

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 emnterz@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 19.....	85	51	.00
April 20.....	78	48	.00
April 21.....	76	46	.30
April 22.....	66	49	.36
April 23.....	61	47	.14
April 24.....	56	47	.15
April 25.....	61	38	.T

Rainfall during April — 1.95 in.
Rain through April 25 — 19.04 in.



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Paul Mannen, left, was given Dallas' Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011.

MANNEN'S LEGACY

Paul Mannen left a mark that won't be forgotten

By Lukas Eggen
The *Itemizer-ObsERVER*

DALLAS — Officially, Paul Mannen served as athletics director at Dallas High School for three years.

But Mannen, who died on April 12 at the age of 82, left a legacy with Dallas athletics that extends far beyond his tenure.

When Mannen became athletics director at Dallas High School in 1996, he already had decades of experience, though that wasn't what impressed his colleagues. It was his desire to help student-athletes in any way possible.

"He had a burning desire to help kids and to help our coaching staff run top-notch programs," said Kathy Voves, former instructor and coach at Dallas High School. "There was absolutely no quit in this man. He was always willing to help."

Whether that meant improving field conditions or cleaning benches, Mannen was always there.

"He took care of as much of the outside stuff so all the coaches had to do was coach," said Grant Boustead, former Dallas athletics director and longtime coach of multiple sports. "He worked endless hours on facility maintenance so the coaches or district maintenance personnel could spend their valuable time doing other meaningful tasks."

Mannen took great pride in Dallas' athletics programs and wasn't afraid to show-

case the Dragons' talent and facilities.

"Paul felt DHS needed to do their part in offering non-league tournament opportunities that could not only benefit our programs, but provide other schools opportunities to get quality competition on a more local basis," Boustead said. "Virtually every DHS sports program had their own tournament, and some sports offered two invitationals. ... Paul just wanted to provide some recognition to Dallas High School and to the community of Dallas."

At the core of his seemingly endless work was a desire to help student-athletes succeed.

"He understood how much kids need to be supported," Voves said. "He did that by his actions, going to games and events and, if there was anything he could do to help, he would do it."

He was one of the first to publish statistics showing academic benefits through participation in athletic/extra-curricular activities, Boustead said.

He also worked behind the scenes to develop a closer relationship with the Dallas Booster Club to help find ways to keep sports funded, even when money became tight, and to find volunteers to help run events.

His willingness to do whatever he could to ensure the success and development of youth and programs earned him recognition from his peers across the

state. Mannen was part of the first class inducted to the Oregon Athletic Directors Association's Hall of Fame in 2009.

Health issues forced Mannen to step away from his position after the 1999 school year, though he came out of retirement to serve as a volunteer athletic director at LaCreole Middle School in 2002-03. Boustead became athletics director in 2000 and quickly followed the blueprint established by Mannen.

"I patterned my way of performing the duties of AD after how Paul did the job," Boustead said. "He was recognized around the state as one of the all-time best ADs, so I learned from the best."

Once Mannen stepped down as AD, he remained a fixture at the high school, attending games whenever he could.

It's those moments that stand out to those who knew him best — proof that Mannen was one of those who truly cared about his school.

"He brought his experience and his passion to DHS," Voves said. "He was a man of commitment. ... One of the things that stands out was how quickly he and (his wife) Carol were embraced by the community. It was because of who they were. The community fell in love with him almost immediately. He was a great, likeable person. He was down to earth and a hard worker. A servant would be one of the key words to describe both he and Carol."

See Page 6A for obituary.

Dallas schools look at increased privacy

By Jolene Guzman
The *Itemizer-ObsERVER*

DALLAS — The Dallas School board heard recommendations from the Superintendent Facilities Committee at its Monday meeting to provide more privacy for all students.

The board took no action Monday because it and Superintendent Michelle Johnstone are waiting for further instructions on access of transgender students to restrooms and locker rooms from the Oregon Department of Education.

Recommendations include converting existing single-stall restrooms used by school staff into gender neutral restrooms available to students and creating private spaces in locker room changing areas and showers.

Restroom facilities throughout the district will be remodeled to create more privacy for all users. Restrooms stall doors and walls will be replaced with taller doors and walls that eliminate gaps that can be seen through.

