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Itemizer-Observer

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Explore Polk County

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Get out and explore Polk County

Welcome to Polk County, where the difficult decision one must make is whether to stay or leave when it's time to play.

We're just an hour away from the Oregon Coast, the Pacific Ocean and its beautiful sandy beaches.

One of America's most vibrant cities, Portland, and its seemingly limitless array of cultural events and activities is only a 60- to 90-minute drive, depending on the volume of traffic on Interstate 5.

We're just two hours away from the Cascade Mountains and the ample recreational opportunities, from hiking to skiing to fishing, that abound there.

But you don't need to leave Polk County to find something fun, unique and interesting to do.

When you hear the words "Polk County," what comes to mind?

Do you think of the Willamette Valley and the fact that we sit right in the middle of Oregon's highly touted wine country? We're just minutes from wineries and vineyards that produce an assortment of award-winning vintages right here in our

backyard. A fine glass of pinot noir sounds pretty good right about now.

What about an outdoor adventure and a hike around Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge, which, as part of the Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex, is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2014? Keep an eye out for blacktail deer, an assortment of woodland critters and an incredible variety of birds and waterfowl — and don't forget the binoculars!

Need to fill the refrigerator for dinner this coming week? There is an ever-growing network of farmers markets operating throughout the spring, summer and fall in the region, each offering a bountiful assortment of fresh meats, eggs, fruits and vegetables, cheeses, breads and much, much more. Many of our local producers throughout the region also sell direct from the farm and ranch.

Looking for a night on the town or a weekend getaway close to home? Then how about dinner, a cocktail, some live music and Las Vegas-style gambling at Spirit Mountain Casino.

Want to get the family together for an

outing? Take in an outdoor movie at the Motor-Vu Drive-In in Dallas and soak up some old-fashioned Americana at one of the only drive-in movie theaters still in existence in Oregon and the Northwest.

Need a slower pace? Check out the Luckiamute State Natural Area by foot or canoe or take a back-country scenic drive to visit Polk County's only remaining covered bridge at Ritner Creek just south of Pedee.

All this is right here in Polk County. And it's just the tip of the iceberg, so to speak, as there is so much more to discover.

Oregonians don't need to leave the state to experience an incredible bounty of scenic beauty, culinary delights, and indoor and outdoor adventures. And Polk County residents and visitors don't have to go far to enjoy all that this region has to offer.

This is only the beginning.

Welcome to Explore Polk County, 2014.

—Kurt Holland

Managing Editor

Polk County Itemizer-Observer



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Commerce. "In other places, you have to schedule something like that. Here, it is just part of doing business."

So here, the winemakers are approachable and casual, but that doesn't mean they are any less focused on quality.

Oregon's industry is relatively young, in winemaking terms, with the first grapes planted about 50 years ago, according to the Oregon Wine Board. The state is now famous for its elegant cool-climate pinot noir, which represented the bulk of the 2013 harvest. Other varieties, such as pinot gris, chardonnay, syrah, Riesling and even some cabernets can also be found gracing the vineyard hillsides.

Those varieties, grown with an Oregon twist, have caught the

Continued on Page 7C

Polk County has long touted itself as the region's hidden jewel of winemaking, a place visitors in the know could get all that Oregon's wine country has to offer without the traffic and crowds.

That's still true, but the Willamette Valley and Polk County has enjoyed well-deserved time in the spotlight lately.

Jackson Family Wines of Sonoma, Calif., purchased four vineyards in Polk County in 2013 to expand its reach north to a region with growing acclaim in the wine industry, particularly for its signature variety, pinot noir.

Christopher Jackson, the son of Jackson Family Wines founder Jess Jackson, gave the area's pioneering winemakers the ultimate compliment on a visit to Polk County in 2013.

"We are going to respect the culture and we are here as students to what you have done," he said. "This is the beginning of the conversation for us. We are looking forward to having a very lively dialogue with you in the future on what we can do right, what we can do better, and how we can continue to make the Willamette Valley a world-renowned appellation for high-quality wines."

Part of that culture he speaks of is being as earthy as the pinots that are made here.

"If you visit a winery within Polk County, it's likely that you are going to meet the winemaker," said Chelsea Pope, executive director of the Dallas Area Chamber of



Continued from Page 6C

attention of wine experts and wine tourists alike.

Pope said in recent years, chamber employees have fielded more and more inquiries about the area's wineries.

"That has become one of the top three questions asked by visitors to the area," she said.

Polk County wineries—always seeking a way to set themselves apart—have taken the wine experience beyond tasting and vineyard tours.

Those looking to combine experiencing wine with an outdoor adventure should look into wine biking.

Eola Hills Wine Cellars has hosted the annual "Bike Oregon Wine Country" event each August since 1997. Starting with just one group of 30 cyclists, the event now attracts more than 1,000 participants and has expanded to every weekend in August. Rides vary in length from 45 to 75 miles and bikers can take the tour at their own pace. Lunch is provided on the ride and a barbecue awaits riders on their return to Eola Hills. For more information, go to www.eolahillswinery.com.

Perhaps biking miles is a little too adventurous, so how does tasting wine made the old-fashioned way sound?

Illahe Vineyards is among many Oregon vineyards making sustainability and conservation a focal point. The Dallas-area vineyard takes the notion of reducing its carbon footprint to another level, however. And in one case, you can drink the results.

Among those working at the vineyard are a pair of enormous Percheron draft horses. The brother-and-sister pair pull the vineyard's specially designed horse-drawn mower, and during harvest help bring in the grapes to reduce the use of tractors.

But in 2011, the gang at the vineyard decided to take a step back in time with a wine nicknamed "1899." The wine was produced entirely without technology or winemaking techniques developed or widely used after 1900.

Sounds insane, right? Winemaker Brad Ford and the Illahe crew would agree.

"We realized at some point that we could do it the same way they did over a hundred years ago," said Ford, explaining his brainchild. "So if we made it without stainless (steel), without electricity, without motors, it could be from the 19th century."



Crush Wine Bar & Tasting Room in Monmouth



Van Duzer Vineyards in Dallas

Ford was aware that this wouldn't be a small project — even if it only involved three barrels of wine.

"This was such a crazy idea, I kind of had to get approval from the people I work with," Ford said, smiling.

Thankfully, he had the support of his assistant winemaker, Gabriel Jagle, and eventually Illahe's national sales manager, Bethany Ford, who also happens to be Brad's wife.

"I thought he was crazy, yeah, to be honest," she said.

Doc and Bea, of course, were in on the action, but so were some vintage wine-making supplies, like the hand-powered destemmer Bethany has vivid memories of.

"The first day we hand-cranked the stems ... I was dumping buckets of grapes while Brad was hand-crank destemming," she said. "I remember saying 'Brad, why are we doing this?' It took a long time. It took all day. If we had used the electric destemmer, it would have taken an hour."

The result was worth the work, however. So much so that the vineyard made additional batches after the 2012 and 2013 harvests.

"The exciting thing is that it worked," Brad said. "The wine tastes great. It's a good wine; it's an interesting wine."

Illahe, located at 3275 Ballard Road, is open summer weekends, starting Memorial Day weekend May 24, and through Aug. 30.

See page 8 for a list of wineries and vineyards in Polk County.



Many of the region's wineries offer wine tastings on a seasonal or year-round basis. It is recommended you call ahead to confirm schedules and operating hours.

Wineries and vineyards in Polk County that offer tasting rooms and are open to the public, either during regular hours, by appointment or during seasonal open houses, include:

- ◆ **Airlie Winery**, 15305 Dunn Forest Road, Monmouth (Airlie). 503-838-6013. www.air-liewinery.com.
- ◆ **Amalie Robert Estate**, 13531 Bursell Road, Dallas. 503-882-8833. www.amalierobert.com.
- ◆ **Bethel Heights Vineyard**, 6060 Bethel Heights Road, West Salem. 503-581-2262. www.bethelheights.com.
- ◆ **Bjornson Vineyard**, 3635 Bethel Heights Roads NW, West Salem. 503-877-8189. www.bjornsonwine.com.
- ◆ **Bryn Mawr Vineyards**, 5955 Bethel Heights Road NW, West Salem. 503-581-4286. www.brynmawrvineyards.com.
- ◆ **Chateau Bianca Winery**, 17485 Highway 22, Dallas. 503-623-6181. www.chateaubianca.com.
- ◆ **Cherry Hill Winery**, 7867 Crowley Road, Rickreall. 503-623-7867. www.cherryhillwinery.com.
- ◆ **Cristom Vineyards**, 6905 Spring Valley Road NW, West Salem. 503-375-3068.

www.cristomwines.com.

- ◆ **Cubanisimo Vineyards**, 1754 Best Road NW, West Salem. 503-588-1763. www.cubanisimovineyards.com.
- ◆ **Dragonfly Creek Wines**, 14020 Orchard Knob Road, Dallas. 503-720-3807.
- ◆ **Elkhorn Ridge Vineyards & Winery**, 10895 Brateng Road, Monmouth. 208-720-3062. www.elkhornridgevineyards.com.
- ◆ **Emerson Vineyards**, 11665 Airlie Road, Monmouth. 503-838-0944. www.emerson-vineyards.com.
- ◆ **Eola Hills Wine Cellars**, 501 S. Pacific Highway (99W), Rickreall. 503-623-2405. www.eolahillswinery.com.
- ◆ **Evesham Wood Winery**, 3795 Wallace Road NW, West Salem. 503-371-8478. www.eveshamwood.com.
- ◆ **Firesteed Cellars**, 2200 N. Pacific Highway (99W), Rickreall. 503-623-8683. www.firesteed.com.
- ◆ **Huntington Hill Vineyards**, 3395 Perrydale Road, Dallas. www.huntingtonhill.com.
- ◆ **Illahe Vineyards and Winery**, 3275 Ballard Road, Dallas. 503-831-1248. www.illahevineyards.com.
- ◆ **Johan Vineyards**, 4285 N. Pacific Highway (99W), Rickreall. 1-866-379-6029. www.johan-vineyards.com.
- ◆ **Left Coast Cellars**, 4225 N. Pacific Highway (99W), Rickreall. 503-831-4916. www.left-coastcellars.com.

◆ **Namaste Vineyards**, 5600 Van Well Road, Dallas. 503-623-4150. www.namastevineyards.com.

◆ **Orchard Heights Winery**, 6057 Orchard Heights Road NW, West Salem. 503-391-7308. www.orchardheightswinery.com.

◆ **Redhawk Winery & Vineyard**, 2995 Michigan City Lane NW, West Salem. 503-362-1596. www.redhawkwine.com.

◆ **St. Innocent, Ltd.** (tasting room), 5657 Zena Road NW, West Salem. 503-378-1526. www.stinnocentwine.com.

◆ **Stangeland Vineyards & Winery**, 8500 Hopewell Road NW, West Salem. 503-581-0355. www.stangelandwinery.com.

◆ **Van Duzer Vineyards**, 11975 Smithfield Road, Dallas. 1-800-884-1927. www.vanduzer.com.

◆ **Walter Scott Wines**, 6130 Bethel Heights Road NW, West Salem. 971-209-7786. www.walterscottwines.com.

◆ **Whistling Dog Cellars**, 1915 NW Oak Grove Road, West Salem. 503-708-9105. www.whistlingdogcellars.com.

◆ **Witness Tree Vineyard**, 7111 Spring Valley Road NW, West Salem. 503-585-7874. www.witnesstreevineyard.com.

Wineries and vineyards with public tasting rooms who were omitted from this listing can be included next year by contacting the Itemizer-Observer at 503-623-2373 or sending an email with your information to ionews@polkio.com.

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Cool Brews

Welcome to beer country. The king of craft beers—Rogue Ale and Spirits—has a farm tucked away in Independence right on the Willamette River.

Rogue Farms is quite unique in both its location and offerings.

"To be quite frank, there's no brewery that I know of that has anything remotely close (to it)," said Brett Joyce, president of Rogue Ale. "Nobody has several varieties of hops, no one has pumpkins, rye, chickens, turkeys, pot-bellied pigs and full onsite hops processing."

At the farm, it's more of a winery-type setting, complete with tasting room and hop yards instead of vineyards, he said.

At Rogue Farms, you're treated like family.

There's the Hop N' Bed farmhouse, available to rent for an evening. If you're floating down the Willamette River, you can stop for lunch or a drink.

Even your pup can join Rogue Nation on a visit to the farm, said Executor of Hoppenings Tarah Fair.

"They get their picture taken, we give them an ID card," she said.

Throughout the summer, patrons may enjoy a variety of live music concerts or play lawn games, including croquet.

"We have a gigantic Scrabble," Joyce said. "The Scrabble pieces are 2 feet in size."

From mid-August through mid-September, come watch the hop harvest to see how the beer goes from ground to glass.

"We have three big buildings where you can actually watch the hops being taken off the field, off the bine, and then they dry them, sort them, kiln them and

bale them," Joyce said. "It's a full, start-to-finish process."

Independence was once known as the Hops Capital of the World, and some patrons of Rogue Nation recall their parents or grandparents picking hops by hand in Rogue Farms' very fields—before they were Rogue's, Joyce said.

To celebrate Independence's history with hops, the city hosts a Hop and Heritage Festival every September, with Rogue as the main sponsor.

Sept. 26-28 are the dates for the 2014 festival, and the farm will be hopping with live music every night and a farmers market on Sept. 27.

The location by the Willamette means flood waters may wash over the fields, depositing silt and fertilizing the ground. Floods in February 2014 have already begun to show some effects on this year's crop, Fair said.

"These are at least a foot taller than all the other ones," she said. "All that fertilizer might have helped them."



Visitors may tour the hop fields and working farm at noon and 3 p.m. on weekends from May through September. For private tours, call the farm in advance at 503-838-9813.

"We encourage people to go out and touch and feel (the hops)," Fair said. "They can even taste it if they want to add it to their beer. Tours are amazing during harvest season because you actually get to see everything in motion."

With all the events happening, don't forget about the beer, those luscious suds of the gods.

Rogue Farms offers more than eight of its brews on tap, with nearly all its 35 varieties available in bottles.

For the beer connoisseur, Rogue will fill or refill a growler.

"It's the closest thing for people to enjoy craft beer in their home," Joyce said. "There's nothing quite like getting something fresh off a tap, but this, for me, is the next best thing."

The variety of Rogue Ale will sate any palate, from chipotle to chocolate, stout to pale ale.

Ideas for a new beer come from a collaboration between the brewers and the drinkers, Joyce said.

"What does the beer drinker want? What kind of concepts do we have?" he said. "And the farms are a big part of that. We think it's really fun to grow our own ingredients and share the flavors."

For more information about events, check out Rogue Farms on Facebook, or go to rogue.com.



Tours, Brews and Hop N' Beds

What: Rogue Farms Micro Hopyard.

Where: 3590 Wigrich Road, southeast of Independence.

Hours: Chatoe Rogue is open year-round. Its summer hours are 4 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Tours: Rogue offers free tours of the farm every Saturday and Sunday at 3 p.m.

On Tap: The tasting room has more than a dozen beers on tap and most of its line available by the bottle. There's also a basic menu of snacks and appetizers.

Accommodations: The Hop N' Bed offers overnight stays. A room for two is \$140 a night. The entire house, which sleeps 15, is available for \$300 a night. Rogue Nation members receive 25 percent off. Rogue Farms can also host graduation parties, class and family reunions.

For more information: Tarah Fair, Hop Farm caretaker, 503-838-9813; email to tfair@rogue.com. Learn more about Rogue Farms and dates for concerts and events at the farm online at www.rogue.com or at the Rogue Farms Facebook page.



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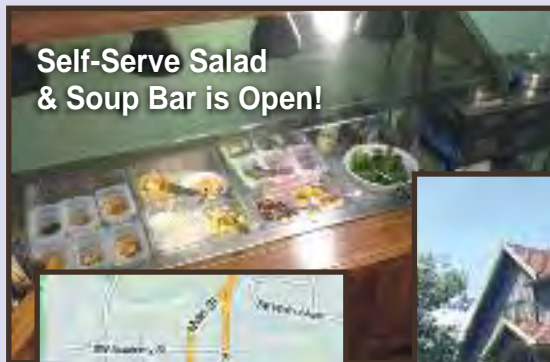
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Courses Offer Options

Polk County courses offer a golf game for the whole family

Think you need to leave Polk County to get in a great round of golf?

Think again.

The county has three courses that have elements all their own.

"We've got quite a niche here," Cross Creek Golf Course co-owner Tim Tarpley said of the three county public courses, Dallas Golf Club and Oak Knoll Golf Course included.

"Our course is longer for the real low handicappers," Tarpley said of Cross Creek.

Oak Knoll offers a great location just outside of the downtown areas of Independence, Dallas and Salem and it's playable for everyone. The 18-hole, par-72 course is located on Highway 22 between Independence and West Salem. A family course, a course that's been around since 1929 and people have seen it grow.

Dallas Golf Club, the lone executive, nine-hole course, is small but challenging.

It offers tough greens but an easy walk for those seeking a shorter round.



Cross Creek Golf Course offers a longer, 18-hole course with a variety of tee boxes to accommodate all experience levels.

"It's the toughest executive course in Polk County," Mike Tallon, the course's general manager, joked. "We try to create a relaxed atmosphere here — my goal is to get them

out there and see them leave with a smile on their faces."

One thing is for sure: golfers

in Polk County and visitors to the area have options, and they don't have to go far to find a course that caters to their needs.

Cross Creek

One of the newest courses in the Mid-Willamette Valley, Cross Creek offers a modern design by owners Tim and Kathee Tarpley, who opened the course in 1998. After owning a course in Waldport for nine years, Tim Tarpley said one of the biggest dilemmas they faced was keeping it dry.

