

Blue Garden project paused temporarily

Itemizer-ObsERVER staff report
DALLAS — The remodel and reopening of the Blue Garden on Main Street in downtown Dallas is on hold — for the moment.

Owner Bob Collins said work has paused for the time being so he can focus on bringing money into his business, Collins & Lindsey Construction, to finish the project.

He said he has two homes under construction and two major home remodels in the works.

“We will be back on the Blue Garden project soon,” he said. “Working on the Blue Garden is a passion. My wife keeps me grounded and reminds me that I need to stop and make money instead of spending it all the time.”

While active on the project, Collins demolished and remodeled the interior, installed new plumbing and a grease trap, replaced sewer lines, installed new grill kitchen floors, added two bathrooms and the back alley façade was repaired and painted.

The most visible improvement is on the front of the building, the renovated sign and new front windows and doors.



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-ObsERVER

Doaks Ferry Road is the subject of safety concerns.

Details emerge for Doaks Ferry

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-ObsERVER

WEST SALEM — A project that would redirect some of the traffic using Doaks Ferry Road to increase safety will cost significantly more than the \$2.1 million the state has available for Polk County to complete it.

The cost overrun isn't unexpected, said Polk County Public Works Director Todd Whitaker.

Oregon Department of Transportation estimated it would cost \$5.1 million to complete if the state performed the work. The state had only \$2.1 million to do it and established an agreement with Polk County in hopes the county could reduce costs. Whitaker said the agreement gave the county the right to back out if it proved too expensive.

Preliminary designs were recently completed on the project that would close Doaks Ferry to all turns except for right turns off Highway 22. Left turns and right turns onto the highway would be moved west to Riggs Street.

The design is estimated to cost \$600,000 more than the county has at its disposal.

“When we started this project, we knew funding

would be a challenge, but we needed to get to this stage of the project to really know if, and to what degree, we were underfunded,” Whitaker said. “While the current estimate of \$2.7 million confirms the expectation that Polk County can deliver the project for less, it also confirms that the available funding is inadequate.”

Whitaker said the Polk County Board of Commissioners have a number of options moving forward, including: supplementing the project budget with county funding; seeking additional money from ODOT; adjusting the project to cut costs; or turning it back to ODOT.

If the project does proceed, construction probably won't happen until 2018, Whitaker said.

Adding another wrinkle in the timing, ODOT is working on engineering the next phase, which will extend Doaks Ferry from Riggs Street to 50th Avenue. The extension is scheduled for 2019 and is contingent on the Riggs project being completed.

“Like our project, they are not sure if the funds available will be sufficient, but they need to get through the preliminary design to get a better idea,” Whitaker said.

INFORMATION OVERLOAD

Cohen to lead workshop on critical thinking

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-ObsERVER

MONMOUTH — With 24/7 access to news, it may be tough to sift between the wheat and the chaff.

“It's pretty much cliché now to say we're overwhelmed with information, but it's true, and a lot of that information is misleading,” said Donna Cohen. “Even the news, especially television news. When I was a kid, the nightly news would be 25 minutes of straight reporting, and then the last five minutes would be, ‘this is our editorial’; or ‘this is our opinion.’ Now a lot of the news is opinion, it's part of the news.”

Cohen, who has a background as a teacher and librarian, will present “Misinformation and Political Propaganda” from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Monmouth Public Library. It's one of three workshops she presents called Civics for Adults, in hopes of creating more informed, more engaged citizens.

“It's a challenge to take in the information and stop and think, is this really true what's being said here,” Cohen said. “But we live in a democracy. Self-government does not work if people aren't informed about the decisions that are being made on our behalf. We need to think more critically about things that are coming at us.”

People will make assumptions about data by

Check it out

What: Misinformation and Political Propaganda, with Donna Cohen.

When: 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday.

Where: Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S.

Admission: Free.

Of note: Cohen will present examples using current political candidates. She said her intent is nonpartisan, only to evaluate the form and accuracy of those messages.

reading a headline, for example, but when the full article is read, it puts the information in a different light, Cohen said.

“I don't expect people to analyze everything they come across, but if this headline means something to you, you really should read the article,” she said.

Another example of misleading information can be found in political advertisements. Cohen said she will present samples of these at the presentation.

“My goal is to help people do this kind of (critical) questioning, critical thinking by showing various ways that information can be distorted, everything from headlines, to graphs, to photos,” she said.

