

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vote Beth Jones for District 23

Articulate, thought provoking, compassionate, and informative describe Beth Jones. Those who experienced firsthand her thoughtful responses to questions at April 24's debate came away with a new appreciation for her passion for public service. HD 23 could be the recipient of her many skills should you decide that she's for you and your community. Vote for Beth Jones; she's the leader we are searching for who can bring back the voices of Dallas and surrounding areas to the state legislature.

Jo Ann Sample
Dallas

Wheeler deserves your vote for office

Commissioner Jennifer Wheeler has done a great job representing Polk County and deserves your vote. She has proven herself as a leader in touch with voters, and a person that understands the need to look forward to the future of the county. She works well with the other commissioners and is respected by county department heads as well as county employees; a valuable skill that keeps the county moving forward. She makes decisions with the best information available with the desire to do what is right by voters of Polk County. I urge you to join me in re-electing Wheeler.

Anna Scharf
Perrydale

Editorial gets it right on economy

Thank you for your enlightened editorial opinion "Time to step into the 21st Century" (April 20). I wholeheartedly agree that it is time to stop flogging the early 20th century timber horse in order to get more federal subsidies for county coffers.

The O & C Lands issue is a fun and interesting anomaly regarding the use and revenue of public timber lands, but the fact of the matter is that since 1937, the O & C Counties have received far more revenue than if those lands had stayed in private hands. Suing the federal government now for "mismanagement" of the use of our public land, when the land managers have already agreed to increase timber harvest above last years' limit, have been more than generous for over 70 years, and are now trying to navigate the diversified use of the land dictated by Congress, appears to be a folly, and a genuine waste of the funds that the county does have.

Mom can't take care of us forever. It is time to look for and support new sacred



cows. It is time to grow and move on.

Danny Jaffer
Independence

County needs Wheeler in office

I am supporting Jennifer Wheeler in her bid for reelection as a Polk County commissioner. I have worked with her on several important issues within Polk County and have found her to be hardworking, honest and dedicated to the needs of our county. That has included difficult conversations and issues such as suing the federal government over timber issues. She supports public safety, protecting private property rights and managing tax dollars in a fiscally responsible manner.

Robert Brannigan
Dallas

Residents should vote yes on streets

Many of the organized opposition to the Dallas street bond do not live within the Dallas city limits. By contrast, I am a resident of Dallas and feel a strong connection to this community, a community with so many volunteers and people who maintain their homes and yards with such pride. That's why it is so important to support our community with funding for street repairs and maintenance. Please vote yes to fix our streets.

Lynnette Henshaw
Dallas

Senior center reaches goal

Our goal has been reached. The expansion project for the Monmouth Senior Center is now off and running.

There are so many people and organizations to thank for the opportunity to expand this center. We started planning for this project some 12 years ago with Saturday breakfasts, sales, trash

or treasure, events, donations and a few long-forgotten projects.

Our heartfelt thanks goes out to the Ford Family Foundation, The Meyer Memorial Trust, The Oregon Community Foundation and The Collins Foundation for their extraordinary help in their grant assistance. And to the city of Monmouth city council for their vote confidence and trust in carrying out their commitment to the senior citizens of Monmouth and surrounding area. And this leads me to the "Ram Rod" of this outfit, Sue Teal. This lovely lady has led this Center for 27 years. Her leadership and perseverance over this time has led us to where we are. We are all very proud to have her in her position as director.

The senior center has been in existence for 30 years working for us "oldies but goodies," and the expansion should keep our promise to our senior citizens for another 20 more years. Our seniors are a vital element in our society and should never be forgotten or set aside. Their experiences are important to the future seniors that are some day going to be using this center for the Saturday breakfasts, soup and pie, line dancing, playing cards, programs, birthday parties, potlucks and just getting together to chat. All of these organizations can be well proud of what you have done for your seniors and community.

Jack Hinkle, president
Monmouth Senior Center
Friends Board

City budget should focus on streets

Luxuries vs. necessities is the dilemma before our city.

Safety and road maintenance are two top priorities of the city yet we have (county) levies and bond measures to fund what should be funded through our budget process. Why? Perhaps it is because we are taking money from our gen-

eral fund in order to maintain the aquatic center. The amount needed for its maintenance is almost equal to what is necessary for our roads. We must provide for our needs before we fulfill our wants. If roads are the priority, they must be funded first.

