

EDITORIALS

Your support critical for Polk County Fair

Alright Polk County, it's time for some "Blue Jeans & Country Dreams" at the Polk County Fair.

The annual event is a showcase, a reminder of what we do in Polk County and how many talented individuals the area has — whether that be in raising livestock, canning, baking, art or photography.

It only happens once a year, starting on Thursday and running through Saturday, and you shouldn't miss your chance to support the fair.

This year, the fair's schedule and list of offerings differs from years past. Those changes were made in response to fiscal realities, in the case of eliminating Sunday from the schedule, specifically. Others are the result of fairgoers responses in the fair's recent survey, such as adding a rodeo and new entertainment on the main stage.

In an effort to stay with the times, the fair added a beer and wine garden, something almost every other county fair in the state has done in the last decade. Fair managers stayed local in picking the featured brewery and winery, Rogue and Eola Hills Wine Cellars, respectively.

So in more than one sense, this really is your county fair. It's the result of your requests and the product of your friends' and neighbors' hard work.

In 2015, the stakes for the county fair are high. Financial difficulties may make this year a make-it-or-break-it situation. No one says it better than Polk County Fair Manager Tina Andersen.

"I hope people come out and support their county fair because if they don't, it may not be here next year," she said.

That isn't to say that all is lost. Switching to three days, adding potentially crowd-pleasing events and attractions and even increasing admission prices a nominal amount were wise moves on the part of the Polk County Fair Board.

Here's hoping that those changes hit all the right notes — and the weather gods provide the perfect conditions to bring out the crowds.

Even if you are skeptical of the changes, isn't it worth it to come out to the fair and give managers a chance to convince you they were the correct moves? We think so, and we'll be there every day to write stories about what we see. We hope you will be there, too.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor are limited to 300 words. Each writer is restricted to one letter per 30-day period.

Letters that are libelous, obscene or in bad taste will not be printed. Letters, like all editorial material submitted to the newspaper, are edited for

length, grammar and content.

Letters must include the author's name, address and telephone number. This includes letters submitted via the *I-O's* website. Deadline for letters to the editor is 10 a.m. Monday. Letters submitted may not be retractable after this deadline.

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 fax (503-623-2395) or email (ionews@polkio.com).

• **Monmouth Historic Commission** — 6 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0722.

• **Monmouth Planning Commission** — 7 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0722.

TUESDAY, AUG. 11

• **Polk County Board of Commissioners** — 9 a.m., Polk County Courthouse, 850 Main St., Dallas. 503-623-8173.

• **Independence City Council** — 7:30 p.m., Independence Civic Center, 555 S. Main St., Independence. 503-838-1212.

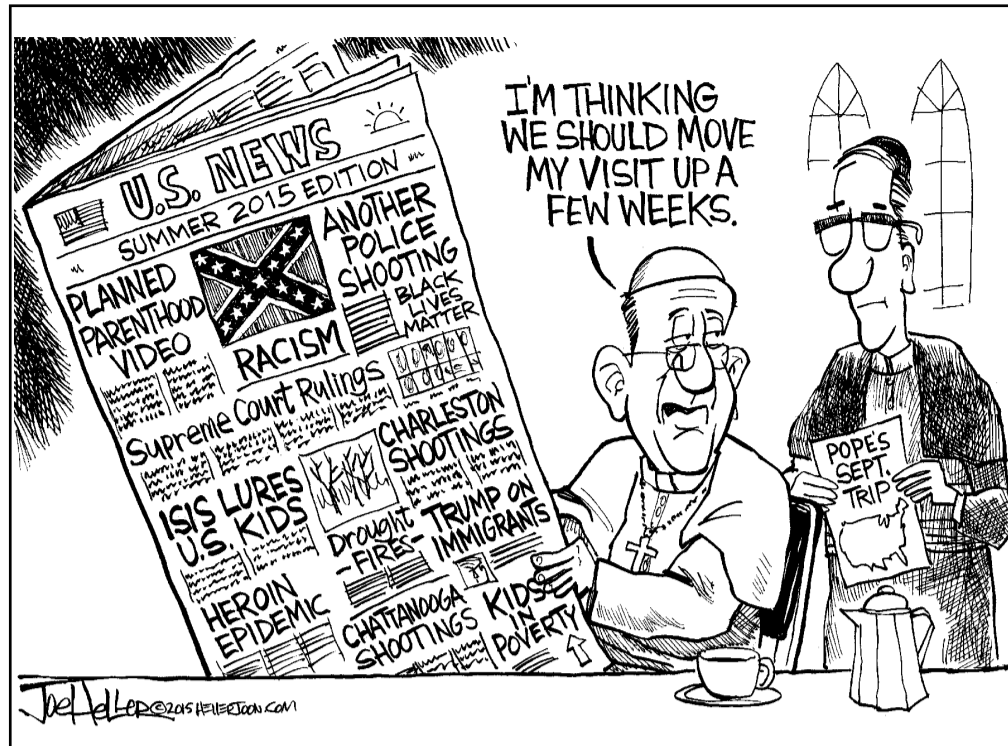
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 12

• **Monmouth Library Advisory Board** — 7 a.m., Monmouth Public Library meeting room, 168 S. Ecols St., Monmouth. 503-838-0722.

