

Monmouth passes 2017-18 budget

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — The Monmouth City Council approved the 2017-18 budget after a rather lengthy process, City Manager Scott McClure said.

"We had more meetings this year," he said. "We were pretty thorough. The budget committee proposed cuts and revenue sources."

One of the issues was that the city had been drawing down reserves to make improvements.

"We had to get things back in balance, and had to absorb the PERS hit this year," McClure said, referring to the increases in the city's contribution to the Oregon Public Employee Retirement System.

At one point in the budget process, McClure said the city was considering cutting a police officer position.

"By the time they (the budget committee) got done, they added back a couple more revenue (streams) and we got the officer back," McClure said.

A few departments were reorganized and streamlined, including the finance department and the police department, he said.

"We maintained the staffing level there without having to lose the officer," McClure said.

The police department will now have a lieutenant and three sergeants, he said.

"We'll have one less police officer, but the intent is now the sergeants will be in the field more, so you make up for the officer by having the sergeants have more patrol," McClure said.

The entire budget process had a lot of ups and downs, he said.

"We knew we were going to have more work this year

to make sure we got through it," McClure said. "The committee did a great job and stuck to policy. Instead of rubber-stamping and saying, 'OK, sounds good,' or spending time focusing on how many screws and bolts are you buying, they stuck to services provided."

On the initial budget, McClure estimated local marijuana tax revenue at \$30,000 a year. He said he was surprised when, right before the last step of finalizing the budget, the city received \$76,000 from the state for its share of the state marijuana tax.

"We got things balanced with that," he said. "We also increased our internal franchise fees, the fees we charge to water, sewer and electric. The good news is our electric and sewer funds are doing OK right now, so it didn't translate to an increase."

Two surprises for the city's utility funds came for water and electric, McClure said, which will mean rate increases in the near future.

As far as water goes, a well wasn't functioning properly and needed attention, McClure said. The surprise expense for the electric fund was brought by the Oregon Department of Transportation's project on Highway 99W. ODOT is requiring the city to remove all of its utilities from the highway's right-of-way.

"The idea is we are a guest in their right-of-way," McClure said. "So if they say we have to move, we have to move."

The bottom line: Monmouth's general fund is back into a good place, and though multiple departments contracted some services, it didn't get at the heart of operations, McClure said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police investigate Highway 22 crash

WEST SALEM — The Salem Police Department, with the assistance of the Oregon State Police, is investigating a fatal motorcycle crash that occurred Saturday afternoon in West Salem.

Officers were dispatched to the westbound lanes of Highway 22 between the Edgewater and Rosemont exits at about 12:05 p.m. on a report of a motorcycle crash.

Officers arrived on the scene to find a black 2015 Honda motorcycle had hit the center guardrail, and the motorcycle operator deceased at the scene.

The motorcycle operator has been identified as Phillip P. Slivkoff, 24, of Woodburn. He was alone on the motorcycle, and there were no other vehicles directly involved in the incident.

Traffic on the roadway was restricted while the crash was being investigated. Anyone with information on this crash should contact the Salem Police Department at 503-588-6123.

LaCreole hosts science summer camp

DALLAS — LaCreole Middle School will host its first annual Rocket Summer Camp, Aug. 22-25.

The camp is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Students work in teams to design a way to retrieve vital payload from the Martian surface. Camp activities include: Using 3D printing to design, build and launch an ESTES rocket; and working with LEGO robotics to create a rover and program it to complete a Martian obstacle course.

T-shirts, snacks and swag bags provided by NASA are included. Camp is free, but limited to 20 students.

Applications are available at the LaCreole main office and due are Friday.

For more information: Anna Digby, anna.digby@dsd2.org or Ken Guffey, ken.guffey@dsd2.org

POLICE REPORT

Washington St. on Saturday on third-degree theft.

• Alma H. Johnston, 27, of Independence in the 500 block of SE Washington St. on Sunday on second-degree criminal trespass, resisting arrest and possession of methamphetamine.

INDEPENDENCE

Arrests/Citations

• Kathleen M. Golden Phillips, 51, of Placentia, Calif., on Gun Club Road on June 15 on DUI.

• Levi W. North, 38, of Independence, in the 100 block of

D Street on Sunday on unlawful possession of methamphetamine, felon in possession of a firearm and carrying a concealed weapon (knife).

MONMOUTH

Arrests/Citations

• George Antonio Davis, 38,

of Portland, in the 100 block of Main Street on June 10 on harassment.

• Rusty A. Arp, 33, of Monmouth, on the corner of Monmouth-Independence Highway and Hogan Road on June 15 on probation violation.

Information for the police report comes from law enforcement agencies.

Not all calls for service are included. The status of incidents reported may change after further investigation. Individuals arrested or sus-

pected of crimes are considered innocent until proven guilty.

