



SUBMITTED BY SHANE JOHNSON/for the Itemizer-Observer

Emily Nelson and Shane Johnson celebrate their engagement after Shane popped the question in the Monmouth-Independence Rotary Grand Parade on the Fourth of July in Independence.

Love reigns in grand style

Independence woman says 'yes' to proposal during Fourth of July tradition

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — For the past decade, the Johnson family has staked out a viewing spot near the finish of the Monmouth-Independence Fourth of July parade.

Rain or shine, they've been there to take in the small-town spirit and atmosphere.

It's safe to say the 2017 parade will stand out as their favorite.

Shane Johnson was enjoying the parade with his girlfriend, Emily Nelson, riding on one of the floats. It was Nelson's first time being part of a parade.

As the float rounded into view of Shane's family, he got down on one knee.

"I was shaking," Emily said. "I was very, very nervous because my family was watching and everyone was there. It was really exciting. It was such a perfect way to say 'welcome to the family.' I'm glad I got to be a part of it."

Moments later, Shane and Emily were officially engaged.

"I'm not the kind of guy who gets nervous or anxious," Shane said. "I tried to look at it as another day. A lot bigger day, but just another day."

Emily and Shane first met two years ago. The attraction to each other was almost immediate. There was just one thing holding them back.

"We texted for six months before we met (in person)," Emily said. "I got sick two months into texting. I was sick for like, three months, and I was in

the hospital for 15 days. There was no way I was meeting someone that I liked who had no idea what I looked like when I was sick. We had to wait until I healed."

The wait was excruciating — but the couple kept a belief that the feelings they started developing for each other were real — and that things would work out just the way they were supposed to.

"It's nice to really know someone before you meet them," Shane said. "You always hear people say looks aren't everything, but you don't really get that until you know somebody before."

When the two finally laid eyes on each other, it was all icing on the cake and before long, they were falling in love with each other.

By the time 2017 hit, Shane was thinking about their next step together.

"I bought the ring in April," Shane said. "I had been kind of planning it since then."

At the time, he was considering proposing during the parade or during a trip to Las Vegas in September to celebrate Emily's 21st birthday before deciding on the Fourth.

"I wanted to do it right in front of my family," Johnson said. "I wanted to do it at that moment with everyone

holding signs helping us out."

The couple hasn't picked out a wedding date yet, but said the reception will be a more casual affair.

For now, they're still basking in the glow of knowing they will be each other's "for better or for worse."

"It is different," Emily said. "You don't think it would be different because nothing has changed. I've always trusted him, but now that it's permanent I don't ever have to second guess what we're doing. This is what I want, this is what he wants and it'll come together eventually."

"It always does," Shane said.



GOLF

TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 2017
8:00 AM (Shotgun Start)
Oak Knoll Golf Course

Four-person Scramble
 Fundraiser for The Gate
 \$100 per player

- \$100 KPs, \$10 Long Drives
- Includes 1 mulligan per player
- Lunch included, raffle prizes (Pellet Grill)
- 1st, 2nd & 3rd place prizes awarded
- Carts available for additional charge; contact Oak Knoll for details

For more information call Joe Johnson at 503-910-1075

Safety

Continued from Page 3A

"When you compare apples to apples on the two options, a combined facility on existing city property is a much less expensive approach," Humphreys said.

During a meeting Monday, the five councilors on

the city's Public Safety Committee were hesitant to move forward with either of the approaches with the prices tags attached.

Instead, they asked Foggin to research conducting a public opinion poll to gauge support for new public safety facilities.

REUNIONS

DHS Class of '47

That June night 70 years ago when we graduated, we never thought about or imagined a 70-year reunion in 2017 and an eclipse of the sun a couple of weeks later. Two great events for our class, these many years later. Our numbers have dwindled, "Leaves have fallen," but we have continued to meet every summer for many years.

The Dallas High School Class of 1947 will celebrate its 70th reunion with a dinner at 5 p.m. on Aug. 5 at Murphy's Grill. On Aug. 6, they will meet again at the Dallas City Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Old Timers Picnic. The informal gathering at the Dallas City Park is a good time to reminisce. Friends and classmates are invited to attend.

Of the 59 graduating students pictured in the 1947 annual, The Dragon, the numbers have declined. Those remaining are faithful and enjoying being a part of the Class of '47.

For more information: Lew Holt at 503-391-5377.

DHS Class of 1997

Dallas High School Class of 1997 will celebrate its 20th reunion at Rogue Farms from 6 to 9 p.m. on Aug. 5. On Aug. 6 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., classmates will meet at Dallas City Park for a family picnic. For more information and tickets: www.eventbrite.com/e/dallas-or-class-of-97-reunion-tickets-35530112523, or on the DHS class of 1997 reunion group on Facebook.

DHS Class of 1962

Dallas High School Class of 1962 will celebrate its 55th reunion on Aug. 11-13.

For more information: Case Chaney, 503-881-5810.

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July 26
Jenny Don't & The Spurs
 (Country)

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AUG 3 Movie: Ghostbusters: Answer the Call - 9:45 PM

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INDEPENDENCE CINEMA 8




450 S. 2nd St., Independence
Showtimes 503-606-3000
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 28 - Aug. 3

THE BIG SICK (Digital) (R)	(1:00)	10:15
WONDER WOMAN (Digital) (PG13)	(3:45)	6:50 9:55
DESPICABLE ME 3 (Digital) (PG)	(1:15 3:30 5:45)	8:00
EMOJI MOVIE (Digital) (PG)	(12:35 2:50 5:05)	7:20 9:35
ATOMIC BLONDE (Digital) (R)	(1:50 4:30)	7:10 9:50
DUNKIRK (Digital) (PG13)	(11:45 2:15 4:45)	7:15 9:45
SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING (Digital) (PG13)	(12:45 3:45)	6:45 9:45
WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES (Digital) (PG13)	(12:30 3:35)	6:40 9:50
VALERIAN & THE CITY OF A THOUSAND PLANETS (Digital) (PG13)	(1:00 4:00)	7:00 10:00

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