

Bully: Behavior can lead to serious consequences

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Kim Seidel, principal at Monmouth Elementary School, said just because a kid says something mean does not make them a bully.

“There are times when kids aren't very nice to each other,” she said. “The difference is when someone is being targeted. It's cruel, hurtful.”

At LaCreole, the term “bullying” is used to describe just about any form of harassment, Richardson said.

“Whether they looked at me wrong, or I thought they were thinking this, so they were bullying me,” he said. “We try and teach the kids what (bullying) is, what it isn't. Still, in any case, what (they should) do next.”

Richardson said hearing the word bullying increases anxiety levels.

“It raises the alert level because it's something we don't want to see,” he said. “We deal a lot with one-time name calling or short-term drama issues, but typically bullying is ongoing, and it's directed at someone with the intent to hurt them or make them feel (worthless).”

In a countywide wellness survey taken last spring, the percentage of students feeling harassed was higher than the statewide averages. High school juniors reported feeling harassed through email and social media sites 10 percent more in 2013-14 (86.5 percent) than in 2011-12 (76.2 percent).

So why not just turn it off? As an adult, it is easier to



ICLIPART/Itemizer-Observer

Bullying can lead to serious, lasting problems for everyone involved.

deal with the fact that not everyone is going to like you, Gouge said.

“But I think when you're 12, and your identity is forming, and your sense of well-being is forming, it's just more difficult because you're trying to get a sense of who you are and where you stand in the world,” he said. “Your identity is tied up in, ‘am I liked?’”

So how are we fighting back? Not like little Ralphie in “A Christmas Story” — when he finally jumps on his bully, Scut, and pummels him — but through education and teaching, and talking.

“A lot more awareness,”

Tillery said. “Even if you have just one child being bullied, that's a problem. We don't want to ignore it.”

One of the biggest steps in curbing bullying behaviors is by creating a culture where talking about it is OK, Gouge said.

Polk County health workers in each school district lead workshops for students on a regular basis, talking about bullying, but also teaching students about conflict resolution.

“So kids begin to learn the skills needed to navigate those situations,” Gouge said.

The hope is by helping

children learn not to turn to name-calling and bullying when they are frustrated with someone or something, it will help build better communication into adulthood.

“I think we view this as there's something of a skill deficit,” Gouge said. “There's a lot of reasons a person might turn to bullying, but if we can give kids positive social skills to resolve conflicts, that will help the problem.”

Richardson noted that students are encouraged to report bullying in today's schools.

“I got bullied, but I didn't tell anybody,” he said. “I didn't think it was OK to tell

What is bullying?

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Both kids who are bullied and who bully others may have serious, lasting problems.

To be considered bullying, the behavior must be aggressive and include:

- An imbalance of power: Kids who bully use their power—such as physical strength, access to embarrassing information, or popularity — to control or harm others. Power imbalances can change over time and in different situations, even if they involve the same people.
- Repetition: Bullying behaviors happen more than once or have the potential to happen more than once.

Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose.

— www.stopbullying.gov

anybody. And now, we express to kids that we want to know about it. We need to know about it.”

Teaching kids that it's OK to talk about it — and it's not OK to bully someone — is part of the process.

Seidel said that the “stop, walk and talk” rule helps empower kids when it comes to being bullied.

“Ask them to stop,” she said. “If they don't, walk away. If it persists, talk to an adult. It really teaches them to fix some things that can happen.”

Regardless of if you're being bullied, see someone being bullied, or are a parent of someone being bullied, Richardson said he wants to know about it.

“A lot of times when we don't know anything and it blows up into this big thing, we wish we had known more,” he said.

The old adage of “boys

will be boys,” or “girls will be girls,” is no longer the accepted perspective.

Truth is, bullying can lead to bigger consequences — sometimes dire ones, Gouge said. In the wellness survey, depression and suicidal thinking were up in Polk County, he noted.

“We know bullying is linked — I'm not saying bullying causes these things, but we know bullying is linked to mental health issues later on,” Gouge said. “We know it's linked to drug use. We know it's linked to suicide.”

Bullying doesn't cause suicide on its own, Gouge noted, but “it certainly doesn't help when somebody's in a moment or when things are feeling helpless, and mean things are being said. It doesn't help.”

For more information on bullying: www.stopbullying.gov.

POLICE REPORT

Information for the police report comes from law enforcement agencies. Not all calls for service are included. The status of incidents reported may

change after further investigation. Individuals arrested or suspected of crimes are considered innocent until proven guilty.

DALLAS Arrests/Citations

- Devon K. Spencer, 59, of Dallas in the 500 block of East Ellendale Avenue on Aug. 25 on a failure to appear warrant.