"We had a golf course at the beach and it was always wet," he said, referring to his former course near the coast. Tarpley solved that problem before it started at Cross Creek, by putting in new drainage every

Cross Creek Golf Course

Where: 13935 Highway 22, Dallas.

What: 18-hole, par-72 course, playing 6,884 yards from the blue tees.

Longest hole: No. 5, 560 yards, par 5.

Hours: Weekdays, 7 a.m. until dark; weekends, 6:30 a.m. until dark. Open year-round.

Rates: Weekdays/weekends: 9 holes, \$18/\$20; 18 holes, \$30/\$33. Seniors—\$15 and \$26, Students—\$13 and \$24, Juniors—\$10 and \$20, (discount applies on weekdays only). Fees subject to change.

What's special: As one of the newest courses in the mid-Willamette Valley, Cross Creek offers a modern design and challenging play for low handicappers while offering enough tee boxes to make it playable for all levels. Men's and women's leagues, course memberships, drive and pull carts, lessons, a driving range and a pro shop are also offered.

For more information: 503-623-6666; www.crosscreekgc.com; search for Cross Creek Golf Course on Facebook. Tee times can be booked online.



Continued on Page 15C

Dallas Golf Club

Where: 11875 Orrs Corner Road, Dallas.

What: Nine-hole, par-31 executive course, playing 2,024 yards from the blue tees.

Longest hole: No. 6, 285 yards, par 4.

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to dusk; Saturday-Sunday, 7:30 a.m. to dusk. Open year-round.

Rates: Weekdays/Weekends: 9 holes, \$12; 18 holes (play course twice), \$22. Students/seniors (with valid ID/ages 59 and up): \$10 and \$18. Juniors (14 and under): \$9 and \$17 (fees subject to change).

What's special: As a smaller, walkable course, it's ideal for beginners looking to learn, but that doesn't make it easy. Greens are smaller here so a short game is vital, but the lesser yardage on the holes (there are no par 5s) allow players of all ages a chance to reach the green. A men's league, driving range, drive and pull carts, putting and chipping greens, and lessons are also available.

For more information: 503-623-6832.

Dallas Golf Club



Dallas Golf Club offers a nine-hole executive course.

golfteaching pro available, the only thing the course is lacking is yardage — and that's its draw.

"It's an easy walker and people come out because of that," said Tallon, who noted the holes aren't necessarily a breeze. "It's a tough course because of the small greens. You can see everything you need to hit — it's very visual — so your short game is really important.

"A lot of people use it as a learning course, but you still have to know how to play it."

Oak Knoll

Known as the first course in the North Willamette Valley — it was founded in 1926 — Oak Knoll breathes a familiarity to many.

"People have seen it grow," Lewis, who took over as head golf pro in August of 2012, said. "It's not too long of a course, it's not too tough and we have a great range facility."

Owners Val and Diane Barnes purchased the course in 1979. Since that time, the

Continued on Page 16C

Continued from Page 14C

year, and now the course is smoother than ever.

Large greens, refurbished sand traps, and a variety of tee boxes make a challenging course playable for the entire family.

That 'family friendly' atmosphere should be better than ever this season, as the course plans to offer a low-cost "Family Night" once a week to attract parents and their children of all skill levels.

"We're going to shorten up the golf course and cut the prices down so families can afford it," Tarpley said.

Another new attraction will be an updated tee box system that will be tailored to a player's average drive distance, rather than gender or age.

"We will be building some new tee boxes to shorten up the holes," Tarpley added. "We want people to use a tee that's more their style of golf — most people find that more enjoyable."

Dallas Golf Club

As the lone nine-hole course in the county, Dallas Golf Club is anything but intimidating. But that doesn't mean it doesn't have everything you need for a great golfing experience.

With a driving range, chipping and putting green and a



Dallas Golf Club

Oak Knoll Golf Course

Where: 6335 Highway 22, Independence.

What: 18-hole, par-72 course, playing 6,279 yards from the blue tees.

Longest hole: No. 11, 545 yards, par 5.

Hours: Weekdays/weekends: 7 a.m. until dusk. Open year-round. Oak Tree Inn Restaurant open Sunday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Rates: Monday-Friday: 9 holes, \$18; 18 holes, \$33. Saturday-Sunday: \$20 and \$35. Seniors (all week): \$15 and \$26. College students (with valid ID - all week): \$13 and \$23. Juniors (17 and under - all week): \$10 and \$16. Rates differ in winter and spring, check website (fees subject to change).

What's special: Claimed to be the first course in the North Willamette Valley, Oak Knoll offers a familiarity with golfers from around the area. A relatively flat course, play caters to players of all abilities. Oak Knoll is the only Polk County course with a full-service restaurant in Oak Tree Inn and also offers a PGA professional onsite, covered stalls at its driving range, drive and pull carts, men's, women's and junior leagues, memberships and a variety of open tournaments.

For more information: 503-378-0344; www.oakknollgolf-course.com; search for Oak Knoll Golf Course on Facebook. Tee times can be booked online.



Continued from Page 15C

course has developed into a full-service golf facility, including a revamped pro shop with Adidas and TaylorMade brand clubs, shoes and apparel.

It's also the lone county course that can offer a full-service restaurant and bar in Oak Tree Inn that can be rented for group outings.

Other amenities include a

driving range with 12 covered stalls, a practice hole and leagues for men, women and juniors. Oak Knoll also plans to have youth clinics in late June and early July — led by Lewis — as well as separate youth camps in partnership with the Monmouth-Independence YMCA later in the summer.



Independence's Oak Knoll, established in 1926, is said to be the oldest golf course in the North Willamette Valley.



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Canada goose enjoy an afternoon in the sun at Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge.



Nature up close

Baskett Slough gives nature its own place to call home

For 52 years, the Fender's blue butterfly was thought to be extinct. That was until 1989, when it was rediscovered in the Willamette Valley, where it currently occupies 32 sites in four counties.

But where is this endangered species' largest known population — anywhere in the world — located?

Right here in Polk County, at the Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge on Highway 22.

"We encourage people to just enjoy them fluttering around," Refuge Manager Sharon

Salvaggio said of the butterflies, while also urging people not to catch them. "A lot of

Nature Walk

What: Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge.

Where: Located off Highway 99, 2 miles north of the Highway 22 intersection. Turn west onto Coville Road and continue along a gravel road. You'll reach a parking lot, small informational kiosk, bathroom and a trailhead after about a mile.

Of note: USFWS officials host a number of birding hikes and environmental informational activities at the refuge throughout the year.

For more information:
503-623-2749;
www.fws.gov/Willamette-Valley/baskett/.

times they'll stop and feed on plants, or other times they'll land right on people's fingers."

The Fender's blue is just one of the many species that abound for wildlife viewing at



Information kiosk provides great view of refuge.

Baskett Slough, a safe haven for hundreds of types of birds, insects and plants.

The 2,492-acre tract of land is one-third of the three-part Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex (WVNWRC), which also features Ankeny — located southeast of Independence in Marion County — and William L.

Finley, located south of Corvallis in Benton County.

The most abundant animal species at Baskett Slough is the Canada goose, and it's the dusky subspecies of the bird that needs the refuge perhaps the most, as they nest in the winter almost exclusively in the Willamette Valley.

Continued on Page 20C



Fender's blue butterfly

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- Oregon State Fair — August 2014



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Canada goose both young and old can be found at refuge.



Canada goose most abundant species at Baskett Slough.



Well marked trails give hikers opportunity to discover wildlife at the refuge.

Continued from Page 18C

Baskett Slough was established in 1965 primarily to provide a migratory habitat for the wintering waterfowl, which lost most of their former nesting grounds in Alaska after an earthquake raised the level of the ground.

Simultaneously, nesting areas in the Willamette Valley were lost to expansion of agriculture.

In addition to the abundant bird life that includes bald eagles and red-tailed hawks, 30 species of mammals, eight species of amphibians and 10 species of

reptiles can also be found at Baskett Slough.

But if you think it's just like a state park, think again.

Recreation is limited to primarily wildlife viewing on the refuge's hiking trails or the visitor kiosk located just off Highway 22.

Pets, jogging and biking are prohibited and hunting and fishing are also not allowed.

"National wildlife refuges are places where wildlife comes first," Salvaggio said.

"One of the neat opportunities is to really hone your observation skills by coming to the refuge and looking for

different species. It's amazing what you can see and it's different every time."

Recent developments at Baskett Slough include restoration projects on the butte section of the refuge, where native plants have been encouraged to thrive.

"We've burned an area that we're trying to restore, so if you see a big black spot, that's why," Salvaggio said. "Those are practices that we use to get the plant community back to its native condition."

Fun facts and wildlife tips

- Baskett Slough is one of three parcels that make up the Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex (WVNWRC). The other two areas are Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge (southeast of Independence) and William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge (south of Corvallis).

- Want to find the Fender's blue butterfly? Unlike most other wildlife, the best time to spot the endangered species is on warm, sunny days, from mid-May to late June.

- Pets are not allowed on the trails at Baskett Slough. Leashed pets are allowed only at the information kiosk and trailhead parking areas.

- Dawn and dusk are the best times to see wildlife. In warmer climates, little is moving on hot summer afternoons or windy days.

- Don't feed the animals! Your lunch could disrupt wildlife digestive systems.



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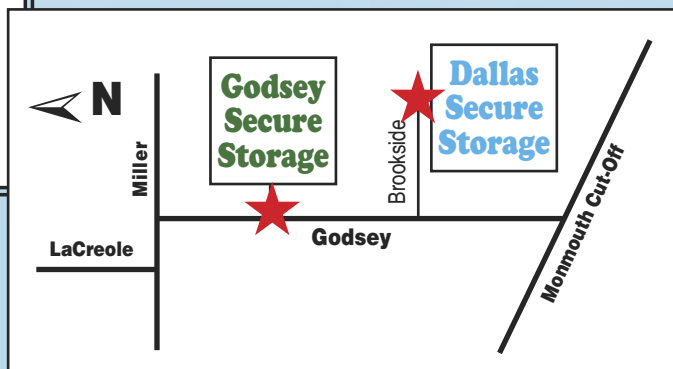
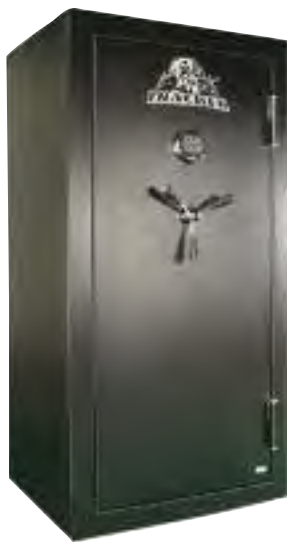
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Farmers market haven

Area markets provide alternative to store-bought products

A plethora of fresh fruits, vegetables, baked goods and cheeses—all locally sourced—are available at the region's farmers markets.

The addition of the Polk County Bounty Market in Monmouth, open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Tuesday at Main Street Park in Monmouth from May through September, means Polk County has a farmers market four days a week.

The Thursday Dallas farmers market also features plenty of cheeses, breads, meats and home-baked goods. It is located on the Academy Building lawn and runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This year, the market will test later hours on the first Thursday of every month, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

On Saturdays, stroll through downtown



Local vendors sell products.

Independence from one market to another, both open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Independence Farmers Market is in the parking lot of Umpqua Bank, formerly Sterling Bank. This market has a rich, more than 20-year history. Down the street is the Independence Riverview Market, now in its third year.

For anything you forgot to pick up during the week, the smaller Rickreall Farmers Market is set for Sundays.

The region's farmers markets — most open in April or early May and continue operating into the fall — provide a fine opportunity for folks to pursue locally



Area markets feature home grown fruits and vegetables.

grown produce, artisan food products, vegetable and flower starts, plants, and many other items — as well as an experience not available in traditional grocery stores.

Dallas' market will also feature a new treat for the kids, as children's activities will be available at the "Monkeys with Tools" booth.

Live, local music will also be occasionally featured at markets in Independence, Monmouth and Dallas.

For those wanting something other than just sweet treats and goodies, flowers, bedding plants, vegetable starts and handmade crafts are also available at all four markets.

Continued on
Page 24C



Farmers markets provide opportunities for buying and visiting.



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2014 Polk County Farmers Market Schedule

Independence Farmers Market

Where: Umpqua Bank, parking lot, 302 S. Main St., Independence.

When: Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; April 5 through Nov. 22.

Contact: Martha Walton, 503-881-9950 or waltons_garden@yahoo.com; www.independencefarmersmarket-or.org or www.facebook.com/TheOriginalIndependenceFarmersMarket/.

Rickreall Farmers Market

Where: Rickreall Grange Hall, 280 Main St. (Highway 99W), Rickreall.

When: Sundays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., May 4 through Nov. 23.

Contact: Martha Walton, 503-881-9950 or waltons_garden@yahoo.com.

Independence Riverview Market

Where: Riverview Park and Amphitheater

When: Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; April 5 through October.

Contact: Sue Barker, 503-837-0045, independenceriverviewmarket@gmail.com; www.independenceRiverviewMarket.com; or www.facebook.com/IndependenceRiverviewMarket.



Polk County Bounty Market — Dallas

Where: Academy Building Lawn at the corner of Main and Academy streets, Dallas.

When: Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., May 1 through Sept. 25; first Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Contact: Bonnie Dreier, 503-623-2564; email pcb@dallasoregon.org. For vendor lists, scheduled entertainment, children's activities and more check out www.bountymarket.org or on Facebook under "Bounty Market."

Polk County Bounty Market — Monmouth

Where: Main Street Park, 120 E. Main St., Monmouth.

When: Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., May 6 through Sept. 30.

Contact: Bonnie Dreier, 503-623-2564; email pcb@dallasoregon.org. For vendor lists, scheduled entertainment, children's activities and more check out www.bountymarket.org or on Facebook under "Bounty Market-Monmouth."



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Crowds line the sidewalks along Main Street in downtown as the Dallas community turns out in big numbers to show its spirit during the annual Summerfest celebration held in late July.



WELCOME TO DALLAS

While still a work in progress, Dallas—Polk County's largest city—is transitioning from a mill town to one marked by a new kind of development based on smaller, visitor friendly businesses and reconnecting with its farm-based roots.

A restored single-screen movie theater, antique stores, unique restaurants and coffee shops light the windows of downtown's historic buildings. More recent additions include a wine, coffee and live music venue and a small art gallery and working studio.

The former—Pressed Coffee & Wine—opened in March 2014 with the idea of becoming a hub of activity in a downtown trying to reinvent itself.

"So far the people that I've talked to have said if the coffee doesn't get them, the wine will get them, if the wine doesn't get them the music will," said co-owner Rachel Phelps, who opened Pressed with partner Douglas Graven. "We're trying to make a destination in Dallas."

Pressed built on trends that were already beginning to pick up steam in the area.

Interest in area wineries is on the rise as is a focus on buying from local producers, exemplified in the town's weekly farmers market, Polk County Bounty Market, open Thursdays from May to September.

Just down the street from Bounty Market, the city's anchor, the Polk County Courthouse, is home to two highly anticipated annual community events: Summerfest in July and Winterfest during the Christmas season.

Of those events, you will find none bigger than Summerfest, scheduled for July 24-27 in 2014. It features one of the biggest small-town parades in Oregon along with an ever-expanding collection of artisans, food vendors and live entertainment.

The city, chamber of commerce and local service clubs work together to bring Summerfest revelers Saturday's parade, and Sunday's activities in Dallas City Park: Breakfast in the Park, the Tom Newton Car Show and Art in the Park.

Summerfest may be the biggest event

Continued on Page 27C

MUST SEE & DO IN DALLAS

MOTOR-VU DRIVE-IN

Bring the family, load up on the popcorn, catch a first-run double feature and soak up some old-fashioned Americana at one of Oregon's only remaining drive-in movie theaters.

BOUNTY OF THE SEASON

Check out the Polk County Bounty Market, Dallas' weekly farmers market, open May through September, for the freshest and tastiest berries, breads and meats.

DISC GOLF

Play a round of disc golf at Dallas City Park. The park has a relatively new 18-hole course that has rapidly proven popular with residents and visitors alike.

Welcome to Dallas

Population: 14,583.

Elevation: 325 feet above sea level.

City Hall: 187 SE Court St., 503-623-2338, www.ci.dallas.or.us.

Visitor Services: Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce/Dallas Area Visitors Center, 119 SW Court St., 503-623-2564.

Schools: Dallas School District — Lyle Elementary School (K-3), Oakdale Heights Elementary School (K-3), Whitworth Elementary School (4-5), LaCreole Middle School (6-8), Dallas High School (9-12), Morrison Campus (alternative high school).

Parks: The city of Dallas has eight community parks and a trail system:

- **Dallas City Park** — Dallas City Park is the largest park in the city at 35 acres. The “new” entrance is located on Levens Street near Lyle Elementary. The “old” entrance near the Delbert Hunter Arboretum is on Academy Street. The park has facilities for gatherings large and small, including two shelters, two fireplaces, numerous barbecue pits, horseshoe pits, basketball hoops, a disc golf course and paved trails.

- **Roger Jordan Community Park** — Located next to the Dallas Aquatic Center on Southeast LaCreole Drive. It consists of soccer fields, a baseball field, a skate park, two tennis courts and a picnic area.

- **Birch Park** — Intersection of Birch and Stump streets. New playground equipment recently was added, and the park also has two basketball hoops.

- **Gala Park** — Intersection of Uglow Avenue and Hankel Street. It features a basketball court, playground and a grassy area with a gazebo.

- **Kingsborough Park** — 101 SW Wyatt St. It features lots of wide-open spaces as well as two basketball hoops, walking paths and a playground. Restrooms are open during the summer.

- **Rotary Park** — 300 NE Fern Ave. The city has joined forces with the Dallas Rotary Club to upgrade the park with new playground equipment, walking paths and a basketball court.

