

PUBLIC AGENDA

Public Agenda is a listing of upcoming meetings for governmental and nongovernmental agencies in Polk County. To submit a meeting, send it at least two weeks before the actual meeting date to the *Itemizer-ObsERVER* via email (ionews@polkio.com).

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 7

- **Monmouth Historic Commission** — 6 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.
- **Monmouth Planning Commission** — 7 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.
- **Polk County Board of Commissioners** — 9 a.m., Polk County Courthouse, first floor conference room, 850 Main St., Dallas. 503-623-8173.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 8

- **Polk County Fire District No. 1 Board** — 6 p.m., Central Station 90, 1800 Monmouth St., Independence. 503-838-1510.
- **Western Days Commission** — 7 p.m., Independence Civic Center, 555 S. Main St., Independence. 503-838-1212.
- **Falls City City Council** — 6 p.m., Falls City Community Center, 320 N. Main St., Falls City. 503-787-3631.

MONDAY, SEPT. 12

- **WIMPEG Board of Directors** — 7 p.m., 150 N. Knox St., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.
- **Monmouth Tree Advisory Board** — 7 p.m., Monmouth Senior Center, 180 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.
- **Dallas School Board** — 6:30 p.m., Dallas School District office, 111 SW Ash St., Dallas. 503-623-5594.
- **Southwest Polk Fire Protection District Board** — 7:30 p.m., Rickreall Fire Station, 275 Main St., Rickreall. 503-831-3530.
- **Central School District Board of Directors** — 6:30 p.m., Henry Hill Education Support Center, 750 S. Fifth St., Independence.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 13

- **Independence City Council** — 7 p.m., Independence Civic Center, 555 S. Main St., Independence. 503-838-1212.
- **Dallas Planning Commission** — 7 p.m., Dallas City Hall, 187 SE Court St., Dallas. 503-831-3565.
- **Polk County Board of Commission work session** — 9 a.m., Polk County Courthouse, BOC office, 850 Main St., Dallas. 503-623-8173.

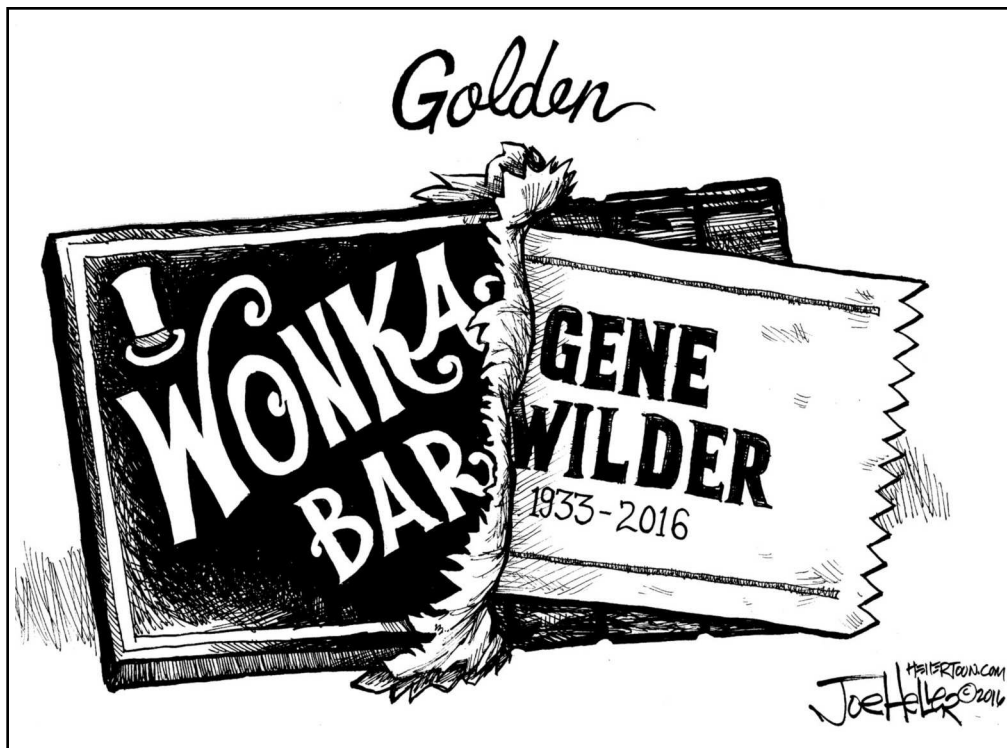
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 14

- **Independence Heritage Museum Commission** — 4 p.m., Independence Heritage Museum, 112 S. Third St., Independence. 503-838-1212.
- **Monmouth Library Advisory Board** — 7 a.m., Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.
- **Monmouth Parks and Recreation Board** — 7 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.
- **Polk County Board of Commissioners** — 9 a.m., Polk County Courthouse, first floor conference room, 850 Main St., Dallas. 503-623-8173.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Welcome to the new school year. Buildings are receiving the final touches in preparation for school to begin. Floors are all shined and facilities cleaned. Lyle Elementary has a new roof and will soon enter into the construction process along with Oakdale Heights for multipurpose rooms. Thank you Dallas community for the bond dollars. Teachers are preparing for the start of the year. We have 16 new educators joining our team. Deeper learning will be the focus of the coming school year. Many teachers participated in Project Lead the Way training while others learned more about STEM (science, technology, engineering and math). Discussions began at Dallas High School to increase learning opportunities through CTE (career and technical education). Thank you Dallas community for providing feedback to guide this discussion. As we continue our trek through the information age, we have an outstanding technology department that provides the resources. Over the summer, our bandwidth increased from 200 megabits to 500 megabits. We added just over 700 new devices to our buildings, and 400 phones were installed so every classroom now has a phone. Our goals for the coming school year are to continue to focus on student achievement, facilities for the future, communication, prioritizing our budget, and creating safe learning environments for kids. Are you ready for a great year ahead? We are, and we thank you for supporting Dallas School District.

