

MI TOWN



PATTY TAYLOR DUTCHER
Columnist

Quick, does anybody know what time it is? Everybody in MI Town is actively dodging puddles and accompanying rainstorms, and now we have the dubious joy of getting used to daylight saving time. By now we've hopefully changed all the clocks, especially those digital ones that we don't pay that much attention to — until we need to reset them. Changing our pets' internal clocks is another story, as two certain dogs think it's a great idea to have an earlier breakfast, and would enjoy yet another at the usual hour if they thought it might happen.

The calendar tells us that today is the Ides of March. In 44 BC, a group of more than 60 Roman politicians, led by Brutus and Cassius,

conspired to assassinate Julius Caesar as he was on his way to the senate. Unfortunately for Caesar, the plot was successful and chaos ensued. As a result, generations of American high school English students have learned quotations, recited passages and complained they can't use real daggers in classroom plays. No matter how heated the rhetoric becomes in our nation's capital, our elected senators and representatives haven't resorted to violence against one another.

Just about the best indicator of Springtime in MI Town is the Monmouth Senior Center's Soup and Pie Sale. If you haven't already marked your calendar and made plans — tomorrow is the day. Delicious homemade soups and pies from some of the best kitchens in Polk County will be served tomorrow from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Prices remain the same, \$3 for a bowl of soup and \$2 for a piece of pie, and everything is guaranteed to be delicious. This is such a great occasion to visit with friends and family and catch up on all the news from around the community. This event can be habit-forming and you'll want to return again and again.

Have you visited the Polk County Historical Society Museum lately? Saturday is

Family Day from 1:30 to 4 p.m. with lots of kid friendly exhibits and demonstrations — including a Civil War cannon. The museum is located on Highway 99W, next to the Polk County Fairgrounds & Event Center, and a good time awaits everyone.

The Monmouth Senior Center's Victorian Tea is scheduled for April 21 this year. Members of the yoga group will model travel wear from New to You — a wonderful resale shop in McMinnville. Call 503-838-5678 for ticket information.

I want to send best wishes to my friend, Jim Allgood who has fought yet another medical battle, and emerged victorious one more time. It's wonderful to share such good news with everyone.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

These Polk County groups would welcome individuals who have time or expertise to volunteer. Organizations that would like to be added to this list should call 503-623-2373 or email IONews@polkio.com.

- AARP Foundation Tax-Aide — 503-930-7636
- After DARC — 503-623-9501
- Arc of Polk County — 541-223-3261
- Central School District — 503-838-0030
- City of Dallas — 503-831-3502
- City of Independence — 503-838-1212
- City of Monmouth — 503-751-0145
- Crime Victims Assistance Program — 503-623-9268
- Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce — 503-623-2564
- Dallas Fire Department — 503-831-3532
- Dallas Food Bank — 503-623-3578
- Dallas Kids, Inc. — 503-623-6419
- Dallas Police Department — 503-831-3582
- Dallas Public Library — 503-623-2633
- Dallas Retirement Village — 503-623-5581
- Dallas School District — 503-623-5594
- Delbert Hunter Arboretum — 503-623-7359
- Girl Scouts of Southwest Washington and Oregon — 503-581-2451
- Ella Curran Food Bank — 503-917-1681
- Falls City Arts Center — 503-559-6291
- Falls City School District — 503-787-3531
- Family Building Blocks — 503-566-2132, ext. 308.
- H-2-O — 503-831-4736
- HART (Horses Adaptive Riding and Therapy) — 971-301-4278
- HandsOn Mid-Willamette Valley — 503-363-1651
- Heron Pointe Assisted Living — 503-838-6850
- Independence Health and Rehabilitation — 503-838-0001
- Independence Public Library — 503-838-1811
- Kings Valley Charter School — 541-929-2134
- Luckiamute Watershed Council — 503-837-0237
- Luckiamute Valley Charter School — 503-623-4837
- Meals on Wheels — 503-838-2084
- Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce — 503-838-4268
- Monmouth-Independence YMCA — 503-838-4042
- Monmouth Public Library — 503-838-1932
- Northwest Human Services — 503-588-5828
- Oregon Child Development Coalition — 503-838-2745
- OSU Extension Service - Polk County — 503-623-8395
- Perrydale School District — 503-623-2040
- Court-Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Polk County Inc. — 503-623-8473
- Polk Community Development Corporation — 503-831-3173
- Polk County Community Emergency Response Team — 503-623-9396
- Polk County Museum — 503-623-6251
- Polk County Public Health — 503-623-8175
- Polk County Resource Center — 503-623-8429
- Polk Soil and Water Conservation District — 503-623-9680
- Relief Nursery Classroom — 503-566-2132
- Rickreall Watershed Council — 503-623-9680
- SABLE House — 503-623-6703
- SALT (Senior and law enforcement together) — 503-851-9366
- Salvation Army — 503-798-4783
- SMART (Start Making A Reader Today) — 503-391-8423
- Salem Health West Valley Hospital — 503-623-8301
- Victim Assistance Program-Polk Co. District Attorney's Office 503-623-9268 x1444
- Willamette Valley Hospice — 503-588-3600

ANNIVERSARIES

50th - Hopkins



Rick Hopkins met his bride Sharon (Cobine) at Central High School. They both graduated in 1966, and the high school sweethearts were married in 1967.