- **Walnut Park** — 501 SE Walnut Ave. It is a small wooded area with a shaded creek and a bench.

- **Central Bark** — 920 SE Juniper St. behind the aquatic center. It is the city's newest park and the only off-leash park for dogs. It has an enclosed area with a picnic table, water and mutt-mitt stations.

- **Rickreall Creek Trail** — The Rickreall Creek Trail will eventually run the length of the city east to west following the course of its namesake creek. It has rapidly taken shape in recent years, with new sections added each summer.

Continued from Page 26C

Dallas plays host to, but there are plenty of other activities drawing people downtown throughout the year.

You can grab a blanket or lawn chair and head down to the Academy Performing Arts Stage for the Sounds of Summer concert series and annual summer outdoor movie series.

If bundling up and enjoying a cup of hot chocolate is more to your taste, come check out Winterfest, the kick-off of the Christmas holiday season, with the annual tree lighting ceremony and arrival of Santa Claus.

Not to be left out of the area's July Fourth activities, Dallas introduced a new event in 2013, Freedomfest. Plans for 2014 include a sanctioned barbecue contest and a fireworks display.

Still need another avenue for entertainment? How about a movie? You have two choices in Dallas — depending on the season. First is the lovingly restored Fox Theatre on Southeast Mill Street downtown. And in

a true trip back in time, The Motor-Vu Drive-In is typically open April through October.



Dallas Bounty Market

Summerfest puts Dallas in spotlight

Summerfest 2014 will be turning Main Street into Bourbon Street for a weekend as “Mardi Gras Masquerade” sweeps into town the last weekend in July.

This year, Dallas’ signature four-day extravaganza is scheduled July 24-27, with the New Orleans-inspired theme.

In recent years, themes such as “Wild, Wild West,” “Under the Sea” and “Flower Power” have made it easy for festival attendees to join in the fun by dressing up, especially during the Saturday parade.

Summerfest 2014 will certainly offer that same opportunity.

“The last few years we have been trying to pick themes that we can use for the whole year, and Mardi Gras was the top vote-getter for Summerfest,” said Chelsea Pope, the executive director of the Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce, which organizes the event.

Summerfest spans Thursday through



Dallas’ annual Summerfest celebration is an excuse to let loose and have fun.

Sunday, with plenty of events, food and entertainment to fill the schedule.

Saturday’s parade through downtown is the biggest draw, bringing a crowd of on-lookers reaching 20,000 people some years to watch the more than 100 floats weave their way through the route.

But stop by before or after the parade

and you will find so much more.

“It’s four days of crazy fun that takes a whole year to plan, but really highlights everything about our community,” Pope said.

Thursday through Saturday, the Polk County Courthouse lawn is “festival central,” with vendors selling food, retail products, and arts and crafts.

Sunday, Summerfest moves to Dallas City Park, where guests can enjoy the Dallas Rotary Club’s Breakfast in the Park and classic cars entered in the Tom Newton Car Show.

Across the bridge spanning Rickreall Creek is Art in the Park, featuring local artists and vendors, as well as tours of the Delbert Hunter Arboretum.

Pope said Summerfest is truly a community showcase.

“This is our time to come together and celebrate.”

Freedomfest newest addition to festival lineup

BBQ, games, fireworks



Sanctioned “BBQ Throwdown.”

Northwest BBQ Association is sanctioning Freedomfest’s “BBQ Throwdown” contest, meaning winners can compete for cash prizes and advance to larger competitions.

Freedomfest 2014 opens in Dallas City Park with vendors and activities, and concludes with a fireworks show at LaCrescent Middle School.

Dallas will have a professional fireworks display for the first time in years this on July 4, thanks to the quickly expanding Freedomfest celebration in Dallas City Park.

That isn’t the only highlight to the festival, now in its second year. The Pacific

Winterfest helps get community in holiday spirit

Event kicks off Christmas season



Visit with Santa tops her list.

tions. A holiday movie, hot chocolate, apple cider, cookies and vendors selling holiday wares are all part of the festivities.

Christmas caroling and other holiday performances lead up to the main event, the arrival of Jolly Ol’ Saint Nick to light the Sequoia tree on the Polk County Courthouse lawn.

For more information and schedules for Winterfest: www.dallasoregon.org/dacc.

If Summerfest is all about fun in the sun, then its December counterpart, Winterfest, is a celebration of all things Christmas.

People can bundle up and head to the Polk County Courthouse Square for an evening of holiday fun to kick off the season of celebra-

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Guthrie Park Community Center hosts weekly acoustic music jams and monthly dances and gospel music sessions, in addition to weddings, meetings and more.



A foot-stompin' good time

Music, dancing and more — Guthrie Park Community Center offers it all

If you're searching for an old-fashioned good time, look no further than Guthrie Park Community Center's Friday Night Acoustic Music Jam or the monthly country folk dances and gospel music jams.

Even the setting, a charming old event hall built in 1912, gives the ambience of times gone by.

Every Friday, a group of musicians come from all over the county, and even Salem and Corvallis, with all manner of instruments — fiddles, harmonicas, accordions, acoustic guitars — to play music in just as many genres.

On any given Friday, you could hear old-time fiddle, folk, swing, country and gospel music. As long as it is acoustic, it can be played.

The jams are just that. Nothing is planned and musicians can bring an instrument — or just their voices — and

join the other performers.

Whether you come to play or just to listen, you are welcome at the Friday night jams.

Like the weekly jam sessions, the monthly gospel jams held on the third Saturday of the month are open to anyone wanting to play or listen to gospel music.

How about dancing?

Dancers gather the second Saturday of the month — except during the summer — learning the folk dances that go by the names of "Virginia Reel," "Texas Star," "Duck the Oyster" and "Swing Lucky Seven."

The crowd is a mix of ages, with a surprising number of younger people leading the dances.

Sally Clark, the owner of Guthrie Park, said it all started with parents bringing their young children with them to the dances, which began more than 20 years ago. Since then, those children have grown up

and continue to meet friends at the gatherings.

The dances are informal, so there are no worries about dressing up or memorizing steps, and rarely is anyone left without a partner — unless they need a break.

Dallas resident David Harlow considers the monthly gathering among the best entertainment the area has to offer.

Clark said the dances and music jams are just the types of events she envisioned when she bought the center at auction in 1987.

It took plenty of remodeling and cleaning to restore the building to its former glory. The walls were bowing and the windows boarded up, but Clark cleaned it up and built a stage and a deck. With the appearance of few modern amenities, stepping on the dance floor is like taking a step back in time.

Old-Fashioned Fun

What: Guthrie Park Community Center.

Where: 4320 Kings Valley Highway, about 3 miles south of Dallas.

Of note: Acoustic music jams are every Friday from 7 to 10 p.m. and gospel music nights are held the third Saturday of each month from 7 to 10 p.m. Admission is free, though donations are accepted. Country folk dances are held the second Saturday of the month, September through May, from 7 to 10 p.m. No experience is necessary as all dances are taught. Admission to the dances is \$5 for adults, families of four or more are \$15 and children under 12 are free.

For more information: 503-623-0874; email to guthriepark@gmail.com; www.guthriepark.org.

A night at the movies

Dallas' Motor-Vu Drive-In remains a big piece of Americana

If you are in the mood for an almost forgotten pastime, visit the Motor-Vu Drive-In in Dallas. Yes, it's a drive-in theater — one of only four left in Oregon.

Once the best place to see a double feature of summer blockbusters, drive-ins have sadly declined to near non-existence.

But not here in Dallas, where the Motor-Vu just celebrated its 60-year anniversary in the summer of 2013.

The Motor-Vu's story began in 1953, when Don and Jeri Wernli, who had experience with indoor movie theaters, built the drive-in. It opened on July 22, showing "Branded" and "Meet Me at the Fair" in Technicolor. Decades went by and one of America's favorite ways to see a movie slowly fell by the wayside. The Motor-Vu changed hands and may have suffered the same fate as other drive-ins.



Then, fast forward to 2007, when Jeff and Robin Mexico purchased the Motor-Vu and The Fox in downtown Dallas, intent on restoring them to their former glory.

"We wanted to put it back to the way it was in 1953," Mexico said. "We had it all ready to go before we opened in 2008. It's been a really popular place, even though it's only open six months out of the year. It's done really well for us."

To keep the streak going, Mexico invested in leasing a digital projector for the

drive-in last summer so the drive-in can keep bringing in the latest films.

"We are here to stay," Mexico said.

On a warm summer night, it's easy to see why. Moviegoers show up early and set up lawn chairs or pile blankets and pillows in the back of trucks and SUVs. They talk and laugh with

friends as the sun sets. And then, just after dark, the show begins.

It's a unique movie-going experience, one that only a handful of places in the state continue to offer.

"A lot of people bring their families out because they have never been to a drive-in," Mexico said. "When I was younger, I

Continued on Page 32C

Picture Show

What: Motor-Vu Drive-In.

Where: 315 SE Fir Villa Road, Dallas.

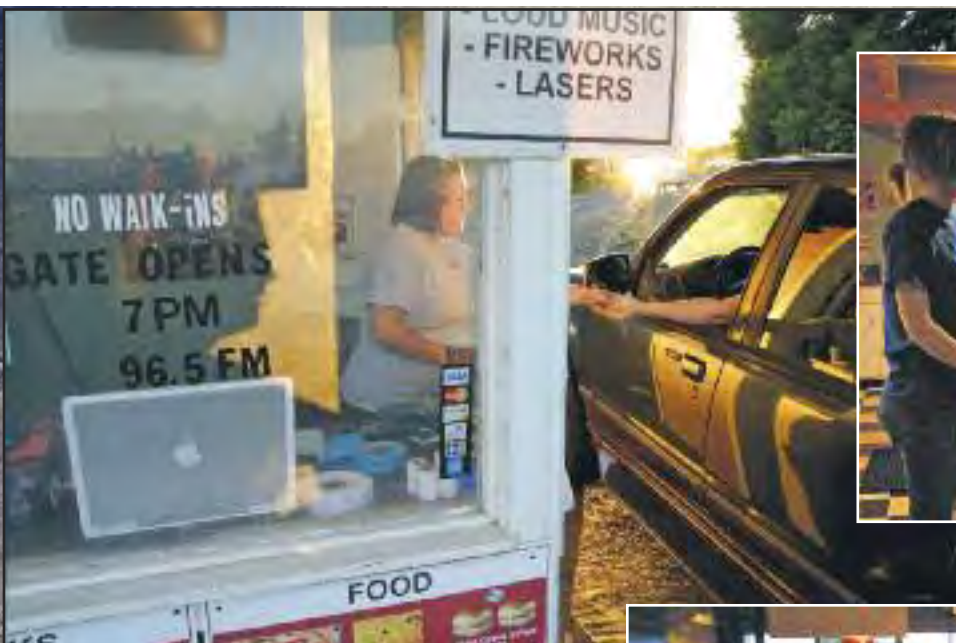
When: The drive-in theater typically opens for the season in April and closes in October.

For more information and showtimes: 503-623-4449; online at www.dallas-motorvu.com.



Movie-goers break out their lawn chairs for some pre-show socializing at the Dallas Motor-Vu Drive-in in Dallas.



**Continued from Page 31C**

remember going to a drive-in. You wouldn't think later in life it would be a big deal, but it is. A lot of the memories I have are from the drive-in, with family."

The Motor-Vu reopens for the season annually on weekends in April. Nightly showings typically begin in May.

Families come from all over the Willamette Valley to enjoy the trip back in time and for the price — \$20 per car up to four people — they can enjoy two first-run movies. Admission for five or more people in a vehicle is \$5 per person. Children 3 and younger are free.

After Labor Day, the schedule reverts back to weekend-only showings and closes for the winter in October or November.



What's a drive-in without a few snacks? The concession area at the Motor-Vu Drive-In has everything from popcorn and candy to your favorite soda or simple bottle of water.

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Dallas City Park

Gem of the community

Dallas' largest park—Dallas City Park—has room to fit it all, from multiple playgrounds, to trails for a quiet stroll, to a course for a round of disc golf.

A sport growing in popularity, disc golf looks a little different than the traditional ball-and-club variety.

Instead, disc golf uses a small Frisbee-like disc that players toss from a tee toward a “hole,” baskets designed to catch the disc. There are similarities—including discs that are designated as “drivers” and “putters.”

The park's 18-hole disc golf course has become quite an attraction since the city installed the first nine holes in 2009.

Chelsea Pope, the executive director of the Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce, said out-of-town visitors often ask about the course.

“It's really amazing how popular that is,” she said, noting people from as far away as Portland come to play. “They really like our course.”

Those wanting to give the sport a try should be prepared to venture into mud and brush to play. Most of the holes are short, so instead of distance the biggest challenges for players are the hazards.



Most holes have something in the way, whether it be trees, ravines, hills or bushes. On one hole, a huge patch of blackberry brambles is right in the middle of the fairway.

Beginners shouldn't be intimidated through. With no tee times needed, they can take their time. Each hole is identified with a sign and directions to the next hole. A course map is located at a kiosk in

Continued on Page 36C

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Continued from Page 34C

the parking lot by the first hole.

Disc golf course maps and score cards are available for download on the city of Dallas website: www.ci.dallas.or.us/discgolf.

Dallas City Park also is home to the Sunday events during the community's signature event, Summerfest, scheduled in 2014 on July 27. Sunday's events in the park feature something for everyone, including breakfast, a classic car show, an art festival and a special edition of Dallas' Polk County Bounty farmers market.

Looking for something a little more leisurely to do in Dallas City Park?

You can take a quiet stroll through Delbert H. Hunter Arboretum, tucked away on five acres in the southwest corner of the park.

Started by people intent on tending roses, the arboretum has grown to display so much more, including native Oregon trees, shrubs and wildflowers.

It is said to be one of the largest and most complete arboretums in the state, with 180 native plant species, including trees, shrubs and flowers. Dotted throughout the arboretum are benches to provide visitors with spots to rest or to simply admire the plant life.

One such place, a relatively new addi-

tion to the arboretum, is the 30,000-gallon pond feature. Surrounded by comfortable benches, wildflowers and the calming sound of water, it's a perfect place for quiet reflection.



Visitors can reach the arboretum by traveling through Dallas City Park via the Levens Street entrance or, more directly, via West Ellendale Avenue, then Westwood Drive and Park Street. The arboretum is open during

park hours and the visitor's center is open Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to noon.

For more information on the arboretum: 503-623-7359.

Check It Out

Dallas City Park is the town's largest at 35 acres. Entrances are located on Levens Street near Lyle Elementary School at Brandvold Drive or continue south on Levens and turn right on Academy Street.





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Making Waves

Dallas Aquatic Center area's year-round public swimming facility

Ready for a swim? The Dallas Aquatic Center has a pool for you, whether you are up for a tough workout or just drifting down the "lazy river."

Opened in 2000, the facility is the only aquatic complex in Polk County of its size and draws thousands of customer visits per month. Plus, being an indoor facility, there is no need to worry about the weather outside putting a chill on your swim.

It features a therapy pool, lap pool, spa, lazy river, leisure pool, wading pool for toddlers, and a fountain.

And what aquatic center would be complete without a slide? The Dallas Aquatic Center has a 14-foot-high, 105-foot-long slide.

Offering a full schedule of classes, lessons and lap swim times, the aquatic center is also a perfect place to get a workout.

Make a Splash

What: Dallas Aquatic Center.

Where: 1005 SE LaCreole Drive, Dallas.

Admission: Adults, \$5; youths (younger than 18), \$4; seniors (60 and older), \$4; families (up to four people), \$12; infants 3 and younger wading pool use: \$1. (Prices subject to change).

Of note: Hours vary by season. For the latest hours, class schedules, recreational swim times, admission discounts, special events, and annual pass prices, check the aquatic center's website at www.ci.dallas.or.us/DAC.

For more information: 503-623-9715.

"We have a variety of all types of programs people can participate in — classes, lessons, swim teams," said Tina Paul, the aquatic center manager.

The center offers classes varying in intensity from vigorous swimming to therapeutic stretching.

Recreational swim times are dotted throughout the schedule for people to enjoy unrestricted access to all aquatic center pools and features.

No school for the kids? No problem. The center adds recreational swim times on holidays or other days when school is out. Check the center's website under "No-school Recreation Swims" for a schedule.

A pro shop selling goggles, swimming suits, swim shampoo and conditioner, water shoes, swim caps and more is open onsite. Don't worry about getting hungry, either. The center has a snack shop, too.

Planning a birthday party or family gathering? The aquatic center also has party rooms and rental packages available.

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WELCOME TO FALLS CITY

Falls City was once known as the "Queen City of Polk County."

Strolling Main Street, there are visages of why in the quaint homes, the historical high school building and stately churches.

Like many former mill towns, Falls City is reinventing itself. A handful of new and successful ventures on Main Street has

helped provide Falls City with a renewed sense of community spirit and given visitors a reason to turn off the main road and make treks west to the community of just under 1,000 residents.

An artisan bakery, some of the best mountain biking trails found anywhere in the Pacific Northwest, and the town's namesake falls are big drawing points to Polk County's smallest incorporated city.

The biggest recent change involves the city's famous falls. Full access to both shorelines of the falls on the Little Luckiamute River was restored in September 2013 after a property dispute closed the more popular north shore to the public five years ago.

MUST SEE & DO IN FALLS CITY

THE FALLS

Check out the city's namesake falls along the Little Luckiamute River. Best vantage point is via Fay Wilson Memorial Park (aka Lower Park).

THE BREAD BOARD

Visit The Bread Board and let your senses of taste and smell go wild with a scone, loaf of bread or brick-oven pizza.

BLACK ROCK MOUNTAIN BIKING

Take an off-road adventure on two wheels and explore the many riding trails at the Black Rock Mountain Bike Area.

