

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Dallas chamber welcomes new board

DALLAS — The Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce welcomes four new board members on Thursday. Emily Mentzer, of the *Polk County Itemizer-Observer*, Tammy Noon, of S&T Support, MaLarin Jones, of Harvest Crossfit, and Gerard Graveline, of Columbia Bank, were elected to the board in December and join current members Mike Barker, of Mid-Valley Ford, LaVonne Wilson, Rick Young, of The Car Doctor, AJ Foscoli (ex-officio), of the city of Dallas, and Michelle Johnstone (ex-officio), of the Dallas School District. For more information on the Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce: [dallasoregonchamber.org](http://dallasoregonchamber.org).

### Orchestra offers free concert Monday

MONMOUTH — The Willamette Valley New Horizons Orchestra will offer a free concert to the community on Monday at 7 p.m. at the Smith Recital Hall at Western Oregon University. The Willamette Valley New Horizons Orchestra is a community orchestra made up of volunteer players from our area. Rehearsals are held on Monday evenings at the Monmouth Senior Center and are open to players of all levels. There are no auditions or tryouts. For more information, contact Paul Doellinger at 503-838-4884. Monday's performance will feature selections from various well-known and popular operas.

THE DALLAS FORTY BAR PRESENTS

# THE SWAMP DONKEYS

20 JANUARY 2018  
8:30PM - MIDNIGHT

\$3 COVER  
962 MAIN ST  
DALLAS, OR



NEW MENU • OPEN MIC WEDNESDAY NIGHT

BANQUET ROOM • MUSIC FRIDAYS • NEW MENU

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Offer good Tuesday-Friday  
9am - 2pm

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### 503-837-0394

154 S. Main St, Independence  
Exp. 1/31/18.  
One coupon per table.  
Not valid on to-go orders.

INDEPENDENCE GRILL & BAR  
a family restaurant

• CATERING AVAILABLE • MUSIC FRIDAYS

Solution on Page 8A

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

## 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

Row → Three-by-three square → Column

### 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.

By Ben Arnoldy

The Christian Science Monitor



GAIL OBERST/for the Itemizer-Observer

Michael Cairns, of Independence, talks to Sen. Ron Wyden at a town hall meeting Saturday.

## Wyden encourages residents to 'step up'

By Gail Oberst

For The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — “What can I do?” a young woman asked Oregon’s U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden at his Saturday Town Hall at Western Oregon University in Monmouth. This town hall, the 864th of his 22-year senatorial career, drew nearly 100 people, many of whom asked about his work on national matters that impact Polk County residents.

Communicate your wishes to your leaders, Wyden suggested. Phone calls, letters, marches and rallies — all of these make a difference.

“Our constitution, the rule of law thrives on activism. Come forward. Step up,” he said.

Western’s President Rex Fuller hosted Wyden’s visit, and Independence Mayor John McArdle moderated questions from about 15 people during the two-hour event. In addition to civil engage-

ment, Wyden also answered questions on these topics:

- Collusion with the Russians to impact U.S. elections — As one of 15 members of the bi-partisan Intelligence Committee, which oversees federal intelligence agencies and bureaus, Wyden referred to Trump’s pre-presidential business dealings in Russia and said: “Follow the money. On my watch, this investigation is not going to be swept under the rug.” He also suggested that Oregon’s vote-by-mail would resolve foreign interference by creating a paper trail unavailable in electronic voting booths.

- Taxes, federal employees and Social Security — “Entitlements,” Wyden suggested, is not a good word for benefits that workers have earned. The budget deficit should not use funds from those accounts to pay off the budget deficit. A link on Wyden’s website, <http://www.wyden.senate.gov>, gives residents a place to share their opinions about the Republican tax plan.

- Offshore drilling — Wyden called Trump’s pro-

posal to expand offshore drilling an “... ideological trophy for the oil industry.” Furthermore, he pointed out, the proposed plan would include nearly every state with a coastline, except for Florida, home of Trump’s winter home, Mar-a-Lago. The plan’s 47 proposed lease sites do not include any in Oregon, but could in the future. Oregon’s Gov. Kate Brown has requested that Oregon’s coast be exempted from all oil drilling.

- Bridges and roads — A plan to rebuild American infrastructure should have been Trump’s first move as president, Wyden said. Instead, the Republicans propose to spend \$1.5 trillion on a tax cut that goes mainly to the wealthy. Now, his administration is suggesting that bridge and road improvements be parsed out to private companies who would then charge per use. Wyden called these “Trump Tolls.”

- Republicans vs. Democrats — The Oregon way, Wyden said, has always been collaborative. Mark Hatfield, Tom McCall, and Vera Katz

were political leaders who reached across the aisle. “That was the way we did it, Wyden said. “It’s harder now than I’ve ever seen.” Despite venom, cooperation continues on bills of interest to both sides, including the Children’s Health Insurance Program, which provides coverage for more than 80,000 children and pregnant women in Oregon; the “fix for fire” legislation, which would support fire prevention measures in Oregon and other states, and net neutrality.

He said there is also bipartisan support to resolve immigration issues, including continuing residency status for so-called “Dreamers,” children brought illegally by parents or relatives the U.S., and in some cases, have known no other home.

Recent presidential tweets and insulting comments don’t help, Wyden said. “That’s not what our country is about.”

To contact Wyden, visit or write his Salem office at 707 13th St. Suite 285, 97301; call 503-589-4555, or visit his webpage.

Visit our website



[www.polkio.com](http://www.polkio.com)

## Stew & Biscuits Lunch

Friday, Jan. 19, 11am-1pm

**\$7.00 per person**

- Bowl of Stew
- Biscuit • Beverage

Dallas United Methodist Church  
565 SE LaCreole Dr, Dallas

For information 503-623-8442

Supports Projects of Dallas Naomi Chapter #22, Order of Eastern Star

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DALLAS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL

## Community Awards Celebration

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH, 2018  
SIX O’CLOCK IN THE EVENING  
EOLA HILLS WINERY  
501 S PACIFIC HWY W, RICKREALL, OR 97371  
CATERED DINNER PROVIDED BY INDEPENDENCE GRILL

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT  
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[ASHLEY@DALLASOREGON.ORG](mailto:ashley@dallasoregon.org)  
503.623.2564

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SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY.

A Special Thank You to Our December Winners:

Harley Colette  
Jenny Kristen  
Donna Pam  
Azucena

Be sure to look for the Shop Local flyer boxes around town and follow us on Facebook to find out who is participating.

Happy shopping!

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