At Dallas High School, the existing coaches' shower and locker room space could be converted to a gender neutral facility. "Team rooms" in the locker rooms could also be changed into private changing areas. Single-stall restrooms in the theater wing at DHS could be converted to gender neutral.

Johnstone said she's been asking ODE for its decision, which was supposed to be released this month, but hasn't heard back yet. That guidance may be affected by a recent federal appeals court ruling that said Title IX protections include transgender students.

"Last I've known is that it was held up at the Department of Justice," she said. "I'm hoping that the court cases that have been recently heard will help push it through just a little bit more."

LaCreole Middle School ended up being a problem because of the layout of the school.

"I'm not sure at LaCreole that we ever came up with a good, solid solution," Facilities Manager Kevin Montague said. "I believe we did for the restroom

piece of it, but the shower component is a challenge."

He said private changing areas are available, but not private access to showers.

All three elementary schools and Morrison have single-occupancy restrooms that could be converted.

Montague said touring the facilities revealed that attitudes toward privacy has been changing for decades. He said evidence is at all three of the elementary schools, which had functioning showers in the past.

"At one point in time we showered in the elementary levels and, culturally, we have shifted away from that," he said.

Montague sees the concern over locker room and restroom use as less to do with gender identity than a cultural shift toward wanting more privacy for everyone.

"I believe that the transgender discussion is not the driver of this," Montague said. "I think it's the flashpoint, but I think culturally this shift has been happening for a long time."

Committee member Dave Hunt agreed.

"The number of students who actually take advantage of the shower at the middle school, minimal," he said. "That is true of the high school, except for the sports teams ... and even they aren't entirely comfortable with how that is set up."

Some remodeling of the restrooms — mostly replacing stall walls and doors — was already planned through a maintenance bond before the privacy issue was raised late last year. Those improvements were estimated at \$200,000. The additional work would add about \$300,000.

Montague said he believed the maintenance bond could be used for the remodels, but wanted the district to check with its attorneys.

Four people commented on the recommendation Monday, all in favor of it.

Rickreall resident Shirley Bushnell, a transgender woman who spoke before the board Monday, said she appreciated the effort the district put into examining how to accommodate students, especially in light of limited resources.

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2016 Relay For Life Of Polk County Heroes Around Here

When other Relay folks from around the state ask how it's possible that a county no bigger than Polk County consistently has around 50 sponsors, who collectively contribute between \$25,000 and \$30,000, my answer is simple ~ heroes around here. For the third year in a row, I have the privilege of acknowledging 54 sponsors, all of whom are so determined to beat down cancer that they've raised \$29,660! The impact this will have on research for cures and treatments, along with patient services, warrants the title of "Hero" to each and every sponsor of Relay For Life of Polk County.

Please join me in thanking our **ten most recent sponsors** of Relay For Life of Polk County:

- ♥ Hancock Forest Management ♥ Dallas Family Medicine ♥ Dallas Fire & EMT Association
- ♥ Pfaff-Karren Insurance ♥ First Community Credit Union ♥ Woolsey Family Dental
- ♥ B.P.O.E. Independence #1950 ♥ Dallas Rotary ♥ The Three Legged Dog ♥ Republic Services

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- Kerosene Gas
- Lab Sets
- Latex paint
- Lighter Fluid
- Mercury
- Oil based paint



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- Do not mix any products.
- Keep away from passengers while transporting.

WHAT NOT TO BRING

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- Radioactive Waste
- Motor oil

- Paint Thinner
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- Rust Remover
- Slug Bait
- Solvents
- Spot Remover
- Thermometers
- Thermostats
- Transmission Fluid
- Turpentine
- Weed Killers
- Wood Preservatives

DATE: Saturday, May 7th, 2016
TIME: From 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Polk County Works (820 SW Ash St., Dallas)
SPONSORED BY: Polk County, The Cities of Dallas, Independence, Monmouth and Salem



Relay For Life of Polk County will take place at Riverview Park in Independence June 4-5. If you or someone you know is interested in sponsorship, contact Lyla Bruce at 503-508-9277, or online at aquarius1251@yahoo.com, or visit our website at www.relayforlife.org/polkcountyor