



EMILY MENTZER/Itemizer-Observer file

National Night Out brings the community together. Last year's event for Monmouth and Independence had police officers and firefighters getting dunked by kids.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Event brings together neighbors, law enforcement

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

POLK COUNTY — Tuesday is National Night Out, an annual campaign promoting relationships between communities and their police and fire agencies, and several neighborhoods and groups are hosting events around the county.

Dallas: Neighborhood gatherings and block parties are taking place at Countrywood Manor in the community room, on Hayter Street, on Academy Street, on Nottingham Lane and on Hanel Street, said Britneigh Gaetz, the Dallas Police Department's police community liaison.

"This year, our participants have put together their events in their neighborhoods, in their front yards or community centers," Gaetz said.

She said 20 homes will be participating in "blue light night."

"They have been given blue light bulbs to replace on their houses for this one night and show support for NNO, as well as local support for the Dallas Police Department," she said.

Gaetz said she hopes to see attendance at NNO events grow this year.

"We're hoping this brings more people on the night of, therefore gaining more participants for the following years," she said. "It's also a fun way to keep our community members aware of their local Neighborhood Watch groups."

Falls City: Last year, the Falls City Fire Department held its first NNO event, hosting games and activities for the public at the fire station. This year, the department is expanding, renting

the Community Center and closing part of Third Street for a block party. The event takes place Tuesday from 5 to 9 p.m.

Representatives from Polk County Sheriff's Office, Willamette Valley Communications Center 911, Life Flight Network, and the local Neighborhood Watch group will be at the event to provide information and participate in games with children, wrote Assistant Fire Chief Mary Sykes in a description of the event.

Life Flight is scheduled to land a helicopter on the high school football field.

"We believe that we will receive about 100 visitors spread out over the four hours of the event and the two event sites," Sykes said. "We strongly believe this event will be beneficial to the community, as well as a lot of fun and educational."

Sheriff Mark Garton said he attended Falls City's first NNO event last year.

"This is the second year they are doing. It was fun," he said. "They had all kinds of games going on."

Garton said Neighborhood Watch groups in other parts of the county are hosting events as well, including groups on Oak Grove Road, Salt Creek Road and Eola and Doaks Ferry roads neighborhood.

Monmouth and Independence: Monmouth and Independence police departments will host a joint National Night Out at the First Baptist Church, 1505 Monmouth St., Independence.

The event will be from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday and is open to the entire communities of Independence and Monmouth.

"A (National Guard) Lakota

Army helicopter will come and sit there for the kids to come crawl around on," said Independence Officer Eric Solberg.

Polk County Fire District No. 1 personnel will be there and have a fire demonstration, where kids — and adults — can try their hands at using a fire hose to put out fires in a wooden cutout structure.

Koyotes will be there for the second year, with the first 300 tacos free. After that, tacos will be available for purchase.

The event will also feature Polk County County Emergency Response Team members dishing up sno cones and popping corn. McGruff the Crime Dog will also make an appearance.

Solberg said there won't be a dunk tank this year for the supervisors, but thinks the National Guard's Lakota helicopter will make up for it on the fun scale.

"It should be a good time," he said.

Two-vehicle crash claims life of Monmouth woman

Itemizer-Observer staff report

MONMOUTH — A two-vehicle, head-on crash on Saturday claimed the life of Cherlyn Lewis, 57, of Monmouth, on Highway 99W at milepost 67 at about 3:54 a.m.

Oregon State Police Troopers and emergency personnel responded to the crash.

Preliminary investigation by OSP showed that Lewis was a passenger in a red 1990 Honda Civic, driven by Ashlee Lewis, 23, also of

Monmouth. They were traveling southbound on Highway 99W delivering papers, according to reports from OSP. A blue 2008 Toyota Corolla, operated by Joshua Berry, 20, was northbound on Highway 99W, when, for an undetermined reason, the vehicles collided on the northbound shoulder, the report from OSP states.

Cherlyn Lewis suffered fatal injuries and was pronounced deceased at the scene. Ashlee Lewis and

Berry were transported to the local area hospital for treatment of their serious injuries.

Highway 99W was partially closed for about 4.5 hours. OSP was assisted at the scene by the Polk County Sheriff's Office, Oregon Department of Transportation and Polk County Fire District No. 1.

This is an ongoing investigation and more information will be released when available, OSP stated in its release.

Itemizer wins eight awards

Itemizer-Observer staff report

BEND — Polk County Itemizer-Observer sports editor Lukas Eggen won Best Sports Story for his story, "Coming back stronger."

The Itemizer also won Best Web Design for the 10th year for its website, polkio.com.

The awards were presented at the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association's annual banquet in Bend on July 13.

Editor Emily Mentzer took second place for Best Editorial with "Prepare now for more PE"; "Looks public, acts public: is it public?"; and "Make the world a better place." Eggen came in second for Best Sports Photo for "Get down," and Best Lifestyle Coverage with his feature on veterans fly-fishing, "Casting out."

Reporter Jolene Guzman placed second for Best Writing for her series of stories

on the Polk County economy, "Boy lives through others," and "Falls City helps grad heal, grow."

