

## Pinwheels provide hope



Heather Smith, early learning and family engagement coordinator, plants a blue pinwheel at the Polk County Courthouse in honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month on Monday. Polk County and Family Building Blocks marked the month with a walk around downtown Dallas before planting the pinwheel garden. District Attorney Aaron Felton said it is important to speak for those who have no voice. "We're here today for people who can't speak — victims of child abuse, who can't speak for themselves," he said. "We're here for parents that come to us for help every day. Pinwheels are symbolic of hope for them."

JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer



### Celebration of 75+ Years of Music

**Charlotte Lamb** will be honored on Sunday, April 10th, following the church service at 12:15 for her 75+ Years in the Dallas United Methodist Church Choir.

*Please come and visit and enjoy cake and coffee.*

565 SE LaCreole Dr., Dallas

*No gifts please — your presence is enough.*

# FIX OUR STREETS. TO SEE WHY, VISIT

[www.citizensforabetterdallas.com](http://www.citizensforabetterdallas.com)

# The Frugal Shopper!

Call Rachel, Heidi or Karen to reserve your coupon for next month. 503-623-2373

## Yard Perfections

*Perfecting the world, one yard at a time!*

Mowing, Edging, Flower Beds, Blowing, Leaf Removal, Hedges, Trimming, Bark Dust, Sod and Gravel Installation, Lawn Removal, Weed Control & more!

*Clean-ups, One time jobs, Weekly & Bi-weekly Plans available.*

Prices starting at \$15/week  
Senior Discounts • Free Estimates

Call us today!  
971-240-9011

Available online

**SAVE \$5** on any delivery of bark, compost, or soil.

**Old Mill FEED & GARDEN**

1313 MAIN STREET  
503-831-1222  
WEEKDAYS 8:30-6:00  
SATURDAYS 8:30-5:00  
oldmillfeed.com

Valid at One per customer thru April 2016

503-623-4943 967 Main St. • Dallas, OR

Phone Ahead and have your order ready!

**BUD ON TAP**

**\$4.00 OFF ANY GIANT PIZZA**

**\$3.00 OFF ANY LARGE PIZZA**

**\$2.00 OFF ANY MEDIUM PIZZA**

**FAMILY FILLER**

1 Large Single Topping Pizza  
8-Piece Chicken  
2 Orders Spuds  
1 2-Liter Pop

**SAVE \$6.55**

**\$40.20** Reg. \$46.75

Sunday - Thursday 11:00 am to 9:00 pm  
Friday & Saturday 11:00 am to 10:00 pm

**FREE GAMES FOR KIDS**

**OREGON LOTTERY**

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### ODA looking for people to volunteer

SALEM — The Oregon Department of Agriculture is seeking to fill "public member" vacancies on seven of the state's 23 agriculture and commercial fishery commodity commissions. You don't have to be a farmer, rancher, or fisherman. In fact, it is required that you are not directly associated with the production or handling of that particular commodity. Public members work alongside producers and handlers, those who are first purchasers of the commodity, on each of the commissions. All commission members must be able and willing to convene four to seven times a year with meetings that can take from three hours to all day. It's a volunteer position with reimbursement for travel and meals associated with meetings. Public members are needed on the following commissions: albacore, dairy products, hop, ryegrass, salmon, trawl, and wheat. For more information: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/MarketAccess> and click on Oregon Commodity Commissions or call Commodity Commission Program Manager Kris Anderson at 503-872-6600.

### File 2015 tax returns to receive kicker

SALEM — There will be a "kicker" issued for this year, but there won't be any kicker checks issued as there have been in the past. A more than \$402 million tax surplus was confirmed by the Office of Economic Analysis during the first week of October 2015. The surplus triggered a tax surplus credit, or "kicker," for the 2014 tax year. To claim the kicker, you must file a 2015 tax return. To calculate the amount of credit, multiply your 2014 tax liability before any credits, except credits for taxes paid to other states, by 5.6 percent. Detailed information on how to claim your credit will be in the 2015 Oregon personal income tax return instructions. For more information: [www.oregon.gov/dor](http://www.oregon.gov/dor).

