

## Because riding a donkey isn't hard enough



ANGIE MILBURN/for the Itemizer-Observer  
Eric Milburn, for Perrydale, takes a shot for the basket from his donkey during a game between Perrydale and Dayton's FFA programs. The Perrydale team was made up of students, community players and Amity Fire Department. Other Perrydale players pictured are Devin Cruickshank, John Cruickshank Jr. and Mike Hawes. Perrydale took home the victory and bragging rights. The event was coordinated by Perrydale ag teacher Christina Lorenz.

## Dallas street bond, fee suggested

By Jolene Guzman  
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — A second committee looking into the condition and maintenance options for Dallas' residential streets has recommended the city request voters pass a 10-year, \$10 million bond and a utility fee for street repair and upkeep. The Residential Street Task Force submitted its final recommendation to the Dallas City Council on Jan. 19. The group of citizens and business leaders began

meeting in the fall of 2015 to review the effort to educate residents about the condition of residential streets in Dallas and a former committee's recommendation of a three-step effort to improve street conditions. The first step would be a \$10 million, 10-year bond, followed by the passage of a utility fee and/or gas tax for upkeep. The final step would be a second bond to repair the remaining streets. City Manager Ron Foggin said the task force's main objective was to figure out the

best time to put the first bond before voters. After looking at three dates to put the issue on the ballot — May 2016, November 2016 or May 2017 — the group decided the city should act sooner rather than later, recommending May 2016. The group also suggested the city put together an informational flyer for citizens and a presentation to show to stakeholder groups and civic organizations. The Dallas City Council accepted the task force's report, though it didn't signal whether it would take action

on the proposal, Foggin said. The council will have to approve a resolution to put the bond before voters. Foggin said he was grateful for both the committee and the task force's work. "I can't say enough about the work both street committees have done to make sure that, moving forward, we have a plan to take care of our street," he said. The council will hold a public hearing on Feb. 15. For more information about residential streets in Dallas: <http://www.dallas.gov/739/Street-Condition-Map>.

### MINET

**Monmouth-Independence Networks board of directors and their connections:**  
 Greg Ellis—Dallas economic development director  
 Scott McClure—Monmouth city manager, Minet board chairman  
 David Ritchey—Monmouth Police officer  
 Jon Carey—Monmouth city councillor  
 Jerry Hoffman—Independence city councillor  
 Mike Lodge—spouse of Independence city council president Nancy Lodge

**Other connections:**  
 Marilyn Morton—Minet administrator, Independence city councillor

Board members are appointed by the Independence and Monmouth city councils, according to the intergovernmental agreement that formed Minet.

## Minet claims 78 percent of users

Company to increase rates for cable

By Emily Mentzer  
The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — Monmouth Independence Networks Manager Don Patten reported an overall penetration rate of 78.2 percent at the Thursday board of directors meeting. That means that 78.2 percent of every available property in the Monmouth and Independence area that can receive services from Minet is receiving at least one of the three services the company provides: cable, Internet or telephone, Patten said. Of the 390 active businesses or organizations in the area, Minet is serving 336 of them, Patten said. The company has made more than \$100,000 in net income for the last three months, and continues to remain flat. Buzz Brazeau, who serves on the finance committee, said being "flat" is not a bad thing. "It's positively flat in that we have control over both sides (expenses and revenue)," Brazeau said. One thing Minet cannot control is costs from content providers, such as AMC. In late fall of 2015, Minet polled customers on Facebook to see if they would prefer dropping AMC and associated channels or pay more for the programming. Other cable carriers also had troubles meeting AMC's demands. AMC Networks were asking for a 350 percent rate increase in addition to forcing cable providers to carry additional low-rated networks, and requiring a fee for all subscribers, even if they do not subscribe to those channels, along with a commitment to a 10-year contract as opposed to the industry standard of three to five years, according to a press release from BCT, a cable provider in the Beavercreek and Oregon City areas. On Jan. 6, Minet announced on Facebook that a negotiation had been reached with AMC, but content providers continue to increase fees, Patten said. He recommended, and the board approved, an 11 percent increase in cable rates. Cable prices begin at \$25 per month. In other business, the board asked Patten to stop pursuing a purchase service model that could provide the cities of Monmouth and Independence with free WiFi. Patten said the effort would cost between \$750,000 and \$1 million to do it wirelessly for both communities, and grants could be available. He has brought the topic up before, suggesting that the two cities might consider some debt forgiveness in exchange for the service. "The discussion you had about penetration, everybody that wants broadband has it," board president Scott McClure said. "I think we should move off of this." Board members Mike Lodge and David Ritchey agreed. Board member Jon Carey disagreed, wanting more discussion and solid figures and estimates.

