

DEADLINES

NEWS DEADLINES

For inclusion in the Wednesday edition of the *Itemizer-Observer*:

Social news (weddings, engagements, anniversaries, births, milestones) — 5 p.m. on Thursday.

Community events — Noon on Friday for both the Community Notebook and Community Calendar.

Letters to the editor — 10 a.m. on Monday.

Obituaries — 4 p.m. on Monday.

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Retail display ads — 3 p.m. Friday.

Classified display ads — 11 a.m. on Monday.

Classified line ads — Noon on Monday. Classified ads are updated daily on www.polkio.com.

Public notices — Noon on Friday.

CORRECTIONS

The *Polk County Itemizer-Observer* is committed to publishing accurate news, feature and sports reports. If you see anything that requires a correction or clarification, call the newsroom at 503-623-2373 or send an email to emntzer@polkio.com.

WEBSITE

The *Polk County Itemizer-Observer* website, www.polkio.com, is updated each week by Wednesday afternoon. There, you will find nearly every story that appears in the print version of the newspaper, as well as some items, including additional photos, that do not appear in print due to space limitations.

The *Itemizer-Observer* is also on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Watch for breaking news, links to stories, sports scores updates and more.

WEATHER

RECORDED	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
Sept. 19.....	66	51	.95
Sept. 20.....	59	44	.66
Sept. 21.....	65	42	.01
Sept. 22.....	69	44	.00
Sept. 23.....	73	49	.00
Sept. 24.....	76	44	.00
Sept. 25.....	70	53	T

Rainfall during Sept. — 2.29 in.
Rain through Sept. 25 — 35.74 in.

Sudoku solution

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

Get well water tested free of charge

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Not sure when the last time your well was tested or want to know how often it should be tested?

Oregon State University Extension in Polk County has a person for that.

Chrissy Lucas, Extension's ground water quality outreach program coordinator, has begun working with Polk County residents.

Polk Extension added the program in its 2017-18 budget, and Lucas started in the county in August.

The program offers residents with wells or septic systems advice and expertise on how to maintain their systems and keep them healthy.

Testing wells isn't required by law — except for when a property is sold — but periodic testing can inform owners about what is in their water.

"There's a lot of misinformation about how often well water should be tested," Lucas said.

She said wells should be tested every one to three years for coliform bacteria and nitrates.

Wells should also be tested for arsenic once to see if it is present and at what level. Arsenic in water typically comes from surrounding soil and rock, not from a surface contaminant, unlike coliform bacteria and nitrates.

"The level of arsenic doesn't tend to change," Lucas said. "You either have it or

you don't."

Lucas said well users too often don't think about testing their wells until something is noticeably wrong, like the water smells, tastes or looks different.

Serious problems with water quality and safety may not present themselves that way, so testing could be critical for your health.

"Fecal coliform bacteria can make you very sick," Lucas said.

Long-term arsenic exposure is associated with many health conditions, including cancer, she said.

Exposure to nitrates, which can come from pesticides, can cause health risks after long-term exposure, including hindering the body's ability to absorb oxygen,

Lucas said.

The presence of nitrates is a warning sign for more serious contamination.

Nitrates in your water indicates that surface contaminants are finding their way into your water — which is how coliform bacteria makes its way into a well, Lucas said.

As part of the ground water program, OSU Extension offers free nitrate testing. Bring a half a cup of water in a clean container to the Polk office, located at 289 E. Ellendale Ave., Suite 301, Dallas, for testing.

Testing can be done on the spot if someone is available. If not, results will be available within a few days.

Like with well water testing, Lucas said many people

don't how often their septic systems need to be checked and pumped.

Maintenance on septic systems is a little more complicated and varies based on the size of the system and size of the family using, Lucas said.

She suggested if people are unsure to have it inspected by a professional.

She said at the least, a septic system needs to be pumped every 10 years, but it very well could be needed more frequently.