Sincerely,
Michelle Johnstone
Superintendent



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

‘Survivor’ not qualified for office

Those of us in Polk County know there is only one choice when it comes to state representative. Paul Evans deserves to be re-elected to the Legislature. In an interview, his opponent claimed she was qualified for office because she is older than 21 and lives in the district. She now claims she should be elected because she was a contestant on “Survivor.” I doubt that qualifies a person for political office. Paul has real experience — in schools, in government, and in the military. He is the clear choice. Please join me in voting for Evans for House District 20.

Jeanne Deane
Monmouth

Road upgrades needed for safety

I travel every day to my job from Dallas, to Portland and several times I have witnessed the setup for a tragedy much like that which took the life of an expectant mother and her unborn child at the exit on Highway 22 just a few years ago. People miss the left turn lane to Route 51 to Independence, and they try to turn in front of traffic to use the exit for oncoming traffic. There is a hill there and oncoming traffic cannot see the obstacle this creates. Last week, it was a full-size pickup, towing a long trailer with heavy machinery. People will continue to break the law. People will continue to lose their lives.

I am an engineer, but any reasonable person can see that the solution is to extend a wall or block the ability for others to cause this situation with permanent orange buoys in the center divider, a cheap fix. I can't believe that after the tragedy of a few years ago, the state has done nothing, the saddest situation indeed.

Randy Wisnia
Dallas

Kudos to Todahl: skate park hero

I was so pleased to see your article about Perry Todahl and his volunteer work at the Dallas Skate Park. We too often read of young people in trouble or with no work ethic or sense of re-

WANT TO WRITE A LETTER?

Letters to the editor are limited to 300 words. Longer letters will be edited.

Election-related letters of all types are limited to 100 words. Writers are limited to one election-related letter per election season. Election letters from writers outside of Polk County are not accepted.

Each writer is restricted to one letter per 30-day period.

Letters that are libelous, obscene or in bad taste will not be printed. Attacks by name on businesses or individuals will not be printed.

Letters of thanks to businesses, individuals and organizations are limited to 10 names.

The deadline for letters to the editor is 10 a.m. Monday. Letters submitted may not be retractable after this deadline.

All of the bands were fantastic. The amphitheater and new restrooms are such an improvement to our city. We are so blessed to have generous sponsors and volunteers that bring this community event to us every Wednesday night during July and August. Special thanks to Bill Foster and Richard Mann for the many hours spent setting up and assisting the bands with their sound needs. Mark Fancey did a great job in spearheading the program and also donating many personal hours assisting every Wednesday night. Congratulations for a fantastic year. We are looking forward to 2017.

James and Sharon Pointer
Monmouth

A veteran's last trip to state fair

After going to the fair this past week, I was very disappointed to go into the building where the veterans' uniforms are displayed along with the veterans, and their stories of their time in the service of our country.

I was told they could no longer pay the fair board for their space to display them. Now, when have we had to charge them to display them, when they fought for our country? I, for one, am a very proud SeeBee veteran of 1961 through 1964, and wore my uniform and was very proud of it.

Yes, we have had to fight the Department of Veterans Affairs to try and get our benefits the past few years, but this is a slap in the face for our fair board to try and get us to pay for this. I, for one, will no longer go to the fair.

Gary Remington
Dallas

‘No’ vote for Trump

Any person considering voting for Donald Trump should read the New Yorker magazine's July 25 article by Jane Mayer titled, “Trump's Boswell Speaks.”

She discusses Tony Schwartz's ghost writing of Trump's bestselling, “The Art of the Deal,” which took him more than a year and which taught him much about Trump and his personality.

Schwartz is not voting for Trump, and I am not also.

Walden Joura
Dallas

sponsibility. This article demonstrates that there are young people all around us that break from the stereotype that many of us accept. Kudos to Perry and to the *I-O* for printing this uplifting article.

Lynne Bowen
Dallas

Thompson right choice for District

Jim Thompson has the values we need representing this district. Jim has always been a champion for the sanctity of human life and a watchdog for limited government.

The difference between Jim and his opponent is his ability to work effectively — even with people he disagrees with. That is the mark of a true leader.

Any of us could vote the conservative line. We need a representative that can persuade others. Mike Nearman's demeanor and conduct make it impossible for him to do so.

Jim Thompson's professionalism and manner make him the clear choice for House District 23.

Lynnette Henshaw
Dallas

Great Music in the Park, Monmouth

The 2016 Monmouth Music in the Park was a huge success this summer.

How to Contact Officials

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