With the financial backing of the city of Falls City, local nonprofit Falls City Alliance purchased the property and opened it to the public once again.

Continued on Page 42C



Community members and visitors once again have full access to the famous falls of Falls City.

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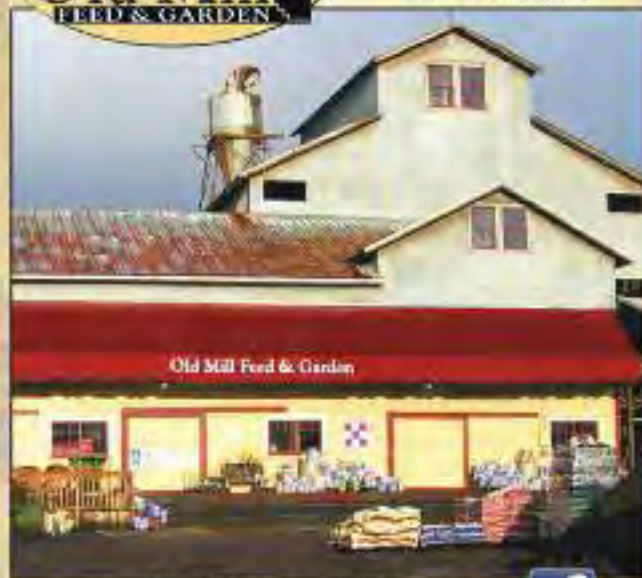
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Continued from Page 40C

Locals wasted no time getting back to doing what they've been doing for generations.

"People are pretty excited about it," Janelle Anzalone, a member of the alliance, said after the sale. "A lot of people are going right back up there. It's pretty cool."

Jumping from the falls cliffs into pools below has been a rite of passage since the beginning. Pioneers who settled near those very falls created Falls City in 1889.

In the early 1900s, Falls City was a thriving town, centered around several mills. Downtown featured a number of grocery stores, a bakery, butcher and even a hotel.

Those businesses are gone now, but in their place is a small grocery store, secondhand stores, a refurbished downtown pub and restaurant, and a bakery featuring one of the biggest brick ovens in the state. People come from miles around for The Bread Board's offerings of bread, pizza, scones and other baked goods.

While the town has changed quite a bit since its founding, the close-knit, community feel has never left. To experience a little of that small-town charm, check out

the annual Fourth of July parade and fireworks show.

The parade marks a short route along Main Street, but what it lacks in length it makes up for in whimsical patriotic spirit. Where else could you see the mayor on the back of a motorcycle, a dachshund pulling a miniature chuck wagon and a pony dressed as a poodle on the same day?

Just like much of what happens in Falls City, its annual fireworks display is a bit different. It's held on July 3.

What began as a small fireworks display in the mid-1990s as a celebration among firefighters on July 3 has become a Falls City tradition that attracts residents and visitors alike. Now the display draws 3,000 to 4,000 people watching the pyrotechnics, either from the town's Upper Park or other vantage points in the surrounding area.

Those looking for outdoor adventure on wheels can head to the Black Rock Mountain Bike Area, one of the area's biggest tourist attractions, to ride the nearly 10 miles of sculpted trails.

And then, of course, when the summer temperatures rise, the roar of the falls beckon.

Welcome to Falls City

Population: 960.

Elevation: 370 feet above sea level.

City Hall: 299 Mill St., 503-787-3631, www.fallscityoregon.gov.

Schools: Falls City School District — Falls City Elementary School (K-8), Falls City High School (9-12).

Parks: The city of Falls City has three community parks:

- **Michael Harding Memorial Park** — Michael Harding Memorial Park is on the south side of the Little Luckiamute River falls. It is named for a city clerk who was killed in an accident in 1976.

- **George Kitchen Memorial Park** — George Kitchen Memorial Park, also known as Upper Park, is located just off Park Street. It has a large gazebo and access to electricity.

- **Fay Wilson Memorial Park** — Fay Wilson Memorial Park runs alongside the Little Luckiamute River opposite City Hall. It is also known as Riverside Park and Lower Park.



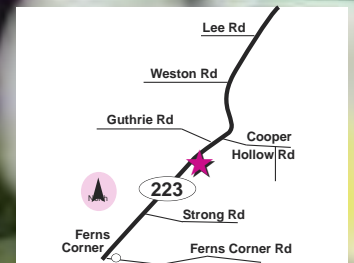
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Your taste buds will be rewarded after a visit to The Bread Board in Falls City

The Bread Board began as a backyard brick oven bakery in 2008, but has now become a Falls City destination.

Owners Keith Zinn and John Volkmann quickly built a reputation for making distinctive — and delicious — breads using fresh, local ingredients, old-world style baking techniques, and that special something that only baking at high temperatures in a brick oven can provide.

"You get a caramelized crust. ... It seals the moisture in the bread," Zinn said. "Our bread can last a week on the counter. And the inside, it just glistens. It's very soft and chewy, and tastes like there is butter on it when there isn't."

At first they only sold their breads at

farmers markets, but encouraged by the response from customers they built a permanent bakery in Falls City.

Soon, The Bread Board added brick-oven pizza to an ever-expanding menu of offerings.

Devoted fans in Silverton, first introduced to The Bread Board through the town's farmers market, have led to Volkmann and Zinn opening a second location in that town.

But The Bread Board's Falls City home-base, with its gigantic oldworld style brick oven, is more than worth a visit.

The oven churns out a changing menu of delectable breads, treats and pizzas, while a cozy dining area gives customers a place to relax.

The Bread Board offers a lunch menu featuring salads, cheese plates and thick-crust Sicilian pizza by the slice. Whole pizzas — of the thin crust variety — are available starting at 4 p.m., with two meat and

two vegetarian recipes on the menu.

Each day features a rotating menu of bread varieties. The bakery offers country sourdough, roasted garlic and sundried tomato, pumpkin, walnut, olive rosemary and cheese breads, to name a few.

Zinn's favorite? Country sourdough.

"It's what I learned to make the most when I was training as a breadmaker," he said. "It's flour, water, salt and sourdough. It's just four ingredients — and it's amazing. I like to bake mine extra dark and extra crunchy."



Brick-Oven Baking

What: The Bread Board.

Where: 404 N. Main St., Falls City.

Hours: Winter hours: Friday, Saturday Sunday — 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. through May. Summer hours: Friday, Saturday, Sunday — 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

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World class riding trails

Black Rock Mountain Bike Area offers nearly 10 miles of awesome cycling adventures just outside of Falls City

You don't have to travel to some far off amusement park in California or Florida for a roller coaster adrenaline rush.

Just break out your dual suspension bike, a helmet and a bit of courage and do what the locals do — fly.

Welcome to the Black Rock Mountain Bike Area, a nationally renowned fat-tire playground of ramps, elevated bridges, teeter-totters and “flowy black dirt” located a few miles southwest of Falls City.

The roughly 9.5-mile network of trails sits in a 1,000-acre tract of the Oregon Department of Forestry's Gerlinger Experimental Forest.

It exists through a unique partnership between the state and the Black Rock Mountain Bike Association (BRMBA). A volunteer organization, BRMBA has designed, managed and maintained these sanctioned trails since 2002.

The downhill network is set up not unlike a ski resort; there are five different trails for beginners to experts. Technical sections also include “ride arounds” that give visitors and newbies a chance to scout out a stunt beforehand.

“It's all skill levels,” said Rich Bontrager, BRMBA president, noting that more families and younger riders are flocking to the trails.

Black Rock was a haven for dirt bikes during the 1980s, until ODF closed it to motor vehicles. Mountain bikers, meanwhile, still flocked there and even cut some primitive trails into Mount Brown, where most of the trail system is today.

In 2002, Leo Kowalski, Michael Susee and Jason Vogt — a trio from the Salem area — approached ODF about building a sanctioned freeride trail.

Freeriding is a more aggressive subset of mountain biking that focuses on downhill riding, jumps and maneuvering through and over obstacles. ODF agreed, and designated Black Rock a mountain bike-only site.

“The arrangement has worked out well,” said Chris Humcke, an ODF unit forester who's been working with BRMBA during the last few years.

“BRMBA has done all the work on their own, with volunteer time and money,” Humcke said. “The trails have some really unique features.”

Kowalski, Susee and Vogt originally formed the Black Rock Freeride Association to manage the trails and interact with ODF.

That group has since morphed into BRMBA to be more inclusive of other types of mountain bikers. The organization is seeking more members to help on build and maintenance days scheduled throughout the year.

Continued on Page 47C



Riders of any skill level will enjoy the trails at Black Rock Mountain Bike Area, which offers technical lines and features as well as “ride arounds” for those less experienced.

Go For A Ride

What: Black Rock Mountain Bike Area.

Cost: Free and open to the public year-round.

Directions: From Dallas head southwest to Highway 223 and continue for 5 miles. Turn right onto Falls City Road and drive 4 miles into Falls City. Once in Falls City, travel west through downtown and bear right before the bridge onto Mitchell Street. Drive up a short hill, turn left onto a dirt road and follow the river for 3 miles until you reach the Tapawingo Camp sign. Turn right here, cross a bridge and park at an area next to a main gate. Do not drive past the gate, even if it's open.

For more information: For details about Black Rock or to see schedules for upcoming events and races on the trails, visit the Black Rock Mountain Bike Association's website at www.brmba.org or send an email to Rich Bontrager at richb@brmba.org.



In 2010, Black Rock Mountain Bike Area was added to the International Mountain Bike Association's "Epic Trail Program."

Continued from Page 46C

Black Rock is one of just a handful of trail systems sporting technical features in the Pacific Northwest and one of the premier freeriding spots in the United States.

It has been featured in mountain bike magazines and videos. It draws locals and frequent visitors from as far away as California, Canada and even Ireland.

The site sees a number of downhill races throughout the year, while bike builders sometimes hold demonstration days here.

In 2010, Black Rock was added to the International Mountain Bike Association's Epic Trail Program. That distinction is given to trails based on the quality of their design, the organization behind projects and cooperation with public agencies.

Bill Baxter of Portland, a longtime mountain biker, has ridden Mammoth Mountain, Calif., Moab, Utah, and other meccas of the sport. He first visited Black Rock in 2010 — and was impressed.

"It's absolutely awesome," Baxter said. "I compare all the other places I go to this place ... it doesn't get much better."



Black Rock Mountain Bike Association (BRMBA) organizes events throughout the year to encourage the riding community's use and stewardship of the area.

Magnificent Trees

BLM's Valley of the Giants takes you deep into a special old-growth forest

Hidden away in the Coast Range west of Falls City and beyond a maze of winding logging roads is one of Oregon's most magnificent natural areas: Valley of the Giants.

To say the area is remote is an understatement, said Trish Hogervorst, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's Salem District Office.

The BLM manages the area, which was named an Outstanding Natural Area in 1976, a designation that protects the 51-acre block.

Valley of the Giants is about 14 air miles from Falls City, but alas, flying is not an option.

The 30 miles of narrow and curvy logging roads are best driven carefully, making the trip at least a 90-minute adventure through the mountainous region.

Fabulous Forest

- For more information about access and directions to the Valley of Giants, call the Salem BLM office at 503-375-5657.

The area, which constitutes one of the biggest blocks of old-growth timber in the Coast Range, may be difficult to access, but seeing the 500-year-old, 200-feet-tall Douglas firs and Western hemlocks makes the trip worthwhile.

"They are beautiful," Hogervorst said. "It is like a tucked away secret."

Hogervorst said the BLM doesn't advertise the area because of the limited access. The roads leading to the Valley of the Giants are under private ownership and often closed. Weather can also restrict access, with the area closed during snow and fire seasons.

Your best bet of not encountering a closed gate along the road is to call the BLM front office to find out if the roads are open and get directions. Weekend trips are recommended to avoid log trucks, but drivers are warned to be on the lookout around corners just in case. Maps can be picked up at the Salem office front desk. Street tires are not recommended and even off-road tires can pop on the rocky logging roads.

If the timing is right, however, Valley of the Giants can offer a one-of-a-kind ex-



Valley of the Giants is home to some of the largest old-growth stands of trees in Oregon, some more than 200 feet tall and 500 years old.

perience.

Visitors can take a mile-long trail through the towering trees and see what was formerly the tallest specimen in the block, a 600-year-old tree, which was blown down in a wind storm in 1981. The tree was believed to have been the second tallest Douglas fir in the state before it fell.

Hikers can now stand alongside the fall-

en giant, which measures 35 feet around, and walk through a narrow cut in the trunk.

Hogervorst said those who want to head out to the Valley of the Giants should start with a full tank of gas, pack a lunch, rain gear, sturdy boots and an extra spare tire before leaving.

"It's a very beautiful place, but it's an all-day trip," she said.

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Spirit Mountain Casino, which sits along Highway 18, is the most recognizable landmark in the Grand Ronde area.

WELCOME TO GRAND RONDE

Grand Ronde, an area filled with lush forests and scenic valleys, is partially located in northwest Polk County and continues into neighboring Yamhill County to the north.

The area, which also includes Valley Junction and Fort Hill, is best known as the home of The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Spirit Mountain Casino, Oregon's No. 1 tourist attraction and the federal employer in Polk County.

Ancestors of The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde have lived throughout the Willamette Valley, Southern Oregon and the Oregon Coast. The tribe, whose reservation was established in 1857, lost federal recognition and was terminated in 1954. But through the efforts of tribal descendants, friends and allies, the Grand Ronde Tribe was restored by an act of the federal government in 1983.

Today, the tribe's reservation and land holdings total more than 12,000 acres, most in Polk and Yamhill counties.

The tribe hosts a number of cultural

events throughout the year open to the public, including powwows, arts and crafts fairs, a rodeo and more.

A number of public hiking trails and campgrounds in the region are maintained by the tribes.

Grand Ronde is affectionately known as the gateway to the Oregon Coast. Here, as you travel west along Highway 18, you journey through the H.B. Van Duzer Forest Corridor in extreme northwest Polk County. The area has a wayside, a great place for weary travelers to stop for a rest.

A state park is just across the Polk County line in adjacent Lincoln County and offers a more developed setting for taking a break.

Bring a picnic lunch, or get out and explore the trails and the Salmon River under an ancient forest of Douglas fir trees.

If your timing is right, stay alert and be prepared for some exciting wildlife viewing.

MUST SEE & DO IN GRAND RONDE

SPIRIT MOUNTAIN CASINO

Catch a show or concert, have some fun at the poker tables or slot machines, or enjoy an exquisite meal from the Cedar Plank Buffet or one of the other restaurants at the most visited destination in Oregon.

COMPETITION POWWOW

Check out some of the best dancers from the Pacific Northwest and across North America in this highly competitive three-day event hosted by The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde scheduled in August.

FORT YAMHILL HERITAGE AREA

Take a hike to explore and imagine what life must have been like for Native Americans and the soldiers stationed to protect them in the area in the 1850s at this state heritage site.

Continued on page 52C



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The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde were restored by an act of the federal government in 1983, and today the tribe's reservation and land holdings total more than 12,000 acres, mostly in Polk and Yamhill counties.

Continued from page 50C

Watch for salmon in the streams or deer and elk meandering through the woods.

One mile east of the wayside park entrance is a pullout with a short trail leading to a swimming hole beneath more ancient trees — a perfect spot on a warm, summer day.

From Polk County, the 12-mile H.B. Van



One of the popular events in Grand Ronde is the Spirit Mountain Stampede rodeo, held July 18-20, 2014 and hosted by The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. The event is sanctioned by the Northwest Professional Rodeo Association.

Duzer Forest Corridor continues along Highway 18 into neighboring Tillamook and Lincoln counties as you head westward toward Lincoln City and the Oregon Coast.

The forest corridor was named for Henry B. Van Duzer, a member of the Oregon State Highway Commission and president of Inman Poulson Logging Co. Van Duzer was appointed by Gov. I.L. Patterson as the first chairman of the Oregon

State Parks Commission in 1929.

The scenic corridor is now managed by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

Grand Ronde is also home to Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area, one of the newest state parks in Oregon, having opened in 2006, as well as a world class Veterans' Memorial dedicated to those men and women who served their country.



Welcome to Grand Ronde

Population: 2,000 (estimated).

Elevation: 344 feet above sea level.

City Hall: None (unincorporated community).

Visitor Services: Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, 1-800-422-0232. Hiking trail maps are available at the Tribe's Natural Resources Office, 47010 SW Hebo Road. Camping is permitted, but permits are required. Call 1-503-879-2424 for more information.



Spirit Mountain Casino is Polk County's playground for adults

There are plenty of restaurant options, highlighted by the popular Cedar Plank Buffet, billed as “Oregon’s biggest buffet.” It features seven chef stations preparing international foods, pizza, seafood, a carving station, American and Asian entrees, and bakery items. Salmon, prime rib and made-from-scratch desserts high-

Feeling Lucky?

What: Spirit Mountain Casino.
Where: 27100 SW Salmon River Highway (Highway 18), Grand Ronde.
Hours: Casino gambling and lodging 24 hours a day; restaurant hours vary.
Of note: Spirit Mountain is Oregon's largest Native American casino and is the state's No. 1 tourist attraction. Spirit Mountain offers a free shuttle bus to and from the casino seven days a week from numerous departure points from Portland, Salem, Woodburn, Corvallis, Keizer and many other areas. Check out spiritmountain.com/directions/ for more information and schedules.
For more information: 1-800-760-7977; <http://spiritmountain.com>.

light the selections.

The resort also features a restaurant menu ranging from deli sandwiches and burgers at the casual Rock Creek Court to steaks, chops and seafood at the upscale Legends.

Visitors can attend regularly-scheduled headline entertainment in the two-story Spirit Mountain Events Center. The resort has played host to musical acts like ZZ Top, Merle Haggard, Chicago and Smokey

Robinson; comedians including Dana Carvey, Bill Engvall, Wanda Sykes and George Lopez; and a number of crowd-pleasing specialty acts.

