

Governor's proposed budget mostly positive

If numbers hold, 2017-19 budget could be mixed bag for education from preschool through university

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

POLK COUNTY — Gov. Kate Brown's \$20.8 billion outline for the state's 2017-19 budget included a little more than \$8 billion for K-12 education.

That's a 9 percent increase over the current two-year budget for schools, and is intended to support current service levels, including providing for increased costs in the Public Employees Retirement System.

"We will see how that stands up during the legislative session, but

it's a good place to begin," said Tami Montague, Dallas School District's business manager.

Brown's budget assumes a \$1.7 billion shortfall, which her budget fills with a combination of cuts and revenue increases. Lawmakers will have their say in the state's biennial budget when the legislative session opens in February.

"We'll wait and see what will happen, don't know how they will backfill that," Montague said.

She said education groups say Brown's figure for K-12 isn't enough to keep the status quo.

"Our best information from ad-

vocacy groups for K-12 education is saying we need about \$8.5 billion," Montague said.

Measure 98, which created separate funding for career and technical education programs and attempts to increase graduation rates, is given \$139.4 million in the budget. That is short of the \$247 million advocates for the measure wanted.

Toya Fick, the executive director of Stand for Children, a Measure 98 supporter, said the state's revenue is high, inflation is low and the economy is strong.

"Despite all of that, the gover-

nor's budget only goes halfway," Fick said in a statement. "If we can't prioritize our children and their education right now, when are we going to? We are disappointed with the budget and hope lawmakers properly prioritize our schools by fully funding Measure 98."

The measure was originally written to be dependent on revenue.

The state's public universities received \$667.3 million in the governor's budget, maintaining current funding levels "due to statewide revenue constraints."

University presidents com-

mended Brown's budget in a joint statement, but encouraged the legislature to increase the amount going to Oregon's universities.

"By doing so, every campus can keep tuition at a manageable level for the next two years and maintain vital support services that keep students on track to graduate," the statement read. "If we want to enable more Oregonians to earn college degrees at an affordable level of tuition, additional resources will be needed."

Support for community colleges remains at current levels, with \$550 million.

OBITUARIES

Elsie F. (Clark) Werth

Sept. 10, 1920 – Nov. 18, 2016
Elsie F. (Clark) Werth, born Sept. 10, 1920, in Inavale, Neb., to Lewis Clark and Alta Smith Clark, died Nov. 18 from declining health while living in Sheridan. She was 96, the oldest of eight siblings.



She grew up in Red Cloud County, in a round Hastings, Neb., and in nearby northern Kansas. The family left Nebraska and moved to Grand Ronde in 1936, where her father got a job with the Crowell Ranch on Agency Creek.

Elsie and her younger siblings left Hastings schools and she finished her last two years at Willamina High School. It was there that she met a classmate, Elmer Werth, and they were married for over 73 years, the last two surviving members of their graduating class of 1938. They were married in McMinnville on June 17, 1943, after Elmer had graduated from Oregon Agriculture College in Corvallis and was mid-term as an Air Force Cadet in the weather training program at University of California, Los Angeles, in Los Angeles.

From there, they made frequent moves along the East Coast, from South Carolina to Delaware to Florida to New Jersey, all to advance Elmer's training. When he was shipped overseas to the Philippines, Elsie stayed in McMinnville while working at the Carlton Glove Factory. After Elmer's discharge in 1946, the couple returned to the Grand Ronde area, to the family farm at Valley Junction.

Besides her helping on the farm, Elsie was very active in community programs. She served for over 25 years as a 4-H leader, leading cooking and sewing clubs, and for a time on the governor's youth committee. She also served on a local citizen advisory committee for land use planning, as well as on a governing board for the Oregon 4-H Center near Salem.

For many years, she was an activist in Oregon's Women For Agriculture. Because of her passion for education and belief that youth should learn to read and have access to books, she was a member of the Willamina School Board for many years and a regular occupant of the Grand Ronde Library as a volunteer librarian.

Her love of travel took her all over the world. She was probably the first — and perhaps only — red-headed white lady to visit parts of Morocco, as well as visiting Egypt, Israel, much of Europe, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. With her hus-

band, they wandered for over a month around Mexico visiting Mayan ruins.

She is survived by her husband, Elmer; as well as two brothers, James and Walt Clark; and three children, Jo Yates and Jim and Dennis Werth; six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

The family wishes to acknowledge the loving care of Tammy Tucker of Sheridan during the last years of Elsie's life. Donations in her honor are welcome at the charity of your choice. A celebration of life/open house will be held at the West Valley Community Campus in Willamina on Dec. 23 from 1 to 3 p.m. Arrangements by Adamson's Sheridan Funeral Home.

Thomas Ivy Neyman Jr.

Nov. 23, 1935 – Nov. 12, 2016
Thomas Ivy Neyman Jr., 80, a resident of Falls City, died Saturday, Nov. 12, 2016, in the Salem Hospital. He was born on Nov. 23, 1935, in Brownsville, Texas, the son of Thomas Ivy and Wilma Nadine George Neyman Sr.

