

BOC considers 2017 ballot measure

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — The Polk County Commissioners on

Tuesday approved moving forward with considering placing an up to \$10 million facilities maintenance bond on the May 2017 ballot.

Tuesday's unanimous vote was not the final decision on the bond, but the first step in the process of getting one onto a ballot. A final decision

would come after a public hearing on the issue. The amount the board could ask of voters is still in flux.

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Maintenance bond project costs may increase

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Results from a survey testing for lead-based paint and asbestos in Dallas School District buildings may increase costs of maintenance bond projects.

The district commissioned the study, performed by JSE Labs of Milwaukie, to help prepare for maintenance work projects. It revealed what officials had thought would be the case with lead-based paint.

"In the lead-based paint testing, we were able to confirm suspicions, and we found lead paint in every one of our buildings," said Kevin Montague, the district's facilities director, dur-

ing Monday's Dallas School Board meeting.

That included the Dallas High School stadium, which had readings that were particularly high for lead-based paint.

"The results of the tests will result in significant cost increases to any future renovations to the bleachers as a result of the lead paint mitigation that we now will have to undertake, knowing that facility has a significant amount of lead-based paint," Montague said.

Asbestos testing had a few surprises in store in that items expected to contain asbestos didn't. The opposite is also true.

"Overall the new assess-

ments provide us with a more detailed plan and a quick-reference map which will allow staff to quickly identify areas which contain asbestos containing building materials," Montague said.

In other business, the board:

- Learned the district will have more time to finish seismic upgrades at Whitworth Elementary School. The state awarded the district a grant for seismic improvements at the school in May 2016, with a 24-month timeline to finish the project.

Montague said that meant all the work had to be condensed into one summer, which would have

been difficult to pull off. The district requested an extension of the deadline, and the state granted it. Projects now must be done by November 2018.

- Learned the Dallas High School production of "The Aristocats" raised more than \$1,300 for Sable House.

- Heard the district's food service program donated several cases of perishable food to Christmas Cheer after school was canceled due to snow just before Christmas break. The food, which would have spoiled before students returned to school, was used to fill more than 300 food boxes delivered in the community.

Metcalfe leaves chamber

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — After 12 years, Chelsea Metcalfe, event planner with the Dallas Chamber & Visitors Center and the organiza-

tions' former executive director, is leaving the organization.

JD Shinn, the chamber's CEO, announced her departure on Jan. 3, which was Metcalfe's last day on the job.

Metcalfe has played a major role over the last 12 years with the chamber and visitors center, Shinn said.

She has served in many capacities, including board member, board president, executive director and chief event planner.

"It's time to make room for new leadership and a new direction," Metcalfe said in a statement. "I've come to realize that it's time to step away fully from these organizations so that they can move in a new direction that will be best for the Dallas area.

"This community has my heart and I have enjoyed being a part of both organi-

zations through the years. I am confident in JD's ability to lead the organizations from where they are now to new heights."

Shinn, who took over as CEO in October 2016, recognized Metcalfe's years of service in Tuesday's announcement.

"Chelsea has a great amount of knowledge about the area and the town of Dallas, as well as a great passion for this community," he said. "I have no doubt in my mind that she will be successful in her next endeavor."

Shinn said Metcalfe will be replaced, but he said he isn't sure what the job description on the position will look like just yet.

"That will be a little up in the air," he said. "I would hope to have someone by the end of the month."

Metcalfe had been focusing on planning events with the Dallas Area Visitors Center since stepping down as the chamber's executive director in October.



Metcalfe

RON LINES MEMORIAL BRIDGE & TRAIL MEMORIAL WALK & RIBBON CUTTING
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14
11:00 A.M.
RIBBON CUTTING WILL TAKE PLACE AT 11:30 A.M. ON THE AQUATIC CENTER SIDE OF THE BRIDGE.
PARKING AVAILABLE AT THE AQUATIC CENTER PARKING LOT AND IN THE LOT ON WALNUT ST.
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Independence officers make 10 arrests

INDEPENDENCE — Independence police officers made 10 driving under the influence of intoxicants arrests during the month of December, including three on New Year's Eve.

The average breath test result for DUII alcohol arrests was 0.15 percent blood alcohol content. The legal limit in Oregon is less than 0.08 percent.

Four of the 10 arrests were cannabis-induced impairment. Overtime shifts were given to officers through a partnership with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Grant for extra patrols. This grant will continue through November.

Super Bowl Sunday will be the next required date for extra enforcement. There will also be unannounced days throughout January with extra enforcement.

The Independence Police Department reminds citizens to find another way to get home if impaired and to call 911 to report an impaired driver who cannot be persuaded not to drive.

Martin Luther King honored at free event

DALLAS — A free event on Martin Luther King Day, Monday, aims to help people learn about and participate in local social justice advocacy.

Martin Luther King Day of Service Celebration will take place at Dallas First Presbyterian Church, 879 SW Levens St., Dallas. Admission is free and child care will be provided by Dallas Indoor Play Park, which organized the event.

The event will begin with live music by the Dallas Evangelical Church worship band and blues artist Gabriel Cox from 5:45 to 6:50 p.m.

Dallas Indoor Play Park is hosting children's activities from 6:50 to 8 p.m. during the main event, the celebration service.

Starting at 7 p.m., the service will be in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy and features speakers Dr. Rev. Furniss, a theologian and Bible scholar, and representatives of Causa of Oregon, and local groups James2 Community Kitchen and Polk County Taskforce on Human Equality.

For more information: 503-623-3397.

Ron Lines Bridge dedication Saturday

DALLAS — The Ron Lines Memorial Bridge ribbon cutting and memorial walk has been rescheduled to Saturday.

The memorial walk will begin at 11 a.m.

The ribbon cutting for the bridge, which is named after former parks supervisor Ron Lines, who helped secure the grant that made the project possible, will follow at 11:30 a.m. The event will take place on the side of the bridge closest to the Dallas Aquatic Center, 1005 SE LaCreole Drive.

Parking is available at the aquatic center and at the lot on Walnut Street. Refreshments will be provided.

JD Shinn, the Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce CEO, Mayor Brian Dalton, and City Manager Ron Foggin will speak during the ceremony.

For more information: 503-831-3502.

OCSO arrested two during DUII patrols

POLK COUNTY — The Polk County Sheriff's Office arrested two people on driving under the influence of intoxicants and handed out 34 unrelated traffic warnings during DUII patrols conducted from Dec. 15, 2016, to Jan. 1.

In October of 2016, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Oregon State Sheriff's Association (OSSA) awarded the sheriff's office a grant directed toward DUII enforcement.

During the more than two-week period, deputies worked 17 hours of focused DUII patrols. The sheriff's office will continue to participate in the DUII grant throughout the year.

Common Sense Tip FOR PEDESTRIANS

LOOK LEFT. RIGHT. LEFT.

Things change fast, so follow these simple steps to make sure the coast is clear before crossing any street. And walk on!

Walk Safely. The Way to Go. Transportation Safety — ODOT

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FOR ANY ADDITIONAL EVENT INFO PLEASE CALL 503.831.3502

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