

NEWS IN BRIEF

Fire Marshal talks wildfire prevention

SALEM — The Oregon State Fire Marshal is asking residents and visitors to take steps to prevent wildfires as warm weather persists and vegetation dries out.

- Here are some tips to remember when enjoying the outdoors:
- Know fire risks and obey fire restrictions, such as campfire bans.
- Avoid parking or driving on dry grass as hot vehicles can start a wildfire.
- Vehicles are required to have a shovel and fire extinguisher or at least a gallon of water in many areas.
- Do not use candles, fireworks, tiki torches or other open flames in wildland areas.
- Remember that sky lanterns are illegal in Oregon airspace.
- Dispose of smoking material in deep, sturdy ashtrays.
- Make sure butts and ashes are extinguished with water and sand.
- Never discard butts on the ground or in vegetation.

For more wildfire prevention information and restrictions go to www.keeporegongreen.org and the Oregon Department of Forestry at www.oregon.gov.

Grace Church services at Pressed

DALLAS — Grace Church is hosting Saturday church services at Pressed Coffee & Wine Bar Saturdays through Sept. 2. The services are at 6 p.m. at Pressed, 788 Main St., Dallas. Saturday services are an alternative to Sunday morning worship for people who can't attend then or don't normally go to church. No children's ministry or childcare are provided. For more information: call Pastor Ben at 503-623-4961 or email ben@graceindallas.org.

Stewart named state club president

DALLAS — Gaye Stewart, a Dallas resident and founder of the Dallas Garden Club, will serve as Oregon State Federation of Garden Club president for 2017-19. There are more than 2,600 people who belong to one of the 86 garden clubs in Oregon, Stewart said. "Our organizational goals are focused on conservation or our air, water, forests, land and wildlife," Stewart said. "My President's Project is focused on preservation of the pollinator bees." The theme for Stewart's term is "Plant a Seed, Reap a Harvest."

KVCS holds border change meeting

KINGS VALLEY — The Kings Valley Charter School is considering a change of the district boundary to become part of the Falls City School District. The school is currently part of the Philomath School District. The KVCS board will hold a meeting to provide information to community, answer questions and receive feedback about the proposed change. The meeting is Sunday from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Kings Valley Charter School gym, 33840 Kings Valley Highway, Philomath. For more information: 541-929-2134.

Senior Center to present Holocaust

MONMOUTH — Monmouth Senior Center, 180 Warren St. S., Monmouth, will hold a presentation on the Holocaust Monday at noon. David Rosenfeld, a first-generation immigrant of German-Jewish parents, will speak about his family's experiences during and since World War II. There is no cost to attend. Light refreshments will be served. For more information: 503-838-5678.

Falls City eclipse event approved

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer



FALLS CITY — Solar eclipse viewers now have an option of camping in Falls City's Upper Park and joining in a Great American Eclipse breakfast and viewing party on Aug. 21. Camping, which would be available from Aug. 19 through Aug. 21, and the viewing event are hosted by The Boondocks restaurant in Falls City.

The Falls City City Council approved an application Thursday allowing camping for about 150 people in the

city park and closing a portion of North Main Street near the restaurant Aug. 21 from 6 a.m. to noon. The owner of Frink's General Store, Kirby Frink, said he didn't approve of the street closure, saying it would affect his business on what could be the busiest day of the year. Event organizer and The Boondocks co-owner Laura Britton said the closure would not block customers from going to the store.

"I really don't think it's that big of a deal. I really don't think there's going to be that many people on the road from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.," said Mayor Terry Ungricht of the street closure. Councilor Lori Jean Sickles, also the co-owner of The Boondocks, didn't vote on the application. Councilor Dennis Sickles, Lori Jean's brother, declared his relationship to the restaurant owners, but voted yes.

Falls City to put two levies on ballot

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

FALLS CITY — Granted they are submitted on time, two five-year operational levies will appear on the November ballot for Falls City voters, one for Wagner Community Library and another for the city's fire department and streets. The Falls City Council voted on Thursday to have Mayor Terry Ungricht do the research and submit paperwork to election officials for both levies. Ungricht asked that the motion say he would "try" to get the levies submitted, because he's afraid it would be too much work to complete before the deadline. Items for the ballot must be approved 60 days before the election, which is on Nov. 14.



