

Evans to serve second term

Democrat incumbent beats Morett, re-elected to House District 20

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

SALEM — Rep. Paul Evans (D) will serve another two-year term representing District 20 in the Capitol. He won the election against challenger Laura Morett (R) on Nov. 8, 52 to 47 percent statewide and countywide. In Polk County, Evans garnered 10,889 votes to Morett's 9,715.

"I'm feeling very grateful," Evans said on Nov. 9. "I think most people watching the national returns last night, and certainly trying to make sense of what we thought we knew based on scientific data, and what turned out to be the results, I'm just grateful for the opportunity that our volunteer team put us in."

Evans said more than

60,000 volunteers spent more than 5,000 hours spreading Evans' message.

"The last week or so, the opposition really put some harsh, negative ads out there, and we tried to outwork them and kept focusing on our message," he said. "At the end of the day, we're just grateful that we were able to win despite an uptick in negativity in the end."

Evans plans to build on what he called "lessons learned" in the last session. Among his top priorities is promoting a civics proficiency test for high school students.

"I know this election was frustrating for many, but a lot of people are paying attention to civic affairs because of it," he said. "Sometimes light and heat both provides an environment

where things can suddenly be talked about. You can look at a tight, long, hard campaign from two sides. We learned some things, and find out how we can find a few projects on how to make Oregon better and stronger."

Morett said she was disappointed at the loss.

"But you know, I honestly feel like I still won," she said. "The people that I met, the generosity that I came across during the full-year process completely impacted and changed my life."

Morett said she met lifetime friends and people in the community doing silent service, and will cherish those connections made during the campaign.

"How could you not love these people?" she said. "These are people I want to be around and be part of."

Morett hadn't decided as of Monday whether she would give it another go in two years, but did say she plans to get involved somehow, encouraging others to do the same.

"I never thought I was going to run for office in the first place," she said. "It was an amazing experience. I wish everybody would run for some type of office so they could see how many great people who are out there who support you. It was very humbling."

Morett said that while she hates to lose, she feels like she did everything possible to win.

"At the end, you can say there's nothing more I could have done," she said. "The voters decided they want to give him (Evans) another shot at it."

Nearman overcomes challengers for HD 23

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

POLK COUNTY — Rep. Mike Nearman (R-Independence) won a second term serving in Oregon House District's 23 in the Nov. 8 general election.

Nearman prevailed in the four-way race with 17,117 votes (52 percent) to Independent Jim Thompson's 12,117 (37 percent). Pacific Green candidate Alex Polikoff had 1,821 (5 percent) and Libertarian Garrett Leeds took 1,335 (4 percent).

Polk County's tally in the race was: Nearman (7,829, 52 percent), Thompson (5,871, 39 percent), Polikoff (622, 4) and Leeds (571, 3 percent).

Nearman's win had him defeating challenger Thompson for a second time. The first came in the 2014 primary in which he unseated Thompson, who was then with the Republican Party.

Nearman could not be reached for comment following the election, but did post a message to his supporters on his campaign Facebook page, Nearman4Oregon.

"This is the fourth contested election that I have run since spring of 2014, and I could not have done it without the support of all the people who put up a lawn sign, made a donation, held a coffee, called me to tell me they were voting for me and, not least, prayed for me," he wrote. "I am very grateful for how each of you impacted my campaign. We, the citizens of House District 23, deserve representation that is ethical, honest, and fights constantly for your values in Salem."

OBITUARIES

Larry Lester

Oct. 14, 1936 – Nov. 12, 2016
Larry Lester passed away on Saturday, Nov. 12, 2016, at his home after a long battle with cancer. He was surrounded by his family and his wife of 61 years, Deloris.

Larry was born to Stanley and Vivian Lester on Oct. 14, 1936, in Loyalton, S.D. He attended grade school in Loyalton and later moved to Brookings, S.D., where he graduated from Agricultural School in 1955. While in Brookings, he met his other half and future wife, Deloris, when he became friends with her brother. They were married on June 30, 1955, at the Lutheran Church in White, S.D.

