

Minet fixes throttling issue

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer



INDEPENDENCE — Monmouth Independence Networks has fixed the problem it had with slowing services, said PJ Armstrong, tech director.

“We identified a module that is in our core router,” he said. “What it does is process the data stream twice, so when we hit a point where we’re doing five gigs of traffic every night, it’s required to do it twice.”

That slowed down everyone’s access, or “throttled” services.

Armstrong told the Minet board of directors Thursday that a different device was aggregated to the router and has opened

the data services.

“We’ll find out Sunday how close we’re getting to that 10 gigs, which is our effective limitation,” Armstrong said.

Also at the board meeting, Buzz Brazeau, chair of Minet’s finance committee, presented a request to increase reserves by more than 100 percent used for capital improvements to the company.

The upgrades are part of the company’s strategic plan, which has not yet been presented to the board.

“I’m on side with your identification of needs,” said Jon Carey, Minet board member and Monmouth city councilor. “We’re in-

creasing both the reserve and the tech refresh over 100 percent each, at a time where Independence has got lots of money; Monmouth doesn’t. So that’s a pretty large jump instantly at a time where it’s challenging on the cities’ end.”

Brazeau said the large jump is because Minet as a company has not addressed the lagging technology throughout its 10-year history. If the budget is not approved to allow for upgrades, Minet would be closer to a “mega failure,” Brazeau said.

“It could not only affect our current operating position and negatively affect the growth potential, but it would leave the cities to cover the entire debt,” Brazeau said.

Board member and Independence City Manager David Clyne said that while he understood the need, he

hesitated to buy into a plan he hadn’t seen.

“I’m not disagreeing with the needs,” Clyne said. “At the end of the day, we respond to the same people. When we talk about our rates for water and sewer, they say, you have \$500,000 (going to Minet) that’s included in my water bill, and now you’re looking to up it. We’re missing a piece of transparency here. The city councils have not had buy-off on this plan.”

Board chair and Monmouth City Manager Scott McClure said he supported the plan.

“We need to know these are not one-time investments,” he said, noting that if any of Minet’s endeavors to expand business opportunities succeeds, the company could be making money quickly.

The board approved increasing the budgets for Minet’s capital improvements.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dallas responds to gas leak

DALLAS — A gas leak detected on Nov. 15 near Southeast Shelterly and Academy streets in Dallas was repaired the same day.

Dallas Fire & EMS responded to a report of a natural gas leak and found a 2-inch transmission gas line had been damaged by construction equipment. Natural gas was free flowing from the line.

NW Natural also responded to temporarily fix the leak. NW Natural personnel was on scene for an extended period to repair the damaged line.

This area is under development and no occupied residences were effected.

Old Mill recognized nationally

DALLAS — Old Mill Feed and Garden was one of six stores to be recognized for the Retail Display Building contest sponsored by Purina.

Purina retailers from across the country submitted photos of Flock-Tober festivities. Each store was provided a display building kit.

Stores were recognized based on creativity and background chicken knowledge. More than 1,200 entries were received.

Fatal crash on Orchard Heights

DALLAS — The Polk County Sheriff’s Office responded to a fatal car crash on Nov. 16 at 11:33 p.m. The crash took place in the 5200 block of Orchard Heights Road Northwest. Upon arrival, deputies located the sole occupant of the vehicle — Jesse Robinson, of Salem, who was deceased inside the vehicle.

Preliminary investigation indicated that the vehicle, a 1990 Ford Ranger pickup, was headed west on Orchard Heights when it failed to negotiate a curve in the roadway. Speed may have been a factor.

Any person with information concerning the crash can contact Deputy Mike Stevenson, 503-623-9251.

New book about local history available

INDEPENDENCE — A new book detailing life on a century farm near Independence and Monmouth is now available.

“Rogers Road” is written by Jo Rogers Veatch. Veatch is the daughter of former Polk County Representative Joe Rogers Jr. and the great-granddaughter of former Monmouth Mayor George Rogers. Joe Rogers Jr. owned and operated the Independence Creamery from 1937-42.

The book is available for purchase at www.TheBookPatch.com.

Veatch has pledged \$1 of every book sold to the Independence Heritage Museum.

Illahe Vineyards to help food share

DALLAS — Through Dec. 31, Illahe Vineyards will participate in the Willamette Cares Food Share to help Oregonians who struggle with hunger.

Donations will go to Marion-Polk Food Share. Illahe is located at 3275 Ballard Road, Dallas.

For more information about food drives: marionpolkfoodshare.org.

DEQ to test well water in Polk County

POLK COUNTY — The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality will offer free well water testing in the Mid-Willamette Valley as part of a groundwater study.

DEQ will test for nitrate, arsenic, bacteria, and pesticides as part of the statewide groundwater monitoring program. DEQ will test 60 to 100 wells and send well owners reports of results.

DEQ will collect well water samples in February 2017 and over the summer.

For more information, see the DEQ groundwater monitoring page. To be considered for the study: 503-693-5736.

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Downtown Dallas Merchants Holiday Turkey Winners!



In addition to the 30 winners there were
27 TURKEYS

donated to the Dallas Food Bank.
Turkeys were purchased from
Dallas Safeway where winners

should pick up their turkey before Nov. 24th.

- A-Team Locksmith.....Tom Howard
- Brixius JewelersSue DeVault
- Calmlee’s Bookstore.....Kayla Robertson
- Capitol Auto Chevrolet.....Jody Jones
- Country InsuranceGary Suderman
- Court Street HairMillie Cummins
- Dallas Antique MallBetty Swartzendruber
- Dallas City CleanersDennis Caswell
- Dallas City Vapor ParlorShayne Handsaker
- Dallas Yoga & Balance Studio.....Erin Shumway
- Domino's Pizza.....Lois Kaltenbach
- First American TitleShelly Hilker
- Grandma’s Attic SewingJanet DiBartolomeo
- Heartstrings Florist.....Sharon Pike
- Home ComfortNancy Cruckshank
- Jake's GarageTom Burton
- Just Stuff.....Shelby Burns
- Old Mill Feed & GardenElaine Lindegren
- Polk County Itemizer-Observer.....Terri Getchell
- Pressed Coffee & Wine BarAshley Taylor
- Shear PerfectionAmanda Howard
- Some ThingsLou Gray
- The Decorated WallJean Rogers
- Tim’s Automotive Specialties.....Jim Dundon
- Tipp’s Copy Center.....Teresa Helm
- Tony’s PlaceTom Smith
- Ugo’s PizzaDarcie LaFontaine
- Van Well Building Supply.....Bill Briggs
- West Valley Taphouse.....Miranda Johnson
- World GymYturri Camara
- Dallas Food Bank.....27 turkeys ~ Bev Linn