• **Polk County Board of Commissioners** — 9 a.m., Polk County Courthouse, 850 Main St., Dallas. 503-623-8173.

• **Monmouth Park and Recreation Board** — 7 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0722.

• **Polk Soil and Water Conservation District** — 6 p.m., USDA Service Center, 580 Main St., Suite A, Dallas. 503-623-9680, ext. 5.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dems get away with everything

It is good to be a Democrat because the media lets you get away with anything:

- The Democrats use the IRS to go after conservative organizations by withdrawing their tax exempt status.

The use of the IRS to target political enemies is something Richard Nixon dreamt of doing but never achieved.

- President Obama has allowed over 2.5 million illegal aliens from a Third World country because most will vote Democrat.

These aliens murdered 3,000 in Texas alone. The president gave amnesty to 172,000 illegal alien criminals and imported a quarter of the population of Mexico into the U.S.

- Democrat Hillary Clinton, through a series of transactions approved by her State Department, allowed Russia to acquire 20 percent of uranium in the U.S.

She never disclosed a \$500,000 fee she received from a Russian bank to finance the building of eight nuclear reactors for Iran.

- President Obama negotiated a secret side agreement with Iran that the U.S. will defend their nuclear sites.

Iran receives \$100 billion to increase terrorism worldwide.

It is good to be a Democrat when you can get away with so much without being outed by the media.

George Irving
Dallas

Firefighters, help appreciated

A big thank you to everyone in the community who reached out to us during and after our field fire on July 24th.

We so appreciated your prayers and offers of assistance, as well as the prompt response and dedicated efforts of multiple fire agencies.

We feel very blessed to live in such a supportive community.

Kelly and Sara Gordon
and Family

Replace those who don't represent you

What is the right thing to do!

We all try to do what we feel is the right thing in every circumstance.

Our Constitution gives the people the right to make decisions and follow a course of action that is dependent upon their own personal beliefs and prohibits a central government from setting policies that take away these freedoms.

We now live in a society where the government has compromised these individual rights and dictated to the people what their beliefs and activities must include in order to comply with these newly formed regulations, which were never made public prior to being made into law.

So, as Americans, we now are being ruled by a central government that has taken on the powers and authority of a kingdom, in total contradiction to our constitution.

It is time for Americans to consider just what is the right thing to do.

Because of the repeated lying and irrational explanations given to us by members of our government, we no longer trust anything that we are told by these people.

The old punch line that says, "We are from the government and we are here to help you," is no longer a joke, but a horror story.

Our governmental agencies in general do not deal with us when they can penalize us for not complying with some of their regulations.

Somehow, if this society is to survive, we must return to the original thoughts and ideals of the individuals who formed this nation and wrote our constitution.

If we cannot trust our current legislators to do this, then it is time to replace them. Totally.

Richard C. Evans
Monmouth

Rep. ignores responsibility

I see that the *Itemizer* made a second attempt to provide voters with an insider's view of the progress of the Oregon legislative session, and I note you folks were only partially successful. ("Success, struggles in first session," July 15).

Rep. Paul Evans responded and I thank him.

The reason for the lack of success is that Mr. Nearman

chooses to ignore his responsibility to report to the voters of this district on his own actions and views.

Note: I hesitate to call Mr. Nearman "Representative," since that is likely not the case.

That is not to say he is not responsible to someone. He just doesn't believe it is the voters.

I am confident that Nearman's string pullers, such as the Tea Party, the extreme right and the super-rich oligarchs in America are fully up to date and happy with their puppet.

Please understand that the weak minded members of the right really think that they are the only ones capable of knowing what is good for American citizens.

By sheer coincidence these held beliefs are directly in line with the desires of the super-rich oligarchs in the U.S.A.

Hence, the right wingers are easily led down the path desired by their masters.

The results of the last election in putting a pseudo-representative in place is clearly the outcome when a major portion of the voters choose to be either too stupid or lazy to even perform a simple act like voting.

Of course, another major flub in the last election was the Polk County Democrats choosing to run a straw-candidate rather than someone really interested in the job.

What's-her-name had a clear chance to take an Oregon House seat not held in three decades.

But, it would have taken a campaign. Didn't get one.

Fred Brown
Dallas

'Friends' summer sale a success

The Friends of the Dallas Library book sale was a great success and many thanks go to the volunteers who gave of their time, energy, and hard work.

A special thanks to Daryll's Nursery for the loan of their truck to transport boxes of books.

The proceeds of this sale help support our library and outreach to the Dallas community.

Cari Richey
President, Friends of the Dallas Library Board
Dallas

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Polk County
Itemizer-Observer

Vol. 140, No. 31

(USPS) - 437-380

The official newspaper of Polk County • Serving Polk County families since 1875

Winner of 2010, 2011, 2013 and 2014 General Excellence Awards from the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association

Periodicals postage paid at Dallas, OR, Independence, OR and Monmouth, OR. Published weekly at 147 SE Court Street Dallas, Oregon 97338 Phone: 503-623-2373 Fax: 503-623-2395

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
Polk County — One Year \$27
Other Oregon Counties — One Year \$33
Outside of Oregon — One Year \$38

POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to: Polk County Itemizer-Observer, P.O. Box 108, Dallas, Oregon 97338

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