

Polk County
Itemizer-Observer
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**One
dead
after
crash**

Itemizer-Observer staff report
POLK COUNTY — An Independence woman was killed in a head-on car crash on Sunday on Monmouth Highway (Highway 194) near milepost 6, west of Monmouth on Fishback Road.

The two-vehicle collision happened at about 12:50 p.m. Tara Kadell, 30, of Independence, was driving a 1997 Dodge Neon eastbound on Highway 194 when she crossed the center line, striking a 2006 Dodge pickup head on, according to reports from Oregon State Police.

Kadell was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of the pickup, Lacey C. McLaren, 23, of Portland, was not injured.

Two other passengers, a 4-year-old girl and a 6-year-old girl, were also not injured, according to police.

It was discovered McLaren had a felony warrant for first-degree theft issued by Linn County Sheriff's Office. She was arrested and lodged at the Polk County Jail.

A male passenger in the pickup fled the scene prior to law enforcement arriving, according to OSP.

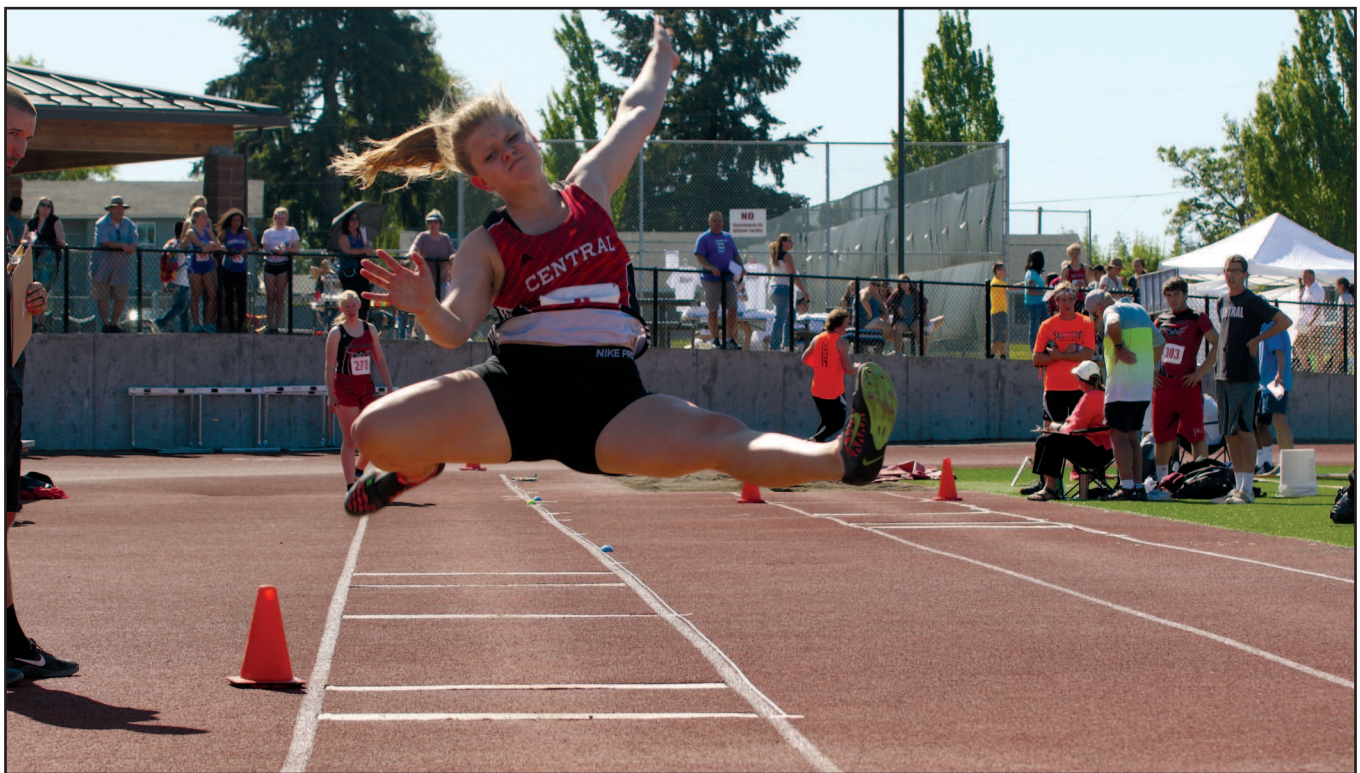
He was later identified as Jason Lee Greer, 33, of Oregon City. It was learned Greer had a misdemeanor warrant for his arrest, according to OSP. As of Monday, Greer had not been located.

