

Polk County
Itemizer-Observer
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Ballots are due

Itemizer-Observer staff report
POLK COUNTY — It's time to get that ballot in. The May 16 Special District election will see races for local school boards, fire districts, cemetery districts water districts, plus bond measures from Polk County and Southwestern Polk Rural Fire Protection District. Ballots have to be received at the Polk County Clerk's Office by 8 p.m. Election Night. Postmarks will not count, so if you waited too long, here's the dropbox locations:

- Polk County Clerk's Office — 850 Main St., Dallas, on the second floor or a drop box is located on the east side of the courthouse.
- Falls City — Wagner Community Library, 111 N. Main St., Falls City.
- Grand Ronde — Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde.
- Independence — Independence City Hall, 555 S. Main St., Independence.
- Monmouth — Monmouth Public Library, 168 ECOLS St. S, Monmouth.
- Western Oregon University — Werner University Center, 345 N. Monmouth Ave., Monmouth.
- West Salem — Roth's Market, 1130 Wallace Road NW, Salem.

Here's the list of local races and measures that will be on the ballot on May 16:

- Chemeketa Community College
- Zone 2: Ronald L. Pittman
- Central School District Board of Directors
- Position 2: Salvador Diaz; Peggy Clyne
- Position 4: Jerry J. Shinkle
- Position 5: Kristina Mann; Steve Milligan
- Position 6: Donn Wahl
- Position 7: Darcy Kirk
- Dallas School District Board of Directors
- Position 1: Ivan Wm. Barnes; Dave Hunt
- Position 3: Jon Woods
- Position 4: Michael Blanchard
- Falls City School District Board of Directors
- Position 1: Kristy Majors
- See ELECTION, Page 2A**



Eden Olsen, left, and Dylan Stein talk about the urban farm in Monmouth's Edwards Addition on May 3. EMILY MENTZER/Itemizer-Observer

Edwards 'agrihood'

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — Tucked away in the blossoming neighborhood known as Edwards Addition lies an urban farm, an agrihood. About one acre is cultivated, with another one waiting to be planted — someday, once the customer base grows, said Eden Olsen. Olsen, 25, and Dylan Stein, 28, run Lucky Crow Farm, which is contracted by Olsen Design and Development to operate the urban farm surrounded by single-family homes. "These are popping up all over the place — the East Coast, California," Stein said. "It's kind of replacing how other communities would be planned around a golf course. These are planned around an urban farm or a big garden, so it's an amenity to the people." Community members in Edwards Addition and beyond may purchase CSA (community supported agriculture) boxes, supporting a portion of the harvest before the season starts. Throughout the season, which runs the first week of June through the end of October, members receive a weekly box of produce. "So they're getting — hopefully —



Rows of newly planted vegetables in the Edwards Addition urban farm. EMILY MENTZER/Itemizer-Observer

their vegetables for the season," Olsen said. "It's supposed to kind of cover what they'd get in the grocery store, so basically everything." The CSA is limited to 50 this year, and Lucky Crow Farm has filled their shares. To provide food for 50 families each week, crop planning is a big part of

what Olsen and Stein do. "We focus on intensive farming, so really planting as densely together as possible to utilize the space efficiently," Olsen said. From herbs to red kitten spinach to garlic to peas and potatoes, things are already sprouting up in the rows. **See FARM, Page 5A**

IN YOUR TOWN

DALLAS
Polk Bounty Market vendor sells the unobtainable. **»Page 2A**

FALLS CITY
Mountaineers track team is ready for districts. **»Page 11A**

INDEPENDENCE
Central High School performs "Aladdin Jr.," opening Wednesday (today) at 7 p.m. **»Page 14A**

MONMOUTH
Western Oregon students to see 5 to 10 percent tuition increase. **»Page 13A**

SPORTS
Dallas softball remains unbeaten in Mid-Willamette Conference play. **»Page 12A**

Man charged with menacing

Itemizer-Observer staff report
WEST SALEM — The man arrested after threatening customers at a gas station last week is due in Polk County Circuit Court Thursday. At about 6 a.m. on May 1, deputies from Polk County Sheriff's Office, along with the officers from the Independence Police Department responded to the VP Gas station, located at 5082 Salem-Dallas Highway, on a reported disturbance. Callers from the scene said a subject, identified as Jessi Cisneros, was threatening customers and employees, according to the Polk County Sheriff's Office. Employees and customers barricaded themselves inside of the business. Cisneros eventually forced through two doors, threatening those inside. Eventually, he shut the power down to the building and left. When deputies arrived, Cisneros was running across the highway. They took him into custody, according to police. Cisneros has been charged with 18 counts, including attempted kidnapping, burglary, theft and six counts of menacing. He is in custody at the Polk County Jail on \$119,000 bail and is scheduled to appear in court at 1:14 p.m.

Property turned into bed and breakfast

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

FALLS CITY — When David Radke first looked at the property at 246 S. Main St. in Falls City, he saw something most people wouldn't: A bed and breakfast. At the time, the home on the property — most of it built in 1907 with an addition in the back — looked like its best days were behind it. "It had an old rickety front porch on it. No foundation. A one-car garage," Radke recalled. "The back was worse than the 1907 part of it. It was scary horrible." Radke told the property owners Paul and Judy Ward

Home away from home

What: Little Luckiamute Creekside Bed & Breakfast
Where: 246 S. Main St., Falls City
Contact: 503-539-7558, 541-979-3245 or www.littleluckiamute-creeksidebnb.com/.
Of note: Call for room rates.



The shared guest kitchen and living room at the Little Luckiamute Creekside B&B. JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

community members and friends of Radke and his wife, Cheryl. "They are the greatest," David said. "She was a teacher of mine years back, and I just think the world of them." **See BED, Page 5A**

THE NEXT 7 DAYS PLANNING FOR YOUR WEEK

wed
"Aladdin Jr." opens tonight at Central High School. Don't miss this magical performance. 7 p.m. \$5-\$8.
Partly sunny
Hi: 73
Lo: 48

thu
Drop by the Polk County Bounty Market to see what's new at the corner of Main and Academy streets. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free.
Rain
Hi: 57
Lo: 44

fri
The Master Gardener Mother's Day plant sale kicks off today at Polk County Fairgrounds & Event Center. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Free.
Showers
Hi: 57
Lo: 43

sat
It's Stamp Out Hunger day, a food drive hosted by the National Association of Letter Carriers. All day. Food donation at mailbox.
Showers
Hi: 57
Lo: 42

sun
Happy Mother's Day! Why not take her out for a special brunch at a number of local wineries or restaurants? Prices vary.
Mostly cloudy
Hi: 57
Lo: 43

mon
Dallas Chamber's monthly luncheon is at Dallas Retirement Village, featuring speaker Scott Sadler. 11:30 a.m. \$12-\$15
Showers
Hi: 58
Lo: 41

tue
France School of Dance will perform at LaCreole Middle School — tap, ballet, jazz, and hip hop. 6 p.m. \$3 or three cans of food.
Showers
Hi: 59
Lo: 40