Alan Minton
Dallas

Support riders for Christ at car wash

The Dallas Riders For Christ club has continued its 2016 ride season after our big move last fall. 101 thanks would not cover it all for what the youth, parents and volunteers have given to this club over the 13 years functioning mostly around Dallas. It is your continued support to this motorcycle — dirt bike — youth and family club that keeps us rolling and the volunteers giving to these youth around the valley. So we ask for your further support in our first 2016 fundraiser, a car and truck wash on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Dallas Alliance Church parking, 775 E. Ellendale Ave. Also check us on Facebook. Thank you coming by and, if you're retired and know a little about motorcycles, please show the youth your caring spirit.

Myron Kliewer
Dallas

Voters should see list of streets first

I'm assuming since the street bond measure has been thoroughly vetted by

the city of Dallas, that they also have a list of streets that are identified as the ones to be repaired. I think it would be a responsible act for the city to publish a list of all the streets destined to be repaired, or maybe the ones that aren't, whichever list is shorter. Could we taxpayers see that list before the voting begins?

Patt Taber
Dallas

Pay it forward by fixing streets now

I moved to Dallas in 1967. Over the years the city has proposed levies and bonds to provide a safer community. Members of the community have supported the betterment of our community through their votes. We are now in need of major street repairs which benefits everyone living in our community. Take pride in your town and pay it forward for our next generation. Vote yes on the street bond. Preserve Dallas; help show others our pride.

Bill Hahn
Dallas

Nearman still best candidate for HD23

Please support Mike Nearman in continuing the work he is doing for House District 23. Last primary, Mike beat out Jim Thompson because Jim changed his thinking about marriage being between a man and a woman. Now, he wants to run as an Independent but standing on the same belief. I am not sure why Beth Jones is running when Mike stands for all the things Beth is for except he has already been doing a great job in the House in opposing the liberal left. Please vote for Nearman. He will continue fighting for the values of this District.

Ron Post
Dallas

Put streets as top concern for Dallas

I urge the citizens of Dallas to vote yes for the street bond. During the downturn in the economy, property values have decreased, gasoline sales have diminished and, subsequently, tax revenues earmarked for streets and other infrastructure have dropped significantly. Poor street condition negatively affects property

values, vehicle maintenance, community safety and livability. We must make significant repairs very soon or future costs will be even higher. While not totally fixing all issues, these funds will enable the city to substantially impact our long-overdue street repairs. Please join me in voting yes.

We love Dallas; let's keep it beautiful.

Kevin and Carol Marshall
Dallas

Streets not as bad as they appear

I am voting no on the \$10-million street bond. A pro-street tax brochure had a photo of a street which they said was in need of repair. I recognized the street on which I drive every week. It is half a block long. It is not that bad. We need to wait till the economy recovers before upgrading cosmetics. Vote no.

Reg Wiensz
Dallas

Street bond will hurt businesses

It will hurt Dallas businesses if the street bond passes. Businesses owning real estate will have increased taxes. Businesses leasing real estate will have rent increases. The street bond is anti-business. The bond has hidden costs due to the fact that businesses will raise prices to compensate for the higher real estate taxes. Residents of Dallas should vote no on the bond measure.

John Frei
Dallas

Don't wait for good streets, fix them

Leaving a gift of great streets to our children and grandchildren is a great goal, but I would like to walk on streets now that are smooth and avoid potholes that can hurt the tires and alignment of my car now.

The "No New Taxes" group chooses to ignore our crumbling residential streets in the hopes someone else will deal with the problem. We live here now; we need to take responsibility now and fix our streets. Please vote yes on the street bond.

Ann and David Hurd
Dallas

WANT TO WRITE A LETTER?

Letters to the editor are limited to 300 words. Longer letters will be edited.

Election-related letters of all types are limited to 100 words. Writers are limited to one election-related letter per election season. Election letters from writers outside of Polk County are not accepted.

Each writer is restricted to one letter per 30-day period.

Letters that are libelous, obscene or in bad taste will not be printed. Attacks by name on businesses or individuals will not be printed.

Letters to the editor that are obvious promotions for a business, products or services will not be printed.

The *Itemizer-ObsERVER* does

not guarantee the accuracy of facts presented by letter writers; dissenters are welcome to respond. Letter writers who disagree with other published letter writers should maintain a civil discourse and address the subject, not the author.

Letters, like all editorial material submitted to the newspaper, are edited for length, grammar and content.

Letters must include the author's name, address and telephone number. This includes letters submitted via the *I-O's* website. Names and cities of residence are published; street addresses and telephone numbers are used for verification purposes only.

Letters must be submitted

from individuals, not organizations, and must be original submissions to the *I-O*, not copies of letters sent to other media.

Letters of thanks to businesses, individuals and organizations are limited to 10 names.

The deadline for letters to the editor is 10 a.m. Monday. Letters submitted may not be retractable after this deadline.

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