

SCHOOL NOTES

Summer lunches start on Monday

POLK COUNTY — Free lunch for kids and teenagers aged 18 and younger will be provided all summer long until Aug. 24 through the summer lunch program, sponsored by Central, Dallas and Falls City school districts.

Lunch will be available at the following sites:

Dallas: Lyle Elementary School, 185 SW Levens St., noon to 12:30 p.m.; Whitworth Elementary School, 1151 SE Miller St., noon to 12:30 p.m.; Woodbridge Apartments, 22 SE Dimick St., noon to 12:30 p.m.

Falls City: Falls City High School, 111 N. Main St., noon to 1 p.m.; Falls City Elementary School, 177 Prospect Ave., noon to 1 p.m.

Independence: Henry Hill Educational Support Center, 750 S. Fifth St., noon to 12:30 p.m. — dinner served from 5:30 to 6 p.m.; Independence Elementary School, 150 S. Fourth St., noon to 12:30 p.m. — breakfast served from 8 to 8:30 a.m.

Monmouth: Ash Creek Elementary School, 1360 16th St., noon to 12:30 p.m.; Monmouth Elementary School, 958 E. Church St., noon to 12:30 p.m.

ACADEMIC HONORS

Crabtree earns FBI scholarship

DUNFRIES, Va. — Asheley Crabtree, of Dallas, received a \$20,000 scholarship from the Trustees of the Former Agents of the FBI Foundation.

Crabtree attends George Fox University. She graduated from Dallas High School in 2015, and is the granddaughter of former FBI Agent Donald K. Crabtree.

The foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI Inc. For the 2016-17 academic year, the foundation will award more than 100 scholarships ranging from \$2,000 to \$20,000 per year.

Undergraduates who are children and grandchildren of society members, or children of graduates of the FBI National Academy are eligible to apply.

In December, information and applications for the 2017-18 scholarship program will be available online at www.socxfbi.org.

Locals on Gonzaga's dean's list

SPOKANE, Wash. — Seth Fast and Isaak Tichenor, both residents of Dallas have earned placement on the Gonzaga University dean's list for spring semester 2016.

Students must earn a 3.5 to 3.69 grade-point average to be listed. Gonzaga University is located near downtown Spokane, Wash.

Wahl named to Warner dean's list

PORTLAND — Independence resident Kelly Wahl was named to the dean's list at Warner Pacific College.

To qualify, students must be enrolled full-time and achieve a 3.5 or greater GPA.

Deptula is Mary Baldwin College grad

STAUNTON, Va. — Wendy Rose Deptula, of Monmouth, earned a Bachelor of Science summa cum laude at Mary Baldwin College's Commencement ceremony on May 22.

DHS graduate earns law degree

TOPEKA, Kan. — Blair Loving, a graduate of Dallas High School and Western Oregon University, recently graduated from Washburn University School of Law, in Topeka, Kansas, with the degree of Juris Doctor.



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

Chance Graham succeeded in making up enough ground to graduate during one year at Dallas' alternative school.

SECOND CHANCE

Morrison Campus senior makes best of his one year at the alternative school

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Chance Graham didn't always take school seriously.

Graham, 18, offers a candid assessment of his first three years in high school.

"It was a mixture between distraction and laziness," Graham said. "You show up to class and after you hear the teacher talk for 10 minutes, you just zone out. I admit, it's not the best practice to have, but that's what I did."

This week, he did something else. He graduated Tuesday with the Morrison Campus Alternative School's Class of 2016, but not without a scramble.

Reality hit when he was having a conversation with his counselor at Dallas High School. She told him just how long it would take to finish on the traditional route — and offered him

Morrison Class of 2016

Graduation for Morrison Campus Alternative School was Tuesday after press time. The school was slated to graduate 42 seniors. For photos of the ceremony, see the June 22 edition of the *I-O* or visit www.polkio.com.

Morrison as a possible alternative.

"I wasn't doing my work and I would have to stay at least another year, probably two years to be able to graduate," he said.

His second chance began when he enrolled at Morrison at the start of the school year.

"I took it, and I'm graduating on time," he said.

Graham said he had to work really hard to earn the credits needed for graduation.

"It's been hectic, a lot of work," he said, adding he had plenty of encouragement. "The teachers are willing to do anything to help you."

On Aug. 5, Graham is shipping out to U.S. Marine Corps boot camp.

His father, uncle and grandfather all served in the U.S. Army. Graham wanted to carry on the family tradition, but with his own twist.

"Plus the dress blues look so much better," he said, smiling.

He wants to work as a diesel mechanic in the Marines, further exploring an interest he discovered his sophomore year in an agricultural mechanics class.

"That's what I'm looking into during the Marines, that way I will have a career to fall back on," he said. "I've just been interested in engines and how things work."

And every once in a while, I love busting my knuckles on pieces of metal."

While school didn't always hold his attention as an underclassman, working with engines did.

"I learned how to rip apart a motor and put it back together and I learned how to weld," he said. "Honestly, that was one of the best classes, at least for me."

Graham set two examples in high school — one of slacking off and one of working hard. He advises other students to follow what he did his senior year, but through all four years.

"Do what you need to do. You have to get your work done and you can't slack off with it," he said. "It's really tempting to slack off and do stuff, but you are going to have plenty of time senior year. The way that schools are set up, you get your work done and they make sure you have time off."



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