

EDITORIALS

Citizens help deputies, vice versa

In the last week, deputies from the Polk County Sheriff's have made news in somewhat unusual ways.

It could be filed under business-as-usual, but twice a passer-by took an active role in the public safety of the county and of our deputies.

On Sunday, a citizen reported a man was driving and appeared to be smoking methamphetamine from a glass pipe.

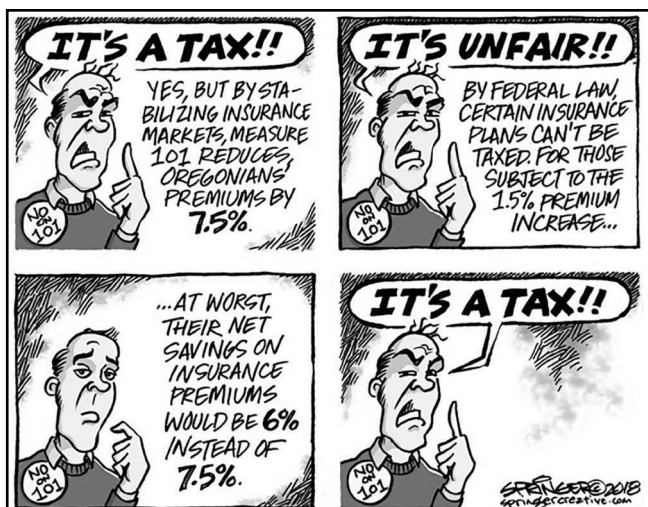
When a Polk County Sheriff's deputy, aided by Grand Ronde Tribal Police officers and Oregon State Police troopers — and the nose of a K-9 from Newberg Police Department — followed up with a traffic stop, they not only found a driver under the influence of intoxicants, they discovered a quarter pound of meth, a stolen handgun and cash.

On Friday, a citizen saw a muddy scuffle between a deputy and a suspect. Rather than continue on his way, he stopped to assist the deputy.

On Saturday, it was the deputies' turns to help the community, spending their day off painting rooms at the Titus 3 House, which serves as a transitional home for women exiting jail or prison.

Our law enforcement community — sheriff's deputies and police departments — are integral parts of our daily lives in Polk County.

We're happy to see citizens serving as eyes and ears for when problems arise, helping keep our streets free from crime, and to see deputies and officers pitching in to help citizens in a way that doesn't involve a warrant or a citation. Keep up the great work, everyone.



PUBLIC AGENDA

Public Agenda is a listing of upcoming meetings for governmental and nongovernmental agencies in Polk County. To submit a meeting, send it at least two weeks before the actual meeting date to the *Itemizer-ObsERVER* via email (ionews@polkio.com).

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17

• **Polk County Board of Commissioners** — 9 a.m., Polk County Courthouse, first floor conference room, 850 Main St., Dallas. 503-623-8173.

• **Monmouth Planning Commission** — 7 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 Warren St. S., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.

THURSDAY, JAN. 18

• **Monmouth Arts and Culture Commission** — 7 p.m., Volunteer Hall, 144 Warren St. S., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.

• **Independence Parks and Recreation Board** — 6 p.m., Independence Civic Center, third floor, 555 S. Main St., Independence. 503-838-1212.

MONDAY, JAN. 22

• **Independence Library Board** — 4 p.m., Independence Public Library, 175 Monmouth St., Independence. 503-838-1212.

• **Dallas School Board** — 6:30 p.m., Dallas School District Office, 111 SW Ash St., Dallas. 503-623-5594.

TUESDAY, JAN. 23

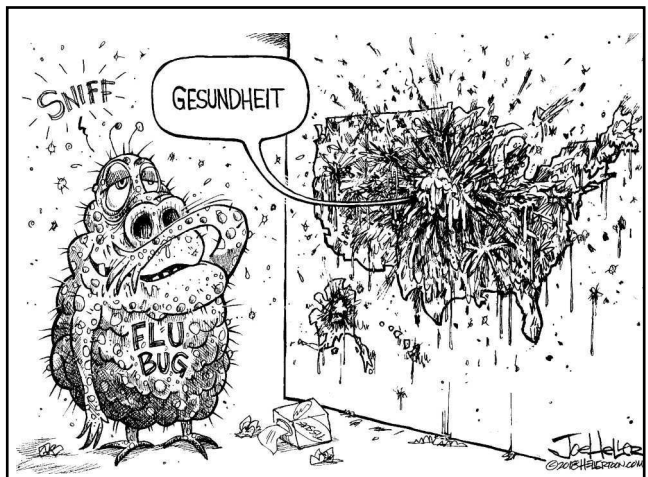
• **Polk County Board of Commissioners work session** — 9 a.m., Polk County Courthouse, first floor conference room, 850 Main St., Dallas. 503-623-8173.