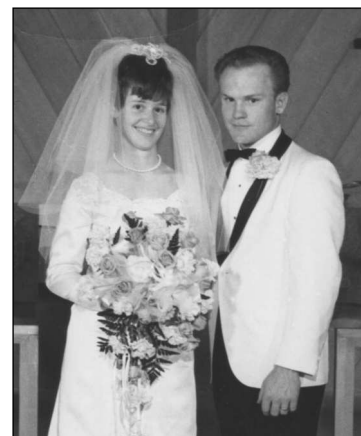
Rick Hopkins, an Army veteran, chose a career in the fire service working for Clackamas Fire, Tualatin Valley Fire, and was a Fire Chief for Polk County Fire District No. 1. After retiring from the fire service, Rick went into fulltime ministry and was the Senior Pastor of Calvary Chapel Monmouth-Independence for many years.

Sharon Hopkins has spent most her adult life loving children and serving in children's ministry. She has been the creative mind behind more than 10 years of Vacation Bible Schools held on their property, a leader in the IES Good News Club, a partner in Air Up There Balloons & Gifts, a Nordstrom "Christmas Elf," and a full-time homemaker.

Rick and Sharon Hopkins will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday at 7 p.m. They will renew their vows at the First Baptist Church of Independence, 1505 Monmouth St. Rick and Sharon along with their children: Guyanne Charon, Michelle Lewis, and Julie Leggs would like to invite all friends and family to attend. Reception to follow.

50th - Berkey

Elmer and Doris Berkey have been married 50 years, from March 17, 1967, to March 17, 2017. They were married in McMinnville, and each had several family members and friends for bridesmaids and groomsmen. Elmer worked for Smurfit Newsprint and Publishers Paper in Newberg for his entire career, as well as, farming: wheat, oats, hay and raising cattle in Polk County. While Doris was busy buying and selling antiques and collectibles as a hobby, she was devoted to raising her three daughters and helping Elmer with farming. Elmer and Doris have lived in Polk County for 50 years in the Oak Grove Community.



Elmer and Doris have three daughters, Michelle Terry and Roy Terry, of McMinnville, Kelley Jensen, of Omaha, Neb., and Cheri and Jerry Higgins, of Rickreall. They have five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Elmer and Doris enjoy traveling, playing cards and spending time with their children, grandchildren and their brothers and sisters. Elmer still enjoys farming and raising cattle while Doris still lingering with antiques.

A 50th wedding anniversary celebration will be held on Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. at 2731 McDonald Lane, McMinnville. It is a casual event. It is hosted by Michelle Terry, Kelley Jensen and Cheri Higgins.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Continued from page 8A

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

- **Helping Hands Emergency Food Bank** — 10 a.m. to noon, Monmouth Christian Church, 959 Church St. W., Monmouth. For eligible community members; available every Wednesday. 541-404-6517.
- **Respite care** — 1 to 3 p.m., 182 SW Academy St., Suite 216, Dallas. Free child care for parents who need time to run errands, pay bills, etc. Free. Open for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years. 503-877-8473 to reserve space. Diapers are provided.
- **Willamette Valley Food Assistance Program Food Bank** — 1:30 to 6:30 p.m., 888 Monmouth Cutoff Road, Building E, Dallas. Weekly distribution for eligible community members. 503-831-5634.
- **Painting, Canvas and Cocktails** — 7 p.m., The Boondocks, 318 N. Main St. Falls City. All supplies, paint, canvas and instruction provided. No experience necessary. \$30, snack and cocktail included. 503-787-2700.

The Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce presents the winners of

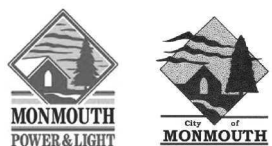
The 52nd Annual Community Awards Banquet

- Retail Service: **Independence Cinema**
- Non-Profit/Organization: **Partnerships in Community Living**
- Food & Beverage Service: **Arena Sports Bar & Grill**
- Personal Service Provider: **Monmouth Fitness Club**
- Professional Service Provider: **MINET**
- Financial Services Provider: **Oregon State Credit Union**
- Junior Citizen: **Andrew Love**
- First Citizen: **Steve Milligan**
- Distinguished Service: **Josh Cronin**
- Educator of the Year: **Marcella Stepp-Rodarte**
- Education Support Staff of the Year: **Becky McMillian**

Pencil us in!
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Polk County Itemizer-Observer

Without the great support from our business sponsors, this event wouldn't happen — so, **Thank You!**

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Major Sponsors:



Supporter Sponsors:

- MaMere's Guest House • MINET • Genesis Marketing
- Dollar Zone 123 • State Farm Insurance, Mike Eckman • Capitol Auto Group

The Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce would also like to thank all the volunteers who donated countless hours of their time, energy and focus in order to give Monmouth-Independence businesses and certain individuals an evening in the spotlight.

4th Annual Survivor Dinner & Celebration

hosted by Eola Hills Winery
Presented by Relay For Life of Polk County & Team Perrydale

Saturday, April 1, 2017

at Eola Hills Wine Cellars
501 S. Pacific Highway 99W Rickreall

5:30 ~ Doors open, Meet & Mingle
6:15 to 8:00 ~ Dinner & Entertainment

Every survivor and guest will be our guests of honor at this wonderful event. Please join us for an evening of food, fun and festivities.

To RSVP your name and the name of one guest, contact Jen Levesque at 503.837.0118 or jenniferlevesque01@gmail.com. RSVPs are encouraged by March 20, but are not required. The opportunity to register for Relay For Life will be available.

Relay For Life ~ June 3-4, 2017 • Dallas High School, Dallas
www.relayforlife.org/polkcountyor



Visit our website, www.polkio.com for local news, sports and community events.