

# Independence water rates to increase 2 percent in January

By Emily Mentzer  
The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — Water and sewer rates in Independence are set to increase starting in January, but not as much as in previous years, said David Clyne, Independence city manager.

"The bad news, of course, is rates will go up," he said. "But the good news is the amounts are relatively minimum."

Water rates are scheduled to increase by 2 percent, while sewer will go up 3 percent, Clyne said.

"That compares to double-digit increases in past years," he said. "The reason for that is now we're fairly

caught up." For years, Independence went without any increases, Clyne said.

"Of course costs increased, so needless to say, we ran way behind," he said. That, coupled with the "great recession" and costs of paying the debt the city took to build Monmouth Independence Networks took a toll on the city's water and sewer funds.

On the bright side, the city has a better financial outlook, Clyne said.

"We're able to do some preventative maintenance and set aside money for much-needed capital improvements," he said.

The suggested increases

will be officially voted on by the Independence city council at its Dec. 8 meeting. The increases were suggested after a rate study presentation at the council's Oct. 27 meeting.

"The January bills will reflect the new rate," Clyne said. "It won't have that much of an impact at that point in time."

Some cities, including Monmouth, increase rates in July, at the start of the fiscal year.

Clyne said Independence implements rate increases in January because people have a lower consumption rate in winter.

"The increase is smaller and people have time to get used to it," he said.

# OBITUARIES

Continued from 6A  
**Terri Waller**

Aug. 10, 1968 – Nov. 2, 2015  
Terri Waller, 47, of Dallas died Monday.  
Services are pending with Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center, 503-623-2325.

**Nellie Irene Haenny**

Oct. 16, 1914 – Oct. 21, 2015  
Nellie Irene Haenny, 101, died Oct. 21 in Sheridan, in the home that she and her late husband, Francis, built in 1963.  
She was born in McMinnville to Robert Cosine and Lola Josephine Arthur.  
Nellie graduated from McMinnville High School in 1932. The family moved to Sheridan in 1934. She married Francis Haenny in October of 1935.

Nellie worked at the Sheridan Co-op Creamery until she retired from there and became bookkeeper for their family business Haenny Trucking Line.

Survivors include her sister, Dorothy Agee-Olson and extended family.

Private family service was held.

Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements.  
To send an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

**Edwin B. Ashman Jr.**

Dec. 15, 1953 – Oct. 29, 2015

Edwin B. Ashman Jr., 61, of Dallas died Thursday. He was a better known as Ed, dad, grandpa, Laughing Bear, or trouble.

A man of many words, talents, and personalities it was hard to find a moment when he wasn't telling a joke, story, or just enjoying a conversation with anyone.

Survivors include his loving wife of 38 years Ellie; daughters, Crystal (m. Leo), Misty, Donna, Amanda (m. Matthew), and Rosie; sons, Dwight (m. Ellen), and Robert; and three grandchildren.

Service is Thursday at 2 p.m. at the Grand Ronde Tribal Gymnasium in Grand Ronde. Interment will be at

Grand Ronde Cemetery. Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements.

To send an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

## Obituary Information

Obituary information must be submitted by 4 p.m. on the Friday before publication to be included in the newspaper.

The deadline is usually Monday, but with a shorter schedule this week because of Veteran's Day, the deadline has been moved up.

Most funeral homes handle obituary information. However, information can also be submitted directly by family members.

Photos will be published in black and white. The Itemizer-Observer uses a flag logo in the obituaries of those who served in the U.S. armed forces.

Obituaries — like all information submitted to the news department — are subject to editing for style, content and length.

Information can be brought or mailed to the Itemizer-Observer, 147 SE Court St., Dallas, OR 97338, or emailed to [nadams@polkio.com](mailto:nadams@polkio.com).

For more information: Nancy Adams, 503-623-2373.



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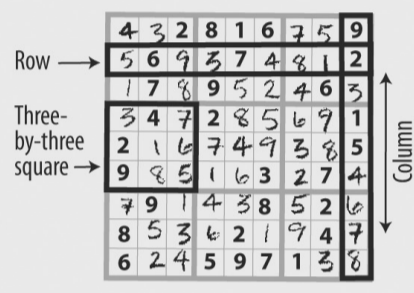
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**Sudoku**  
Difficulty: ★★★★★

**Solution on Page 2A**

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

**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.



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