

Polk County  
**Itemizer-Observer**  
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**Officer injured, man killed in shooting**

**By Lukas Eggen**  
 The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Jeremiah N. Anderson was shot and killed during an officer-involved shooting in the Dallas Walmart parking lot on Friday evening, according to Oregon State Police.

A preliminary investigation by OSP and its partners revealed that at 5:26 p.m., three Dallas police officers responded to a complaint of an adult male who appeared intoxicated in the parking lot at Walmart.

OSP Captain Bill Fugate said that an officer does not have to catch someone driving, but can use probable cause to determine if they were operating a vehicle while intoxicated.

Officers attempted to take Anderson, 36, of Dallas, into custody for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

According to the report from OSP, Anderson resisted arrest and fired as many as two rounds, striking Sgt. Rob Hatchell in the leg. Hatchell and officer Mike Fleming re-

turned fire, striking Anderson, reports state. Anderson was pronounced dead at the scene.

Hatchell was released from the hospital shortly after receiving treatment for his injuries.

All three officers have been placed on paid administrative leave pending the outcome of the investigation.

Officer Aaron Mollahan was also present and was not injured.

Investigators located Anderson's firearm at the scene.

Fugate said Monday that he did not know who the gun was registered to nor if police video of the incident was available. He said information would be shared once authorized by District Attorney Aaron Felton.

Anderson had previous police encounters, according to court records. The most recent was a 2015 violation of his probation following a conviction in a DUII incident that took place in late 2013.

The community has reacted in a variety of ways.



Walmart was closed while an officer-involved shooting was investigated Friday night.

Dallas Police Chief Tom Simpson said the department gives any threat the appropriate level of attention and shares information with other public safety officials in the region.

OSP is leading the investigation at Simpson's and Felton's request.

OSP is being assisted by Grand Ronde Tribal Police, Polk County Sheriff's Office, Monmouth Police Department, Independence Police Department, Salem Police Department, and Dallas Fire & EMS.

LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

**IN YOUR TOWN**

**DALLAS**  
 Lost wedding ring found returned to owner.  
 »Page 2A

**FALLS CITY**  
 School district passes on social media monitoring program.  
 »Page 12A

**INDEPENDENCE**  
 City council, planning commission takes a closer look at marijuana businesses.  
 »Page 7A

**MONMOUTH**  
 Western Oregon's women's basketball team picks up its first road win of the season.  
 »Page 11A

**SPORTS**  
 Falls City faces possible reclassification for the 2017-18 school year.  
 »Page 10A

**City tours watershed improvements**

**Itemizer-Observer staff report**  
 DALLAS — On Dec. 13, a group of citizens and elected officials toured recent restoration work in the upper Rickreall Watershed.

The upper Rickreall restoration project included air-lifting logs and placing them in and along the river to dissipate stream energy, catch gravels for fish spawning and reduce erosion.

Benefits from the restoration will increase over the years, helping to cool late summer water temperatures and provide upstream water filtering that improves the city's drinking water quality.

By reducing sediment flowing downstream, fewer chemicals are needed to make the water safe for drinking.

The project was made possible through a collaboration of many groups, including the city of Dallas, Hancock Forest Management, Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District, Rickreall Watershed Council and the Bureau of Land Management.

**I-0 announces early deadlines**

For the Christmas holiday weekend, the *Itemizer* has early deadlines. See Page 6A for details.

**Spirit of giving shines through darkest of times**

**By Emily Mentzer**  
 The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — As the snow continued for a second week, Laurie Smith listened on a scanner to the public works road crews and first responders working to keep the community safe.

"These people are civil servants," Smith said. "We're complaining that it's cold; we can't get out of our driveway. These people are seeing — who knows what they're seeing when they go out to an accident."

Then, after the shooting on Friday, Smith remembered what Mr. Rogers used to say: When you see bad news, look for the helpers.

"I thought, 'I'm going to help the helpers,'" she said.

What started out as an idea on the Dallas community Facebook page turned into a sort of community-service.

Smith contacted the Dallas Dutch Bros and told them she wanted to somehow buy coffee for all those county and city workers who have been working hard, long hours.

"I did it, and it just flew," Smith said.

Dutch Bros. put the first \$100 on the card Friday night. By Tuesday morning, the donations had mounted to more than \$900.

The card is available at Dallas Dutch Bros for any county or city worker, including Falls City and Rickreall fire department volunteers, Smith said.



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

LaVonne Wilson has served the Dallas community for decades, including 32 years on the city council.

**STANDING TALL**

*Wilson proves size doesn't matter when it comes to service*

**By Jolene Guzman**  
 The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — It's safe to say LaVonne Wilson is rarely the tallest person in the room. She isn't the loudest, either.

That hasn't stopped her from giving decades of time and energy in service to her community — or speaking up when the situation called for it.

"She's not tall in stature, but she's very tall in character," said David Parrett, the executive director of Dallas Retirement Village. Wilson is the president of DRV's board of directors.

Parrett calls Wilson formidable, but in a kindly and considerate way, and only for the benefit of her community.

"She's been an absolute servant to

the city," he said. "She's very positive. She's very consistent and fair. I think she believes there is a right way to govern and does her best to follow that."

Wilson's long record of service in Dallas is highlighted by the 32 years she spent on the Dallas City Council. Her council career came to an end on Dec. 5, the last meeting of the year, opening two Monday evenings a month in her schedule.

Those who know her wouldn't bet against her finding a productive way of filling that time — perhaps even in the audience to some of the council's deliberations. She's warned the incoming council that she will be paying attention. Wilson said she doesn't shy away from saying some-

thing that she believes needs to be said and has no intention of holding back now.

"I said, 'OK kids, I'm going to sit in the back and I may, once in a while, have a three-minute with you guys,'" she said, referring to the amount of time audience members have to address the council at each meeting.

In addition to the council, Wilson has served with more organizations and boards than she can remember, including the Dallas Area Visitors Center, the Dallas School District's Finance Committee, Dallas' Urban Renewal District Advisory Committee and a group that represents Ceres Gleann neighborhood residents.

**See WILSON, Page 5A**

**THE NEXT 7 DAYS PLANNING FOR YOUR WEEK**

**wed**  
 Dallas' girls basketball team takes on Hillsboro at 1:30 p.m. in the team's final game until playing Sherwood on Tuesday.

**Partly cloudy**  
 Hi: 43  
 Lo: 33

**thu**  
 Check out Central's girls basketball team when the Panthers host Summit in a nonleague battle.

**5 p.m.**

**Showers**  
 Hi: 44  
 Lo: 35

**fri**  
 Dallas' boys basketball team takes on Roseburg in day three of the Rebel Basketball Classic.

**5 p.m.**

**Showers**  
 Hi: 41  
 Lo: 32

**sat**  
 Happy Hanukkah! The Festival of Lights begins at sundown today and continues for eight nights.

**Partly cloudy**  
 Hi: 39  
 Lo: 31

**sun**  
 Merry Christmas from all of us here at the Polk County Itemizer-Observer to all of our readers and advertisers.

**Partly cloudy**  
 Hi: 37  
 Lo: 29

**mon**  
 The Polk County Itemizer-Observer's office will be closed today in observance of Christmas.

**Showers**  
 Hi: 37  
 Lo: 34

**tue**  
 Dallas' girls basketball team opens the Nike Interstate Shootout against Sherwood at 8 p.m. at Lake Oswego HS.

**Showers**  
 Hi: 43  
 Lo: 37