Aria Nicole Peters • Dec. 26, 2015

## Did the Stork visit you in 2015?

All babies will be entered into a drawing for **FREE PRIZES** from area merchants!

# BABIES OF 2015

Showcase your little one with his or her photo, birthdate and names of proud parents. Only babies born in 2015 are candidates for **BABIES OF 2015**. All baby photos submitted will appear in a **special full color section** of the *Itemizer-Observer* on Feb. 24, 2016. Please mail or drop off the following form, a photo and \$25.00 to our office by Feb. 19th prior to 2:00 p.m. (The photo may be picked up after publication). If you have any questions, please call Dawn at 503-623-2373.

**Mom! Dad! Grandparents! Bring in a photo!**

(CLIP THIS FORM)

Baby's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Place \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Names \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Remember to bring in a photo! Cost is only \$25.00**

**DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 19 PUBLISH: FEBRUARY 24**

**Itemizer-Observer**  
147 SE Court St. • Dallas • 503-623-2373

### INDEPENDENCE CINEMA 8

450 S. 2nd St., Independence  
Showtimes 503-606-3000  
[www.independencecinema8.com](http://www.independencecinema8.com)

Matinees are all shows before 6pm. New pricing for matinees are: Adult \$7.25 Children \$6.75 • Senior \$7.00  
Pricing does not reflect 3D showings.

Friday - Saturday Feb 5 - Feb 6		
DIRTY GRANDPA (Digital) (R)	(12:35 2:55)	7:30
THE BOY (Digital) (PG13)	(6:15)	9:55
THE REVENANT (Digital) (R)	(12:00 3:05)	6:10 9:15
FINEST HOURS (Digital 2D) (PG13)	(1:45 4:35)	7:15 9:40
KUNG FU PANDA 3 (Digital 2D) (PG)	(12:10 2:35 4:50)	7:10 9:15
<b>STAR WARS:</b>		
THE FORCE AWAKENS (Digital 2D) (PG13)	(12:20 3:25)	6:30 9:30
THE CHOICE (Digital) (PG13)	(1:50 4:25)	7:00 9:25
THE 5TH WAVE (Digital) (PG13)	(1:10)	6:45
13 HOURS (Digital) (R)	(3:45)	9:20
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE AND ZOMBIES (Digital) (PG13)	(12:00 2:25 4:50)	7:20 9:35
Sunday February 7		
DIRTY GRANDPA (Digital) (R)	(12:35 2:55)	7:30
THE BOY (Digital) (PG13)	(6:15)	9:55
THE REVENANT (Digital) (R)	(12:00 3:05)	6:10 9:15
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13 HOURS (Digital) (R)	(3:45)	9:20
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE AND ZOMBIES (Digital) (PG13)	(12:00 2:25 4:50)	7:20 9:35
Monday - Thursday Feb 8 - Feb 11		
DIRTY GRANDPA (Digital) (R)	(2:55)	7:30
THE BOY (Digital) (PG13)	(6:15)	9:55
THE REVENANT (Digital) (R)	(3:05)	6:10 9:15
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Solution on Page 14A

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

By Ben Arnoldy

### Sudoku

Difficulty: ★★★★★

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

Row → Three-by-three square → Column

**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.

The Christian Science Monitor