

# Winter break filled with fun, games, films

**By Emily Mentzer**  
The Itemizer-Observer

POLK COUNTY — School is out for another week and a half, but that doesn't mean there isn't something for both the kids and their parents to do between now and the end of the year.

Polk County libraries have holiday-themed events — and can help with that new e-reader you got for Christmas or Hanukkah.

"With your library card, you have access to Library To Go," said Krist Obrist, Monmouth library director. "You can check out six items at a time, put things on hold."

Directions on how to download the app can be found on the Monmouth Public Library's website,



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Obrist said, adding that librarians can help walk people through it.

People can sign up for e-reader workshops at Dallas Public Library and at Independence library.

The nice thing about digital

checkout?

"No late fees," Obrist said. "You can check them out for seven, 14 or 21 days. There's also audio books you can download."

In addition to a plethora of digital books, libraries will host activities and story times for children and families.

Monmouth will host family board games at 10:15 a.m. on Dec. 31; Dallas has board games available throughout the break; and Independence will host board games for kids at 3 p.m. on Monday.

Dallas will host a "wrap-up party" on Wednesday, today, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

"Bring your own wrapping paper and wrap last-minute gifts," said Betty Simpson, youth services

librarian. "We will have scissors and tape. We always have shelves with books for sale."

On Tuesday, Independence Public Library will host a make-your-own celebration kit with everything needed to ring in the New Year.

"We're going to be making our own party hats," said Jo Hall, youth services librarian. "We're going to be doing games, ... making our own party crackers, noise makers — and of course, you can't have New Year's Eve without a little confetti."

Monmouth is hosting a winter reading program through Jan. 15 for both children and adults. Bingo cards and reading logs may be picked up at the library.

Children who participate will earn a free book and the chance to

win a Little Caesar's pizza, Obrist said. Prizes for the adults have not been determined yet.

The libraries aren't the only place to find things to do. Child care at Monmouth-Independence YMCA from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday (today), Monday, Tuesday, Dec. 30 and Dec. 31 includes games, crafts, sports and a field trip, including morning and afternoon snacks and lunch.

At the Dallas Aquatic Center, recreational swim hours are 1 to 4 p.m. daily except for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

The pool will host an adults-only moonlight swim from 9 to 10 p.m. on Saturday. Cost for non-members is \$2.50.

## OBITUARIES

### Walter G. Boss

Aug. 15, 1919 – Dec. 13, 2015  
Walter G. Boss, 96, of Dallas died Dec. 13.

Walter was born in Stettin, Germany to Karl and Emilie Boss.

He came to America with his family in 1928, and settled in Cleveland.

Walter married Margaret Dressler, of Cleveland, in 1945.

He attended Concordia (Junior) College in Fort Wayne, Ind., and received his bachelor's degree from Western Reserve University in Cleveland in 1940.

At Western Reserve, Walter was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Upon graduation

from college, Walter entered Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Mo., to study for the Lutheran ministry.

He received his Master's of Divinity degree in 1945.

Walter's first call took him to Grace Lutheran Church in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Through his long career as a Lutheran pastor, Walter went on to serve congregations in Ohio, Oregon, Massachusetts, Virginia, Illinois and Washington.

He was also a college professor at Concordia College (now Concordia University) in Portland, and then was an associate professor of religion at Concordia Senior College in Fort Wayne for 10 years.

From 1961-63, Walter and Margaret lived in Beirut, Lebanon, traveling extensively in the Middle East and conducted a mission survey

for the Lutheran Church. Always active in community affairs, Walter was a long-time member of the Rotary Club.

In 1988, Walter and Margaret retired to Bristol Village in Southern Ohio, where he served on the executive council for six years. During his retirement years, Walter served as "interim pastor" for many Lutheran congregations in Southern Ohio.

In 2012, Walter and Margaret re-located to Dallas Retirement Village to be nearer to their family.

In 2013, at the age of 94, Walter preached his last sermon at Salem Lutheran Church in Mt. Vernon, Wash.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Karl, and sisters, Emma, Lottie and Martha.

Survivors include his wife of 70 years, Margaret, and a large extended family.

Memorial service was Saturday at Trinity Lutheran Church in Dallas.

Contributions are suggested to Trinity Lutheran Church or charity of choice.

Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements.

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

### Michael Jason Pellissier

Feb. 11, 1982 – Dec. 7, 2015  
Michael Jason Pellissier, 33, of Falls City, died in Ore-

gon City on Dec. 7.

He was born in Salem to Frederick and Esmeralda Pellissier.

Michael attended school in Gervais at Gervais Union High School.

After high school, he worked locally installing countertops and doing construction.

Survivors include daughters, Marley and Temperance Pellissier; parents, Fred and Esmeralda Pellissier; siblings, Fred Pellissier Jr., Esmeralda Pellissier, Lisa Pellissier, Steven Pellissier, Ivy Miller and Emma Miller; and extended family.

Memorial service will be held at a later date.

To send an online tribute: [www.hillsidechapel.org](http://www.hillsidechapel.org).