- Kerri A. Neuenschwander, 32, of Dallas in the 1100 block of Southeast Jefferson Street on Aug. 25 on a probation violation.
- Ronald L. Selby, 45, of Dallas in the 200 block of Southwest Walnut Avenue on Wednesday (Aug. 26) on a restraining order violation.
- Jeremy D. Dover, 39, of Silverton in the 500 block of Southeast Washington Street on Saturday on charges of second-degree criminal trespass and unlawful possession of methamphetamine.
- Matthew A. Hartt, 36, of Dallas in the 1000 block of Southwest Aspen Lane on Saturday on charges of unlawful use of a motor vehicle, unlawful possession of methamphetamine and two probation violations.

Arrests/Citations

- Armando Raul Gines Galan, 34, of Independence in the 0-99 block of South Gun Club Road on Aug. 21 for driving under the influence of intoxicants.
- Ernesto Zavala Jr., 25, of Independence in the 600 block of South Sixth Street on Aug. 21 for physical harassment.
- Nicolas Victor Carlile, 19, of

- Salem, and Jared Robert Parker, 20, of Keizer, in the 600 block of Sweet Cherry Lane on Aug. 25 both for furnishing, providing place, and/or giving liquor to a minor or intoxicated person, and minor in possession of alcohol. At the same time and place, Javier Agustin Rennacker, 20, of Salem, Kayla Breann Stevens, 18, of Independence, and Blayne Austin Swearingen, 19, of Keizer, all for minor in possession of alcohol.
- Martin Glenn Hallberg, 33, of Dallas in the 800 block of North Main Street on Aug. 25 for giving false information to police.
- Mark Daniel Grasso, 52, of Independence in the 1400 block of Monmouth Street on Aug. 27 for third-degree theft.
- Amber Raelyn Sanders, 30, of Monmouth in the 1600 block of Monmouth Street on Aug. 27 for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle — motor vehicle theft.
- Brandon Lee-Geren Turner, 36, of Monmouth in the 700 White Oak Creek on Aug. 27 on a bench warrant for failure to appear.
- Juan Manuel Leos Jr., 48, of

Independence in the 1600 block of Monmouth Street on Aug. 29 for parole violation.

MONMOUTH Arrests/Citations

- Jacob Kantola, 19, of Monmouth at the corner of Hoffman Road and Pacific Avenue North on Aug. 22 for driving under the influence of intoxicants.
- Amanda Merced Moos, 22, of Monmouth at Volunteer Hall, 144 Warren St. S., on Aug. 23 on a bench warrant for failure to appear.
- Johnathan Casey Tulensru, 27, of Monmouth in the 400 block of Hogan Road on Aug. 24 for dogs at large.
- Dawn Arwen Conrad, 42, of Albany in the 400 block of Glacier Way on Aug. 24 for driving under the influence of intoxicants and refusal of a test for intoxicants.
- Michael John Fessler, 55, of Monmouth at the corner of Monmouth-Independence Highway and Boyd Lane on Aug. 27 for failure to return a suspended, revoked or canceled license.

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OBITUARIES

Robert Francis Eddy

June 1, 1944 – Aug. 26, 2015

Robert Francis Eddy, 71, of Willamina died on Aug. 26 in McMinnville.

He was born in Bend to Francis C. and Erna M. (Grenz) Eddy. The family moved to Willamina when he was a young boy.

Bob ran Eddy Trucking for several decades with his parents. He was known by all as a very giving man who willing gave of himself in many ways. He could always be spotted in the stands cheering at games. Bob served in many roles at the Willamina Fire Department, including fire chief.



Bob will be remembered for his quick wit and teasing manner. He brought joy to everyone who knew him.

Survivors include his daughters, Marta Hofenbredl (Kevin) of Willamina and Robbin Bull (Bruce) of Dallas; sons, Doug Eddy (Kim) of Willamina and Dan Eddy (Barb) of Philomath; 11 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

His service is Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Willamina School Auditorium on Oaken Hills Drive. Private vault interment will be at Kings Valley Cemetery.

Contributions are suggested to the Sheridan or Willamina Boosters and Philomath High School Forestry Club in care of Adamson's Sheridan Funeral Home, PO Box 10, Sheridan, OR 97378.

Alfred Glenn Smith

July 29, 1936 – Aug. 31, 2015

Alfred Glenn Smith, 79, of Dallas died Monday.

His life will be celebrated privately at a later date.

Farnstrom Mortuary handled arrangements. To send an online tribute: www.FarnstromMortuary.com.

Sudoku solution

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

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