

Native plant sale planned by PSWCD

Itemizer-Observer staff report

DALLAS — The Polk Soil and Water Conservation District will host a native plant sale.

There are two ways to purchase. Orders may be placed online by Friday with plant pickup day on Feb. 6.

Plants are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Only bare root, bulb, crown and plugs are available for ordering.

Any overstocked plants will be available to purchase in person from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Feb. 7.

The plants will be at the Polk County Fairgrounds & Event Center for both pickup and purchase in Building C.

For more information: 503-623-9680, ext. 5; or online at www.polkswcd.org.

BUSINESS NOTEBOOK

Credit union has new name Chamber board announced

POLK COUNTY — OSU Federal Credit Union became Oregon State Credit Union effective Jan. 1. Through a November vote of its membership and approval from the National Credit Union Association (NCUA) and the state of Oregon, OSU Federal moved from its previous federal charter to a state of Oregon charter.

Oregon State Credit Union has branches in Dallas and Monmouth.

"The opportunity to move to a state charter enables us to better serve our membership and requires us to eliminate the word 'federal' from our name," said Richard Hein, president and CEO of Oregon State Credit Union. "This new name respects our history and best represents our future. We are united in helping more than 80,000 members and their families build stronger futures, while maintaining our role as a community leader throughout our service area."

As before, deposits will remain federally insured by the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund (NCUSIF) up to \$250,000 per account. All branch locations will remain open. The new name and logo will be transitioned throughout the next few months in the credit union's signage, website, checks, debit and credit cards and other materials.

As a state-chartered financial cooperative, Oregon State Credit Union's full selection of financial services will be available to anyone who lives or works in 24 western and central Oregon counties.

For more information: www.oregonstatecu.com.

MONMOUTH/INDEPENDENCE — The Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors held its first meeting of 2015 on Friday and elected officers.

Elected officers are Josh Brandt, Crush Wine Bar, president; Miriam Haugen, Monmouth Business Association, first vice president; and Heidi Leppin, Polk County Itemizer-Observer, second vice president. Additional chamber board members for 2015 include: Alisha Atha, OSU Extension Service; David Clynne, city of Independence; Natascha Cronin, Monmouth-Independence Family YMCA; Miranda Garrison, Arena Sports Bar; Steven Goto, Waddell & Reed; Cec Koontz, Central School District; Marilyn Morton, Independence Downtown Association; Tommy Love, Western Oregon University; Molly McDermond, Oregon State Credit Union; Lynn Myer, Carpet Hero; Krist Obrist, Monmouth Public Library; Sandra Paoli, Windermere; Zachary Steele, Steele Insurance; and Darrell Tallan, Monmouth Police Department.

Sushi restaurant opening

MONMOUTH — Momiji Sushi Bar and Restaurant opens Friday at 11 a.m. at 183 Main St. W., in Monmouth.

The restaurant will serve sushi, sashimi, dessert crepes and chicken teriyaki.

Hours of operation are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

For more information: 503-837-0111.

Livestock group slates gathering

Itemizer-Observer staff report

POLK COUNTY — Reservations are being accepted for the Polk County Livestock Association's annual meeting and dinner, scheduled Jan. 24 at the Polk County Fairgrounds & Event Center in Rickreall.

RSVP is requested by Thursday for the gathering, which takes place in the Arts and Craft Building at the fairgrounds. The event, open to the public, begins Jan. 24 at 5:30 p.m. with a social time, followed at 6:15 p.m. by dinner. Cost is \$10 per person.

The annual meeting will feature Doug Hoffman, CEO of Wilco, who will give a presentation about his work with farmers in rural villages in Kenya and other countries, as well as a business meeting that will consist of officer and board elections and voting on re-

vised bylaws.

The Polk County Livestock Association (PCLA) welcomes new members. The association sponsors educational seminars and workshops; the breed award at the Polk County Fair for each species; and the Market Program, a committee within the PCLA that does the weigh-ins and hosts the Youth Market Auction at the fair.

Members are welcome to attend any of PCLA's quarterly meetings and the annual meeting. The market committee also holds meetings throughout the year to plan for the auction.

Yearly membership in the PCLA is \$20.

To RSVP for the annual meeting dinner or for membership information: Pat Letsch, secretary, Polk County Livestock Association, 503-507-9017.

MI TOWN

We're definitely into winter in MI Town and it seems like springtime is a distant future dream. It's hard to think about sunshine and flowers when there's a constant cleaning up of muddy footprints from spouses, children and pets; and the coat closet has a lingering scent from wet wool coats and jackets.

Our local mayors and city councilors are beginning new terms, and are looking forward to the challenges and opportunities of this upcoming year. As always, there is a need for citizens to participate as volunteers for various committees and groups, so if you have a few



PATTY TAYLOR DUTCHER
Columnist

hours and good ideas, please check the Monmouth or Independence city websites.

Students are busy with school activities and winter sports. It's always a lot of fun to attend the various games and events, and to cheer for our children and those of our friends and neighbors. It's easy to catch enthusiasm and energy from just being

around younger people. Both Central High School and Western Oregon University winter sports schedules are available on their websites (www.chspanthers.org and www.wou.edu), as well as listed in the *Itemizer-Observer* each week.

A great way to brighten the winter days — and evenings — is to check the upcoming Smith Fine Arts Series events at Western Oregon. Friday evening, the Grammy Award-winning Turtle Island Quartet will bring the fusing of classical and contemporary style music to Rice Auditorium on the WOU campus. Individual tickets are \$25 each (\$11 for

students). Call 503-838-8333 or visit www.wou.edu/sfa for more details.

