

DEADLINES

NEWS DEADLINES

For inclusion in the Wednesday edition of the *Itemizer-Observer*:

Social news (weddings, engagements, anniversaries, births, milestones) — 5 p.m. on Thursday.

Community events — Noon on Friday for both the Community Notebook and Community Calendar.

Letters to the editor — 10 a.m. on Monday.

Obituaries — 4 p.m. on Monday.

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Retail display ads — 3 p.m. Friday.

Classified display ads — 11 a.m. on Monday.

Classified line ads — Noon on Monday. Classified ads are updated daily on www.polkio.com.

Public notices — Noon on Friday.

CORRECTIONS

The *Polk County Itemizer-Observer* is committed to publishing accurate news, feature and sports reports. If you see anything that requires a correction or clarification, call the newsroom at 503-623-2373 or send an email to emmentzer@polkio.com.

WEBSITE

The *Polk County Itemizer-Observer* website, www.polkio.com, is updated each week by Wednesday afternoon. There, you will find nearly every story that appears in the print version of the newspaper, as well as some items, including additional photos, that do not appear in print due to space limitations.

The *Itemizer-Observer* is also on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Watch for breaking news, links to stories, sports scores updates and more.

WEATHER

RECORDED	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
April 12.....	60	47	.11
April 13.....	61	46	.17
April 14.....	56	43	.72
April 15.....	63	39	.T
April 16.....	69	39	.00
April 17.....	84	44	.00
April 18.....	88	48	.00

Rainfall during April — 1.00 in.
Rain through April 18 — 18.09 in.

Pencil us in!

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Polk County
Itemizer-Observer



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer file
Heidi Schulz, author of "Hook's Revenge," and "Hook's Revenge: the Pirate Code," visits the library during one of the author talks, now regularly featured at the library.

Library programs evolve

Organizers, leaders check out new activities, draw crowds

By Jolene Guzman

The *Itemizer-Observer*

DALLAS — Notice anything different about the Dallas Public Library recently?

If you have, it's by design. With support and assistance from the library board and the Friends of the Dallas Library, staff has developed programs to inspire people of all ages to pay a visit.

The popular adult coloring night, a series of Oregon author talks, a unique "storytelling" festival and a revived teen program are among the programs that aren't necessarily just about checking out books.

Cari Richey, the chairwoman of the library board and president of Friends of Dallas Library, gives credit to Dallas City Manager Ron Fogglin and Library Director Mark Greenhalgh-Johnson for envisioning the library as thriving, not simply surviving.

"He (Fogglin) and Mark saw the same vision. One of the reasons why I joined the board was because I did too. I didn't want to see libraries die," Richey said.

Far from dying, the library, which began keeping track of visits, is seeing more people come through the doors, Richey said.

"I cannot give the staff enough kudos. They work really, really hard. They are dedicated and willing. They are just super," Richey said. "I really give Mark tons of kudos for what he's done."

She added that's required a willingness to change perspectives on the role libraries should serve in their communities, something Richey admits struggling with at times.

She said activities such as author visits and story time seem more about "entertaining people" than reading books.

Dallas Library's new hours

Starting May 2, the library will have expanded operating hours.

- The new hours are:**
- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday — 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.;
 - Thursday and Friday — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and
 - Saturday — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 - Closed Sunday.

"You have to change your thinking and your outlook," she said.

That goes for the Friends of the Library, too.

The group is contemplating changing the time it does its book sale from Dallas' annual Summerfest celebration to holding two: one in spring and another in the fall.

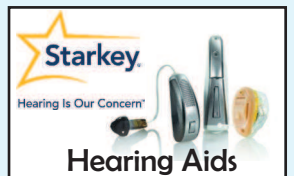
It held its spring sale the first weekend in April.

"We were real pleased," she said. "We thought we had a really good turnout."

Dudley's Hearing Aid Service



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The sale didn't make as much money as last year's Summerfest sale, but that was expected as it was shorter.

Holding a sale during Summerfest has its advantages, including pulling in more visitors from out of town.

"We are still debating that," Richey said.

She said the group has long-term plans modeled after what other friends of library organizations have done: opening a year-round book store.

"That's our vision, to eventually have a book store, which I just think would be so cool," she said.

Those plans are just beginning, and she hopes it will be another addition to an ever-expanding lineup at the library.

"We will see," Richey said. "There are always new things on the horizon, which I think is terrific."

For more information on library events and programs: go to ci.dallas.or.us/library.

Sudoku solution

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

City works to regain old city hall building

By Emily Mentzer

The *Itemizer-Observer*

INDEPENDENCE — The city of Independence won a summary judgement on March 23 for the old city hall building, which was purchased by Jewels Cressor.

Cressor opened the Family Treasures Marketplace in the building, a mix of shops offering a variety of crafts and knickknacks. She hadn't paid her bill on the property for at least a year, City Manager David Clyne said.

Cressor bought the corner building from the city in January 2014 for \$385,000. She said she invested at least \$85,000 in the property.

In September 2014, she requested a third extension on the closing date. The council declined the deal.

The foreclosure process had been delayed multiple times before the March 23 judgement.

"Cressor believes delay is in her interest," Clyne said. "The longer she retains the building without having to pay for it, she believes she will be able to make up for it and perhaps come up with the money."

The city council has discussed alternative uses for the building once it regains ownership, Clyne



said. One line of thought is creating a smart agriculture business incubator.

But first, the old city hall must be sold at a sheriff's sale.

The city will "bid" the value of the judgement as determined by the judge. If no one bids higher, it will regain the old building.

"The value of the judgement is the full amount of the building costs, and anything that's past due, any penalties associated with that and all costs — attorney's fees, court costs, filing costs," Clyne said. "That makes up the total of what's due."

Essentially, the city would be able to write off what Cressor owed the city, Clyne said.

"That's a decision we have to work with," he said.

Clyne said allowing the situation to drag out is unfair to the taxpayers.

"We're trying to get the building back and put it back into use," Clyne said.

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