

COMMUNITY NOTEBOOK

Essay contest is open to students

Polk County students in grades 9-12 are invited to enter the Fifth Annual Polk County Women for Agriculture's Constitutional essay contest.

This year's topic is to "name five things you learned when you read the Constitution, and write a paragraph about each."

Three prizes will be awarded — \$300 for first, \$200 for second and \$100 for third. Each winner will also receive two books on the Constitution by Oregon author Mary Webster. Each student who enters will receive a pocket copy of the Constitution. Deadline for entry is Dec. 31.

Email entries to Arlene Kovash, kovasha@gmail.com.

For complete list of rules: www.owaonline.org/polk-countychapter.html.

For more information: Arlene Kovash, 503-838-3512, or Carol Marx, camarx@aol.com; 503-362-622.

May the Force be with you



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

John Thoma, Cadence Thoma, Christine Cottey, Abby Thoma and Geoff Thoma were a few of the many Star Wars fans attending the premier of "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" on Thursday at Independence Cinema.

Church to offer free Christmas meals

St. Philips Church will offer a Christmas Day meal from noon to 2 p.m. for anyone in the community. The menu includes an oven baked ham, homemade stuffing, scalloped potatoes, green bean casserole, homemade rolls and cranberry sauce.

Apple or pumpkin pies are available for dessert. Home deliveries are available.

To order, contact Tara Arneson, 503-990-5632 or Sherry Maher, 503-507-0287. St. Philips Church is at 825 SW Mill St., Dallas.

National Guard to track Santa Claus

The Oregon Air National Guard will be on high alert on Christmas Eve as they monitor Santa Claus' annual flight.

The OAND will work with the United States Air Force and the North American Aerospace Defense Command to track his flight.

For the official Santa tracker, visit: www.norad.mil/About-NORAD/NORADTracksSanta.aspx.

Santa inquiries can also

be made by calling 1-877-446-6723.

For more information: Warren and Sue Lamb, 503-623-3585.

Volunteers needed for Christmas Cheer

Volunteers are needed for Christmas Cheer at 6 a.m. Dec. 24 at LaCreole Middle School. Volunteers will help sort, shop and deliver food boxes to the community. Volunteers are also encouraged to bring canned goods.

Financial contributions can be made via check to Christmas Cheer, P.O. Box 661, Dallas, OR 97338.

WVH to sell See's candy on Thursday

West Valley Hospital volunteers are selling See's candy now through Thursday inside the front lobby or Café West.

Proceeds from the fundraiser will go toward the scholarship fund benefitting Polk County high school seniors wishing to pursue a medical related field.

LIBRARY CALENDAR

DALLAS

950 Main St. • 503-623-2633
www.ci.dallas.or.us/library

- Wednesday, Dec. 23, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. "Wrap-up Party"
- Thursday, Dec. 24-25 — Closed for Christmas.
- Tuesday, Dec. 29, 3:30 p.m. — Story time.
- Thursday, Dec. 31, 2:30 p.m. — Lego building.

INDEPENDENCE

175 Monmouth St. • 503-838-1811
www.ci.independence.or.us/library

- Wednesday, Dec. 23, 10:30 a.m. — Family story time.

- Wednesday, Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m. — Cuentos in Español.
- Thursday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve — Open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day — Library closed.
- Monday, Dec. 28, 3 p.m. — Board games.
- Tuesday, Dec. 29, 3 p.m. — New Year's Kit (make things to celebrate the New Year).
- Wednesday, Dec. 30, 10:30 a.m. — Family story time.
- Wednesday, Dec. 30, 5:30 p.m. — Cuentos in Español.

MONMOUTH

168 S. Ecols St. • 503-751-0182

www.ci.monmouth.or.us/library

- Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2 p.m. — Animated movie, PG.
- Thursday and Friday, Dec. 24 and 25 — Closed for Christmas.
- Tuesday, Dec. 29, 10:25 a.m. — Snowy story time and craft.
- Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2 p.m. — Animated movie, PG.

WAGNER COMMUNITY LIBRARY

111 N. Main St., Falls City
503-787-3521, ext. 319
www.facebook.com/WagnerCommunityLibrary/timeline

- See the library's Facebook page for upcoming events.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community Calendar is a listing of upcoming events taking place in Polk County that are open to the public. To submit an event for calendar consideration, please send it at least two weeks before the actual event date to the Itemizer-Observer via fax (503-623-2395) or email (ionews@polkio.com).