Looking for more entertainment options? You can watch your favorite team in action inside the popular Mountain View Sports Bar or sit back and enjoy free live music on weekends in the Summit View Lounge.

Youngsters haven't been forgotten either. The Youth Activity Center, in a separate 16,000-square-foot building, houses PlayWorld, an entertainment center for children 3 to 11 years old. It features two levels of tunnels, tubes, sky slides, arcade games, a movie room and more. There's also an arcade for those ages 12 to 18.

The casino's gaming floor is open 24 hours, but if you get tired there are 254 rooms to choose from — standard accommodations to deluxe suites — in the adjacent Spirit Mountain Lodge, part of the 2008 expansion. For those who drive their own rooms, there's free RV parking in the parking lot that has about 3,600 spaces.

According to state tourism statistics, Spirit Mountain Casino, which opened in 1995, has been Oregon's top tourist attraction for several years running, with about 3 million people visiting annually.



The annual competition powwow brings dancers from across the nation to Grand Ronde to vie for awards and cash prizes.

A celebration of culture

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde host two colorful powwows

It's an experience you won't soon forget.

Witness the pride and heritage of Native American culture at its finest at one of the largest events of its kind in the Pacific Northwest.

Better yet, you won't even have to leave Polk County.

Thousands attend the annual three-day Competition Powwow, held every year in August and hosted by The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, to witness more than 200 dancers — most of them traveling professionals — compete in more than 20 categories.

Busy in August? The three-day Veterans Powwow, held in July, offers a smaller, family-friendly event where spectators are encouraged to participate.

Both powwows, which offer free admission, are held at the Uyxat Powwow Grounds off Highway 22 in Grand Ronde.

Powwows, which are held

Prideful Dance

What: The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 2014 Veterans' Powwow and Competition Powwow.

When: July 10-13 for the Veterans Powwow; Aug. 15-17 for the Competition Powwow. Grand entries are scheduled Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., and Sunday at 1 p.m.

Where: Uyxat Powwow Grounds, 9390 Highway 22 (Hebo Road), Grand Ronde.

Admission: Free.

For more information: 1-800-422-0232 or www.grandronde.org.

across North America, are celebrations that include dancing, traditional Native American attire and music, singing and socializing.

The grand entry kicks off each session of the powwow, which features a parade of all the dancers dressed in full regalia.

From there, the competitors break into other dances and perform in different categories for men and women. Running

the show is the master of ceremonies, who decides who dances when.

Men's dances are traditional grass dance and double-bustle. Women's dances are traditional, fast and fancy shawl and jingle vest.

In between all the categories, everyone who wants to dance can do so in what is called an intertribal.

The Competition Powwow, the more revered of the two



when it comes to skill and regalia, features awards and prizes for the winners.

While it's free to attend, The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde encourages visitors to bring a canned good or make a donation to the local food bank.

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Fort Yamhill: A step back in time

Want to explore a major piece of Polk County and Oregon history?

Then visit the area's only Oregon State Heritage Area — Fort Yamhill.

Rewind to the mid-1850s and imagine the tension and fear riding high within the 27 tribes and bands relocating to the grounds of the future home of the Grand Ronde Reservation. To keep the peace in the area, the U.S. government decided to step in with a solution: Fort Yamhill.

Hike to the top of the historic grounds and you'll understand why, in 1856, the military outpost was established there.

"The military was here to both protect and control the indian reservation," Matt Huerter, an interpretive ranger from the Fort Yamhill State Heritage site tours, tells visitors in an online video provided by the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department.

"One way to be able to do that was with the buildings and placement on the landscape."

Only one building — an original officer's quarters under restoration — remains from the once dominating presence of the

History with a View

What: Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area.
Where: 9390 Highway 22 (Hebo Road), Grand Ronde.

Of note: The area is open year-round and features a walking trail, interpretive signs, guided hikes and a public restroom.

For more information: Call 1-800-551-6949 or 503-393-1172 or visit www.oregonstateparks.org/park_254.php.

24-structure fort, but it says much about what once was.

"This building," Huerter said, referring to the officer's quarters, "was more than just housing for officers. It was a symbol of authority."

The area, which today sits above Spirit Mountain Casino, tribal reservation land and the communities of Grand Ronde, Willamina and Fort Hill, features a nearly half-mile loop walking trail, interpretive signs, as well as hour-long guided hikes. It was opened in 2006.

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and The Confederated Tribes of

Grand Ronde joined forces at the park to present the history of the fort from both a soldier's and Native American's point of view.

The Grand Ronde Reservation, established in 1857, was the destination for native people transplanted by white settlers from 27 tribes and bands ranging from the Rogue River in southern Oregon to the Columbia River in northern Oregon.

Interpretive signs along the fort's pathway — excerpts taken from journals left by soldiers — describe the short years before the fort was closed at the onset of the Civil War. A walking tour map provides a map of the fort's former buildings, few of which remain. However, the area is now being restored and artifacts are being recovered from the land.

After the fort was closed in 1866, its buildings, which cost \$36,053 to build, were auctioned off to the public for a mere \$1,260. For the next hundred years, the land was farmed and forested until 1971, when it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The state parks department bought the land in 1988.

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WELCOME TO INDEPENDENCE

The city of Independence continues to reinvent itself through events in Riverview Park Amphitheater and the thriving businesses downtown.

Stroll down Main Street on a summer weekend and you'll see why this former river port is increasingly a draw for folks in the Willamette Valley who want to get away without traveling too far.

Most of the fun begins with Riverview Park, the town's "living room." The large amphitheater, built in 2006, has become the stage for summer concerts and festivals.

The city's population grows exponentially for "Western Days," one of the largest Fourth of July celebrations in the region.

Downtown is home to several shops, a large antique mall, a movie theater, the city library and a collection of eateries serving everything from Thai cuisine to freshly baked bread and pastries.

Independence was founded in 1845 and incorporated in 1874. Historic architecture abounds in the downtown, as does the supernatural; several of the buildings are reputedly haunted! The city's historic district extends west and includes the Heritage Museum and several turn-of-the-century homes on the National Historic Registry.

Independence has one of the highest percentages of Latinos in Oregon, and as such, features a number of

Continued on Page 59C



SPOOKY SITES

Seek out the supernatural via the popular and unique Ghost Walk in downtown during the Hop & Heritage Festival in September. The 2013 Ghost Walk is scheduled Friday, Sept. 26.

MULTIPLE MARKETS

Spend a Saturday browsing and shopping two farmers markets within walking distance of one another. The Independence Farmers Market is located in the Umpqua Bank parking lot, 302 S. Main St., and the Independence Riverview Market is located in Riverview Park.

HAVE A BURGER

Enjoy a "\$100 hamburger" — don't worry, that's just a pilot's cliché — at the Starduster Cafe, located at the Independence State Airport.

Continued from Page 58C

Mexican restaurants and a vibrant Mexican fiesta every September that draws thousands, rain or shine, to Riverview Park.

The Independence State Airport and its adjacent airpark neighborhood are among the notable features on the north side of town. This subdivision is a community of pilots. That translates to any number of antique aircraft fly-ins, balloon launches and other special activities organized by one of the most active chapters of the Experimental Aircraft Association in the United States.

The city has become a favorite spot for cyclists and motorcycle enthusiasts on weekends. It's also a convenient launching point to the Luckiamute State Natural Area and the Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge to the south and southeast.

From the early to mid-1900s, Independence was known as the "hop capital of the world" because of the farms surrounding the city. That connection lives on with the nearby Rogue Ales Hopyard in Buena Vista and the annual Hop & Heritage Festival in late September.

Welcome to Independence

Population: 8,600.

Elevation: 180 feet above sea level.

City Hall: 555 S. Main St., 503-838-1212, www.ci.independence.or.us.

Visitor Services: Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce, 355 Pacific Ave. N., Monmouth, 503-838-4268.

Library: 175 Monmouth St., 503-838-1811.

Schools: Central School District — Independence Elementary School (K-5), Talmadge Middle School (6-8), Central High School (9-12).

Parks: The city of Independence has four community parks:

- **Riverview Park** — Riverview Park is located downtown between C and B streets alongside the Willamette River. It is the city's largest park and features the Riverview Park Amphitheater, which hosts a summer movie and concert series. It also has a boat ramp, fountain and large playground.

- **John Pfaff Park** — John Pfaff Park originally was known as Northgate Park and is located at the intersection of Hoffman and Gun Club roads. It has a playground, basketball court and picnic tables.

- **Mountain Fir Park** — Mountain Fir Park is located off F Street between 7th and 9th streets. The land formerly was part of the Mountain Fir Lumber Mill but was donated to the city when the mill downsized in the early 1990s. It has picnic tables and lots of open spaces. The city has partnered with the Luckiamute Watershed Council to restore the South Fork of Ash Creek, home to salmon and trout.

- **Pioneer Park** — Pioneer Park is located at the corner of 7th Street and C Street. It has picnic tables, a playground and lots of tall, mature trees.



Riverview Park and Amphitheater is the hub of activity for the Independence community. It is at its busiest during the annual Western Days celebration in July.

Independence shines on July 4

Having the name Independence means certain expectations when the Fourth of July rolls around.

Fortunately, Independence's annual celebration — "Western Days" — is one of the biggest and best in the Willamette Valley.

The multi-day event will run July 4 through July 6 in 2014.

Find a good vantage point along Monmouth Street in Independence the morning of July 4. A grand parade that begins to the west in Monmouth will wind through the community and end in the historic downtown.

The event is Americana at its purest, featuring a caravan of farm animals, low riders, civic group floats — and everything in between.

Afterward, the park will be awash with carnival amusements, vendors, artisans, entertainers and children's activities, food booths and thousands of visitors.

The evening will feature a fireworks show that lasts almost 40 minutes and ranks as one of the brightest and loudest in the state.



Crowds, a carnival, children and corn dogs are all part of the scene during the Western Days Fourth of July celebration at Independence's Riverview Park.

The park will continue to host vendors and a carnival midway July 5-6.

Live entertainment and activities are

scheduled in the park throughout the day on July 6. A special "hometown appreciation" fireworks show will start at 10 p.m.

Community celebrates its hop heritage



Independence celebrates its past when it pays tribute to its farming heritage with a festival that is all things hops.

From the early 20th century to the late 1950s, Independence was considered the "Hop Capital of the World."

To celebrate the end of the hop harvest in early fall, farmers and their families in and around Independence used to congregate downtown.

Residents have attempted to recapture that spirit with the Hop & Heritage Festival, an annual event since 2001.

The 2014 edition will take place Sept. 26-28 and will feature some changes from years past.

Visitors can expect to see more thematic ties to the golden age of hop growing — 1856 to 1956 — in Independence.

It begins on Sept. 26 with a hometown barbecue, a beer garden and a concert in the Riverview Park Amphitheater.

And, of course, there's the Ghost Walk, the always-popular guided stroll through several of the sites in historic Independence reputed to be haunted. A special paid Ghost Walk will be available Sept. 27.

On Sept. 27, vendors and food booths open on Main Street, helicopter rides, car show, musical performances and a beer garden will take place in Riverview Park, plus a 5K run will keep attendees busy.

For early birds, visitors can also head to Independence State Airport for a pancake breakfast and hot air balloon launches weather permitting. For night owls, the day will culminate with a fireworks show across from the amphitheater.

On Sept. 28, a longboard race from Independence to the Rogue Farms Micro Hopyard and the mayor's cup award will finish out the weekend.

Something for the art lover

Independence has two outstanding galleries offering a wide variety of styles



River Gallery

Small town doesn't mean devoid of a vibrant art scene. The River Gallery and Rocksalt Imports/Angeneity Kime Art in downtown Independence are testaments to that.

The River Gallery, created in 1998 by a collective of 15 local artists and friends, features a wide and eclectic array of fine art, folk art and hand crafts.

Here, one can find everything from oil paintings, photography and charcoal drawings to metal sculpture and mixed-media pieces.

The gallery's operators are also responsible for high-profile work. Richard Bunse's nature and landscape paintings have graced many a nature and sportsman magazine cover. Paul Gentry, a wood engraver, has work that has appeared in galleries in Washington, D.C., and Cyprus, Greece.

The collective stages special events, such as "Art in the City" at the Independence Civic Center and draws crowds with its "Wild Women Art Show," with pieces that are inspired by the female spirit.

Continued on page 64C

Independence's Place for Art

What: The River Gallery; Rocksalt Imports and Angeneity Kime Art.

Where: River Gallery — 184 S. Main St., Independence; Rocksalt Imports and Angeneity Kime Art — 769 N. Main St., Suite A, Independence.

Hours: River Gallery — Tuesdays through Sundays, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. — and longer during summer and holidays; Rocksalt/Angeneity Kime — Tuesdays through Saturdays, from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For more information: River Gallery — 503-838-6171 or www.rivergalleryart.com; Rocksalt/Angeneity Kime — 503-838-2701 or www.kimefineart.com.

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A quiet walk through nature or a peaceful paddle down the Luckiamute River await you at Luckiamute State Natural Area.

Getting back to nature

Luckiamute State Natural Area a haven for birders, paddlers, hikers

Because there's historically been little advertisement for the Luckiamute State Natural Area, this 924-acre park goes unnoticed by many — unless you're a birdwatcher, a paddler or a knowledgeable local.

And that would mean missing out on this vast recreation area near the confluence of the Willamette, Santiam and Luckiamute rivers.

LSNA features a hikeable network of wetlands and upland prairies, and one of the best remaining examples of floodplain forest in the Willamette Valley.

The park consists of two tracts of land: a 615-acre parcel in Polk County that includes the original Luckiamute Landing and another 300 acres to the immediate south in Benton County.

The landing was added to the state's park system when lawmakers introduced the Willamette River Greenway legislation during the 1970s.

Sections of the site have been — and still are — used for farming. But there hadn't been any work, maintenance or publicity there until property acquisitions in the 1990s and early 2000s doubled LSNA's size; before then, the undeveloped pieces were mostly used by hunters and fishermen.

A demand for more regional recre-

Check It Out

- The Luckiamute State Natural Area is located at the southeastern edge of Polk County, bordered by Buena Vista Road and the Willamette River.

To reach the north tract trailhead coming from Independence, turn left onto Crocker Road and keep left until you reach a parking area.

The paddlers access parking lot is located just north of the Crocker Road intersection on the west side of Buena Vista Road.

The south tract trail is located on the east side of Buena Vista Road just north of the junction with Northwest Springhill Drive.

For more information on events at LSNA, call the Luckiamute Watershed Council at 503-837-0237 or visit www.luckiamutelwc.org.

ation opportunities, such as hiking and nature observation, prompted the state to develop a master plan to guide and enhance the park's future.

Some of those improvement components are happening now.

The Luckiamute Watershed Council and area volunteers have been doing

natural restoration work for nearly three years, managing invasive vegetation, conducting groundwater studies and doing fish and wildlife assessments at Luckiamute State Natural Area.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department has installed a new parking lot along Buena Vista Road for paddler access.

To be clear, these aren't major developments. The goal isn't to turn LSNA into a place with picnicking areas, but to balance usage with its natural environment.

LSNA's biological diversity is high, comparable to nearby national wildlife refuges in Ankeny and Baskett Slough. As such, trails in the south tract will be routed to avoid some ponds to protect at-risk species.

LSNA is considered one of "the" places for birding in the Willamette Valley, said Nicole Duplaix, a Salem biologist and photographer whose pictures have graced the pages of a number of scientific publications, including National Geographic magazine.

"And the floodplain forest, that's the crown jewel of the LSNA," she said, noting massive oak and cottonwood trees. "There's virtually none of that left in the Willamette Valley."



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Continued from page 61C

Rocksalt Imports/Angeney Kime Art is the joint venture of Sally Penna and husband and wife artists John Kime and Tamara Angeney.

The two businesses — sharing the same studio space — opened their doors in December 2012 and have grown ever since.

Rocksalt Imports features art from around the world. Penna frequently travels to Indonesia, Vietnam, South Ameri-



Rock Salt

ca and Africa to bring international work back to Independence.

Angeney Kime Art is a custom frame shop, studio and gallery featuring work by the owners as well as local and regional artists.

Angeney and Kime are thoroughly involved in the regional art scene, regularly attending area festivals and First Thursday events in Portland's Pearl District that feature local artists each month.

A new addition to the art gallery scene is Tom Kunke Art Studio and Gallery in Dallas. The gallery, which opened in late 2013, is a two-for-one experience. A painter, Kunke set up the gallery to feature his work and serve as his studio at the same time, so visitors can see finished

Dallas' Place for Art

What: Tom Kunke Art Studio and Gallery.

Where: 357 Main St., Dallas.

Hours: Hours vary, but if not open Tom can be contacted at 971-409-7686 or tom@tomkunkeart.com.



Tom Kunke Art Studio

paintings and those in progress.

Kunke is a self-taught painter, who employs a unique technique to his piece, which are mostly abstract. Instead of using a paint brush, he uses a palette knife to apply paint and add texture to his paintings.