He was a member of the Osage Tribe and the Oregon State Sheriff Association. Tom was a kind and funny and smart and humble man. He was a friend to all animals, trees, plants, spiders, mice, birds, bats, dogs and cats. He was a painter, sculptor, actor, writer and director. He was a builder of everything and the best husband and dad ever.

He is survived by his wife, Kay E. Tredway Neyman, of Falls City; daughters, Jackey Jones, of Falls City; Julie Fleener, of Corvallis, and Ivy Neyman, of Falls City; along with four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Private family services were held. The Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center is caring for the family. To leave a message or memory for the family please go to www.dallastrIBUTE.com.

James Leland Sele

Feb. 8, 1933 – December 2016
James Leland Sele was born in Gary, Minn., on Feb. 8, 1933, to Earl and Ella Sele. He was the second in line of six children living in a two-bedroom farmhouse.

As a young boy, he would

be right by his mom's side helping her in the kitchen. When he was 18, the family moved from Minnesota to Portland. Shortly after they moved to Sweet Home. It wasn't long before he met



Sue Wakefield, and they married in 1958. In the summer of 1971, Jim bought a

farmhouse on the outskirts of Dallas, where he lived and raised his children until April of 2015.

In 1990, he married his current wife, Linda Ehlers, at which point he gained three more children. During this time, he showed off his amazing vocals and yodeling skills, spending 29 years in the Rickreall pageant. He worked at the Willamette Industries Mill for 44 years. His time on the farm was filled with tractor rides, cows, chickens, and growing food. He was quite handy, using his handiness on his many Carmen Guias.

Some of his favorite pastimes included fast cars, hunting, fishing and dancing. He was quite the gentleman on the dance floor. This stubborn Norwegian, at the heart of things, had a very gentle and loving side.

Jim is survived by his beautiful wife, Linda Sele; his siblings Cordell, Nyla, and Ivy; his children Ron (Cathy), Mark (Cathy), Paula (Bob), Melodee (John),

Jason (Leslie) and Matt (Gina); 19 grandkids; and 27 great-grandkids. Services were held; Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center is caring for the family. To send an online condolence; go to www.dallastrIBUTE.com.

Gail Boid Uehlin

May 6, 1924 – Nov. 27, 2016
Gail Boid Uehlin, 92, passed away Sunday, Nov. 27, 2016, in Fruitland, Idaho. Gail was born on the family farm in Decatur County, Kan., to William Uehlin and Nina Decker Uehlin. Gail was one of nine children. During the Depression, the family moved to Payette, Idaho. His favorite memories were of



working on the family farm with brothers and sisters.

Gail served in the Army as a combat infantryman in the European Theater during World War II until his discharge in 1946. Gail was a police officer in Canyon County, Idaho, from 1956-1962. He fondly remembered his time working as traffic sergeant and his special relationship with the teenagers of the '50s. He met and married Helen in 1961. Gail left law enforcement to start a series of small busi-

nesses in Idaho and Oregon. He could talk to anyone for hours and was always willing to help a friend in need. Gail and Helen lived in Fruitland, Idaho, from 1979-1994, before moving to Dallas, where they lived for the past 19 years. People always remember Gail because of his unique humor and his life mission to minister to people about Christ.

Gail is survived by his wife Helen of 56 years; daughter Malinda Uehlin Andersen; son Clifford Uehlin; sister Arlene Uehlin McKee; and many grandchildren, nieces, nephews and extended family.

At Gail's request, a private service was held for family. Condolences may be left in Gail's online guestbook at www.yourtribute.com, or may be sent to P.O. Box 8574, Portland, OR 97207.

Dan Roy Barnes

Dec. 9, 1954 – Dec. 1, 2016
Dan Roy Barnes, 61, formerly of Willamina, died on Dec. 1 in Salem.

He is survived by mother, Rena Barnes; sisters, Susan Wakefield and Karen Rogers; spouse, Susan Carol Barnes; children, Ross, Hogan and Meredith Barnes; and three grandchildren. Predeceased by his father, Bill Barnes and son, Connor Barnes.

Virgil T. Golden Funeral Service handled arrangements.

Darlene Lillian Webster

March 27, 1931 - Dec. 2, 2016
Darlene Webster, 85, died Dec. 2. She was born to Emil and Violet Lake in Fresno County, Calif. A funeral service was held at Farnstrom Mortuary. Memories and condolences at Farnstrom-Mortuary.com.

Obituary Information

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

Obituaries cost \$8 per 25 words (column inch) and include a photo and flag for veterans.

Obituaries must be prepaid if placed by family members or individuals. Death notices are free.

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, ext. 117.

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

THE HOLIDAY TREE OF REMEMBRANCE

The holiday season can be an especially hard time for families dealing with the loss of a loved one. During the month of December we invite you to remember someone special by placing a *Memorial Ornament* on our "Tree of Remembrance" located at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center.

During the holidays we would also like to remember those less fortunate. We encourage you to make a donation to the *Dallas Food Bank* when you come in. We will match your donations so a few more local families may have a joyous holiday season.

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