Ungricht

"I will try," Ungricht said following the vote. "I just want everybody to understand that we are on

the deadline. I'm not saying it's impossible." Ungricht said it would cost \$1.30 per \$1,000 of assessed value on properties to keep the library open. He also gave a report on the state of the city's fire department and paved streets. He said he submitted a grant to FEMA to replace the fire department's breathing units that allow them to conduct interior firefighting and rescues. He's not confident that the city will receive the grant, and said the unit expires in two years. "The only reason I can think that we are not being awarded it is that we have 950 people and 1.2-square miles (in the coverage area)," he explained. "The money is real tight, so they're going to service areas that cover more population and area. ... We will no longer be able to go inside to fight a structural fire. That means you stay outside, keep it cooled down and let it burn." He added a few vital roads in town have degraded to a dangerous level and others will be there soon. "You guys have driven

on our paved roads," he said. "They are in desperate need, especially after last winter." He proposed a combined operational levy for the fire department and the streets, estimated at between \$1.60 to \$2 per \$1,000 of assessed value to pay fire needs and street maintenance. The fire department also would be able to replace its heating system, radios and hoses for its trucks. Councilors Tony Meier and Cliff Lauder said they would support asking voters to approve that levy and not pursue funding for the library. "We are going to ask the citizens of Falls City to give up money, and I believe that the fire department and the streets are more important than the library," Lauder said. He added, and Meier agreed, that putting both levies on the ballot risked failure of both. Ungricht said closing the library wouldn't mean all library services would disappear, and the city is working with the county to establish a van route between Falls City and Dallas that could take people to

the Dallas Public Library. Councilors Lori Jean Sickles, Charlie Flynn and Dennis Sickles said they were uncomfortable not putting Wagner Library funding on the ballot after making a pledge to do so last month during a joint meeting with the Falls City School District. "This coming up with the fire department and the streets is brand new. It wasn't discussed at that time," Dennis Sickles said. "I'm uncomfortable dropping the library thing after the meeting that we had. I'm not saying I'm uncomfortable doing a levy for the streets and the fire department." Meier noted no official vote was taken to proceed with the library levy. "It's also our jobs to really set priorities and, to me, the fire department, especially the fire department, is a priority," Meier said. "To me, when you say you are going to do something, that's a priority," Lori Jean Sickles responded. Flynn made a motion to include both on the November ballot, and it was approved unanimously.

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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Monmouth 2017

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Performing Tonight
July 19
Hillstomp
(Blues)

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For More Information Contact:
Mark Fancy 503-751-0147

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Start at Levens St. Bridge - Finish at Main St. Bridge

Tickets \$2 PER DUCK

Saturday July 29 • 2 pm

Over 100 amazing prizes from our business community.

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August 6 • 10AM to 3PM
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Performing **July 21** — Show begins at 7:30
IDOL GENERATION

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Showing July 20 • 9:45
LEGO BATMAN

JULY 28 Concert: 5 Guys Named Moe - 7:30 PM
JULY 27 Movie: Moana - 9:45 PM

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www.IndependenceCinema8.com

Matinees are all shows before 6pm. New pricing for matinees are: Adult \$8.00 Children \$7.00 • Senior \$7.25 Pricing does not reflect 3D showings.

Friday - Thursday • July 21 - 27

WONDER WOMAN (Digital) (PG13)	(12:40 3:45)	6:50 9:55
DESPICABLE ME 3 (Digital) (PG)	(12:15 2:30 4:45)	7:05 9:20
SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING (Digital) (PG13)	(12:45 3:45)	6:45 9:45
VALERIAN & THE CITY OF A THOUSAND PLANETS (Digital) (PG13)	(1:00 4:00)	7:00 10:00
DUNKIRK (Digital) (PG13)	(11:45 2:15 4:45)	7:15 9:45
THE BIG SICK (Digital) (R)	(1:40 4:25)	7:10 9:55
CARS 3 (Digital) (G)	(12:00 2:35)	
WISH UPON (Digital) (PG13)	(5:10)	7:25 9:40
WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES (Digital) (PG13)	(12:35 3:40)	6:45 9:50

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