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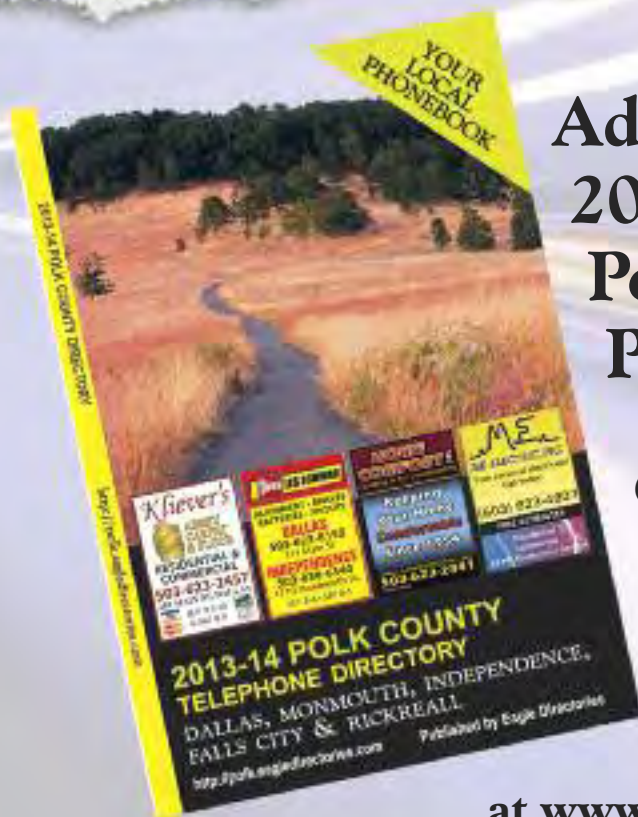
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WELCOME TO MONMOUTH

Most know Monmouth because of its 158-year bond with Western Oregon University, a major part of the community.

Random fact lovers are aware it was the last dry town in Oregon — and one of the last in the Western United States — until 2002.

If you're willing to turn off the beaten path of Highway 99W, you'll come to learn what residents here already know — theirs is a community both tranquil and vibrant.

Monmouth comes alive with an eclectic mix of rock, bluegrass and other genres during the summer Music in the Park Series. Jazz permeates the community every August, when the prestigious Mel Brown Summer Jazz Workshop comes to WOU.

Monmouth boasts two signature events: Its Fourth of July Festival features a broad assortment of music, art and a beer and wine garden; and in early December you can see the lighting of one of the nation's tallest living Christmas trees and enjoy warm drinks from local businesses during the Hometown Holiday Festival.

Downtown is home to a farmers market every Tuesday from spring through early fall.

Monmouth's park system is a source of pride. It features 10 pristinely-manicured large and "pocket" parks. Planning has

Continued on Page 67C



ALL THAT JAZZ

Catch a free concert in downtown's Main Street Park by some of the nation's best jazz musicians during the annual Mel Brown Summer Jazz Workshop, hosted by Western Oregon University, in August.

WOU FOOTBALL

Watch the Western Oregon Wolves football team devour its Great Northwest Athletic Conference competition at McArthur Field during the fall season. There are four home games during 2014, highlighted by homecoming on Oct. 25 against Simon Fraser University.

EAT, DRINK, BE MERRY

Enjoy a fine vintage from an area vineyard, locally-sourced appetizers, and an assortment of performing arts ranging from poetry to music at Crush Wine Bar & Tasting Room, 105 Main St. E.

Continued from Page 66C

begun on a performing arts amphitheater for Main Street Park.

Because Monmouth sits amidst well-maintained roads and rolling scenery, it's the perfect spot for a layover if you're traveling the Willamette Valley by bike. It's also a handy basecamp to some of the vineyards in the southern portion of Polk County.

If nature and hiking are your thing, the E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area and the McDonald-Dunn Research Forest are short drives to the south.

On the east side of Highway 99W, you'll find one of the state's most unique neighborhoods in Edwards Addition, a collection of cottages, row houses and craftsman-style homes designed to invoke a classic small-town feel with deep porches and a village green.

Monmouth benefits from its connection to WOU. Still an institution known for producing teachers, it's also a comprehensive liberal arts school with approximately 6,200 students.

Its local presence means Monmouth annually hosts a number of lectures, world-class music and dance performances, NCAA Division II sports and a variety of student-coordinated events that are free and open to the public.

Welcome to Monmouth

Population: 9,726.

Elevation: 214 feet above sea level.

City Hall: 151 Main St. W., 503-838-0722, www.ci.monmouth.or.us.

Visitor Services: Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce, 355 Pacific Ave. N., Monmouth. 503-838-4268.

Library: 168 Ecols St. S., 503-838-1932.

Schools: Central School District — Ash Creek Elementary School (K-5), Monmouth Elementary School (K-5), Talmadge Middle School (Independence) (6-8), Central High School (Independence) (9-12).

Parks: Monmouth prides itself on its parks system, which features 10 pristinely-manicured large and "pocket" parks.

- **Cherry Lane Park** — Cherry Lane Park is at Cherry Lane, Ackerman Street and Whiteman Street. It has a playground with benches.

- **Gentle Woods Park** — Gentle Woods Park is at the intersection of Myrtle Drive, Olive Way and High Street. It is mostly wooded with a large picnic shelter, horseshoe pits, playground equipment and restrooms.

- **Madrona Park** — Madrona Park is located along Madrona Street and Edwards Road. It has a picnic shelter, basketball court, playground equipment and a large paved gathering area.

- **Main Street Park** — Main Street Park is located in downtown Monmouth. It is one full city block and features a gazebo, playground, picnic tables, pathways and a water fountain.

- **Monmouth Recreational Park** — Monmouth Recreational Park is located off Hogan Road and west of the City Public Works Department headquarters. It has fields for softball and baseball, two tennis courts and restrooms.

- **Winegar Park** — Winegar Park is located at Ecols Street and Suzanna Avenue. It has a basketball court, playground, benches and pathways.

- **"Pocket Parks"** — Monmouth has four mini parks that are .67 acres or smaller. Southgate Park at Southgate Drive and Josephine Street has a basketball court, benches and a playground. La Mesa Park is east of Heffley Street and south of Bentley Street. It has a basketball court, benches and a playground. Whitesell Park is at the western end of Catherine Court. It has a basketball court, benches and a playground. Marr Park is at Jackson Street and Marr Court. It has a playground, horseshoe pits and a small, landscaped garden.



Monmouth July 4th Parade

Showcase for future artists

WOU's Dan and Gail Cannon Gallery of Art spotlights work of young artists

Historic Campbell Hall houses Western Oregon University's fine arts program. For decades, it's been a place where students come to create their next masterpiece.

Undoubtedly, the heart of the facility is the Dan and Gail Cannon Gallery of Art.

The 700-square-foot gallery is a showcase for Oregon's future artists, and those of regional and national acclaim.

The facility holds six exhibitions during the academic year and one in the summer. Often times, the exhibitions are themed or media-specific; a show in 2011 by Portland-based David Edgar and Jeffrey Blanco of Paris, for example, focused on paintings reflecting the pair's military experiences.

Check It Out

- The Dan and Gail Cannon Gallery of Art is located on North Monmouth Avenue on the WOU Campus. Operating hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and by appointment. It is free and open to the public. For more information: 503-838-8607 or visit www.wou.edu/las/creativearts/art/gallery/.

The gallery was gifted in 2012 with a ceramics installation from Ting-Ju Shao, a famous Taiwanese artist and illustrator.

Every spring, sculptures, ceramics, prints, paintings, drawings and graphic

design are put on display for a juried student art show.

That the gallery provides teaching opportunities and exceptional artwork is reflective of its namesake.

Dan Cannon was one of the state's most prolific abstract painters and was a longtime faculty member and former chairman of WOU's art department before retiring in 2004. He died Jan. 7, 2014.

Cannon had a long history of involvement in local, state and national art education efforts. In 2007, he donated \$100,000 to support WOU's art students and the art gallery in Campbell Hall in the hope that students would carry on a creative legacy.



Along with student work exhibitions, the Cannon Gallery regularly features artists of regional and international acclaim.

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Monmouth goes all out for July 4 fun

Downtown, Main Street Park area bustling with lots of patriotic pride

The Fourth of July always starts with a bang in Monmouth, as it is the starting point of an annual patriotic parade that winds east to Independence.

The three-mile parade route attracts floats and walkers alike. It is known for being very horse friendly and boasts a large number of horse entries.

One reason equestrians enjoy this parade is because Monmouth Mayor John Oberst teams up with Independence Mayor John McArdle in cleaning up after the four-legged animals.

Monmouth will celebrate the Fourth this year from July 3 to 5. Free concerts, art-related and children's activities, a beer and wine garden are just some of the things to look forward to.



Fourth of July Parade begins in Monmouth and travels through Independence where it finishes.

Food and craft vendors will set up in Main Street Park on the afternoon of July 3, opening at 1 p.m.

The festival reopens July 4 at 9 a.m., but Main Street will already be filling up for the parade. Join in a mini-marathon to burn a few extra calories and support the Central Lions Club before grabbing a seat to watch the start of the parade from Western Oregon University.

On July 5, don't miss the all-you-can-eat community breakfast at the Monmouth Senior Center from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., where you can enjoy a variety of traditional breakfast items for just \$6 for adults and \$3 for children younger than 12.

Then head back across the street to Main Street Park to enjoy the artists and entertainment to wrap up your Fourth of July Monmouth festivities.



Monmouth's Fourth of July festival takes place every year in Main Street Park in downtown Monmouth.

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'Gentleman of Jazz' hits all the right notes

If you're a fan of jazz music, be sure to visit Monmouth during the first week of August. Western Oregon University will host the annual Mel Brown Summer Jazz Workshop from Aug. 3-9.

The WOU camp draws young — and sometimes old — musicians and vocalists from across the United States who are looking for instruction in music theory, improvisation and practical playing experience in large and small ensembles.

That education is supplied by some of Oregon's premier jazz musicians, including renowned drummer, workshop namesake and WOU professor, Mel Brown.

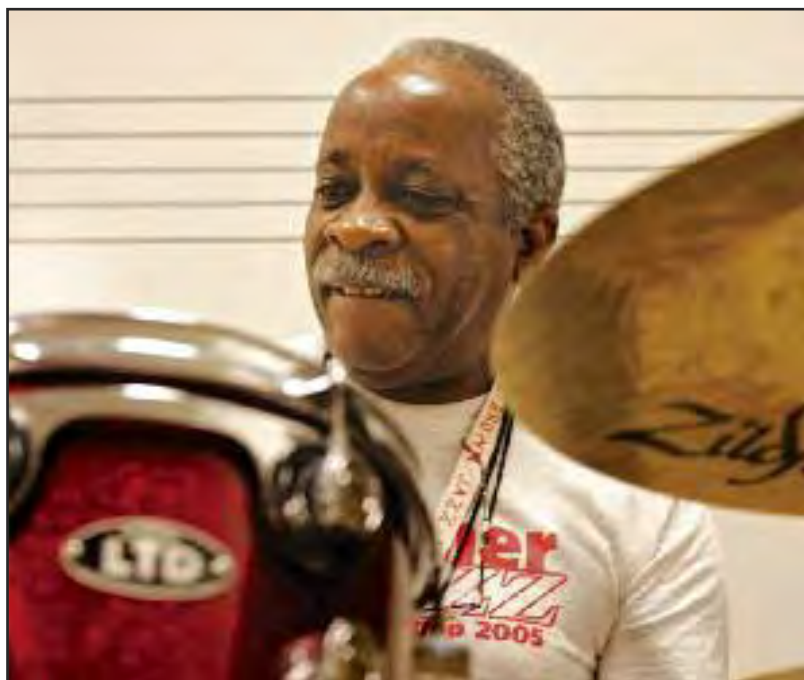
Brown, a Portland drummer known as the "Gentleman of Jazz," has a career that spans more than 40 years and includes collaborations with artists such as Diana Ross and The Temptations. In recognition of his contributions to the cultural life of Oregon, Brown received the Governor's Arts Award in 2002.

What does this mean for community members? Plenty.

The workshop begins with a free concert by the Mel Brown All-Stars on Sunday, Aug. 3, at 6 p.m. at Main Street Park.

Visitors can also wander down to campus for special evening concerts by artists and students throughout the week in Smith Music Hall and other buildings.

For more information: www.melbrownjazzcamp.com; 503-838-8275.



Among the highlights of the annual Mel Brown Summer Jazz Workshop is a free community jazz concert in Monmouth's Main Street Park, this year scheduled for Aug. 3.

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Graduation is always a big day in the lives of seniors at Western Oregon University. The school conducts its annual on-campus commencement ceremony in June at McArthur Field. WOU has approximately 6,100 students, making it the fourth largest public university in the state.

Students are the future

Western Oregon University plays a key role in Monmouth's vitality

Welcome to WOU

What: Western Oregon University.

Where: 345 N. Monmouth Ave., Monmouth.

For more information: Online at www.wou.edu.

WOU Fun Fact

- The new College of Education building will be the first of its kind in the state, a project under a governor's executive order promoting innovative use of wood products. The \$18.6 million, 59,000-square-foot project will break ground this June and house all of the university's education students and programs under one roof. The project got the final green light after Richard Woodcock, an education philanthropist with ties to the university, donated the needed \$1.4 million to make it happen.

Rural charm is part of Polk County's appeal. Conversely, this area also enjoys a bustling academic and cultural center: Western Oregon University.

WOU, the oldest institution in the Oregon University System, is best known as the place in the state where teachers are made. The school's department of education has garnered national awards and recognition over many decades.

Past members of the renowned Teaching Research Institute on campus are credited with helping create "Sesame Street."

In the last 16 years, WOU has flourished as a liberal arts institution, with 56 majors ranging from theater to criminal justice. The school is also a satellite campus for Oregon Health and Science University's nursing program.

There were about 5,200 undergraduate students and 900 graduate students enrolled at Western in 2013-14, making it the fourth largest public university in Oregon.

The school is among the state's most diverse universities, with a large Latino population and approximately 300 international students from China, Saudi Arabia, India and other countries.

What does this all mean for locals and visitors? Plenty.

There are free presentations, talks and demonstrations happening at the Werner University Center on any given day.

Wander through Smith Music Hall and you can catch concerts by professors — most of whom are also professional musicians — for less than you would pay for a movie ticket. Hamersly Library is one of the largest research libraries in the mid-Willamette Valley.

The Smith Fine Arts Series brings world-class dance and musical performances to Rice Auditorium every year. In May, it's the students themselves who entertain with the student and faculty-choreographed Spring Dance Concert.

Continued on Page 76C

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One of the crown jewels on the modern and picturesque Western Oregon campus is the Hamersly Library, off to the right.

Continued from Page 74C

The Arne Jensen Lectureship Series has brought important figures such as Sister Helen Prejean, whose story inspired the movie "Dead Man Walking," and former Mexican president Vicente Fox to campus.

If you want action on the court or field, the university has a dozen teams competing in NCAA Division II men's and women's sports. The WOU Wolves are members of the Great Northwest Athletic Conference.

If you enjoy tailgating, be in the parking lot behind McArthur Field before Wolves football games in the fall.

Community members have opportunities to hear individuals of international renown speak on pressing issues.

Don't care to be a spectator? Participate in WOU's "Sprint+Triathalon" during the spring. Students and staff can go for a climb on the state-of-the-art climbing wall at Western's Health and Wellness Center.

And don't forget to visit campus in early December, when hundreds gather on Monmouth Avenue near Campbell Hall to see the lighting of the giant sequoia, one of the tallest living Christmas trees in the United States.



WOU offers a full complement of sports, including track and field. The Wolves compete in the NCAA Division II Great Northwest Athletic Conference, which includes universities from Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Montana and British Columbia. Other sports offered are football, volleyball, basketball, baseball, softball, soccer and cross-country. For more information: www.wouwolves.com.



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Nursery brings gardening to life

You won't find any hanging baskets, perennials or arbor violets at Dancing Oaks Nursery.

"We're more things that are hard to find or unusual," said Leonard Foltz, co-owner.

Indeed, garden enthusiasts and novices alike can find everything from rock garden plants, native species and more exotic things growing throughout the nursery's 2-acre display garden.

Plants in the ground and on display rather than in rows of pots means visitors can see what plants work well together and how big they will get.

Some things, including drought tolerant plants, don't like being in a pot, Foltz said.

"They have deeply rooted systems," he said. "You can see something in a pot and it looks wimpy and not too happy, then you go out in the garden and say, 'Oh, I want one of these.'"

Oregon's generally mild, wet winters and dry summers means Dancing Oaks can grow a variety of things that will thrive in a variety of places.

"There are some Mediterranean areas of the world, like Chile and South Africa, that have climates similar to ours," Foltz said. "Earlier, we were specializing in those things, but then we kind of branched out to other things."

The nursery ships plants all over the nation.

"We recently learned that plants are really expensive on the East Coast," Foltz said. "It's cheaper to mail order them."

For visitors of the nursery, it means if you find something you like, it may be possible to have it sent home via post rather than try and fit it in your suitcase.

The nursery's visitors are as different as its plant species, and drive from as far away north as Seattle and Spokane, Wash., and as far south as Northern California.

Often local garden clubs will come for a tour of the display garden and bring a sack lunch to enjoy on the grounds. The nursery hosts events throughout the year, including classes and workshops.

Continued on Page 79C



Worth the Drive

What: Dancing Oaks Nursery.

Where: 17900 Priem Road, Monmouth. The last couple of miles are on a gravel road.

When: Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Of interest: Dancing Oaks hosts an annual fundraiser for Luckiamute Valley Charter School, this year on July 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event features artists in the garden with art for sale, live music, an auction and pies baked fresh by members of the Pedee Women's Club.



Continued from Page 78C

Foltz grew up with a love for plants, inherited from his parents and grandparents.

"We were always trying to grow things either from the woods or weird vegetables from seed catalogs," he said.

He has cultivated his love through gardening journals, a few classes at community colleges, but mostly through trial and error, trying to "crack the code."

"Why it's not germinating, why the cutting is not taking," Foltz said. "That stuff is sort of self-taught. That's the thing about plants: There's always new varieties and new challenges. You do something the same way and it doesn't work."

Gardening requires patience and perseverance.

"If something dies, and you like it, try it at least three times," Foltz recommended. "Don't give up on it, if it's something you like; maybe not in the same spot, but different conditions."

Some plants take extra care, such as trilliums. Foltz and the gardeners at Dancing Oaks grow them from seed, and it can take five years for them to bloom.

