

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dallas WWII vet takes Honor Flight

DALLAS — A 93-year-old Dallas resident and World War II veteran returned to Dallas Sunday after an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. Ralph Thompson served on the USS California from 1943-45. He was joined by 21 WWII vets and four Korean War veterans on the trip from Sept. 21 to Sunday. Honor Flights take veterans accompanied by guardians to see war memorials in the nation's capital. Thompson is a 56-year member of the Masons, 65-year member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and long-standing member of Eastern Star and Shriners.

Team USA relay flag to grace Dallas

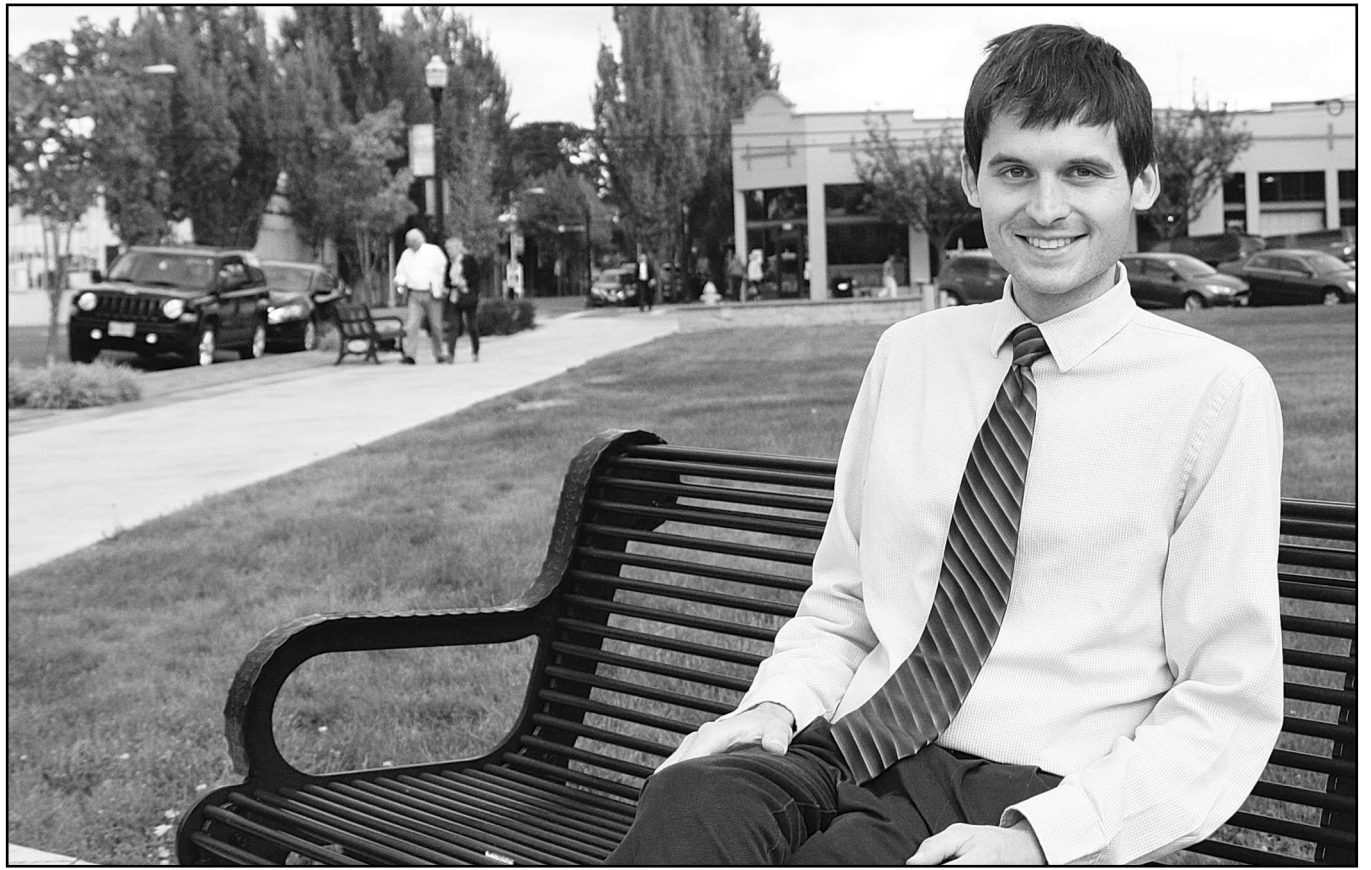
DALLAS — Dallas Fire & EMS will host the Team USA Bobsled and Skeleton Team flag in honor of first responders Wednesday (today). The flag is a relay flag, having been displayed and passed along from other police, fire and EMS agencies throughout the U.S. Dallas will be its final location before it heads to South Korea to fly over the 2018 Winter Olympics. The flag will be raised at 8 a.m. and fly all day until dark. The public is welcome to attend. Coffee and pastries will be served.

Madrona Park work commences today

MONMOUTH — The xeriscape planting project at Madrona Park had been delayed. It has been rescheduled for Wednesday (today) starting at noon. Help is needed to spread bark. Shovels, racks and wheelbarrows would be appreciated, said Mark Fancey, community development director. "If you can swing by after work, we may still be out there," he said.

Fresh apple cider at Brunk House

POLK COUNTY — The annual apple cider making event at the Harrison and Emily Brunk Home will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Tours will be available. Fresh apple cider will be for sale at \$5 per gallon. Various apple desserts will also be available. The house is at 5705 Salem-Dallas Highway between Highway 51 and Oak Grove Road just before the Restlawn Cemetery. For more information: Polk County Society and Museum, 503-623-6251.



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

Alex Giovanoni is the new program manager for the Dallas Downtown Association.

TRANSFORMING DOWNTOWN

Giovanoni hopes to continue work making Dallas 'a fun place'

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Alex Giovanoni wants people to look at downtown Dallas and see a fun place.

Giovanoni, 28, is the new program manager for the Dallas Downtown Association, taking over for Emma Guida, who served in the position until August.

Like Guida, Giovanoni is participating in the AmeriCorps Resource Assistance for Rural Environments program through the University

of Oregon, which has him placed with DDA until the end of July.

"The program matches participants up with communities based on the kind of work they're interested in doing and the place where they want to be," Giovanoni said.

Dallas was on the top of his list on both counts.

"I went through a whole process, and I chose Dallas and Dallas chose me," he said. "I'm very happy to be here."

Coming to Dallas from

Missouri, he has an outside perspective on the city's core.

His verdict? "I personally want to say, I think this downtown — even as it is right now — is a much cooler place to be and spend time than a lot of people in Dallas — and the larger area — realize," he said.

His goal is to continue changing perceptions about downtown.

He said that with Guida's assistance, the DDA has grown and already brought successful events to downtown — including playing a big role in the Great American Eclipse events — and established better communication and partnerships with other organizations.

While there isn't an eclipse to plan around this year, Giovanoni sees more opportunities for improvement and feels an obligation to keep the momentum going.

"It's a high bar," he said. "I

feel that expectations for me and DDA are high."

Giovanoni has been busy getting to know downtown and the wider community in the weeks since he arrived, and sees three long-term projects that have potential to change the character of downtown in a good way.

He said the vacant former armory property on Church Street, which is in the process of being turned over to the Dallas Urban Renewal Agency, has the potential to be of the site of another anchor business. The URA will be asking for proposals from potential developers soon, he said.

"That's a big opportunity that certainly I'm going to work with folks in the city, like the planning commission, to try to move that forward," Giovanoni said. "That is really exciting."

He's offered a suggestion for the vacant Carnegie Building on Court Street if the proposal under consideration now falls through. Giovanoni said the Dalles has a similar building that was converted into an arts center, which would fulfill one of the DDA's strategic plan goals for bringing more art activities to downtown.

Lastly, he said the DDA may help the owners of the Dallas Forty on Main Street acquire grants for a historic restoration of the building.

Alongside those long-term projects, Giovanoni encourages people to take part in events downtown, whether they be cash mobs or "Out and About" events to support businesses.

He believes collaboration and sharing ideas to be the best way to make downtown Dallas "a cool place to be, where there is a lot of good stuff going on."

"Keeping these events going on where people are working together and enjoying themselves together is a good for the vision of the DDA," Giovanoni said.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SPECTRUM CHANNEL LINEUP

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(Sept. 27, 2017)

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What's YOUR neighbor up to?

Find out in the Itemizer-Observer. You may find your neighbor, your boss, your friend or yourself in the pages of the Itemizer Observer. Local stories on local people—that's our specialty.

Itemizer-Observer
147 SE Court St., Dallas
503-623-2373

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 - Sunday • Sept. 29 - Oct. 1		
LEGO NINJAGO MOVIE (Digital) (PG)	(12:10 1:30 2:05 3:55)	7:15 9:40*
HITMAN'S BODYGUARD (Digital) (R)	(4:30)	
MOTHER! (Digital) (R)	(2:35)	7:05 9:50*
FRIEND REQUEST (Digital) (R)	(2:35)	9:25*
HOME AGAIN (Digital) (PG13)	(4:50)	
AMERICAN MADE (Digital) (R)	(1:45 4:35)	7:20 9:55*
KINGSMAN: THE GOLDEN CIRCLE (Digital) (R)	(12:40 3:45)	6:20 9:55*
IT (Digital) (R)	(1:00 4:00)	7:00 10:00*
AMERICAN ASSASSIN (Digital) (R)	(1:50 4:30)	7:10 9:45*
FLATLINERS (Digital) (PG13)	(1:40 4:15)	6:50 9:25*
*Not playing Sunday		
Monday - Wednesday • Oct. 2 - 4		
LEGO NINJAGO MOVIE (Digital) (PG)	(1:30 2:05 3:55)	7:15
HITMAN'S BODYGUARD (Digital) (R)	(4:30)	
MOTHER! (Digital) (R)	(2:35)	7:05
FRIEND REQUEST (Digital) (R)	(2:35)	9:50*
HOME AGAIN (Digital) (PG13)	(4:50)	
AMERICAN MADE (Digital) (R)	(1:45 4:35)	7:20
KINGSMAN: THE GOLDEN CIRCLE (Digital) (R)	(12:40 3:45)	6:20 9:50*
IT (Digital) (R)	(1:00 4:00)	7:00
AMERICAN ASSASSIN (Digital) (R)	(1:50 4:30)	7:10
FLATLINERS (Digital) (PG13)	(1:40 4:15)	6:50
Thursday • Oct. 5		
KINGSMAN: THE GOLDEN CIRCLE (Digital) (R)	(12:40 3:45)	6:50
FRIEND REQUEST (Digital) (R)	(2:35)	
HOME AGAIN (Digital) (PG13)	(4:50)	
LEGO NINJAGO MOVIE (Digital) (PG)	(1:30 2:05 3:55)	7:15
AMERICAN MADE (Digital) (R)	(1:45 4:35)	7:20
BLADE RUNNER 2049 (Digital) (R)	(1:45 4:35)	7:00 7:30
HITMAN'S BODYGUARD (Digital) (R)	(4:30)	
IT (Digital) (R)	(1:00 4:00)	7:00
AMERICAN ASSASSIN (Digital) (R)	(1:50 4:30)	7:10
FLATLINERS (Digital) (PG13)	(1:40 4:15)	6:50

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Fall Home Accent & Car Care

From home updates to pruning to antifreeze, this section is full of information to help your customers get geared up for winter.

Deadline to reserve: October 5
Publishes: October 18

Size:	B&W	Color
1/8 pg	4.917" x 2.5"	\$95 \$135
1/4 pg	4.917" x 5.083"	\$155 \$195
1/2 pg	10" x 5.083"	\$265 \$305
1/2 pg vert	4.917" x 10.292"	\$265 \$305
Full pg	10" x 10.292"	\$475 \$525
Back pg	10" x 10.292"	\$577 \$577

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Itemizer-Observer

147 SE Court St., Dallas • www.polkio.com

Christmas Spectacular

Community Christmas Choir
Drama & Light Show
December 14-17 at 7:00 pm

A community choir has begun practicing fresh arrangements of traditional Christmas Carols for four free concerts in December. These holiday sounds will be accompanied by a spectacular light show and dramatic presentations. Join us for rehearsals on Wednesday from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm at Valley Life Center (1795 SE Miller Avenue, Dallas). Let's come together for this celebration of the Christmas season! (Music provided and childcare available)

For questions or more information:
chris@valleylifecenter.com or 503-623-4116