

**EDITORIALS**

**We're there so you don't have to be**

The *Polk County Itemizer-ObsERVER* has been serving the community since 1875. While ownership may have changed a bit throughout the years, one thing has not: The best, most objective and fair journalism we have to offer.

Not to say we're perfect — we are human, after all. And we appreciate when you give us a call or write us a letter correcting us or letting us know when you disagree.

But still we persevere together, journalist and reader. We couldn't do it without you.

In fact, if you didn't care to read about your community, we wouldn't want to.

We sit through countless meetings, covering councils in four cities, four school districts, three fire districts and, county commissioners.

We look through budget documents hundreds of pages long, breaking down the messages in a way that is easier to read and understand. Sometimes that means hours of research and asking questions — all so you know what's going on in your local governments.

Reporters don't have to sit in the room while government meetings are held, but we know from experience that when we are not there, elected officials can start saying and doing some things that are a bit wonky.

We are there so you don't have to be.

**PUBLIC AGENDA**

**Public Agenda is a listing of upcoming meetings for governmental and nongovernmental agencies in Polk County. To submit a meeting, send it at least two weeks before the actual meeting date to the *Itemizer-ObsERVER* via email (ionews@polkio.com).**

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 12**

- **Monmouth Tree Advisory Board** — 7 p.m., Monmouth Senior Center, 180 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.
- **Independence Heritage Museum Commission** — 4 p.m., Independence Heritage Museum, 112 S. Third St., Independence. 503-838-1212.
- **Monmouth Library Advisory Board** — 7 a.m., Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.
- **Monmouth Parks and Recreation Board** — 7 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.
- **Polk County Board of Commissioners** — 9 a.m., Polk County Courthouse, first floor conference room, 850 Main St., Dallas. 503-623-8173.
- **Polk Soil and Water Conservation District** — 6 p.m., 580 Main St., Suite A, Dallas. 503-623-9680.

**THURSDAY, OCT. 13**

- **Polk County Fire District No. 1 Board** — 6 p.m., Central Station 90, 1800 Monmouth St., Independence. 503-838-1510.
- **Western Days Commission** — 7 p.m., Independence Civic Center, 555 S. Main St., Independence. 503-838-1212.
- **Falls City City Council** — 6 p.m., Falls City Community Center, 320 N. Main St., Falls City. 503-787-3631.
- **Luckiamute Watershed Council** — 7 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-837-0237.

**MONDAY, OCT. 17**

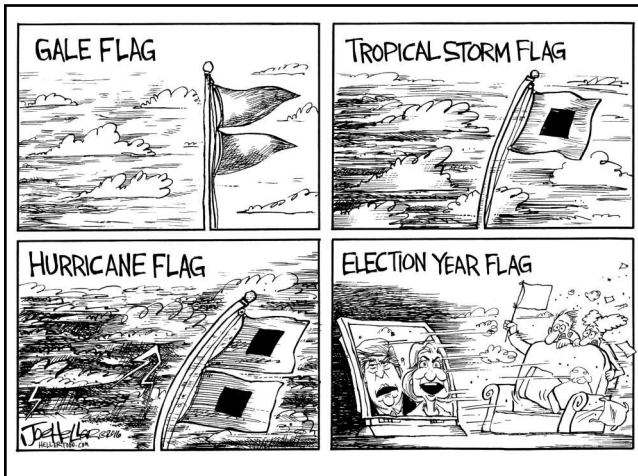
- **Independence Tourism and Events Commission** — 6:30 p.m., Independence Civic Center, 555 S. Main St., Independence. 503-838-1212.
- **Dallas City Council** — 7 p.m., Dallas City Hall, 187 SE Court St., Dallas. 503-831-3502.

**TUESDAY, OCT. 18**

- **Independence Historic Preservation Commission** — 4 p.m., Independence Civic Center, 555 S. Main St., Independence. 503-838-1212.
- **Monmouth City Council** — 7 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.
- **Dallas Parks Advisory Board** — 5:30 p.m., Dallas City Hall, 187 SE Court St., Dallas. 503-831-3502.
- **Falls City School Board** — 6:30 p.m., Falls City High School, 111 N. Main St., Falls City. 503-787-3521.
- **Polk County Board of Commission work session** — 9 a.m., Polk County Courthouse, BOC office, 850 Main St., Dallas. 503-623-8173.
- **Independence Traffic Safety Commission** — 6:30 p.m., Independence Civic Center, 555 S. Main St., Independence. 503-838-1212.