### Free electronic tax filing available

SALEM — This year's tax return filing deadline of April 18 is fast approaching, but there are still options for free electronic filing of returns and other help. Oregon's Department of Revenue recommends e-filing and asking for direct deposit to get your refund fast. The agency's website identifies several providers of free online tax preparation software and e-filing services for taxpayers with income less than \$62,000 in 2015. For more information about options, look for "approved vendors" at [www.oregon.gov/dor/e-filing](http://www.oregon.gov/dor/e-filing). Make sure you start your return from the Department of Revenue's website to ensure free filing. AARP's Tax-Aide program and Creating Assets, Savings and Hope (CASH) Oregon offer free, in-person assistance to taxpayers at sites across the state. They can help with both preparing your return and e-filing it. For more information about services and service locations, visit the Tax-Aide and CASH Oregon websites using the links at [www.oregon.gov/dor/e-filing](http://www.oregon.gov/dor/e-filing).

### Sheriff gets speed enforcement grant

POLK COUNTY — The Polk County Sheriff's Office has been awarded a \$4,000 grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). This traffic safety grant will focus on speed enforcement. The grant began on March 1 and will continue through Oct. 5. This funding will be used to continue the Sheriff's Office commitment to providing programs and services that focus on the safety and security of the highways in Polk County. In 2014, there were 15 speed related fatalities and serious injury crashes on highways in Polk County. Speed was rated as one of the top five errors leading to crashes in Oregon for 2014. The primary goal of this grant is to focus on speeding, which will be accomplished through education and enforcement. Funding for the grant was provided by the Oregon Department of Transportation.

### Dallas' MAK Grills earns fifth Vesta

DALLAS — MAK Grills, manufacturer of high-end wood pellet smoker-grills, received another Vesta Award while attending the recent Hearth Patio Barbecue Expo in New Orleans. The Dallas company's soon-to-be released portable pellet grill, the MiniMAK won the honor. The camp grill incorporates Thermocue technology, which uses a thermoelectric generator to create an electrical current from the heat produced by the grill. The grill can be used in remote areas without needing to plug into standard electrical power. Vesta Awards were created by Hearth & Home magazine to recognize companies for their innovation in product design and technology.

### Trade food for fines starting Monday

MONMOUTH/INDEPENDENCE — The Independence and Monmouth public libraries will celebrate National Library Week with a food for fines drive. For each item donated, the library will reduce outstanding fines by \$1. All items must be commercially processed, factory sealed, dent and rust free, and bear an expiration date. No ramen products can be accepted. All food will be donated to the Ella Curran Food Bank. The program runs from Monday through April 16. The libraries will accept food from people who do not have overdue fines. For more information: Independence library, 503-838-1811; Monmouth library, 503-838-1932.

## Relay for Life of Polk County Spaghetti Feed and Auction

Christ's Church Methodist & Presbyterian United, 412 W Clay Street, Monmouth

**Friday, April 8th**

**Food and Silent Auction begin at 5 pm**  
**Outcry Auction begins at 7 pm • Live Music**

Suggested donation \$5 per meal,  
\$20 maximum for immediate family

Menu:	Auction items include:
Spaghetti and sauce	• Antiques and other old stuff
Green salad	• International arts and crafts
Garlic bread	• Quilts and wooden boxes
Choice of drinks	• Local crafts and goods
<i>(Until 7:00 pm while it lasts)</i>	

Silent Auctions close at various times. Auctioneer: Al Sieverson

**For tickets for the dinner or more information:**  
Christ's Church Office: 503-838-1724  
Denvy Saxowsky: 541-223-4462, saxowsky@gmail.com  
Kay Graven: 503-623-5495, gkr@q.com  
Tami Bookey-Kuhlmann: 2015Relayforlifepc@gmail.com

Organized by Relay for Life teams such as **Footprints, Determinators, Minions Fighting Cancer, Cleaning Up Cancer Babes** and more.

All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society to help Finish the Fight against Cancer.