people from the same immediate family is available. The center is located at 4320 Kings Valley Highway, south of Dallas. For more information: Sally, 503-623-0809; email to guthriepark@gmail.com; www.guthriepark.org.

String quartet will perform on Sunday

The Silverwind Strings will perform a concert of love songs during the ages Sunday at 3 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church in Monmouth. The event, which will also feature desserts and beverages, is hosted by Faith Lutheran Church, 200 Monmouth Independence Highway, on the S-curves. The quartet includes violin, cello and viola, and plays classical, jazz, pop and sacred music. While tickets to the event are free, seating is limited and an RSVP is required. To RSVP or for more information: call, text or email Lyn Jobe at 503-551-3648 or monmouth01jb@msn.com.

Pancake dinner set for Shrove Tuesday

St. Thomas Episcopal Church will host its traditional Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the church, 1486 SW Levens St., Dallas.

The menu will include pancakes (all you can eat), ham, scrambled eggs and applesauce. Coffee, tea, hot chocolate, juice and milk will also be available. The pancake supper is prepared and hosted by the members of St. Thomas. Cost is a suggested donation of \$6 per person. All proceeds will be used to support youth programs at the church. For more information: Tom Green, 503-689-7221.

Vendors sought for 'Relay' event

Relay For Life of Polk County is seeking vendors for the upcoming "Give Cancer the Boot" vendor fair that is scheduled Feb. 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Majestic in Dallas. Funds raised during the community event will benefit Relay For Life. A variety of vendors will be selling products and contributing funds to support this year's relay. There will be an opportunity to learn more about Relay For Life and how to be part of the effort to fight cancer and find a cure. There will also be sign-ups for prize drawings throughout the vendor fair. Vendor information is available by contacting Carol Lipp via email sent to lippy68@yahoo.com or Tami Bookey-Kuhlman via email sent to 2015relayforlifepc@gmail.com.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

To submit your items to the Community Calendar, email the Itemizer-Observer newsroom at ioneus@polkio.com, send via fax to 503-623-2395, or deliver them in person to 147 SE Court St., Dallas. All events should be submitted two weeks in advance of the date of the event.

- WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11**
- **Helping Hands Emergency Food Bank** — 10 a.m. to noon, Monmouth Christian Church, 959 Church St. W., Monmouth. For eligible community members; available every Wednesday. 541-404-6517.
 - **Polk County Republican Women** — 11:30 a.m., Oak Knoll Golf Course, 6335 Highway 22, Independence. No-host lunch available; everyone welcome. 503-623-5759.
 - **Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce Lunch Forum** — Noon, Independence Cinema, 450 Second St., Independence. Annual "State of the Cities Address" with Independence Mayor John McArdle and Monmouth Mayor John Oberst. Lunch cost is \$11. 503-838-4268.
 - **Willamette Valley Food Assistance Program Food Bank** — 1:30 to 6:30 p.m., 888 Monmouth Cutoff Road, Building E, Dallas. Weekly distribution for eligible community members. 503-831-5634.
 - **Free Blood Pressure Check Clinic** — 2 to 3 p.m., West Valley Hospital (surgery admitting area), 525 SE Washington St., Dallas. 503-623-7323.
 - **Monmouth Senior Center Music Jam** — 6:30 p.m., Monmouth Senior Center, 180 S. Warren St., Monmouth. Open to the public; musicians of all types welcome. 503-838-5678.
 - **"Oklahoma!"** — 6:30 p.m., Central High School, 1530 Monmouth St., Independence. Central High School winter play production. Admission: adults, \$8; students, \$5. 503-838-0480.
 - **Dallas American Legion Post No. 20** — 7 p.m., Academy Building, Room 108, 182 SW Academy St., Dallas. 503-831-3971.

- THURSDAY, FEB. 12**
- **Monmouth-Independence Rotary Club** — Noon, First Baptist Church, 1505 Monmouth St., Independence. Weekly program and luncheon; visitors welcome. 503-838-4884.
 - **"Mom and Me" Breastfeeding Support Group** — 1 to 2:30 p.m., West Valley Hospital (Quiet Room, entrance through Emergency Department on Clay Street), 525 SE Washington St., Dallas. Free. 503-623-7323.
 - **"Oklahoma!"** — 6:30 p.m., Central High School, 1530 Monmouth St., Independence. Central High School winter play production. Admission: adults, \$8; students, \$5. 503-838-0480.

- FRIDAY, FEB. 13**
- **Altered Attitudes Alcoholics Anonymous** — Noon, Dallas United Methodist Church, 565 SE LaCreole Drive, Dallas. 503-399-0599.
 - **Arc of Polk County Dance and Karaoke Night** — 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Academy Building, 182 SW Academy St., Dallas. For adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Admission: \$3 (staffers and providers admitted free). Snacks available for purchase. 503-949-5552.
 - **"Oklahoma!"** — 6:30 p.m., Central High School, 1530 Monmouth St., Independence. Central High School winter play production. Admission: adults, \$8; students, \$5. 503-838-0480.
 - **Guthrie Park Acoustic Music Jam Session** — 7 to 10 p.m., Guthrie Park Community Center, 4320 Kings Valley Highway, Dallas. Free (donations accepted). 503-623-0809.

