

P&L loan will help pay for amphitheater

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — The city of Monmouth's Urban Renewal District will borrow \$500,000 from Monmouth Power and Light to help pay for the estimated \$1.222 million Main Street Park Amphitheater construction.

The money will be paid back over 10 years with 2.54 percent interest. Monmouth City Council approved the move at its June 2 meeting, with Councilor Royal Johnson voting no.

Johnson preferred a five-year loan because the 10-year loan will last right until the end of the life of the Urban Renewal District.

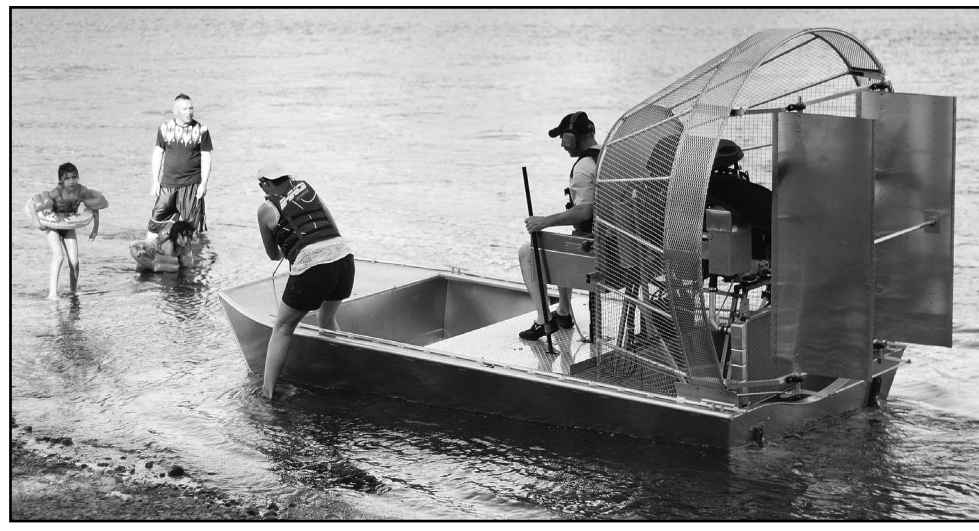
About \$422,000 of the project will come from parks system development charges. The project is expected to begin in the fall.

Before the project can begin, the residential building at 150 Knox St. N. must be demolished or removed, said Mark Fancy, community development director.

The building is too close to a black walnut tree to be donated to the fire district for a controlled burn exercise.

Other options include selling the building with the new owner responsible to remove it at his or her expense or demolition.

The small building serves as WIMPEG's home base. Western-Independence-Monmouth public education government public access television station would need to relocate once the structure was sold or demolished to make room for the amphitheater project.



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

Wayne and Melissa Wineland bring their boat into the launch at Riverview Park Independence on Monday afternoon while a family swims nearby.

Stay safe on the water

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

POLK COUNTY — Heading down to the Willamette River for a day on the water — or maybe just swim or wade?

Take your life jacket — and don't forget to use it. That is the No. 1 water recreation safety tip from state and local officials.

"We encourage people, if they are near the water to use a life jacket," said Dean Bender, Polk County Sheriff's Office Marine Program manager.

Also, if you are planning for a day on the water, don't go alone and always let someone else know about your plans.

"Don't swim alone, don't go near the water alone be-

cause something can happen," Bender said.

With near record-breaking temperatures last weekend, it was busy on the river. Bender was happy to report that, for the most part, people were following the life jacket laws.

"I didn't have to cite anybody for not wearing a life jacket," he said. "Everyone was wearing one or had life jackets with them."

Bender said the county's marine patrol won't often issue warnings for life jacket violations — boaters are required to have them on board. Most of the time, officers will write tickets.

"Those tickets aren't cheap," he said. "It's \$60 for life jackets."

But even if you are not on a boat in the middle of the river, a life jacket is a good idea, especially if you plan on swimming for any amount of time.

Air temperatures are hot, but the water temperature isn't. Bender said diving into cold water can be a shock and may lead to people inhaling water as they gasp. Wearing a life jacket will keep your head above water if that happens.

Keep in mind, too, that sections of shallow water can suddenly drop off into areas that are 10 to 12 feet deep. Bender also suggests putting a whistle on your life jacket just in case you run into trouble. You may not be able to scream if suddenly immersed in cold

water and screaming may sound like someone having fun on the water.

"By blowing a whistle, we know things are not good," Bender said.

For boaters, this season presents an unusual challenge. Water levels are extremely low for this time of year. In fact, Bender has never seen the river this low in early June. That means boats can potentially get stuck on gravel bars or other obstacles typically not exposed until later in the season.

"It's pretty deceiving," Bender said. "The water may be flat, but it could be just a few inches (deep)."

For those who do run aground, the sheriff's patrol may not be able to rescue your boat — officers will always make sure passengers are safe — for fear of damaging the patrol boat and having both vessels be out of commission.

"We try not to tow boats," Bender said.

With hot days looking like they might be here to stay, floating down the river may be the perfect cure, but Bender reminds people to plan for the unexpected. He said pay attention to conditions on the river — such as floating into a headwind — may make those unmotORIZED journeys slower than expected.

"Plan for early in the day to go," Bender said. "And don't wait until dark to call for help."

Sheriff: Wolfe decides to retire starting Dec. 31

Continued from A1

Eventually he moved to the patrol side, where he has served as a supervisor of the Polk County Interagency Narcotics Team and of the detectives unit.

With the ability to begin rebuilding his staff and Garton at the helm once he leaves, Wolfe said he feels comfortable stepping away.

"It's been very rewarding," Wolfe said. "The last two years have been the most challenging, but I will leave it in good hands with some resources to get it (full staffing) back."

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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 nadams@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
June 2.....	66	54	.03
June 3.....	67	52	.7
June 4.....	75	53	.00
June 5.....	88	52	.00
June 6.....	91	56	.00
June 7.....	93	55	.00
June 8.....	96	59	.00

Rainfall during June — 0.67 in.
Rain through June 8 — 15.27 in.

Solution on Page 3A

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

Sudoku

Difficulty: ★★★★★

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

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.

The Christian Science Monitor

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