In 1956, Larry and Deloris moved to Hawthorne, Calif., where Larry worked for Air Research building hand tools for airplanes. They lived in California until 1959, when Larry was asked to move to Sweet Home to help a relative build the Lester Cedar Board Plant. In March of 1960, Larry and Deloris welcomed their first daughter, Vickie.

In 1964, Larry and his brother-in-law, Marvin Kracke, started Pee Wee Logging and contracted with Boise Cascade.

Larry and Deloris welcomed their second daughter, Diane, in December of 1966. In 1967, they moved to

Dallas and bought the home on Ellendale, where Larry would spend the rest of his life.

Pee Wee Logging was sold in 1981 when Larry and Marvin decided to buy a cattle ranch in Baker City. They owned the ranch until 1984, when they were asked to contract with Boise Cascade for road maintenance. This is when LesKrack Inc. was born, and Larry worked in road maintenance until he retired in December 2003.

After his retirement, Larry started restoring Farmall tractors in his shop. He fully restored 126 tractors, his favorite being the Super M. His daughter, Diane, made him his own website where he could sell his tractors to people all over the country. His last tractor was finished just weeks before he passed away.

Larry enjoyed fishing trips in the ocean and hunting with his grandson, Scott.

He took several road trips in recent years to visit his brother, Richard, in South Dakota, and his granddaughter, Shandi, in Tennessee. He loved to watch Larry's Diner on Saturday nights and take spontaneous trips to the casino with Deloris.

He enjoyed spending time in the woods and knew all the logging roads like the back of his hand. He loved working in his shop and spent many hours there fixing tractors and visiting with friends. His friends always knew that when the shop door was open, he was out working on a tractor, and

they could stop in for a visit. If you ever called his cell-phone, he might have answered with, "It's your nickel!" and if you asked him how he was, he probably said, "Still perkin!"

Larry never met a stranger and could strike up a conversation with anyone he met in any situation. He had a way of making everyone feel like they were a long-lost friend or family member of his. He was known for being hard working and incredibly generous. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather who will be missed by many.

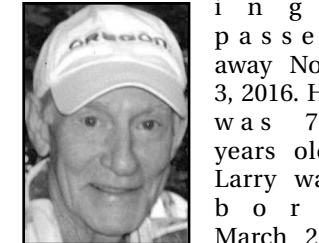
He is survived by his wife, Deloris; daughters, Vickie Brandt and Diane Sigler; granddaughters, Katie Warthen and Shandi Hill; grandson, Scott Brandt; brother, Richard Lester and six great-grandchildren.

There will be a celebration of life at the Nesmith Readiness Center on Friday, Nov. 18, 2016, at 4 p.m. Please come prepared to laugh and share stories about Larry. He loved a good party.

While flowers are welcome, the family invites mourners to consider a donation to the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute in his honor.

Larry Daniel Southwick

March 21, 1938-Nov. 3, 2016
Larry Southwick of Brookings passed away Nov. 3, 2016. He was 78 years old. Larry was born March 21, 1938, in Crofton, Neb., to



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Larry Southwick of Brookings passed away Nov. 3, 2016. He was 78 years old. Larry was born March 21, 1938, in Crofton, Neb., to

Herbert and Martha Southwick.

He loved the sunshine the great outdoors and was an excellent gardener.

Larry was preceded in death by daughter, Cindy Southwick; grandson, Gable Southwick; and great-grandson, Bailee Candello-Southwick.

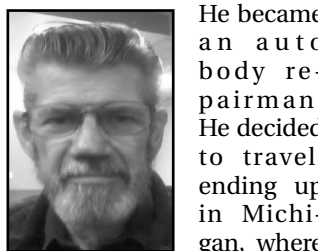
He is survived by brother, Willard Southwick, of Grants Pass; son, Gordon Southwick, of Dallas; and daughter, Victoria Southwick, of Central Point; as well as several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

Othy T. Sullenger

June 4, 1943 – Oct. 21, 2016
Othy T. Sullenger went home to be with the Lord on Oct. 21.

He was born to Charles and Lahoma Sullenger.