Witnesses reported observing the Neon driving at a high rate of speed prior to the crash.

Highway 194 was closed for about five hours while the investigation was being conducted. OSP was assisted by Monmouth Police, Polk County Sheriff's Office, Polk County District Attorney's Office and the Oregon Department of Transportation.

This is an ongoing investigation.

Leap ahead



Central senior Reba Hoffman qualified for state in the girls triple jump. For more track coverage, see Page 10A. LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Are you prepared for disaster?

Marion, Polk counties pool resources, ideas to get ready

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

POLK COUNTY — How long could you exist in an emergency without electricity, water and food with what you have on hand at home or work? A few days? A week?

With the Cascadia subduction zone and its potential for a 9.0 magnitude earthquake lurking off the coast of the Pacific Northwest, local leaders would like to see that answer be at least two weeks.

A group of government agencies, businesses advocates and media outlets in Polk and Marion counties are working together to help residents achieve that objective.

The group, called the Mid-Valley Emergency Communications Collaborative, wants the two-county region to be the best prepared in the state for the impending Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake, or any emergency.

MVECC includes representatives from Polk County, the city of Salem, Marion County, Western Oregon University, SEDCOR, The Red Cross, Salem Health (which includes Salem Health West Valley in Dallas), Salem-Keizer Public

Schools, and NW Natural. Media outlets in the partnership include the *Polk County Itemizer-Observer*, the *Statesman Journal*, *Salem Weekly*, *CCTV*, and radio stations *KMUZ*, *KYAC* and *KPCN-LP Radio Movimiento*.

Ed Flick, Marion County's emergency manager, said it's estimated that less than 10 percent of the population in the Mid-Valley would consider themselves prepared for an emergency of Cascadia proportions. The goal of the group is to provide enough "timely and relevant information" to the public to double the number of people who are ready.

Flick believes it's possible, and more importantly, a civic responsibility for those who have the resources and ability to prepare.

Government will struggle to respond to everyone who needs help in the aftermath of a major emergency like Cascadia, he said.

"The fact is, we are not going to be able," Flick said.

If otherwise healthy people can exist on their own, emergency responders can focus limited resources and personnel on vulnerable groups. The goal of being able to sustain yourself for two weeks is based on the

Get ready one step at a time

If compiled over time, building your emergency kit doesn't have to be overwhelming or a financial burden.

In conjunction with the Mid-Willamette Valley Emergency Communications Collaborative efforts, the *Polk County Itemizer-Observer* will publish a series of tips on what you should place in your kit.

- Some things to consider when building your kit:
- Kits can be used on all emergencies, so you are not just preparing for Cascadia.
 - In addition to your two-week home kit, you should have a "get home" kit in your car and one for work. Officials recommend keeping supplies for three days in a "get home" kit and seven days in workplace kits.
 - When it comes to food, think more than convenience. In a disaster situation having something familiar is comforting, so as much as possible, pack food that you would eat normally.
 - Don't forget your pets. They will need a supply of food and necessary medications, too.

projected amount of time it will take agencies from outside the area to be able to provide assistance to residents, Flick said.

Being prepared includes not just a kit for your home, but for work, a "get home" kit for your car, and a plan coordinating how your family will respond during an emergency.

If that sounds like a lot of time and expense, don't be overwhelmed. You can tackle it piece-by-piece. In coordination with the group's efforts, the *I-O* will publish a

series of articles highlighting ways you can get ready, including a checklist of items that should be in your emergency kit.

Flick said preparing for emergencies isn't just about meeting the short-term needs of you and your family, but the long-term effort of rebuilding your community.

"Experiences have shown that communities that are involved in their own response — out there assisting in their own recovery — recover faster," Flick said.