The paper won third place for Best Page One Design for the issues of March 9, March 16 and July 27. Guzman took third for Best Local Column with "Reporter prepares self, cat for disaster," "Emergency plan lessons learned from Hood to Coast," and "Reporter Jolene volunteers as guest judge."

Solution on Page 2A

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

By Ben Arnoldy

Sudoku

Difficulty: ★★★★★

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

How to do Sudoku

Fill in the grid so the numbers 1 through 9 appear just once in every column, row, and three-by-three square. See example above.

The Christian Science Monitor

Fair entertainment to take center stage

Truck, tractor pull takes a year off

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

POLK COUNTY — Those looking for the entertainment stage at the Polk County Fair will find it back in the center of the action instead of in the playground area that it has occupied the last few years.

"We are going to move the stage back out to the middle," said Tina Andersen, fair manager. "We tried to put it in the playground and it did not work."

The playground area will be plenty busy, though.

Houston Dino Alive, will be set up in the playground with its dinosaur-themed photo shop. People can have their photos taken with the dinosaur and have a T-shirts made.

Dragon Theatre Puppet Show is slated to put on shows, such as "A Little Mermaid" presentation and hands-on activities in the playground area the entire run of the fair.

A past favorite, bingo, is back on the schedule for the fair this year and Saturday night will feature the American Thunder Monster and Mega Truck Show, Andersen said.

One fair tradition will not be happening this year: the truck and tractor pull.

Andersen said that was a decision made with the group that puts on the event each year, following a leadership change on that organization.

"I think that they will eventually come back," Andersen said. "They are just reorganizing."

Plan on the fair

What: Polk County Fair.
When: Aug. 10-12.
Where: Polk County Fairgrounds & Event Center, 520 Highway 99W, Rickreall.
Admission: \$8/adults; \$5 for seniors and kids. \$3 per car for parking.
Of note: Deadlines for open class submissions are due starting Wednesday (today) through Aug. 9. See Page 2A for details.



August 2017



Monmouth Area Community Events Calendar

August 2 Monmouth Music In The Park. 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Sol Seed brings reggae music to Music In The Park. Beer & wine garden, food, and activities for the kids. Main Street Park Amphitheater, 120 Main Street E.

August 5 Monmouth Community Breakfast. 8:30 am – 10:30 am. Monmouth Senior Center. 180 S. Warren St.

August 9 Monmouth Music In The Park. 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Cascade Crescendo brings an evening of jamgrass and Americana to Music In The Park. Beer & wine garden, food, and activities for the kids. Main Street Park Amphitheater, 120 Main Street E.

August 10-12 The 2017 Polk County Annual Fair is taking place August 10th thru the 12th. A good old fashioned county Fair with fun activities for the entire family. Come check out the Rough Stock Rodeo Thursday Night, the ATV Rodeo Friday night, and the KYKN Beautiful Baby Contest Saturday morning. Take a stroll through the barns full of 4-H and FFA animals. Wonder through the Main Building and see what our commercial vendors have to offer. Catch some live entertainment on the Les Schwab Stage including magicians and musicians. Take the kids through the FREE Kid's Safety Zone and the selection of inflatable games and entertainment. Come check out all the amazing things we have this year and join us while we "Moo at the Moon". Fair Hours- Thursday August 10th 10:00am to 10:00pm, Friday August 11th 10:00am to 10:00pm, Saturday August 12th 10:00am to 10:00pm. <http://www.co.polk.or.us/fair/annual/2017-polk-county-fair>

August 16 Monmouth Music In The Park. 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Root Jack brings rock & roll to Music In The Park. Beer & wine garden, food, and activities for the kids. Main Street Park Amphitheater, 120 Main Street E.

August 20 Dark Side of the Moon "The Great Eclipse Concert" Pink Floyd Tribute Band: Pigs On The Wing, 8 pm - 10 pm Beer • Wine • Food Free and Open to Public Main Street Park Amphitheater Monmouth, OR Bring blankets, chairs and your enthusiasm for good music!

August 21 Enjoy the Solar Eclipse! Be Safe!

August 23 Monmouth Music In The Park. 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Dina y Los Rumberos brings Cuban salsa to Music In The Park. Beer & wine garden, food, and activities for the kids. Main Street Park Amphitheater, 120 Main Street E.

August 30 Monmouth Music In The Park. 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Coming Up Threes brings Celtic music to Music In The Park. Beer & wine garden, food, and activities for the kids. Main Street Park Amphitheater, 120 Main Street E.



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Solar Eclipse Aug. 21

Chamber Forum — August 9
Polk County Service Club
340 S 3rd Street, Independence
Topic: Polk County Update
Lunch: \$12.00 boxed lunch from BG's BBQ
• Lunch orders must be received by noon 8/8/17.
• Fee incurred unless cancelation received via email to mico@mico-or.org by noon 8/8/17.

Thirsty Thursday — August 17
Thirsty Thursdays are held the **third Thursday** of each month from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM at member locations. Registration is requested to help the host site properly prepare. Attendees are encouraged to bring a small giveaway (less than \$10) to promote your business or organization. This month August — Emerson Vineyards 11665 Airlie Rd., Monmouth.

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