- SATURDAY, FEB. 14**
- **Polk Pedalers Bicycle Club** — 9 a.m., Courtyard Coffee House, 156 SE Mill St., Dallas. Planning meeting to discuss this year's ride schedule. All are welcome. 503-623-6533.
 - **Salem Hamfair** — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Polk County Fairgrounds & Event Center, 520 S. Pacific Highway (99W), Rickreall. Computer and electronics swap meet. Admission: \$9; 12 and under, free with paying adult. 971-599-1270.
 - **"Oklahoma!"** — 6:30 p.m., Central High School, 1530 Monmouth St., Independence. Central High School winter play production. Admission: adults, \$8; students, \$5; special box social, including dinner at 4:30 p.m., \$20. 503-838-0480.
 - **Guthrie Park Country Dance** — 7 to 10 p.m., Guthrie Park Community Center, 4320 Kings Valley Highway, Dallas. Admission: \$5 per person; \$15 immediate family rate; children 12 and under free. 503-623-0809.

- SUNDAY, FEB. 15**
- **Dallas Wingdingers RC Flying Club Indoor Fly** — 1 to 3 p.m., Whitworth Elementary School gym, 1151 SE Miller Ave., Dallas. 503-623-7288.
 - **From the Heart Community Sing** — 1:30 to 3 p.m., St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 1486 SW Levens St., Dallas. Free singing lessons; all ages are welcome. 503-559-5205.

- MONDAY, FEB. 16**
- **Central Lions Club** — Noon, Independence Elks Lodge 1950 Dining Room, 289 S. Main St., Independence. 503-606-2150.
 - **Willamette Valley New Horizons Orchestra** — 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Central High School (music room), 1530 Monmouth St., Independence. Local orchestra for beginning through intermediate musicians. Meets every Monday. Players of all levels welcome. \$25 monthly fee to cover expenses. 503-838-4884.

- TUESDAY, FEB. 17**
- **James2 Community Kitchen Meal** — 4:30 to 6 p.m., St. Philip Catholic Church, 825 SW Mill St., Dallas. Free; everyone welcome. 503-623-8429.
 - **Polk County Coin Club** — 7 p.m., Monmouth Senior Center, 180 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-362-9123.

- WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18**
- **Helping Hands Emergency Food Bank** — 10 a.m. to noon, Monmouth Christian Church, 959 Church St. W., Monmouth. For eligible community members. 541-404-6517.
 - **Willamette Valley Food Assistance Program Food Bank** — 1:30 to 6:30 p.m., 888 Monmouth Cutoff Road, Building E, Dallas. Weekly distribution for eligible community members. 503-831-5634.
 - **Bingo at the Farm** — 6:30 p.m., Rogue Farms Hopyard, 3590 Wigrich Road, Independence. All ages welcome. Free; food and beverages available for purchase. 503-838-9813.

LIBRARY CALENDAR

- DALLAS**
950 Main St.
503-623-2633
www.ci.dallas.or.us/library
- Wednesday, Feb. 11, 4 p.m. — Read to the Dog
 - Thursday, Feb. 12, 11:15 a.m. — Storytime
 - Thursday, Feb. 12, noon — Book Discussion Group
 - Saturday, Feb. 14, Noon — LEGO Your Saturday
 - Saturday, Feb. 14, Noon — Read to the Dog
 - Saturday, Feb. 14, 3:30 p.m. — Children's crafts and movie
 - Tuesday, Feb. 17, 11:15 a.m. — Storytime
 - Tuesday, Feb. 17, 3:30 p.m. — Storytime
 - Wednesday, Feb. 18, 3:45 p.m. — Teen

- Advisory Board
- Wednesday, Feb. 18, 4 p.m. — Read to the Dog
 - Wednesday, Feb. 18, 4:30 p.m. — Teen Book Club ("All the Truth That's In Me," by Julie Berry)

- INDEPENDENCE**
175 Monmouth St.
503-838-1811
www.ci.independence.or.us/library
- Wednesday, Feb. 11, 10:30 a.m. — Family Storytime
 - Thursday, Feb. 12, 4:30 p.m. — Chess Club for Kids (grades 1 and above)
 - Friday, Feb. 13, 4:30 p.m. — Teen Cooking Club ("Valentine's treats")
 - Tuesday, Feb. 17, 4 p.m. — Winter Fun Club
 - Wednesday, Feb. 18, 10:30 a.m. — Family Storytime

- MONMOUTH**
168 S. Ecols St.
503-751-0182
www.ci.monmouth.or.us/library
- Wednesday, Feb. 11, 3 p.m. — Valentine's Storytime and Craft-making Event
 - Thursday, Feb. 12, 10:15 a.m. — Little Builders Club (babies to preschoolers)
 - Thursday, Feb. 12, 7 p.m. — Once Upon a Thursday Book Club (meets on second Thursday of the month)
 - Tuesday, Feb. 17, 10:15 a.m. — Family Storytime

- WAGNER COMMUNITY LIBRARY**
111 N. Main St., Falls City
503-787-3521, ext. 319
www.wagner.plinkit.org
- Contact library for upcoming special events and programs



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