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 19**

- **Monmouth Planning Commission** — 7 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.
- **Polk County Board of Commissioners** — 9 a.m., Polk County Courthouse, first floor conference room, 850 Main St., Dallas. 503-623-8173.



**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Retired sheriff supports Garton**

I've worked in law enforcement in Polk County for 38 years. I have seen a lot of changes, good and bad, but most importantly I have seen all the improvements that have taken place since Mark Garton has been your sheriff. Mark has a tremendous amount of talent, respect, high ethical values and the experience to continue serving as your sheriff.

I humbly served as your sheriff for 16 years, and I am asking you to vote to elect Mark Garton, so he can continue serving as your Polk County Sheriff.

*Bob Wolfe (retired sheriff)  
Independence*

**Do Trump a favor: don't vote for him**

If you like Donald Trump and plan on voting for him, then do the guy a favor and don't vote for him. Trump grew up and now lives in a bubble of wealth, lackeys, yes-men and beautiful women who all tell him how great he is.

Well, that myth is coming unraveled piece by piece due to the intense focus of public opinion and the free press.

All of his convoluted business deals, some maybe legal and others totally illegal, are coming to light, and it is not pretty. There will be no honeymoon for Trump if he is elected.

*Ted Gaty  
West Salem*

**Re-elect Gabliks to Dallas city council**

We support Kelly Gabliks for re-election to the Dallas

City Council.

She has lived in Dallas for 20 years and is the most qualified candidate.

Kelly believes the biggest issue facing the council is establishing a robust and diversified economy by supporting local businesses while encouraging new businesses to come to Dallas.

Serving on the Dallas City Council allows Kelly to give back to the community. Kelly's goal is to work to ensure our tax dollars are spent responsibly, laws passed are necessary and fair, and that Dallas continues to be a great place to live, work and play.

*Ann and David Hurd  
Dallas*

**Polk County needs Garton as sheriff**

Polk County needs Sheriff Mark Garton.

Mark has diligently served the people of Polk County for over 19 years. Starting as a cadet allowed Mark to begin earning his way up through the ranks to becoming our sheriff in 2015.

He has a thorough understanding of how the Sheriff's Office operates, which is evident by what he has already accomplished in such a short time.

Thank you Mark for keeping the promises that were made during the public safety levy. It's refreshing to know that promises do mean something to him.

Please support Mark as our sheriff.

*John Brown  
West Salem*

**Gabliks dedicated to people of Dallas**

It has been my privilege

to serve on the Dallas City Council with Kelly since she was elected four years ago.

She carefully studies the issues, asks pertinent questions, listens to all relevant information and/or arguments and only then makes the choices she feels best serve the citizens of Dallas.

She is a dedicated team player on the council and servant of the people, and I feel she is an excellent example of what our citizens expect when they elect someone to represent them and our city.

Please join me in voting for Kelly Gabliks.

*Kevin G. Marshall  
Dallas*

**Garton shows good leadership**

I met Sheriff Mark Garton at the Inter-Agency Reserve Academy fall of 2000.

He demonstrated leadership effective in helping us all graduate as reserve deputies.

That leadership ability has sustained the Polk County Sheriff's Office through recent difficult times.

His leadership has restored badly needed services.

As a mental health professional who has worked in law enforcement, I very much appreciate Sheriff Garton's foresight in establishing the Mobile Response Crisis Team.

Law enforcement can become more effective when paired with mental health to serve those vulnerable to being misunderstood during times of stress and crisis.

Vote Mark Garton for sheriff.

*John W. Reed  
Monmouth*

See **LETTERS**, page 6A

**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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Polk County  
**Itemizer-ObsERVER**

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The Polk County Itemizer-ObsERVER assumes no financial responsibility for errors in advertisements. It will, however, reprint without charge for the portion of an advertisement which is in error if the Itemizer-ObsERVER is at fault.

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