Then, Cohen will take people through steps to uncover good information.

“The first thing, there are sites like Politifact, factcheck.org, but you shouldn't necessarily accept everything they say, either,” Cohen said. “Then we go over some tricks to search online.”

Some basic tools in a

search can limit results to more reliable sources, such as educational institutions, nonprofit organizations or original documents, Cohen said.

Not that all nonprofits are unbiased, Cohen added.

“Cascade Policy Institute is right-leaning, and Oregon Center for Public Policy is left-leaning,” she said. “You can establish quickly where these organizations are coming from. It doesn't mean that you shouldn't read something from an organization, but you should be aware.”

A few red flags that an opinion is included in the news include the phrase, “more people,” or the word, “only,” Cohen said.

“The moment you hear, ‘more people,’ the first thing to remember is there are more people — more people in our nation, more people in the world,” Cohen said. “That alone isn't sufficient information. You have to look at the larger context.”

This is one of several workshops Cohen leads in hopes of inspiring civic engagement.



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 ementzer@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
Sept. 6.....	72	54	.11
Sept. 7.....	77	54	.00
Sept. 8.....	78	50	.00
Sept. 9.....	85	48	.00
Sept. 10.....	89	51	.00
Sept. 11.....	76	49	.00
Sept. 12.....	81	48	.00

Rainfall during Sept. — 0.35 in.
Rain through Sept. 12 — 22.51 in.

It's not like her.

Mom has always been so patient, but now when I ask her questions she gets angry.

We can help.

Call us with questions about aging and Alzheimers.

1-855-ORE-ADRC
HelpForAlz.org



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM

Solution on Page 6A

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

By Ben Arnoldy

Sudoku

Difficulty: ★★☆☆☆

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

How to do Sudoku

Fill in the grid so the numbers 1 through 9 appear just once in every column, row, and three-by-three square. See example above.

The Christian Science Monitor



He visited with friends, swam with his grandsons, spent time at the beach.

“What Dan and I needed from Willamette Valley Hospice might be very different from my neighbor. They come in, figure out what you need as a family and then walk the journey with you.”

Lynda, Dan's wife

You have the right to live your last months as you want. The sooner you ask for us, the more we can help.

From social workers to nurses, spiritual care to music therapy, our experienced team has one goal: to help you live your journey according to your wishes.



Willamette Valley Hospice

Experience. AT YOUR SIDE.

To learn more, call 503.588.3600 or visit vvh.org

POLK SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

NEW! NATIVE FALL BULB SALE

ONLINE PRE-ORDERS ONLY
PICK UP MID-OCTOBER AT SWCD OFFICE
PRICES AND AVAILABILITY SUBJECT TO CHANGE!!!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
POLKSWCD.COM OR
CALL TOM OR KARIN AT 503-623-9680

WAGON WHEEL DOLLER'S

Doll Show & Sale

Sept. 17th Pre-Sale \$8, 9am - 10am
10am - 4pm Admission: Adults \$5
Kids 10 yrs & under Free

Food Available on site

Polk County Fairgrounds
520 Pacific Hwy W, Rickreall
Dolls, Bears, Books, Toys, Miniatures & Related Items, Doll Stringing

No Appraisals

Sales Table Reservation \$35 per table

Arleta Day 503-581-1206
Sally Bradford 503-399-7679

Hwy 22
Rickreall Salem
★ Polk Co Fairgrounds
RV Space Available

Everyone is aware of the catastrophic effects on Europe, Africa and Asia produced by the World Wars... But **how did the World Wars impact Polk County?** What was the war like here at the “Home Front”? This is a part of Polk County history that is little known today, forgotten as the population has aged.

How did we deal with the local effects of the war: rationing, labor shortage, blackouts, fear of invasion, the disruptions caused by the establishment of Camp Adair, the concerns for loved ones who were in the Services and the new pressures on women who had to deal with life in the absence of their men gone into the war effort?

How did Polk County change?

These are the topics that we wish to examine. A joint effort of the *Itemizer-ObsERVER* and the Polk County History Museum is soliciting input from anyone who wishes to participate. Are you old enough to remember those times (at least WWII), do you have old letters, newspapers, photos, family history or diaries? We are open to almost anything that could give us an idea of “...how it was...” back then.

I welcome your contributions... I can be contacted at: davidm3123@aol.com.