

DEADLINES

NEWS DEADLINES
For inclusion in the Wednesday edition of the Itemizer-Observer:

Social news (weddings, engagements, anniversaries, births, milestones) — 5 p.m. on Thursday.

Community events — Noon on Friday for both the Community Notebook and Community Calendar.

Letters to the editor — 10 a.m. on Monday.

Obituaries — 4 p.m. on Monday.

ADVERTISING DEADLINES
Retail display ads — 3 p.m. Friday.

Classified display ads — 11 a.m. on Monday.

Classified line ads — Noon on Monday. Classified ads are updated daily on www.polkio.com.

Public notices — Noon on Friday.

CORRECTIONS

The Polk County Itemizer-Observer is committed to publishing accurate news, feature and sports reports. If you see anything that requires a correction or clarification, call the newsroom at 503-623-2373 or send an e-mail to kholland@polkio.com.

WEBSITE

The Polk County Itemizer-Observer website, www.polkio.com, is updated each week by Wednesday afternoon. There, you will find nearly every story that appears in the print version of the newspaper, as well as some items, including additional photos, that do not appear in print due to space limitations.

The Itemizer-Observer is also on Facebook and Twitter. Watch for breaking news, links to stories, sports scores updates and more.

WEATHER

RECORDED	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
March 10	63	37	.00
March 11	59	51	.08
March 12	70	53	.00
March 13	64	44	.02
March 14	58	53	1.30
March 15	62	42	.92
March 16	64	36	.00

Rainfall during March — 2.34 in.
Rain through March 16 — 9.88 in.

Driver Education Classes

Dallas High School
April 6–June 3
Monday & Wednesday
5:30–7:30 pm

Call 503.584.7541 for more information.
go.chemeketa.edu/drivered

Pass and your drive test may be waived



Driver Education
Chemeketa Community College
EO/AA/ADA Institution

www.polkio.com

Pencil us in!

www.polkio.com

Polk County Itemizer-Observer

Falls City, water co-op agree

10-year contract allows rate increases in first three years

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

FALLS CITY — The city of Falls City and Luckiamute Domestic Water Cooperative have approved a contract that will keep water flowing for the co-op.

After more than two years of negotiations, a lawsuit, and an appeal of the decision in that lawsuit, the two sides have found common ground and sealed it with signatures on Friday.

"I'm really happy with the agreement," said Danny Jaffer, LDWC president. "I can't tell you how happy I am. This has gone on longer than any of us wanted it, but in the end, we have a solid agreement."

Approved by LDWC on March 9 and by Falls City on Thursday, the new 10-year contract charges a rate of \$2.25 per 1,000 gallons for up to 400,000 gallons.

That rate will increase by 10 cents in each of the next three years. It replaces LDWC's previous rate of \$111.70 and \$157.06 per



month for the first 5,000 gallons on the cooperative's two meters, with additional water billed at \$2.84 per 1,000 gallons.

"We have ironed out a pretty excellent agreement," Falls City Mayor Terry Ungricht said.

He said the city would like to keep LDWC as a customer and believes the new contract will provide for that to happen.

In seeking approval for the contract, Ungricht was careful to learn from mistakes of the past.

He requested the council approve a one-word change to the final agreement Thursday evening before voting on the contract itself.

Contract issues arose when city staff discovered what turned out to be an unauthorized change made after council and LDWC board approval in the original 20-year agreement, which took effect in 2003. The change limited the

city's ability to increase the rates it could charge LDWC, and city decided to have a judge look at whether the contract was valid.

A September 2014 decision sided with the city, saying the contract was invalid. In turn, LDWC filed an appeal of that decision.

However, the city never cut off water to the cooperative and raised L D W C rates in January in hopes of encouraging further negotiations.

It worked. Jaffer said, with an agreement in hand, LDWC will drop its appeal.

"This agreement should hold up and be a benefit to both parties," Jaffer said.

In other business, the council:

- Hired the firm Local Government Law Group of Eugene to serve as its new city attorney. The group will start in April.
- Will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday at the Falls City Community Center, 320 N. Main St., to discuss its search for a permanent city manager.



Jaffer



Ungricht

FAIRGROUNDS CALENDAR

- POLK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS & EVENT CENTER**
520 S. Pacific Highway (99W)
Rickreall
503-623-3048
www.co.polk.or.us/fair
- MARCH**
- 19 — Fair Board meeting
 - 19-22 — Good Sam RV Rally
 - 28 — Doll Show and Sale
- APRIL**
- 4 — Swine Sale
 - 4 — Wagon Wheelers
 - 5 — Flea Market
 - 9-11 — Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Convention
 - 10-12 — Oregon Meat Goat Producers Show and Sale
 - 11 — Wagon Wheelers
 - 16 — Fair Board meeting
 - 17-19 — Gem and Mineral Show
 - 23-25 — Quilt Show
- MAY**
- 2 — Swine, sheep, goat weigh-in
 - 2 — Wagon Wheelers
 - 3 — Flea Market
 - 4-5 — France School of Dance
 - 4 — 4-H Rifle and Pistol Practice
 - 5 — Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District budget hearing
 - 7-10 — Good Sam RV Rally
 - 8-9 — Master Gardner Plant Sale
 - 9 — Wagon Wheelers
 - 11-12 — France School of Dance
 - 11 — 4-H Archery Club
 - 13 — CASA Training
 - 14 — Dog Obedience
 - 14 — Saddle-ites meeting
 - 16 — Perrydale Parent Club
 - 17 — 4-H Achievers meeting
 - 18-21 — Volunteers on Wheels (VOW) RV Rally
 - 19 — 4-H Rifle and Pistol Practice
 - 20 — Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District budget hearing
 - 21 — Dog Obedience
 - 21 — Fair Board meeting
- Schedule Subject to Change**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Taste craft beer, benefit watershed

MONMOUTH — A craft brewer tasting event Wednesday (today) at 4 p.m. at Yeasty Beasty Pizza, 167 W. Main St., Monmouth, will benefit the Luckiamute Watershed Council.