Winter term has begun for Western Oregon University students, and the calendar is full of ongoing events and classes for everyone. The campus is buzzing with new voices and the return of familiar students who are eager to get involved with school and social activities. MI Town residents have an excellent opportunity to meet students from all over the world, and to help them feel welcome in our community. Language barriers can diminish when people take the time to listen and to try

to understand one another. Many of our international students have never been far away from the communities they call home. A friendly smile and a warm handshake can make somebody's day a little brighter.

Those of us who have college students for neighbors can welcome them to their houses or apartments with a plate of cookies, and we can take that opportunity to get to know them a little better. And the students can take a few moments to learn about our community and their neighbors, too. We can all be good neighbors with a little time and effort on everybody's part.

BIRTHS

Pulse

Royal Liam Pulse was born to Jon Kaiser and Rachel Robertson of McMinnville at 2:56 a.m. on Dec. 31 at Silverton Hospital Family Birth Center.

He weighed 8 pounds and was 20½ inches long.

Royal joins Kanoa, 11, and Nellie, 5.

Grandparents are Leah Hankins of McMinnville and Rockie Pulse of Little Rock, Ark.

Great-grandfather is Robert Boyd of Willamina.



You're the Difference

- Reduce
- Reuse
- Recycle

PEDEE NEWS

The Polk County Saddletes started off the New Year with a wet trail ride on Jan. 3. Despite the damp conditions, 20 to 25 or so riders still came out to participate. After the ride, they ate chili and all that goes with it around a bonfire. They're a hardy bunch!

John Guida and his son, Neko, flew in from Houston on Jan. 5 for a short visit with his father, Sam. They spent one night at niece Jackie Trussell's in Portland and went to OMSI and rode the tram up and back from



ARLENE KOVASH
Columnist

OHSU, where Jackie is a nurse practitioner. Neko helped his grandma, Judy, feed the horses and make pancakes, and hiked their trail with grandpa Sam. They had an early birthday party for Neko on Jan. 7 to celebrate his 8th birthday.

Diane Telfer is continuing to host a once-a-month fiber arts day at her house, but has switched the day and time to the first Wednesday of the month from 1 to 5 p.m. You can go on over to sew, knit, crochet or whatever you want to do, and she can help with most things. Call her at 503-838-1553 for details.

Derek Burbank got a 1999 Jeep last week to drive to Eastern Oregon for his student teaching. The father of his girlfriend, Ashley, had Derek buy it at an insurance

auction and helped him get it repaired — and off he went through freezing rain to Imbler, where he will be for three months. Derek texted back to his mom that the Jeep paid for itself on that trip! Sounds like a story there — his old car wasn't up to snow and ice for sure.

Karen Porter reports that her Volkswagon Jetta sadly won't reach 300,000 miles, but was faithful to the end. On Jan. 5, Karen had a head-on accident with a Toyota pickup that crossed the cen-

ter line on 99W, and she survived with only deep bruising and scrapes. Glad to hear the Jetta was able to protect her in such an accident, as we bought one last summer.

The Pedee Women's Club thanks all who donated to their soldiers' fund over the holidays, many as a result of the Nov. 19 article in the *Itemizer-Observer*. This helps so much as postage had risen considerably. They get many letters back from the soldiers, telling them how much the boxes are appreciated.

Attn: Polk County Historical Society Members

CAST YOUR VOTE

Election Day

January 17 • 1:30PM

Polk County Museum

560 Pacific Hwy, Rickreall, OR

Slate of Board Members for Election

President	CF Stevens
Vice President	Diana Buckley
Secretary	Nita Wilson
Treasurer	Rolfe Steams
Board Member	Tom Branigar
	Paul Denny
	Jim Foster
	Anne Gage
	Kathleen Horn
	JoAnn King
	Barbara Latham
	Bette Jo Lawson
	Jim Ratzlaff

Cast your vote during January's member meeting

Guest Speaker will be Sgt. Mark Garton w/P.C. Sheriff's Dept.

Re: Cold Case Files

A BIG THANK YOU!

WE WISH TO THANK ALL OF OUR PARTNERS WHO HELPED MAKE CHRISTMAS CHEER 2014 A HUGE SUCCESS!

Dallas Volunteer Fire Fighter's Association	Eric Lamb — www.creativelamb.com
Polk County Search and Rescue	Local Businesses
Polk County Employees	Squirrel Taxi Service
Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce	Domino's Pizza
Dallas School District	Dallas Branch -Bank of America
Dallas High School	Hank Kliever Floor Covering — Abbey Carpets
LaCreole Middle School	Dallas Glass
Whitworth, Oakdale & Lyle Elementary Schools	Windemere Properties
Churches:	Fowler Homes
Dallas Alliance Church	Safeway Starbucks
Faith Evangelical Free Church	Anytime Fitness
United Methodist Church	World's Gym
Trinity Lutheran Church	Curves
Grace Community	Postal Connections
LDS	Courtyard Coffee
Toys for Tots	Dallas Pill Box
Dallas Emergency Food Bank	Car Doctor
Godsey Secure Storage	MOPS
Perrydale FFA & Feed America	Mitch Ratzlaff State Farm Insurance
Rickreall Dairy	Itemizer-Observer
Elliott Farms	IBEW Local 280
Umpqua Dairy	
Dave's Killer Bread	
Reser's Foods	
CHM2Hill	

And to all the private cash donations both small and large along with families and individuals who sponsored food items - huge thank you!

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE 550 VOLUNTEERS WHO CAME EARLY AND STAYED UNTIL ALL WAS DELIVERED AND CLEANED UP — YOU ARE THE "HANDS AND FEET" THAT MAKE CHRISTMAS CHEER A SUCCESS



WWW.DALLASCC.ORG