Lucas said she's available for assistance with testing and answering any questions about well and septic system maintenance.

"We are really excited to offer people this service," she said.

Dallas City Council tames decorum standards

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — The Dallas City Council approved changes to its rules on Sept. 18, including removing from decorum standards a requirement that councilors act "in manner appropriate to the dignity of their office outside council meetings."

That change was the subject of discussions at the council's administrative subcommittee meetings in May and July, where councilors discussed whether they should be required to refrain from personal attacks against other councilors on social media.

Discussion of decorum rules began after council members expressed concern over discovering City Manager Ron Foggin had applied for a position in another city through a newspaper story, and not from Mayor Brian Dalton and other councilors who knew because they were asked for references.

A special meeting was called in January to discuss the matter and establish rules about what information

should be shared.

Before that meeting, a discussion started on Facebook among councilors and residents about what should be done in response.

A conversation on Councilor Jackie Lawson's Facebook page involving other councilors, though not a quorum, from Jan. 4 called for Mayor Brian Dalton's resignation "for dereliction of duties" related to knowledge of Foggin's job application. The post and comments on the post were emailed to the *I-O*.

"I am beyond being patient and gracious any more ... with the mayor manipulating the outcomes of his pet projects and the power trip he is wielding. Now more than ever he needs to be removed," the post read.

Though no council members have publicly accused a specific councilor of violating council decorum rules, concern over the potential for less-than-civil discourse online was the source of the debate.

"I'm talking about people getting on Facebook and say-

ing this city councilor is a bunch of crap and don't listen to them," said Councilor Ken Woods Jr. in a subcommittee meeting in May. "They are doing stuff like that."

Some councilors felt that the rules should hold councilors to same level of decorum required in council meetings at all times, including while using social media. Others felt that requirement is too restrictive. The committee recommended not including social media and removing a requirement to maintain the decorum standards outside meetings on a split vote.

On Sept. 18, the council vote was 6-2 in favor of the changes. Lawson was absent.

"I'm going to be voting no on this," said Councilor Kelly Gabliks. "I really liked what (Councilor) Jennie (Rummell) said in our subcommittee meeting and something very similar that (Councilor) Ken (Woods Jr.) said and that is: We are always city councilors and I think we should be held to a higher standard."

She said she doesn't have a

problem with disagreements and expression of them, but believes it should be considered crossing a line when personal attacks are used.

Other councilors said the rule wasn't necessary because no councilors have engaged in personal attacks.

"I'm probably the most outspoken councilor there is and I am probably the councilor that a lot of this got started by because I do share with the community what is going on on social media," said Councilor Micky Garus. "I want to know a specific example of when that has happened because I've never

seen that. I've never engaged in that."

Garus asked for other councilors to point to an example, but none was provided.

Woods joined Gabliks in voting no on the changes.

Councilor Jim Fairchild said he voted for the changes because he had not witnessed councilors using personal attacks.

"To attack one of us on the internet ... it's a bad practice and really harmful to the community," said Dalton after the vote. "Micky is right: We don't normally do that and hopefully we won't start."

Joyful Sound Hearing

Have you considered reconditioned hearing aids? We are currently significantly over stocked with used & reconditioned hearing aids.



Mark Sturtevant

Call now and schedule a hearing test.

503-623-0290 • 312 Main Street, Dallas

LUCKIAMUTE DOMESTIC WATER COOPERATIVE BOARD MEETING

Monday 7:00 p.m.

October 9th

503-838-2075

Location: Business Office
8585 Suver Rd. • Monmouth

OCTOBER 2017



Monmouth Area Community Events Calendar

DON'T FORGET!