Gail Oberst will pour Elk Horn brewery's Georgia Peach Wheat beer. The beer is not for sale, but donations will be accepted to help the Luckiamute Watershed Council, a group that enlists volunteer landowners in projects that improve salmon and human habitat near local waters.

The event is the first of several beer-for-watershed events planned this year, thanks to donations of beer and facilities. In addition to the Yeasty Beasty event Wednesday, Rogue Farms is also hosting a fundraising event for the council June 17, featuring live music and an auction.

To make a donation to the June 17 auction: Email to Gail Oberst, gailoberst@yahoo.com.

For more information: www.luckiamutelwc.org.

Monmouth PD honors top officers

MONMOUTH — Officer Ben Simpson won Monmouth Police Department's Officer of the Year at the police department's annual awards night on March 6.

He was acknowledged for his "positive outlook, motivation to provide the best service possible, willingness to assist others and professional manner," according to Sgt. Kim Dorn.

Three other officers were honored at the event. Reserve Officer of the Year was given to David Ritchey for his commitment to the reserve program. Ritchey also received the Chief's Award for his volunteerism. Officer Justin Reynolds was presented with the Survival Skills Award. A Lifesaving Award was given to Officer Kevin Renfro for performing CPR on a citizen who was revived by his efforts.

PD station slated to open this spring

MONMOUTH — The new Monmouth Police Station is on target to open at the end of April or early May, said Chief Darrell Tallan.

No additional money has been requested from the city council, but nothing else has had to be cut from the plans, he said.

The new station will allow for all police vehicles to park at the station, but some things — including the command trailer — will continue to be stored at Volunteer Hall on South Warren Street.

If money is available in the future, an auxiliary storage facility and covered parking may be added to the station, but no plans exist for those additions any time soon, Tallan said.

PCLA board members elected

POLK COUNTY — Polk County Livestock Association (PCLA) has elected new board members for 2015.

PCLA announced last week its newly elected board members, who were elected at the annual meeting in January: Roy Whitman, vice president, Pat Letsch, secretary, and directors Scott Bennett and Andy Hendersen.

Chemeketa Dallas Center
Right where you are—for where you are going

New Chemeketa Dallas Adult Learning Center at Henry Hill Community Center in Independence, including—

- GED Prep classes in English and Spanish

Daytime GED prep classes in English at the Dallas Center

To see all our course offerings visit go.chemeketa.edu/dallas

Enroll Now. Classes begin March 30.

1340 SE Holman Ave. • 503.623.5567

SERVING POLK COUNTY

MARCH MADNESS

FILL the Monmouth-Independence **ELLA CURRAN COMMUNITY FOOD BANK**

NO ENROLLMENT FEE!
with donation of 10 non-perishable food items during the month of March

Certified Fitness Professionals

- ★ Personal Training
- ★ Silver & Fit - Silver Sneakers - Prime Insurance Programs
- ★ New and Fun Group Fitness Classes for All Fitness Levels
- ★ Women's Only Fitness Area
- ★ Child Care ★ Gift Certificates
- ★ Day/Weekly/Monthly Guest Passes Available

MONMOUTH FITNESS CLUB www.monmouthfit.com
503-838-2951 • 165 E Main St., Monmouth
Locally owned and a part of our community since 2001

Sudoku
Difficulty: ★★★★★

Solution on Page 6A

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

How to do Sudoku
Fill in the grid so the numbers 1 through 9 appear just once in every column, row, and three-by-three square. See example above.

By Ben Arnoldy

There for bikers, too.

Barb Mylniechuk, Agent
1697 Monmouth St
Independence, OR 97351
Bus: 503-606-0066

Ask about motorcycle coverage.
The only thing better than feeling the wind in your face is finding extra money in your wallet. So ride over and let's see how much you can save.

State Farm

1003029.2 State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL

Tax-free Income Is the Best Gift You Can Give Yourself at Retirement.

With an Edward Jones Roth IRA, any earnings are tax-free, and distributions can be taken free of penalties or taxes.* You may even benefit from converting a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA.

*Earnings distributions from a Roth IRA may be subject to taxes and a 10% penalty if the account is less than five years old and the owner is under age 59½.

At Edward Jones, we spend time getting to know your goals so we can help you reach them. To learn more about why an Edward Jones Roth IRA can make sense for you, call or visit today.

Ben Meyer, AAMS®
Financial Advisor
503-606-3048
193 E. Main Street Monmouth, OR 97361

Bob Timmerman
Financial Advisor
503-623-5584
159 SW Court Street Dallas, OR 97338

Kelly K. Denney
Financial Advisor
503-623-2146
244 E. Ellendale, Suite 2 Dallas, OR 97338

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING