

# Community shares desires for new superintendent

By Emily Mentzer  
The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — The comments were extensive, compiled in a binder about one-inch thick.

Where does the community want Central School District to be in five years? And what qualities does the next superintendent need to get the district there?

Good listener, seasoned, diverse, understands the needs of the community, invested in the community, good leader, good communicator, decisive.

These are just a few of the desires of people who participated in the initial stage of the superintendent search.

Representatives from

McKenzie Group Search Consultants spoke with about 300 people at 11 community forums in the last month, in addition to about 100 responses via an online survey.

Greg McKenzie and Mike Taylor presented the results to the board.

"You can see a summary of where we went, who we talked to, what they told us," McKenzie said. "Then you will see a section called 'consultant recommendations.' We tossed (the feedback) into a mixing bowl, stirred it up and tried to find common themes."

The basic results were that Central is made up of two close-knit communities working together for the

schools, McKenzie said.

"It has a great location and proximity to other major cities, also the coast and the mountains," he said.

McKenzie said priorities were similar to other districts: No. 1 was to lower class sizes.

Also, provide more career and technical education, as well as science, technology, engineering and math courses.

Some things unique to Central include the issues at the high school, Taylor said.

"The topic does come up at the high school about consistent leadership," he said. "People perceive this as a cycle, and could we figure out how to bridge those."

During a community

meeting at Central High School on Thursday, former superintendent Forrest Bell said the high school was unique in many ways.

"People who teach in this high school don't live here," he said. "That's a different dynamic. The superintendent is going to hire a new principal. It would be really nice if (he or she) could find a place to live in the community."

Another issue at the high school involved the teachers union, Central Education Association, Bell said.

"This is an old-school union," he said. "They're going to protect their worst people, and the community's going to get frustrated with that, and the union in

Salem is not going to care."

Bell said teachers will fight whoever is hired as superintendent "tooth and nail."

"They're going to undermine them the best they can," he said. "He or she needs to keep a calm spirit to deal with it."

Independence City Manager David Clyne said at Thursday's forum that he wants someone who is culturally diverse and bilingual, and someone who would re-open Henry Hill as an elementary school.

McKenzie said that finding a bicultural, bilingual administrator is a tall order because Central cannot offer as much money as larger school districts.

"We don't want a lesser

candidate just because they're bilingual," Bell said. "We want an outstanding candidate who is also bilingual."

The school board approved the qualifications survey and adopted a salary range of \$127,000 to \$137,000, just above the current mean and average for districts Central's size.

Before the next school board meeting on Feb. 6, the board will appoint about 15 people to help with the search committee.

Board chair Steve Love, who used Skype to attend the meeting, said he has had people contact him to be a part of the search committee, including administrators and Clyne.

## OBITUARIES

### Cora Roylene Elder

April 13, 1962 – Dec. 29, 2016

Cora Roylene Elder, 54, a resident of Dallas, died Thursday, Dec. 29, 2016, in the Salem Hospital. She was born on April 13, 1962, in McCloud, Calif., the daughter of Clyde F. and Myrtle Wion Thomas. She was raised in Sacramento and graduated from the Lassen High School in Susanville, class of 1980.

Cora received an associate degree in nursing from Lassen Community College in 1982. She went on and earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from Humboldt State University in 1988.

She is survived by her husband, Dale, of Dallas; daughter, Shasta Hodge, of Independence; mother, Myrtle Thomas, of Janeville, Calif.; and brother, Darrell Thomas, of Janeville.

At Cora's request, there will be no services. Memorials are suggested to the charity of the donor's choice. The Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center is caring for the family. You may leave a message or memory for the family at [www.dallastribute.com](http://www.dallastribute.com).

### Dorothy Joyce Baker

Oct. 1, 1932 – Jan. 1, 2017

Dorothy Joyce Baker of Dallas, died Jan. 1, 2017, at the age of 84. She was born in Polk County, Nebraska, on Oct. 1, 1932, to Fred and Margaret (Mitchell) Byrom. Dorothy moved to Dallas as a young child where she attended school and later met her husband of 63 years, Francis Baker.

She and Francis enjoyed traveling and mule-packing together, but she also enjoyed reading.

Dorothy is survived by her children, Sherry Hale, Teri Lynn and Jim Baker; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

The family will have a private inurnment in Arizona at a later date. Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center is caring for the family.

To leave and online condolence go to: [www.dallastribute.com](http://www.dallastribute.com).

### David H. Schultz

Jan. 24, 1928 – Jan. 4, 2017

David H. Schultz, of Corvallis, passed away on Jan. 4, 2017, at Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Corvallis.

Dave was born in Marion, S.D., to Susan Fast and Reverend D. P. Schultz. He was sixth of seven children.

The family moved to Oregon in 1940.

Dave was married to his High School sweetheart Helen Neufeld on March 5, 1948, and would be celebrating their 69th wedding anniversary this coming March 5.

Dave is survived by his wife Helen; daughter Pam Blair and son-in-law Jim Blair, of Salem; son Greg Schultz, of Lebanon; granddaughter Kellie Grant, of Salem; sister, June Heinrich and husband Dr. Gene Heinrich, of Sanger, Calif.; and sister Ann Friesen, of Reedley, Calif.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

During his work life, Dave was a sheet metal journeyman with Local 16 working residential and commercial jobs throughout the Willamette Valley. He served in the Army from 1946 to 1947 in Germany.

Dave and Helen enjoyed traveling in their motor home and living the Snowbird life between Oregon and Arizona. Dave also loved to deep sea fish on his boat at Newport.

Dave did not want any funeral or memorial service, and none will be held.

### Lillian Clare Kaczka

Aug. 10, 1917 – Jan. 5, 2017

Lillian was born to John and Louise Chrapla, who had immigrated from Poland and began American life in Neodesha, Kansas, in 1911.

Lillian was the youngest of five children. She was born in Collinsville, Okla. The family eventually moved and settled in East Chicago, Ind.

Growing up, Lillian was best pals with her brother Adolph and had fond memories of "babysitting" her niece Patty and possibly Arlene also. She was the valedictorian of her graduating class at Roosevelt High School.

She loved to play tennis, and she and her future husband Chet won trophies together. She began work as a secretary, and maybe that and her schoolin' were the beginnings of her lifelong organizational skills.

She and Chet were married on June 8, 1940, in East Chicago.

After Chet returned home from service in Europe in World War II, they made a pretty bold move to Phoenix, Ariz., in 1948. Lillian loved the "wide open spaces" of Arizona.

The population of Phoenix at the time was roughly 90,000. They had a house built in "the county." They both loved their new life there, and they raised

their two sons in that house, which is now in the midst of other houses for 30 miles in every direction.

In the mid-1950s, her husband opened Chet's Paint and Wallpaper, and together they owned operated what became a well-regarded business for over 25 years.

Lillian would come into work after the sons were off to school, and be back home by the time they returned. She was a lifelong devout Catholic and was active at St. Agnes Church and St. Agnes School.

Her family and friends enjoyed the fact that somewhere along the way she became an accomplished pianist.

The Kaczka household had an "open house" every Christmas Eve where many looked forward to, and enjoyed, friendship and the unending amounts of traditional Polish food prepared by Lillian.

It was difficult for Chet to get around to retiring, he loved what he did, but he did get around to it and they successfully sold the paint store and business.

He and Lillian began playing tennis again, and enjoyed travelling by car to many far-off places in the U.S., including trips to Oregon to see their new granddaughter and then a grandson.

After Chet passed away too soon in 1984, Lillian spent much of her time involved at St. Agnes Church and had several extended stays in Oregon.

She was a significant part of her grandkids' early years, and we all have fond memories of those days.

In the mid-1990s, she moved to Oregon for good. She was fortunate and grateful to make many friends at St. Phillip's Church in Dallas. She was likely an inspiration to many.

Lillian enjoyed going to the summer outdoor music

events in Dallas.

In her 80s, she discovered word processors and got a kick out of sending out intermittent volumes of the "Family Noospaper" that she created, containing news, history, and whatever else came to her mind.

Linda Holmbo, Delaine Tankard and Pat Easterly were a big help to Lillian as she grew older.

She spent her last 2 3/4 years, and was cared for with excellence, by the many caring people at the Dallas Retirement Village Health Center, and also in her last days, by the nurse and musical therapists from Willamette Valley Hospice.

Lillian was the last of her generation in the Chrapla and Kaczka families.

She was preceded in death by her husband Chet and her son Joe.

She is survived by her son John; grandchildren Mary and Eli; and great-grandchildren Maggie, Kiley, and Penny.

A memorial Mass will be held at St. Phillip's in Dallas on Thursday, Jan. 12 at 11 a.m.

Lillian will be interred alongside her husband Chet in Phoenix, Ariz., at a later date.

Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center is handling the arrangements. We appreciate the help provided by the Bollman family and their associates.

The family suggests that, if you are so inclined, memorial donations be made in Lillian's name to an organization that does a good job of working for a cause that is important to you.

To share an online condolence go to [www.dallastribute.com](http://www.dallastribute.com).

May she rest, in peace.

### Harold Wayne Wagoner

Feb. 22, 1939 – Jan. 2, 2017

Harold Wayne Wagoner was born on Feb. 22, 1939, in Dexter, N.M., to parents Alfred and Nora Wagoner, now both deceased.

Harold is survived by his wife of 50 years, Josie Wagoner, of Keizer; sons, Wayne Wagoner (Jennifer), of Billings, Mont., and Adam

Wagoner, of Salem. Also three grandchildren: Jacob, of Spokane, Wash., and Jaden and Ella, of Billings. He had six brothers and one

sister, Marlin Wagoner (Georgia), Edmond Wagoner (Lenora), Reba Skaug (Harold), Lonnie Wagoner and Robert Wagoner.

Predeceased Brothers: Delmar Wagoner and Larry Wagoner.

He worked for Willamette Industries in Dallas for 25 years. He enjoyed wood crafting, putting airplane models together, and he was an avid Rock Collector.

A memorial service is Jan. 14 at 1 p.m. at First Freewill Baptist Church, located at 1390 45th Ave NE, Salem. Reception following service; food provided by church members.

### Sherry Lynn Creswell

Sept. 12, 1953 – Dec. 23, 2016

Sherry Lynn Creswell, 63, of Dallas, died Dec. 23, 2016, in the Salem Hospital.

She is survived by her mother, Carol Creswell; brother, Dean Creswell; sister, June Patterson; and extended family.

A memorial service was held on Dec. 31, 2016, in The Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter-day Saints in Dallas. The Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements.

## 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.

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 cost \$8 per 25 words (column inch) and include photos and flags for veterans. Obituaries placed by private parties must be prepaid.

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](mailto:ionews@polkio.com).

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

### Sudoku solution

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

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