Sept. 30 — Apple Cider Fest, 10 am — 3 pm. Apple Cider and baked goods available for sale. Apples are crushed on 100-year-old equipment right in front of your eyes! Historic Brunk House 5705 Salem-Dallas Highway 503-623-6251 Tours of the Brunk House and Garden. Free family event, donations accepted and appreciated. polkcountyhistoricalsociety.org



October 1 — Polk Flea Market. 9 am — 3 pm. Find a treasure at the Polk Flea Market, Polk County's oldest and largest Market selling Antiques, Collectibles, Vintage Jewelry, Furniture, Militaria, Tools and More. Adult Admission is only \$1.00 and children 12 and under and parking is free. Early Bird Admission is only \$5.00 per adult from 6am-9am Sunday morning. Polk County Fairgrounds and Event Center 520 SW Pacific Hwy (Hwy 99 W), Rickreall.

October 4 — CENTRAL Powderpuff Football Game! 7 pm. Central High School.

October 6 — Edgar H. Smith Fine Arts Series presents BodyVox returns with a promised transfusion of new work. Start with a group of beautiful and talented dancers, add a hint of Hitchcock, a touch of Vampire, top it off with a healthy dose of ghosts and zombies and you get BloodyVox, a dance theater experience that mines cinema, folklore and our collective nightmares to bring the season of spirits and All Hallow's Eve to life. Funny, bloody, and full of great dancing, this is Halloween as only BodyVox can imagine it. This delightfully creepy show is a must see for the entire family. \$25 in advance - \$30 at door - \$11 students Rice Auditorium, WOU Corner of Knox and Powell St, Monmouth. Call Sandy Newland 503-838-8333.

October 6 — Central HOMECOMING — Central VS. Crescent Valley. Begins at 7 pm. Central High School.

October 31 — Have a safe and fun **Halloween!** From the Monmouth Business Association.

Mon/Indep Chamber of Commerce October Forum

Join us in October for a tour or Western Oregon University and learn about the campus, faculty & staff, and more! RSVP online <http://www.micc-or.org> or by calling the MI Chamber Office 503-838-4268

Thirsty Thursday — October 19

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. Chase Bar & Grill, 1083 Monmouth Street, Independence. RSVP online <http://www.micc-or.org> or by calling the MI Chamber Office 503-838-4268

Windermere
REAL ESTATE
www.windermere.com
503-838-1141
297 N Pacific
Monmouth

Oregon State
Credit Union
800-732-0173
464 S Pacific Hwy
Monmouth
oregonstatecu.

Saving Carpets
Daily
Carpet Hero
503-838-0869
Monmouth

LOOKING FOR RENTALS?
297 1/2 N. Pacific Hwy
503-838-1278
Western View Properties
Property Management, LLC

MONMOUTH FITNESS CLUB
503-838-2951
165 E. Main St.
Monmouth

PETALS & VINES
503-838-1773
410 E. Main St.
Monmouth

Come to the FREE Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event!

Bring in any of the items listed below and we will dispose of them for you, in a manner friendly to the environment.

WHAT TO BRING:

- Aerosol Cans
- Antifreeze
- Brake Fluid
- Degreasers
- Engine Cleaners
- Fluorescent Tubes
- Furniture Stripper
- Herbicides
- Household Batteries
- Kerosene Gas
- Lab Sets
- Latex paint
- Lighter Fluid
- Mercury
- Oil based paint
- Paint Thinner
- Pesticides
- Pool Chemicals
- Rose Dust
- Rust Remover
- Slug Bait
- Solvents
- Spot Remover
- Thermometers
- Thermostats
- Transmission Fluid
- Turpentine
- Weed Killers
- Wood Preservatives

IMPORTANT:

- Keep products in original containers if possible.
- Do not mix any products.
- Keep away from passengers while transporting.

WHAT NOT TO BRING

- Explosives
- Radioactive Waste
- Motor oil

DATE: Saturday, October 7th, 2017
TIME: From 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Independence Riverview Park (100 Main Street)
SPONSORED BY: Polk County, The Cities of Dallas, Independence, Monmouth and Salem

To advertise in this calendar call Heidi at the Itemizer-Observer 503-623-2373 ext 115