Othy grew up in Dallas and joined the Navy in 1960.



He became an auto body repairman. He decided to travel, ending up in Michigan, where he met and married Lorna Finney. They had four children, and moved back to Dallas, where they raised their children.

Othy met his best friend and partner, Kathy. They shared 13 years together.

Othy was preceded in death by his daughter, Leona, and his parents.

He is survived by his partner, Kathy Thompson; daughter Patricia (Davin) Muller; sons Timothy and

Charles (Michelle); Lorna; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Jamie Lee Souter

March 23, 1959 – Nov. 7, 2016
Jamie Lee Souter, 57, of Dallas, died on Nov. 7.

He is survived by his father, Jim Souter; and brothers, Guy Souter and Rob Souter.

Ronald Lynn Ossenkop

June 21, 1969 – Nov. 6, 2016
Ronald Lynn Ossenkop, 47, of Monmouth, died Nov. 6 at Salem Hospital. He was born in Emmett, Idaho, to Carl and Sherrill Abercrombie. Ronald's life will be celebrated privately at a later date.

Farnstrom Mortuary handled arrangements. Memories and condolences at farnstromMortuary.com.

Jean Davids

April 9, 1927 – Nov. 10, 2016
Jean Davids, 89, of Dallas, died Thursday in the Dallas Retirement Village.

She is survived by husband, Hank, of Dallas; daughter, Shirley (Chuck) Blackman, of Dallas, and Susan (Russ) Bergerson, of Washougal, Wash.; along with nine grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren; and sister Gladys Zuidema, of California.

She was preceded in death by a son Henry Davids Jr. in 2014; brothers John Zuidema and George Richard Zuidema; and a sister Connie Malichuk.

Funeral services were held. To leave a message or memory for the family please go to www.dallastrIBUTE.com.

Mary Eason

Nov. 26, 1926 – Nov. 12, 2016
Mary Eason, 89, of Dallas, died Saturday at the Dallas Retirement Village. She was born in Los Angeles. She is

survived by a daughter Deborah Burnham, of Dallas.

Services are pending with the Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center.

To leave an online tribute: www.dallastrIBUTE.com

Zita Andrea Locke

Aug. 21, 1926 – Nov. 9, 2016
Zita Andrea Locke, 90, died on Nov. 9 in Salem.

She is survived by husband of 70 years, James L. Locke Sr., of Salem; and son, James L. Locke Jr. (Nancy), of Burlingame, Calif.; and extended family. She was preceded by sibling, Leona Hicks, of Livermore, Calif.

Visitation will be Friday from 1 to 5 p.m. Funeral service will be Nov. 29 at 1 p.m., both at Farnstrom Mortuary, 410 Monmouth St., Independence. Private interment will be at Hilltop Cemetery. To leave an online tribute: FarnstromMortuary.com.

Maria Elida Villa

Sept. 3, 1934 – Nov. 3, 2016
Maria E. Villa, 82, died on Nov. 3.

She is survived by sons, Jose Gloria and Mano Villa; daughters, Marisela Glona, Letty Villa, Elsa M., Rose S., Monica Villa; and nine grandchildren.

Viewing will be on Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m. at Farnstrom Mortuary in Independence. Services will be on Saturday from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Salem Conference Center.

Obituary Information

Obituary information must be submitted by 4 p.m. on the Monday before publication to be included in the newspaper.

Most funeral homes handle obituary information and provide it to the newspaper. However, information can also be submitted directly from family members.

Obituaries cost \$8 per 25 words (column inch) and include a photo and a flag (for veterans). Obits placed by family members must be prepaid.

Color and black-and-white photos can be submitted, but photos will only be published in black and white. The Itemizer-Observer uses a flag logo in the obituaries of people who served in the armed forces.

Obituaries — like all information submitted to the news department — are subject to editing for style, content and length.

Information can be brought or mailed to the Itemizer-Observer, 147 SE Court St., Dallas, OR 97338, or emailed to ionews@polkio.com.

For more information: Emily Mentzer, 503-623-2373.

Sudoku solution

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

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