"If they get too warm, they'll go dormant for the year (without blooming)," Foltz said.

Often the trilliums and other interesting projects can be found in a greenhouse with a warning sign: Authorized plant geeks only.

A plant geek is someone who grows something that's not super, Foltz said.

Continued on Page 80C



Continued from Page 79C

"Maybe you don't grow it for the flowers, maybe it's the foliage, or it's unusual, or native to a certain area that you have an affinity to," he said.

His favorite plants are some of the tiny, unusual things that may bloom for a period of two weeks and that's it for the year.

"I don't know if that makes them special that they bloom for a short period of time," Foltz said, adding that layering a garden is a nice way to enjoy things seasonally, so "even though it's not an ever-blooming perennial, there's something of interest there all the time."

Not everything Foltz tries works, he said.

"I enjoy pushing the envelope on things," Foltz said.

He put plants in water features that aren't necessarily supposed to go in water, or experiments to see how well something

will do competing with grass or other unfavorable conditions such as deer or poor drainage.

Sometimes those plants die, but sometimes they thrive, Foltz said.



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Puttskee's is an 18-hole miniature golf course with a challenging array of obstacles to navigate including ramps, truck tires, a square hole and this "straight" shot that requires more skill than it might appear to. Owner Bob "Skee" Klinsky has spent the last 14 years modifying and upgrading the family-friendly attraction.



Putt-Putt Paradise

Puttskee's Mini-Golf has a challenge for all ages and skill levels

On any clear summer day, you're likely to see Bob "Skee" Klinsky working on what looks like an abandoned lot or a strange dog obstacle course.

Many residents drive past this lot — situated near the S curve on Monmouth Street — almost every day and never notice what is actually there.

"You would be amazed at the people that come in and say 'I've been driving my kids back and forth to school all these years and never noticed,'" Klinsky said. "I should have an ad in the phone book at least. That's pretty ridiculous if I was actually trying to make a business of it."

Klinsky opened Puttskee's Mini-Golf more than 15 years ago and hasn't stopped modifying the design — adding new obstacles, installing new turf, building around the tree roots.

Klinsky tries to appeal to seasoned golfers and first-timers alike.

"I put the toys in for the kids, but if you're serious about your golf, there's usually more than one way to do it," Klinsky said. "Where else do you see a square

Play Putt-Putt

What: Puttskee's Mini-Golf.

Where: 1510 Monmouth St., Monmouth.

Hours: Sunday through Wednesday, noon to 7 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, noon to 9 p.m. Open during summer, usually May through September, but dependent on the weather. Groups and parties can arrange for special times.

For more information: 503-838-5888; www.puttskeesminigolf.com.

hole?"

Klinsky lets the weather decide when Puttskee's will be open. He updates his website every day to let patrons know when to show up.

"There's been times I haven't been open until the first of July," Klinsky said. "Unfortunately, I miss the college kids. They're gone usually before I open and then by the time they're back they're too dang busy to discover the place."

Klinsky discovered his love for mini-

golf when he was young and tries to pass that on to a younger crowd.

"I had some kids from the formal dance at Dallas a few years ago. They were all here in their formal clothes," Klinsky said. "That was a kick. They were just having a total hoot."

Visitors won't see a lot of flash when visiting Puttskee's, but they will get a challenge on every hole. People won't want to come back if it's too easy, Klinsky said.

Visitors will also notice the peculiar pars for some holes — 2.4, 3.1, etc. — which is more a difficulty indicator than anything, Klinsky said.

An early start this year gave Klinsky a chance to fix things and get the course ready for the summer. He is hoping to finally get some advertising out and bring in some fundraisers.

Klinsky's labor of love started when he saw a need for parents and kids to have an outlet for something "active and wholesome."

"Hearing the little kids laugh, I should file as a nonprofit or something," Klinsky said.

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The most recognizable landmark in Polk County is the Polk County Courthouse and its clock tower in downtown Dallas.

WELCOME TO POLK COUNTY

Whether it's searching for the perfect pumpkin for your porch in October, enjoying glass of ale at Rogue Farms, taking in the scenery while tasting the latest vintage at local vineyards, or searching for that hidden treasure in a downtown antique store or art gallery, Polk County has plenty of destinations to explore.

Combining the county's long agricultural heritage and increasing interest in buying local, Polk County farmers offer plenty for the agritourist.

There are, of course, the many wineries dotting hillsides throughout the county offering tastings and tours, but how about finding something to pair with the perfect pinot?

Grass-fed beef, a variety of cheeses, farm fresh eggs, honey and produce can be found at a number of farmstands and farmers markets throughout the county. The outdoors lover can find a number of places to bike, hike, bird watch and hunt,

as well. Take your hiking boots and binoculars to Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge or Luckiamute State Natural Area for an afternoon. Or, for a different kind of outdoors experience, go on a guided pheasant hunt at Luckiamute Valley Pheasants.

A short trek up Black Rock Road outside of Falls City leads to a system of well-maintained and expansive mountain biking trails reputedly among the best in the nation.

It may require a four-wheel-drive vehicle and an extra spare tire, but a trip up to the Valley of the Giants is well worth the journey to experience the wonder of Oregon's famous forests.

Those who wish to stay closer to the city can find quaint and historic downtowns filled with locally-owned businesses, from coffee shops and wine bars—one in Dallas that combines the two—to art galleries features work from artists near and far.

Polk County Facts

Population: 75,403.

Elevation: Varies from a low of 168 feet above sea level near Independence to a high of 3,589 feet above sea level at Laurel Mountain.

County Government: Polk County Courthouse, 850 Main St., Dallas, 503-623-8172, www.co.polk.or.us.

Visitor Services: Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce/Dallas Area Visitors Center, 119 SW Court St., Dallas, 503-623-2564; Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce, 311 Monmouth Ave., Independence, 503-838-4268.

Schools: Polk County is served in varying degrees by nine school districts:

- Central School District
- Dallas School District
- Falls City School District
- Perrydale School District
- Amity School District
- Philomath School District
- Salem-Keizer School District
- Sheridan School District
- Willamina School District

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Jarrood grew up in Polk County. His family's roots in the community go back nearly a century. Like many in the Polk County community, he learned a reliable work ethic, determination, and attention to detail. He has brought these same qualities to his practice of law.

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Polk County Parks

• **Ballston** — This park is located in what was downtown Ballston and includes the historic Ballston School, believed to be the oldest school building in the state. The park has two picnic tables.

• **Buell** — This is a park for families. It includes a well-equipped playground and has restrooms. Picnic tables and barbecue pits are nestled in the trees along Mill Creek, and there are trails to explore along the creek. It's all located just off Highway 22 and a little west of Red Prairie Road.

• **Buena Vista** — Take Corvallis Road south out of Independence and follow the signs to the Buena Vista Ferry. This is the county's maritime park, with a boat ramp on the Willamette River. It also has a small dock, picnic tables and a nearby rock that is favored by anglers.

• **Eola Heights** — Located in West Salem between Eola Drive and Gehlar Road west of Doaks Ferry. The park includes picnic tables, playground equipment and a small ballfield with a backstop.

• **Gerlinger** — This is very much a nature park. It's about three miles west of Falls City on the Little Luckiamute River. There are two picnic tables and footbridges to a small island.

• **Mill Creek Park / Mill Creek Recreation Site** — Mill Creek Park is more primitive, but it's also more scenic and caters to people who want to get a little farther away from it all. It's just half a mile from the Mill Creek Recreation Site. The park is owned by the county, and the recreation site is owned by the Bureau of Land Management.

Mill Creek Park features a spectacular scenic canyon. There are half a dozen picnic tables, some barbecue pits and a large surrounding grassy area complete with a small backstop for hitting baseballs and softballs. It's a little cramped for a full baseball field, but it's a great place for getting in some practice.

The recreation site also has picnic areas, restrooms and barbecue pits, as well as a large open area. There are no developed trails. Moss-covered trees overhang the deep canyon, providing a unique scenic area.

• **Nesmith** — Nesmith Park is next to the Polk County Fairgrounds & Event Center on Highway 99W. It was built around the historic James Nesmith family graveyard. The park features nature trails along Rickreall Creek and has picnic tables as well as barbecue pits and a large open grassy area.

• **Ritner Creek** — The park is four miles west of Pedee on Gage Road, just off Burbank Road and Kings Valley Highway. There are three footbridges across the creek as well as trails along it. There are picnic tables and restrooms.

• **Ritner Creek Bridge (Minnie Ritner Ruitter Wayside)** — This small wayside park is located along Kings Valley Highway (Highway 223) about three miles south of Pedee. It has picnic tables, a porta-potty and, its featured attraction, a historic covered bridge.

• **Social Security Hole** — A little difficult to find, this out-of-the-way park is located off Highway 51 and Halls Ferry Road northeast of Independence. It has picnic tables, a restroom and fishing access to the Willamette River.

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Chuck Cates, left, and his brother, Kendall, have turned a 315-acre parcel of family land near Pedee into a private upland hunting preserve with some of Western Oregon's only pheasant hunting opportunities. The brothers serve as guides on the property, and their group of English springer spaniels keep hunters on track.

The hunt is on

Luckiamute Valley Pheasants offers a unique outdoor opportunity

When they were young, Chuck and Kendall Cates could almost always be found hunting around their family's bucolic property near Pedee.

To the southwest of the homestead sat hundreds of acres of foothills flocked in ash, maple and cottonwood trees. The Little Luckiamute River cuts through lush bottom land.

The brothers hiked every nook and cranny of the property in search of the grouse, pheasants and quail that were once naturally common here.

Alas, pheasant habitat — brush and hedge cover — in the Willamette Valley dwindled when farming expanded, as did the region's wild bird population.

The brothers went separate directions later in life, but always shared a passion for hunting. In 2006, they turned their family's land into a hunting preserve, Luckiamute Valley Pheasants (LVP), that draws clients of all ages, men and women, from across Oregon, Washington and beyond.

The brothers transformed a 315-acre parcel in southern Polk County in the Pedee area into an upland hunting pre-

Hunter's Haven

What: Luckiamute Valley Pheasants, a day-use hunting preserve.

Where: 17115 Maple Grove Road, Monmouth (Pedee).

What you need: An Oregon Hunter's License or a Private Preserve Hunting License, gear and an orange vest and hat. LVP has hunting dogs that assist in the hunt.

Price: Price per hunter is \$200. One dog and one handler for two to three people is \$100 and two dogs and two handlers for a party of four is \$200. A guide will assist with your first hunt free of charge.

Of note: There are no provided meals or accommodations. You may hunt with either an Oregon hunting license or a private hunting preserve permit.

For more information: 503-838-4221; www.lvpheasants.com.

serve that they manage and stock with ringneck pheasants and the wilder Manchurian ringnecks.

It's a blessing for bird hunters in the valley; almost all upland bird hunting pre-

serves — and any wild pheasants left — in the state are in Eastern Oregon.

The brothers operate the site themselves and have preserve licensing through the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Chuck's wife, Brenda, trains and handles the English springer spaniels integral to the hunts.

The Cates rear seven batches of 700 birds that are released every few weeks for each planned hunt.

The birds are raised from a day-old through maturity in a sterilized brooding facility. Contact with the pheasants is minimal to preserve wild characteristics and avoid disease.

Their last stop before they're on their own is a 15,000-square-foot flight pen that enhances the birds' natural instincts and gives them an opportunity for sustained flights over cover.

Hunting season takes place Sept. 1 through March 31, but the preserve sees plenty of other action throughout the year.

The North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association has used LVP as a test site, and ODFW hosts popular hunting workshops for women and families here.

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Polk County Church Directory

DALLAS

Calvary Chapel Dallas - Currently meeting for worship and verse by verse Bible teaching at 628 SE Jefferson St. Worship service begins at 10 a.m. on Sunday. Sunday school is available from youth ministry and below to nursery. Wednesday evening cafe-style Old Testament study starting at 6:30 pm. Come join us for a relaxed study around a cup of coffee or drink. Men's prayer is Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Womens Bible studies are scheduled also, call for times. The Pastor/Teacher is Larry King. Come join us and be a part of God's family here in Dallas. Check out our website at www.calvarydallasor.com or call 503-831-1074.

Dallas Alliance Church - 775 E. Ellendale, Dallas, 503-623-2265, Email office@dallasalliance.org, Lead Pastor Jim Jamieson, Youth/Children's Pastor Lance Baker, and Worship/Men's Ministry Pastor Travis Reed; Every Sunday: classes for all ages at 9:15 a.m., Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m. (Nursery provided for a.m. services); Tuesdays: Youth Night 7:00 p.m. in Ediger Hall; Wednesdays: Adult Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m., Choir practice 6:45 p.m. Call for info on current Bible Studies. Web: dallasalliance.org

Dallas Church - PO Box 462, Dallas, 503-623-2711. Worship Gatherings: Sundays 10 a.m. Meeting at 450 SE Washington St. Atmosphere is relaxed, families & children welcome, come as you are, current music & relevant teaching about Jesus. Pastor: Ben Bauman. www.dallaschurch.org

Dallas Foursquare Church - Located at 976 SW Hayter St. on the corner of Washington and Hayter. Worship Gatherings: Sundays at 10 a.m., Youth Group: Sunday evenings from 6-8 p.m. We are a multi-generational church with a heart for our community. Our mission is to Love God and Love People to Extend His Kingdom. Pastor: Darrin Hausler. For more info call us at 503-623-8277 or visit us online at dallasfour.com.

Dallas New Life Church of the Nazarene - 341 NE Kings Valley Hwy, Dallas 503-623-3775. A church where "people are loved because Jesus is Lord." Co-lead Kerry and Marcie Lumley, Associate Pastor Brian Mackey, Associate Pastor Jesse Saucedo. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday school 9:30 a.m. Nursery for infants to preschool. Children's church for preschool through 5th grade. Wednesday Bible Study and prayer time 6:30 p.m. Men's breakfast every Thursday at 9:30 a.m. at Washington St. Steakhouse & Pub. Jinett's Closet community outreach every Tuesday and Friday from noon to 4:30 p.m. to provide clothes to those in need.

Evangelical Bible Church - 1175 S.E. Howe, Dallas 503-623-2331. Senior Pastor Jerry Franz, Visitation Pastor Allan Wiebe, Youth Pastor Nathan Ens. Sunday: Worship *8:00 a.m.; *10:45 a.m.; *6:00 p.m.; Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; High School Youth Group 7:15 p.m.; Thursday: Jr. High Youth Group - 7:00 p.m.; 2nd & 4th Tuesday: MOPS *9:00 a.m.; Wednesday: AWANA - 6:30 p.m.; Prayer Meeting and Bible Study 7:00 p.m.; Thursday: Bible Studies *9:00 a.m. (women); *7:00 p.m. (men & women) *Nursery care provided.

Faith Evangelical Free Church - 2290 E. Ellendale Ave., Dallas, 503-623-8034; Senior Pastor Al Perkins, Associate Pastor Ed Sutter, Worship Pastor Ted Kitzmiller, Youth Pastor Aaron Swank, Children's Director

Debbie Davies. Sunday school 9:00 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday High School Youth Group 7:00 p.m.; Wednesday Jr. High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Please call or visit our website for information about other meetings. www.faithfreechurch.org

First Christian Church - Joyfully Worshipping & Serving 1079 S.E. Jefferson Street, Dallas, 503-623-2569. Senior Pastor - Gary Ivey, Pastor Darren Anderson. "Live Wire Worship" with Praise Team - 8:30 a.m., Adult, Youth & Children Sunday School - 9:30 a.m., Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m. (Nursery provided), Men's Bible Study - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. Christian Women's Fellowship - 2nd Tuesday, 1:00 pm (Sept through June). Please call church office for information about other meetings

Grace Community Church - 598 E. Ellendale Ave. PO Box 69, Dallas, 503-623-4961. Senior Pastor-Dave Bertolini, Pastor of Worship & Discipleship-Ryan Bucher, Pastor of Student Ministries-Ben Potloff. Sunday Worship: 1st Worship Gathering-8:45 a.m., with Kids, Youth, & Adult Sunday School running concurrently. 2nd Worship Gathering-10:30 a.m. with Adult Sunday School & Kids Worship running concurrently. Nursery provided during both services. *Summer Schedule starting June 15-Aug. 31, 2014. Kids, Youth, & Adult Sunday school at 8:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Gathering at 10:30am. Office is open Tuesday-Friday. Visit our website for daily office hours, sermon downloads, event information and more. All are welcome! www.graceindallas.org

Living Hope City Church - 1156 SE Holman Ave., Dallas. Sundays 10:30 a.m. Family Worship, web: livinghopecitychurch.org. Equipping center and offices at 180 SE Mill St. Dallas. 503-623-6890.