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23

- **Willamette Valley Food Assistance Program Food Bank** — 1:30 to 6:30 p.m., 888 Monmouth Cutoff Road, Building E, Dallas. Weekly distribution for eligible community members. 503-831-5634.
- **Yoga in the Hopyard** — 6 p.m., Rogue Farms Micro Hopyard, 3590 Wigrich Road, Independence. Offered on the last Wednesday of every month. Free; bring your own yoga mat. 503-838-9813.
- **Helping Hands Emergency Food Bank** — 10 a.m. to noon, Monmouth Christian Church, 959 Church St. W., Monmouth. For eligible community members; available every Wednesday. 541-404-6517.
- **Brew and BS** — 7 p.m., St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 1486 SW Levens St., Dallas. Free. Bring your own brew — beer, coffee, tea, cider, wine. Moderated discussions on topics of religion and science. 435-503-4304.
- **Painting, Canvas and Cocktails** — 7 p.m., The Boondocks, 318 N. Main St. Fall City. All supplies, paint, canvas and instruction provided. No experience necessary. \$30, snack and cocktail included. 503-787-2700.

THURSDAY, DEC. 24

- **James2 Community Kitchen Meal** — 4:30 to 6 p.m., Dallas United Methodist Church, 565 SE LaCreole Drive, Dallas. Free; everyone welcome. 503-623-8429.
- **Monmouth-Independence Rotary Club** — Noon, First Baptist Church, 1505 Monmouth St., Independence. Visiting Rotarians, guests and prospective Rotarians are welcome to these luncheon meetings. Free. 503-838-4884.
- **Dementia Support Group** — 9:30 a.m., Monmouth Senior Center, 180 S. Warren St., Monmouth. A group for people coping with a loved one with Alzheimer's or dementia. 503-838-5678.
- **Take Off Pounds Sensibly Club Meeting** — 10 to 10:30 a.m. Church of Christ, 127 Heffley St. N., Monmouth. Weigh-in only. 503-930-7936.

FRIDAY, DEC. 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

- **Altered Attitudes Alcoholics Anonymous** — Noon, Dallas United Methodist Church, 565 SE LaCreole Drive, Dallas. 503-399-0599.
- **Guthrie Park Acoustic Music Jam Session** — 7 to 10 p.m., Guthrie Park Community Center, 4320 Kings Valley Highway, Dallas. Free (donations accepted). 503-623-0809.

SATURDAY, DEC. 26

- **Polk Community Free Clinic** — 7 to 11 a.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 320 SE Fir Villa Road, Dallas. Free medical and mental health care for uninsured and underinsured. Held on the first and fourth Saturday of the month. 503-990-8772.

SUNDAY, DEC. 27

- **Last Sunday at River Gallery** — 2 to 4 p.m., River Gallery, 184 S. Main St., Independence. Reception to honor corner and window focus artists. Free. 503-838-6171.
- **Jubilee Service** — 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Calvary Chapel, 628 SE Jefferson St., Dallas. Come enjoy old-time hymns and bluegrass. Hand clapping and loud singing is encouraged. 503-831-1074.

MONDAY, DEC. 28

- **Willamette Valley New Horizons Orchestra** — 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Central High School band room, 1530 Monmouth St., Independence. Local orchestra for beginning through intermediate musicians. Meets every Monday. Players of all levels welcome. \$25 monthly fee to cover expenses. 503-838-4884.

TUESDAY, DEC. 29

- **James2 Community Kitchen Meal** — 4:30 to 6 p.m., St. Philip Catholic Church, 825 SW Mill St., Dallas. Free; everyone welcome. 503-623-8429.
- **Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Club** — 6 to 7 p.m. weigh-in, 7 to 8 p.m. meeting, First Christian Church basement, 1079 SE Jefferson St., Dallas. Meetings offer programs and activities aimed at losing weight. Open to anyone. First meeting is free.

EARLY DEADLINES

Our office will be **CLOSED** Friday, Dec. 25

News Department:

Social News

Wedding, Engagements, Births, etc.Wednesday, Dec. 23, 4pm

Community Events

Business, School, Community NewsThursday, Dec. 23, Noon

General NewsThursday, Dec. 23, Noon

Letters to the Editor/Obituaries..... Monday, Dec. 28, 10am

Advertising Department:

Legals.....Thursday, Dec. 24, Noon

Display Main news advertisements/insertsThursday, Dec. 24, Noon

Classified Display Monday, Dec. 28, 11am

Classified Line Ads Monday, Dec. 28, noon

Our office will also be **CLOSED** Friday, Jan. 1

News Department:

Social News

Wedding, Engagements, Births, etc.Wednesday, Dec. 30, 4pm

Community Events

Business, School, Community NewsThursday, Dec. 31, Noon

General NewsThursday, Dec. 31, Noon

Letters to the Editor/Obituaries Monday, Jan. 4, 10am

Advertising Department:

Legals.....Thursday, Dec. 31, Noon

Display Main news advertisements/insertsThursday, Dec. 31, Noon

Classified Display Monday, Jan. 4, 11am

Classified Line Ads Monday, Jan. 4, noon

Itemizer-Observer

147 SE Court St., Dallas • 503-623-2373

Call us.

The Itemizer-Observer can help you expand your market share and make your business more profitable. Call us at 503-623-2373 and make an appointment with one of our Advertising Consultants, Heidi, Rachel or Karen

Polk County
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ADVERTISING THAT WORKS.