

Polk County  
**Itemizer-Observer**

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**James2  
Kitchen  
adds day**

By Jolene Guzman  
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — James2 Community Kitchen is adding a third day of serving meals in the Dallas area.

Sack Lunch Saturday began last weekend at Dallas United Methodist Church, 565 SE LaCreole Drive, Dallas.

Meals will not be offered the weekends of Thanksgiving and Christmas, but all other weeks beginning Dec. 5, Saturday meals will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Nonprofit James2 provides meals to the needy Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday in the Dallas area and once every other week in Falls City.

Kathlynn Northrup-Snyder, with James2, said the organization wanted to expand its outreach in the Dallas area to other populations, specifically young families with kids.

"While they have meals in school during the week, they do not on the weekends," Northrup-Snyder said.

She said James2's Tuesday and Thursday meals serve a lot of single people and older individuals, but not many young families.

"We know that we have a large population that needs that, but they have not yet come," she said.

James2 hopes if those families pick up Saturday lunches they will learn more the about evening meals offered.

Unlike the two other meal days James2 hosts, where people sit at tables and are served by volunteers, Saturday sack lunches are meant to be picked up and taken home.

Seating is available for anyone who wants to eat on-site.

The meal consists of a prepared lunch item, a sandwich or wrap, for example, and another item that can be heated at home, such as a can of soup.

James2 also serves meals on Tuesday nights from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at St. Philip Catholic Church, 825 SW Mill St., Dallas, and on Thursday nights at Dallas United Methodist Church, 565 SE LaCreole Drive.

Meals are served on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at Falls City United Methodist Church, 280 N. Main St.

For more information, email james2kitchen@gmail.com or visit James2's website sites.google.com/site/james2kitchen/home.

Also, you can donate to gofund.me/james2kitchen to sponsor meals at the Falls City site.



Polk County Sheriff Bob Wolfe has worked his entire law enforcement career in Polk County, serving with the sheriff's office and Independence Police Department. His first full-time job was with Independence PD in 1974.

**FINAL PATROL**

Polk County Sheriff Bob Wolfe will retire Monday after 16 years on the job

By Jolene Guzman  
The Itemizer-Observer

POLK COUNTY — Bob Wolfe owes part of his career to the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

While attending McNary High School in Keizer, Wolfe decided to go on a ride-along with a Marion County deputy.

"I did the one ride-along and it was like 'Wow,'" said Wolfe, Polk County sheriff. "And there was really nothing special about that night, just having the opportunity to be around the deputy and ask questions, and seeing how he helped some people and interacted with the community. That was what got me started."

Marion County also played a part in Wolfe getting hired to his first full-time job as an officer with the Independence Police Department in 1974. Previously a reserve, he filled the job of an officer who left to take a position with MCSO.

"Oddly enough, it was Marion County that got me started and I've never worked for Marion County," Wolfe, 61, said.

In fact, he's only served in one county his entire career,



Wolfe speaks at Polk County Drug Court's graduation.

one that will end Monday when Mark Garton will be sworn in as interim sheriff.

"I'm really proud of the fact that my entire law enforcement career has been right here in Polk County," Wolfe said. "I've worked for two different agencies, Independence and the sheriff's office."

**Partnerships**  
Wolfe became acquainted with one of the many law enforcement officials he would serve alongside in his career during his first stint with Independence: Vern Wells.

Wells was in college at the time, working as a dispatcher while attending school.

best sheriffs I've worked around." Wells said, noting by that he means not just in Polk County, but in the state. "I don't know if the people of Polk County realized how lucky they were to have him. Just one of the true professionals."

Wolfe hasn't taken those relationships lightly, noting that for countywide law enforcement to work well, all agencies have to work together.

"I like being a partner in the community, so that we are all working toward the same common goal of trying to make Polk County a good place," Wolfe said. "I've stayed here because I've enjoyed that partnership."

That was evident most recently during the PCSO's funding crisis and the second campaign to pass a public safety levy last year. Wolfe said without the support of all Polk County cities, including Salem, the levy wouldn't have had much of a chance.

"That is what is rewarding to me, that in working collaboratively with each other, we can make things happen," Wolfe said. "It takes a countywide effort."

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**Dallas resident 'quietly serves'**

By Jolene Guzman  
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Mary Weinbender is the type of person who notices when someone is in need.

And once she sees that, it's like it's part of her DNA: she has to help.

"She's content in being behind the scenes and helping people," said Connie Dougherty, the administrator at Monmouth Christian



Church where Weinbender is the children's minister.

"That's Mary. She's just amazing, really."

"She has an eye to see needs," Dougherty continued. "That's a gift to us from God."

As the children's minister, Weinbender often goes well beyond her job description. "If she knows that a mom is struggling and needs a break, she will go and babysit for three or four hours out of the kindness of her heart," Dougherty said. "She's the kind of person that

if there's someone who needs something, she just steps up."

Weinbender, a Dallas resident, doesn't limit her serving to work hours. She's also a volunteer and board member with Dallas Christmas Cheer, which provides food boxes to people and families in need on Christmas Eve morning.

She first volunteered with Christmas Cheer with her daughter, Jennifer, almost 20 years ago.

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**IN  
YOUR  
TOWN**

**DALLAS**  
Dallas School District outlines its policy regarding transgender students.  
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**FALLS CITY**  
Two dying dangerous trees were removed from near the entrance of Falls City High School.  
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**INDEPENDENCE**  
Local law enforcement team up with CSD officials for active shooter drill.  
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**MONMOUTH**  
Monmouth Police officers arrested man accused of identity theft.  
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**SPORTS**  
See who made the 2015 all-region football team.  
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**EDUCATION**  
Lyle Elementary School's "glitter fairies" do their sparkly magic.  
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**Alcohol, speed  
cause fatal crash**

SALEM — Oregon State Troopers responded to a fatal rollover car crash on Sunday at about 2:40 a.m. on Highway 22, just west of Salem near Highway 51 and Independence Highway.

The driver, identified as James Allen Young, 28, of Independence, was transported to Salem Hospital for serious injuries. The passenger, Christopher Duane Liddell, 24, of Corvallis, was pronounced dead at the scene.

According to a press release from OSP, preliminary information indicates the car was traveling eastbound on Highway 22 at a high rate of speed, estimated by witnesses at 100 mph, when it lost control. The car struck a light pole, rolled over multiple times and came to rest upright in a field.

Speed and alcohol are being considered as contributing factors.

The investigation is ongoing. OSP was assisted by Keizer Police, Dallas Fire and ODOT.

**THE NEXT 7 DAYS PLANNING FOR YOUR WEEK**

<b>wed</b> Take a mat to Rogue Hopyards for the monthly yoga in the hopyards. It's a great way to relax during the busy holidays. 6 p.m. Free.	<b>thu</b> Happy Thanksgiving to all our readers. Our office is closed today while we celebrate the holidays with our family and friends.	<b>fri</b> Whether you hit the shops for Black Friday or not, spend the evening enjoying the Guthrie Park music jam. 7-10 p.m. Free.	<b>sat</b> Polk Community Free Clinic helps those who are uninsured or under-insured receive the care they need. 7-11 a.m. Free.	<b>sun</b> Hand-clapping and loud singing are encouraged at Calvary Chapel's Jubilee Service with old-time hymns. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free.	<b>mon</b> Donate to American Red Cross at a blood drive at First Baptist Church in Independence. All blood types are needed. Noon-5 p.m. Free.	<b>tue</b> Perrydale FFA will host its annual senior tea at the old gym. The event features free lunch, tea and coffee. 12:30 p.m. Free.
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