DALLAS

Arrests/Citations

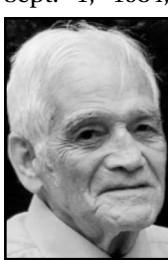
• Richard E. Buckley, 30, of Dallas in the 200 block of SE

OBITUARIES

Jose M. 'Pops' Fernandez

Sept. 1, 1934 – June 11, 2017

Jose M. Fernandez, known as "Pops" to his family and friends, was born Sept. 1, 1934, in Havana,



Cuba. He spent his early life there and became a banjo player known as "Chico Fernandez." In 1958, he went to Mexico to fulfill some fighting contracts and, due to the turmoil in Cuba, he came to the United States. He finally settled in Omaha, Neb. There he met and married Jackie. The couple moved to Oregon in 1965. They had five children. Jose worked at Swan Is-

land shipyards in construction, and later as a self-employed painter.

During his later years he resided in Alaska, California, and Oregon with his daughters.

He is survived by his daughters Maria Rardin, of Independence, Teresa Connor, of Independence, Encarnacion Ingram, of Forest Grove, and Caridad DeVries, of Dallas. He was the proud "Pops" of 16 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by son Jose, and brother Manuel.

Funeral Mass will be Wednesday, (today) June 21, 11 a.m. at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Independence, with interment at Gesthemani Cemetery, 11666 SE Stevens Road, Happy Valley, OR.

Farnstrom Mortuary is caring for the family. Memories and condolences may be

shared at FarnstromMortuary.com.

Joanna 'Jean' Larson Phelps

March 9, 1928 – April 2, 2017

Joanna "Jean" Larson Phelps, born March 9, 1928,



in Pettibone, N.D., along with twin brother Lowell "Dean" Larson (precedes her in death) to A.M. and Laura Larson, passed away April 2, 2017, at home.

She lived in North Dakota, Minnesota, Washington, and settled in Oregon in 1942. She lived in Hood River, Portland, and then moved to Taft. She graduated from Taft High School in 1946.

Joanna met John Phelps in high school and they married in 1948. She lived in Nelscott, Otis, Rose Lodge, Tualatin, McMinnville, Dallas, and most recently Salem.

Joanna was a homemaker

and loved cooking, sewing, camping, gardening, square dancing, pets and spending time with family. She was an Avon Representative for a decade and worked at the State Capitol during two legislative sessions. Joanna also enjoyed the annual Phelps family picnic and get-togethers with high school classmates known as "The Fun Bunch."

She is survived by sons, Steve and Ron Phelps; daughter, Tammy Inman; two grandsons, a granddaughter and a great-grandson.

Service will be held Saturday June 24 at 2 p.m. at City View Funeral Home 390 Hoyt St. S., in Salem. Reception following.

Donations can be made to the Humane Society, Heart/Kidney Association in lieu of flowers.

John Richard De Jong

Dec. 25, 1942 - June 16, 2017

John Richard De Jong was

born on Dec. 25, 1942 in Artesia, California and graduated from Hilltop High School in Chula Vista, Calif. The family moved to Chino, Calif. in 1972. He entered the army in 1964 and served a year in Vietnam. In 1966, he married LaVerna Van Der Veen and moved to Forest Grove, and in 1980, to Independence.

John survived by his wife of 50 years; five children, Rhonda Prouty, John (Annola) De Jong, Sheri (Kevin) Baker, Linda (Eric) Shumaker, Jerry (Staci) De Jong; 12 grandchildren and three brothers.

We will miss coming in the house not seeing him in his favorite chair.

A graveside service will be held Monday, June 26, 2017, 10 am at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Veterans of Foreign Wars or Sunrise Church, 823 N. Ford St, McMinnville. Arrangements are in care of Farnstrom Mortuary.

Memories and condolences may be shared at FarnstromMortuary.com.

Marie Diane Adams

July 28, 1938 – May 26, 2017

No services are planned at this time. Farnstrom Mortuary is in charge of arrangements. Memories and condolences at FarnstromMortuary.com.

Dolores J. Ross

July 5, 1930 – June 16, 2017

Dolores J. Ross, 86, a resident of Salem died Friday.

She was born on July 5, 1930.

She is survived by her son Marvin Ross of Dallas and daughter Sandy Armenakis of Salem along with 10 grandchildren and many



great grandchildren. Also surviving is a brother Duane Dunaway of Dallas. She was preceded

in death by a son Danny Ross and a brother Rex Dunaway.

Private family services will be held. Private interment will be in the Dallas Cemetery.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the Willamette Humane Society. The Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center is caring for the family. To leave a message or memory for the family please go to www.dallastribute.com.

Bertha Shilling

May 1, 1920 – June 14, 2017

Graveside service is at 1 p.m. on Thursday at Alford Cemetery, in Harrisburg.

Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center is caring for the family.

Obituary Information

Obituaries cost \$8 per 25 words and include a photo and flag for veterans.

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. Obituaries submitted by private parties must be prepaid.

Color and black-and-white photos can be submitted, but photos will only be published in black and white. Death notices — 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.

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

Sudoku solution

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

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