**IN
YOUR
TOWN**

DALLAS
EMS works to improve response times.
»Page 5A

FALLS CITY
City officials hope the numbers are wrong for those living on low to moderate incomes — it affects grant money to rebuild the sewer.
»Page 5A

INDEPENDENCE
FCR hires 240 before its first year in Independence.
»Page 3A

MONMOUTH
Western Oregon University Department of Theatre and Dance present Shakespeare's "Cymbeline," opening today.
»Page 2A

SPORTS
Central's Kevin Cable is headed back to state tennis tournament.
»Page 12A

Find election results online

Itemizer-Observer staff report
DALLAS — Results from Oregon's primary election were reported after this edition (May 18) of the *Itemizer-Observer* went to press Tuesday. To find results and reaction, go to www.polkio.com. Full election coverage on local ballot measures and races will appear in the May 25 edition of the *I-O*.

Charges issued after crash

Itemizer-Observer staff report
DALLAS — Police have cited a Dallas man in the May 5 accident on West Ellendale in Dallas. On May 11, Kyle Bradford, 23, was cited on driving under the influence of intoxicants and reckless driving. Police have referred Bradford to the Polk County District Attorney on additional charges of criminal mischief. At about 9:38 p.m. on May 5, Dallas officers responded to a report of a single-vehicle crash in the 800 block of West Ellendale. According to police, Bradford had crashed a 1996 Mitsubishi Eclipse into several mailboxes before hitting a tree. Bradford was transported to a hospital. There were no passengers.

Entrepreneurs to shine at business fair

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — The Independence Elks Lodge will be packed with home-based businesses on Friday afternoon for the inaugural Home Based Business Fair, sponsored by the Independence Downtown Association.

"It was an unsung sector of the business population," said Marilyn Morton, who came up with the idea while

doing research on home-based businesses in the Monmouth and Independence area.

"It was stunning how many there were," Morton said. "More than 390 residences and over 500 businesses, because some people have more than one at their address."

She and Rod Killen decided the home-based business fair was needed.

Morton herself has four home-based businesses, in-

cluding teaching piano, something she learned from a woman who also ran a home-based business.

The event can hold 40 vendors. Morton said on Tuesday that there was still room for businesses to participate.

For the business owner, the fair provides an opportunity to network and learn about accounting and finance, resources, writing press releases and training.

That's not to say the event is strictly for those who run businesses from home, Morton said.

"It offers an opportunity to see what kind of smart inventors and creative thinkers we have in the area," she said. "You don't have to be a small business to partake of the education. Entry is free. It's going to be a fascinating array of business offerings — everything from 3-D printers to in-home toe nail care."

Morton said the business fair will give entrepreneurs a chance to feel elevated in the business world.

"I'd like to give the home-based business public legitimacy, and acknowledge what they provide for our community," she said.

The Home Based Business Fair will be from 2 to 6 p.m. on Friday at the Independence Elks Lodge, 289 S. Main St.

Tables are available for \$15. Admission is free.

THE NEXT 7 DAYS PLANNING FOR YOUR WEEK

wed
Prepare for a spirited discussion about the Old Testament at Brew and BS at St. Thomas Episcopal Church. 7 p.m. Free.

Mostly sunny
Hi: 68
Lo: 47

thu
Listen to tales of fishing and romance at the river gallery, as told by author Henry Hughes. Refreshments available. 4:30 p.m. Free.

Showers
Hi: 59
Lo: 44

fri
Donate blood; save a life at the American Red Cross blood drive at Trinity Lutheran Church in Dallas. 12:30-5:30 p.m. Free.

Showers
Hi: 63
Lo: 46

sat
Monmouth and Independence host their annual clean-up day. Head down to the park and volunteer. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Free.

Showers
Hi: 64
Lo: 48

sun
Today is National Maritime Day, to recognize the maritime industry and Merchant Marines for their sacrifices and contributions.

Partly sunny
Hi: 64
Lo: 49

mon
Learn about vegetable gardening from a Master Gardener at the monthly Dallas Garden Club meeting. 6:30 p.m. Free.

Showers
Hi: 64
Lo: 47

tue
Enjoy the sounds of the Big Band era at the Spring Fling at the Monmouth Senior Center. Refreshments available. 4-6 p.m. \$5.

Showers
Hi: 66
Lo: 45