

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thompson skilled collaborator

Let's return Jim Thompson to the Oregon Legislature.

I've had the opportunity to work with Jim over the years in his role as the chair of the board for the Polk County Fire District No. 1.

He was a driving force in bringing four diverse agencies together in the newly consolidated district.

He is highly skilled in collaborating and bringing people together, a skill set that is sorely needed in the House.

We need more people like Jim to work across the aisle to help solve the many challenges facing Oregon. Please consider voting for Jim in November.

Don Milligan
West Salem

Wilson, Trahan for Dallas City Council

LaVonne Wilson and Paul Trahan deserve your votes for Dallas City Council. LaVonne has served 32 years on council and continues to promote new ideas and solutions.

She is an advocate for local businesses and fiscally conservative principles. I had the honor of serving with her on council, and found her to be a thoughtful and engaged community leader. It's important to have a mix of fresh faces and experienced members on our nine-member council.

Paul Trahan has much to offer our city as Dallas experiences major growth. We need his expertise in land use planning and development. Please vote.

Beth Jones
Dallas



Nearman protects rights, freedoms

Mike Nearman is honest and reliable, outspoken about protecting our rights to self-defense, to choose life, and to educational and religious freedom. He is willing to fight for average folks to keep what they've earned and not be burdened by unreasonable taxes and unaccountable state spending. I don't want to be represented by someone that will "work together to get things done," if what they get "done" is just plain wrong. I trust Mike Nearman to be fair, consistent and honest. Vote for Mike Nearman to be a voice of reason for House District 23.

Rachel Daberkow
Independence

Garton has right character to lead

Mark Garton represents the character and experi-

ence we need in managing the law enforcement efforts in all of Polk County. Mark began his career in police work with Polk County Sheriff's Office as a cadet when 17 years old. His active experience in all areas of the sheriff's office, and my personal knowledge, make him the only choice for sheriff.

Since Mark was appointed to the sheriff position, he has restored 24-hour patrols, drug trafficking efforts, and initiated mental health programs.

All of Polk County, including cities, is under the sheriff. Vote for effective law enforcement.

Wayne Simmons
West Salem

Measure will take jobs from Oregon

A corporate employer perspective on Measure 97:

Very recently, I was required to budget mandatory health insurance, sick leave and a huge minimum wage

increase, among the highest in the nation. Now, Measure 97 will demand another sizeable chunk of dwindling profit.

My questions: Is Oregon a welcome place for my corporation?

Do I remain and continue depleting the bottom line? Or, do I look elsewhere for lower payroll and less government drain on profit?

If I stay, added expenses will reluctantly be passed to consumers. If forced to leave, thousands of jobs go with me, and I need to pack now.

Joetta Chrissakis
Dallas

Nearman dodges issues for insults

It's easy to see when a politician is incapable of arguing issues.

He turns to mockery, lies and ridicule, hoping to smear opponents.

Hence, the Republican incumbent in House District 23. His efforts use such childish comparisons as "Flip Flops" and "Wolf in sheep's clothing."

Where is the discussion of issues impacting Oregonians? Where are the solutions? He can't argue those because he has no solutions.

How about a candidate who seeks widely acceptable solutions through compromise and negotiation?

A person respected by both parties.

A candidate such as Jim Thompson for District 23. Vote Jim Thompson, get results.

Fred Brown
Dallas

Morett brings new ideas, balance

I would encourage everyone in House District 20 to support Laura Morett. After the last legislative session, especially, we need some balance and new ideas, and Laura's background and pragmatism would make her an asset in that body. Please vote for Laura Morett.

Dean Freeborn
Rickreall

Spread cheer this Christmas season

As we approach the holiday season, we'd like to encourage our friends and neighbors to remember families in our community who need a little help making Christmas special for their children.

The Dallas Adopt-a-Family program matches donors with families needing help to provide gifts for children and a Christmas dinner for the family.

Families needing help can sign up Nov. 14 through 18, 4 to 6 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 19, 2 to 4 p.m. at the Academy Building. Individuals, families or businesses wishing to adopt a family can email melissa.baurer@usw.salvationarmy.org or call 503-507-6269 for more information.

Kathy Spear
Dallas

Garton respected, trained, ready

When I first met Mark Garton, he was a young cadet. He went on to become a respected deputy sheriff. Mark worked the jail, patrol, and was a detective sergeant. He supervised the Polk County Major Crimes Team and the inter-agency narcotics team.

In 2015, Mark became Polk County Sheriff. Sheriff Garton is well-respected by his officers and staff. Mark is well-trained, well-educated, and has the experience

necessary to be sheriff of Polk County. Mark has served his entire career with the Polk County Sheriff's Office.

Join me in voting for Mark Garton for Polk County Sheriff.

Paul Box
Retired Polk County deputy sheriff
West Salem

Re-elect honest, ethical Evans

Re-elect Paul Evans for HD 20. I have known Paul since he was born. Paul has always wanted to be in politics since he was young.

He was class president at both Central and WOU. Paul was a major in the service, deployed many times, putting his life on the line to keep us safe.

Paul is an honest and ethical man. He is exactly what our great state needs.

Penny Linwood
Dallas

Thompson works for wine, ag biz

I am writing this letter to urge the voters of District 23 to support Jim Thompson for State Representative.

In my 25 years in the Oregon wine business in Polk County, Jim has been the most supportive and knowledgeable candidate for the Oregon wine industry and all other agricultural businesses in Oregon.

District 23 is one of the largest wine regions in Oregon and needs Jim to fight for increased tourism and sane land-use laws for the betterment of all Oregonians and our economy.

He has a proven record of working tirelessly for District 23 and deserves your vote.

Eric Rogers,
CFO (retired) Eola Hills Wine Cellars
Dallas

More letters on Pages 6A and 7A

Last call for all election-related letters: The *Itemizer-ObsERVER* will not accept election-related letters to the editor beyond 10 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 31, to print in the Nov. 2 edition.



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. 26

• Polk County Board of Commissioners — 9 a.m., Polk County Courthouse, first floor conference room, 850 Main St., Dallas. 503-623-8173.

THURSDAY, OCT. 27

• Monmouth-Independence Networks Board of Directors — 7:30 a.m., Henry Hill Education Support Center, 750 S. Fifth St., Independence. 503-837-0700.

TUESDAY, NOV. 1

• Monmouth City Council — 7 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.

• Dallas Urban Renewal Advisory Committee — 5:30 p.m., Dallas City Hall, 187 SE Court St., Dallas. 503-831-3565.

• Polk County Board of Commission work session — 9 a.m., Polk County Courthouse, BOC office, 850 Main St., Dallas. 503-623-8173.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 2

• Monmouth Historic Commission — 6 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.

• 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.

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.

Election letters will not be published after the Nov. 2 issue of the *Itemizer-ObsERVER*, due by 10 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 31.

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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