• **Independence City Council** — 6:30 p.m., Independence Civic Center, 555 S. Main St., Independence. 503-838-1212.

• **Monmouth Senior Advisory Board** — 1 p.m., Monmouth Senior Center, 180 S. Warren St., Monmouth. 503-838-0725.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24

• **Polk County Board of Commissioners** — 9 a.m., Polk County Courthouse, first floor conference room, 850 Main St., Dallas. 503-623-8173.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vote no on Measure 101

My name is Kevin S. Chambers. I'm running for Oregon House District 20. Having resigned from my previous job, I had to temporarily join OHP, but I'm voting no on 101.

A no vote does not take away coverage for those on OHP.

A no vote is a yes vote on government accountability, management, and responsibility.

Hundreds of millions of dollars have been wasted by the majority, money that could have been put towards paying this bill.

The government needs to use our resources responsibly instead of burning through it and demanding more.

Kevin S. Chambers
Candidate for OHD 20
Monmouth

Adopt-A-Family team says thanks

The Dallas Adopt-A-Family team would like to thank the community of Dallas for your amazing generosity and support.

We had 197 donors adopt families and 20 that provided financial support. Thanks to the many churches, businesses, groups, organizations, Christmas Cheer and individual families, we were able to make Christmas a little brighter for 224 families and 17 teens.

This meant food for 1,115 individuals and gifts for 622 children.

We had many people in the community that also volunteered their time and helped to make this happen.

A huge thank you to all of you, I wish I could recognize each of you individually, but the list is too long.

Thanks for making a difference and we hope you will keep us in mind next Christmas.

Happy New Year from the Dallas Adopt-A-Family Team (Jim and Candace Fowler, Jason Ramos and Nicole Bats/ Salvation Army, Polk County, Dana Goodale, Susan Humphrey, Kathy Spear, Judy Jeffreys, Bev and Derrill Robinson).

Vickie Boer
Dallas Adopt A Family
Community Member
Dallas

WRITE A LETTER

Letters to the editor are limited to 300 words. Longer letters will be edited.

Election-related letters of all types are limited to 100 words. Writers are limited to one election-related letter per election season. Election letters from writers outside of Polk County are not accepted.

Each writer is restricted to one letter per 30-day period.

Letters that are libelous, obscene or in bad taste will not be printed. Attacks by name on businesses or individuals will not be printed.

The deadline for letters to the editor is 10 a.m. Monday. Letters submitted after this deadline will be retractable after this deadline. For the full letters policy, see polkio.com.

Questions? Email editor Emily Mentzer at ementzer@polkio.com, or call 503-623-2373 ext. 117.

Let's continue to antagonize N. Korea. Why can't Congress settle the DACA situation without a stipulation that a wall is built between the U.S. and Mexico? And when does the wall between the U.S. and Canada start?

Cliff Brown
Dallas

Trump not good leader of free world

Making America "great" again — a walk in nature is not a round of golf. Thanks to those who voted for Trump. As we enter a new year with the so-called representative of all the American people, a little reflection is in order.

Our POTUS: Blatant tax cheater gives break to those who do not need it. Thus increasing the already widening gap and concentration of wealth and power, also adding fuel to the ill-needed attention of class distribution. Has kept and gained wealth by multiple bankruptcies — great business acumen there.

Has and is less than honorable on contracts with the private sector and, sadly, with other nations.

Will mistreat the environment and our natural resources because it may be profitable.

"I mean, who cares if our children and grandchildren have clean air and water if I can have a job and a big ole gas guzzler now."

And what about those jobs. No sissy liberal or progressive jobs like solar or wind. I'm talking real drilling, earth shattering ones, and let's put them in some of the most sensitive and inhospitable places on earth.

Has sold fraudulent services for profit — so-called college.

And, most importantly, how is being sexist and racist not morally wrong in a civilized and democratic society? Sad.

And if you think impeachment may be a solution, don't forget who is waiting in the wings: Pence and Ryan. Think women's rights and religion in government, Social Security, and Medicare. Double sad.

Welcome to the herd. Hope you like the brand. Machevelli lives.

Have a peaceful and healthy new year.

Louis Stuckey
Monmouth

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Polk County
Itemizer-ObsERVER

Vol. 143, No.3

(USPS) - 437-380

The official newspaper of Polk County • Serving Polk County families since 1875

Winner of 2010, 2011, 2013 and 2014 General Excellence Awards from the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association

Periodicals postage paid at Dallas, OR, Independence, OR and Monmouth, OR. Published weekly at 147 SE Court Street Dallas, Oregon 97338 Phone: 503-623-2373

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
Polk County — One Year \$35
Other Oregon Counties — One Year \$40
Outside of Oregon — One Year \$45

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to: Polk County Itemizer-ObsERVER, P.O. Box 108, Dallas, Oregon 97338

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