Contributions are suggested to Michael's Go Fund Me account, [www.gofundme.com/8he7b6bj](http://www.gofundme.com/8he7b6bj), to help with the costs of services.

Hillside Chapel in Oregon City handled arrangements.

### Helen Irene Benson Dawson

April 7, 1930 – Dec. 18, 2015  
Helen Dawson, 85, of Dallas died Dec. 18 in Dallas.

She was born in Salem to Clarence Ray Benson and Edna Ogden Benson.

Helen moved to Dallas in

her younger years and went to school there. She also went to school at Polk Station, a one-room schoolhouse with all eight grades. She also went to school at Rickreall and graduated from Perrydale High School.

She married George Dawson in Yuma, Ariz., on Nov. 28, 1952. They were married for 63 years.

They lived in California for many years, then moved to Newberg where they had a small farm, and then moved to Woodburn. They found the house they really wanted to live in so they moved to Dallas and bought

a place down by the river.

Helen was very active in her church and over the years

took care of 29 foster children.

She worked doing janitorial work at several different businesses, then retired. She loved the Lord with all her heart and always served him.

Survivors include her sons, Steven Dawson (Kathy) and Jerry Dawson (Heather); daughter, Susan Arthurs; brothers, Robert W. Benson, Kenosha, Wis., Donald Benson (Helen) of Canby, David Benson (Vera) of The Dalles, and Thomas Benson (Maribeth) of Medical Lake, Wash.; sister Mary, Hanson (Ronald) of Lebanon; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Service was Tuesday at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center. Interment was in Dallas Cemetery.

Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements.

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

### LaVerne Ellen Sanders

April 6, 1932 – Dec. 17, 2015  
LaVerne Sanders, 83, of Dallas, died from cancer on Dec. 17 in Dallas.

She was born to Theron and Louella Sharp in Yakima, Wash.

The family moved to Dallas where she grew up and spent the rest of her life. She graduated from Dallas High

School in 1950.

From the first day she saw Keith Sanders, a new boy in school, at the age of 14, she never took her eyes off him.

They were friends for many years before they married on Aug. 10, 1952, in Gardnerville, Nev.

LaVerne was an avid bowler, on the same bowling team for more than 35 years. She also enjoyed playing bingo and being in the water.

The most precious thing to LaVerne was her family. Her happiest moments were when she was around her great-grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband, Donald Keith Sanders; sister, Leona (Robert) Brooks of Dallas; brother, Gene Martin Sharp of Dallas; children, Karen (Michael) Rodriguez of Henderson, Nev., Steven Sanders of Dallas, Dennis (Sue) Sanders of Milwaukie, and Judy (Martin) Reynolds of Twain Harte, Calif.; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandsons.

Service is Wednesday (today) at 2 p.m. at Bollman's Funeral Home in Dallas, which handled the arrangements.

There will be a reception and open mic for sharing stories at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center, 287 SW Washington St., following the service.

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

### Ronald Bruce Bice

Feb. 17, 1938 – Dec. 20, 2015  
Ronald Bruce Bice, 77, of Rickreall died on Sunday.

Service is Monday at 11 a.m. at the Dallas Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1401 SW 13th St.

Reception luncheon will follow the service.

### LaVonne Delores Walker

May 13, 1932 – Dec. 19, 2015  
LaVonne Delores Walker, 83, of Monmouth died Saturday.

Visitation is Dec. 30 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., followed by her service at 1 p.m., at Farnstrom Mortuary in Independence. To send an online tribute: [www.FarnstromMortuary.com](http://www.FarnstromMortuary.com).

### Gary Lee Wilson

Aug. 30, 1950 – Dec. 15, 2015  
Gary Lee Wilson, 65, of Monmouth died Dec. 15 in Monmouth.

Interment is Tuesday at 10 a.m. at Hilltop Cemetery. Celebration of life is Jan. 8 at 2 p.m. at Partnerships in Community Living in Monmouth.

Farnstrom Mortuary in Independence handled arrangements. To send an online tribute: [www.FarnstromMortuary.com](http://www.FarnstromMortuary.com).

### Sudoku solution

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

### JUSTIN BRETT HUTCHINSON

Sept. 15, 1973 - Dec. 14, 2015

Justin Brett Hutchinson, 42, of Monmouth passed away on December 14.

Born September 15, 1973, he grew up in Monmouth and graduated from Central High School in 1991. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from University of North Dakota and went on to a career in law enforcement, serving the Polk County Sheriff and the Corvallis Police Departments.

He married his best friend, Tiffany Pegg. They have a son, Jaxon (15), and a daughter, Dempsey (12).

Brett had a particular love of golf, but was an all-around sports fan. A proud father, his favorite pastime was cheering on his children in their various activities. He will be remembered for his big heart, his quick, dry wit, and his devotion to his friends and family.

Brett was preceded in death by his father, Ronald Hutchinson. Survivors include his wife, Tiffany Pegg Hutchinson, his son, Jaxon, his daughter, Dempsey, his mother, Shirley Hutchinson Reed, his stepfather, John Reed, his sisters, Trisha (Ray) Hutchinson, Trina (Bob) Timmerman, and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

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