Living Word Faith Fellowship - 830 SE Shelton Street, Dallas, 503-623-9062. Pastor Joan Siewert. Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. Tuesday Worship 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting Thursday 6:00 p.m. Children's Sunday service 10:00 a.m., nursery provided. Men's fellowship second Saturday of month breakfast at 8:00 a.m. at Murphy's Restaurant, Dallas. Pastor Lavern Siewert in charge of men's fellowship. Call for additional information. Website: www.proclaimhim.org

Salt Creek Baptist Church - 15075 Salt Creek Road, Dallas, 503-623-2976. Senior pastor Gerald Scheel. Pastor of Student Ministries, Russ Richmond. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Worship 10:50 a.m. Nursery provided for worship services. Classes for all ages. Wednesday Middle School & Senior High Youth 6:30 p.m. Please call for information about other meetings or visit our website at www.salt-creekchurch.org.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church - 589 SW Birch, P.O. Box 450, Dallas 97338-0450. 503-623-5872. Services on Saturday: 9:30 A.M. Sabbath School Bible Study for all age groups. 10:50 a.m. Worship Service. Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9 to Noon. Phone: 503-866-8989, Pastor: Lary Brown.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints - 1401 S.W. 13th Street, Dallas. Visitors are welcome to attend any of the three wards. Perrydale Ward, Bishop William Fullmer: 503-623-2894. Sacrament Meeting Sundays at 9 a.m.; Youth Activities Tuesdays 7 p.m.; Cooper Hollow Ward, Bishop Scott Short: 503-932-6462. Sacrament Meeting Sunday 11 a.m.; Youth Activities Wednesdays 7 p.m.; Oakdale Ward,

Bishop Roger Shinkle: 503-623-3164. Sacrament Meetings Sundays at 1 p.m.; Youth Activities Wednesdays 7 p.m. Missionaries available for in-home teaching: 503-917-1847 or 503-857-8828 or 503-441-3598, Visit our website at mormon.org

Trinity Lutheran Church - 320 SE Fir Villa Rd, Dallas, (across from Drive-in theater) 503-623-2233. Pastor - David Pederson. Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Kids Church during 10:00 a.m. Worship. Youth Group HS/MS after church Sundays. Free Medical Clinic 1st & 4th Saturday of each month. www.dallastlc.org. Catch us on Facebook

United Methodist Church - A church with Open Hearts, Open Minds & Open Doors. 565 SE LaCreole Dr., Dallas, 503-623-2481. Email: dallasumc@qwestoffice.net Website: www.umcdallas.com, Pastor-Rev. Jeremy Hajdu-Paulen. Worship Service 10:55 a.m. and Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 a.m. (summer worship service at 10 a.m. from June 8 - Sept. 7 - no Sunday School) Childcare available. Handicap access. All are welcome!

Valley Life Center (Assemblies of God) - 1795 S.E. Miller Ave., Dallas, 503-623-4116. Pastor Chris Barker, Youth Pastor, Jerry Mullins, Children's Director, Crystal Barker, Sunday Morning Service 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Family Night 6:30 p.m. Please call for more information or visit our website at www.valleylifecenter.com

FALLS CITY

Falls City United Methodist Church - Corner of North Main Street and 1st Ave. Website: www.fallscityumc.org We are a historic local church, with Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open Doors. Worship Service 9:20 a.m. Sunday. Open communion, family friendly and Handicap accessible. Come and join us in fellowship - ALL are welcome in our church and our hearts!

Seventh-Day Adventist Church - 205 N. Main, Falls City 97344, 503-787-3907. Pastor Lary Brown 503-866-8989. Sabbath School Sat. 9:30 a.m.-10:40 a.m.; Worship Service 11 a.m. Community Service Center (Food Bank and Clothing) third Wed. of each month, noon-4 p.m.

INDEPENDENCE

First Baptist Church - A warm, friendly church that cares about you! Located at 1505 Monmouth St., Independence (across from Central High School); 503-838-1001. Senior Pastor Michael Parks. Sundays: Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Worship Service 11 a.m. (Summer Worship Service 10 a.m.) Mondays: Men's Bible Study 7 p.m. Wednesdays: AWANA 7 pm (during the school year). Thursdays: Men's Bible Study 6 a.m., Youth Group 6:30 p.m. First Baptist Church has ministries for children, youth, adults, families and seniors, throughout the week. Check us out at www.independencefirstbaptist.com

Life Center Foursquare Church - 437 D Street, Independence, OR. Phone: 503-838-6507. Pastor Larry Groatke. Worship Service and Sunday School starts at 10:30 a.m. Men's studies /Women's studies /Home Fellowships available throughout the week. Call for more information. You are welcome! Find us on Facebook.

St. Patrick Parish, Catholic - 1275 E St., Independence. 503-838-1242 or 503-838-5801. Rev. Henry Guillen Vega. Masses Sat., vigil 5 p.m.; Sunday 9:30 a.m. (English), 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. (Spanish); Weekdays Mon, Tues, Wed, & Thurs 9 a.m., Saturday 7 p.m. (Spanish). Evergreen Nursing Home; Holy Days 9 a.m. (Eng) & 7 p.m. (Eng/Span). Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 3:30-4:30 p.m. or by appointment. Religious Ed-

ucation: RCIA Mon 7:00-8:15 p.m.; Mid-High & High School Grades Mon 7:00-8:15 p.m.; Grades 1-4 Tues. 7:00-8:15 p.m. WOU Campus Ministry: Mass Sun. 5:00 p.m. at 315 N. Knox St., Monmouth followed by a social hour.

MONMOUTH

Central Baptist Church - 655 S. Pacific Hwy (99), Monmouth 503-838-1369. Senior Pastor Dan McMillan. Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Nursery provided. Children ages pre-k through 5th grade are excused to Kid's Time during the worship service. Come relaxed. Join us for a cup of coffee at "Cafe Central," enjoy contemporary music, and then explore the Bible with us as we live out our mission of Loving God, Loving One Another, and Loving our World. Youth Group Meets Sunday Nights at 6:30 p.m. in the Upper Room. Women's Bible Study every Thursday Morning at 9 a.m., Men's gatherings monthly. Call us for more information or visit us online at www.cbcmmonmouth.org.

Christ's Church, Methodist and Presbyterian United - 412 Clay St. W., Monmouth. 503-838-1724. ALL People are Welcome! Our outreach focuses on our local Communities - extending to the world. We are open to new worship experiences and a lively diversity of views. Sunday worship 11 a.m. Choir and Bells, with opportunities to participate for everyone. Weekly Bible and Book studies, Morning breakfast Wednesdays with a discussion of the week's Sermon topics. Special theme groups year-round, and Vacation Bible School each summer. A spiritual family that cares for each other and lives our faith in the community. Come, gather with us. See us on Facebook and our web site. www.christschurchmonmouth.org.

Christ the King Christian Church - Meets Saturday Night at Monmouth Christian Church, 7 p.m. The Church is located at 959 Church St. W., Monmouth. Christ the King Church is a conservative, contemporary, charismatic Bible Church. At Christ the King we learn: How to apply the Bible to daily living, how to please God, and how to be a blessing to all people. Come and join us as we learn and grow together. Everyone is welcome. Wally Wildman, Senior Pastor. For more information call 503-623-2262. www.ctkmonmouth.com

Faith Lutheran Church (LCMS) -200 Monmouth-Independence Hwy. Monmouth (the church with the lighted cross on the "S" curve), 503-838-3459; Email: faithlutheranmon@aol.com Web: http://www.faithlutheranmonmouth.org/ Pastor Dallas C.R. Dubke. Summer Schedule (starting June 8th): Divine Service of Holy Communion Sunday 9:30 am. School Year Schedule (starting September 7th) Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 9:00 a.m.; Divine Service of Holy Communion 10:30 am. Everyone is welcome!

Praise Assembly - 189 Monmouth Ave. S, 503-837-0300 (locations in McMinnville and Willamina as well). Our main service time is 9:30 on Sunday mornings, followed by a Spanish service at 2 p.m. Children's church for kids 12 and under. Youth group meets on 1st and 3rd Thursdays. Other ministries include: Celebrate Recovery (Tues, 7 p.m.), college Bible study (Wed, 7 p.m.), and Spanish Bible study (Thurs, 7 p.m.). Please check our website for the most up-to-date information, www.praiseonline.net, or call us at 503-837-0300.

SALEM

Westgate Church - 1675 Wallace Rd NW, Salem. Everyone is welcome at Westgate! Weekend Service Time Sunday 10 am - Worship in your Car or Sanctuary! 9:30 a.m. (Coffee & Donuts.) Wednesday Night Service all ages 6:30 p.m. Westgate Kids offered ages Birth-5th Grade. Nursery available. www.westgatesalem.com. 503-364-0002

Fair showcases county agriculture



The Polk County Fair Youth Livestock Market Auction features the projects of FFA and 4-H students from the region.

If you're looking for an old-fashioned county fair, Polk County's annual four-day summer extravaganza fits the bill.

With a focus on the county's agriculture community, the fair has animal shows featuring rabbits to cattle and everything in between, a livestock market auction and hundreds of other exhibits.

The 2014 Fair, "Bringing Old and New Together," will be Aug. 7-10 at the fairgrounds along Highway 99W in Rickreall.

But there's plenty to do outside the animal barns, pens and exhibit halls.

There is live entertainment on the Les Schwab Stage, including the annual Beautiful Baby Contest.

New to the fair this year are Puzzlemania, fast time racing simulators, and an ATV rodeo.

A selection of classic fair food, a carnival, and entertainment venues for young children and teens round out the fairgrounds' most popular annual event.

The fair isn't the only thing happening around the busy fairgrounds, though.

Fair Manager Tina Andersen and fairgrounds staff have to juggle hundreds of events each year in the four buildings it rents to the public, ranging from weekly square dances and dog obedience classes to large RV and gun shows.

"We're a lot busier now," Andersen said. "We do a lot of marketing. When I started here, we'd have an event about once a month or so. Now we do about 600 events a year."

Shrewsbury Renaissance Faire a unique event

There's a place on the Polk-Benton county line where you can travel 500 years back in time one weekend late every summer.

Just don't forget to pack your suit of armor.

The annual Shrewsbury Renaissance Faire is the largest of its kind in Oregon and one of the most renowned festivals in the Pacific Northwest.

In 2014 on Sept. 13-14, a pastoral field in Kings Valley will be transformed into a bustling village set in 16th-century England. Recent editions of the event, which began in 1995, have drawn more than 15,000 visitors.

Expect to see more than 1,000 event volunteers in costume and more than 125 arti-

san vendors. There are also scores of historical re-enactment groups featuring dancers, jugglers, magicians, musicians, storytellers and theatrical performers.

Learn how to swing a sword or try your hand at a longbow at one of several interactive exhibits. A jousting exhibition, combat melee and horsemanship demonstration are highlights not to be missed.

The festival site is one block east of Kings Valley Highway (Highway 223) on Grant Road. Faire hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days. Admission is \$11 for adults, \$5 for seniors and children 6-12, and free for kids 5 and under.

For more information: 541-929-4897 or online at www.shrewfaire.com.

The Shrewsbury Renaissance Faire takes festival-goers back in time 500 years to 16th-century England.



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MEDICAL DIRECTORY

AUDIOLOGIST

• **Dr. Evans L. Evans:** Audiology Associates – 1343-A Monmouth St. Independence, 503-838-3001. Hearing evaluations, hearing aids, Tinnitus management, hearing aid repairs. Trust your hearing to an Audiologist Diagnostic & Rehabilitative Audiology Our Specialty, Physician Trusted – Family Owned.

CARDIOLOGISTS

• **Dr. Raghu Kamineni, Dr. William Stiles and Dr. Kevin Thompson:** Cardiologists see patients at West Valley Hospital - 525 SE Washington St., Dallas, 503-623-7304. Office visits are scheduled with the cardiology office with visit occurring at West Valley Hospital at 525 SE Washington St, Dallas. Heart diagnostic services available at West Valley Hospital include electrocardiograms (EKG), cardiac stress tests and echocardiograms with a physician referral. For more heart health information, call 503-623-7304. See salemhealth.org/wvh.

CHIROPRACTORS

• **Dr. Brian Joynt:** Joynt Family Chiropractic - 629 Clay St. E., Monmouth, 503-837-0550. We are a family owned and operated chiropractic clinic, dedicated to creating an unparalleled experience of service, quality and care for the WHOLE family. Call us to make your appointment today! New patients welcome. Accept most insurance. Auto/personal injury and work comp. Two massage Therapist on site as well as a rehabilitation facility. Complimentary consultations.

• **Charles E. Holton Jr. D.C.:** 289 E. Ellendale, Suite 102, Dallas 503-623-3903.

• **Drs. Sharon and Marty Thornton:** Thornton Chiropractic - 1650 Monmouth St., Independence 503-838-3346. Serving families for over 16 years. We Care - God Cures. Full spine and extremities, TMJ. Gentle hands-on and instrument adjusting for sports, auto, personal, work injuries and wellness care. Also offering Functional Neurology. Palmer graduates. Massage Therapy available. New patients welcome.

• **Mark Diaz, DC PC:** Ash Creek Chiropractic Center for Wellness, 226 S. Main St. Suite C, Independence 503-838-1951. We are accepting new patients of all ages. Dr. Mark understands that his job is to inform the patient how the body works and why function is impaired. At ACCC we utilize multiple techniques to help relieve discomfort all the while improving function. Dr. Mark also utilizes a gentle form of treatment, Network Spinal Analysis, which helps remove tension, stress, and help develop improved strategies for effective living and greater health. Dr. Mark is proficient and highly knowledgeable in the art of extremity adjusting (ankle, shoulders, hips, feet, wrist, and elbow). Dr. Mark does not treat the symptom but treats the person, all the while helping the patient understand that health

starts with them and not their pain. Also available: Low Level Laser Therapy, Nutritional Counseling, Massage, and Postural Corrective Therapy.

DENTISTS/ORTHODONTICS

• **Thomas L. Davis, DMD:** 410 E. Ellendale Ave., Suite 2, Dallas. 503-623-2653. Dr. Davis provides general dental care (exams, cleanings, fillings, crowns, and bridges) for children and adults. We have appreciated the opportunity to keep families in Polk County smiling since 1979.

• **Michelle L. Hasbrook, DMD, PC:** 120 Atwater St. N., Monmouth 503-838-2998. We provide all phases of general dental care for children and adults using the newer technologies, including laser treatment and digital x-rays. We offer nitrous oxide sedation. New patients are always welcome. Our office is open Monday-Thursday from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

• **Kenneth R. Winokur, DMD, PC:** 329 S. Main St. Independence 503-838-1633. We have been enjoying helping people improve their smiles since 1985. New patients welcome. Visit our website: www.independencedental.org.

• **Les D. Wheeler, DDS:** 289 E. Ellendale, Suite 204, Dallas 503-623-2666. All phases of general dentistry for adults & children. We provide family cosmetic and preventative dentistry in a comfortable and caring office. Welcoming new patients.

• **John D. Shurtz, DDS:** 196 Catron St. N., Monmouth 503-838-1800. New and emergency patients always welcome. We provide but are not limited to general and preventive dental care, surgery, root canals, fillings, crowns, bridges, dentures, periodontal treatment and implants. Most insurances accepted. Email: jdshurtz@minetfiber.com

• **Matthew W. Woolsey, DMD and Alan C. Kolb, DMD:** 155 W. Ellendale Ave., Dallas 503-623-8010. Drs. Woolsey and Kolb provide full-service comprehensive dental care for adults and children. They assure you of a comfortable and pleasant experience as well as outstanding care for a lifetime. New patients are always welcome. Visit our website: www.dallasoregondentistry.com.

• **Randall C. Jones, DMD:** 1004 Monmouth St., Independence (Come see us at our new location). 503-838-0434. Experiences dental care delivered by a kind, courteous and professional staff. Dr. Jones always welcomes new patients and dental emergencies. Exams, cleanings, fillings, crown and bridge, implants, dentures, partials & more. We look forward to seeing you.

• **Weston K. Morrill, DMD:** 289 E. Ellendale Ave., Suite 201, Dallas. 503-623-6616. Family, preventive, and cosmetic dentistry. Complete dentistry for the entire family. Se Habla Espanol.

• **Steven Deming, DDS:** Mid Valley Dental Associates – 197 SE Washington St, Dallas 503-623-2389. General family and cosmetic dentistry. Oral surgery/Wisdom teeth; Dental implants/Root canals; I.V. Sedation/Sleep Dentistry; Invisalign teeth straightening. www.mid-valleydental.com

• **Dr. Bart Carter:** Dallas Orthodontics & South Salem Orthodontics - 410 E. Ellendale, Suite 4, Dallas, 503-623-6532. As a specialist in orthodontics for children, teens and adults. Dr. Carter understands the importance of having healthy teeth and a great looking smile for everyone. We offer excellent orthodontic care in a relaxed and friendly environment. Our goal is to keep you involved in your or your child's care. While many of the treatments and services we provide are extremely complex and highly sophisticated, we try to explain what is going on at each step of the way...we believe in keeping orthodontics straight forward. Please check us out at www.southsalemortho.com

• **Dr. Yenne & Schofield:** 580 Main St. Suite E, Dallas 503-623-5002. Choosing an orthodontic practice for you and your family's care is an important decision. The lifetime benefits of orthodontic treatment and the opportunity to experience a great smile, are priceless. Yenne & Schofield Orthodontics is committed to providing exceptional treatment results in a friendly and caring atmosphere.

FAMILY MEDICINE

• **Keith A. White, M.D.; Janice Hoida, PA-C:** Independence - Monmouth Family Medicine, P.C. - 1430 Monmouth St. Independence, 503-838-1133. Contracted with most major health insurances as well as welcoming cash pay patients. Dr. White is one of the rare family physicians in the area that still provides prenatal care, OB deliveries, and post natal care. Dr. White has been serving this great community over 30 years.

• **Chris Edwardson, M.D. and Stephen Chaffee, D.O.; Kim Lovato, PA-C and Julia Thomas, FNP-C:** Dallas Family Medicine - 641 SE Miller Ave., Dallas 503-623-2345. Family Medicine • Aesthetic Medicine • Urgent Care Appointments • Bone Health • In-house X-rays. Dallas Family Medicine is committed to serving our community as providers of healthcare and medical education. Continuing in a tradition established more than 50 years ago, we strive to heal the whole family with care and compassion, from the infant to the elderly. We are proud to serve you. This is our heritage of caring. Website: dfmCARE.com

• **Dr. Charles Essex,** family medicine, is accepting new patients at Monmouth Medical Center - 512 Main St., Suite 300, Monmouth, 503-838-1182. With a proactive healthcare approach, Dr. Essex provides care for the entire family and will work with you to build a healthy lifestyle with annual exams, immunizations, lifestyle counseling, sports physicals, skin care, cancer screenings and more. Dr. John Hadley, family medicine, is accepting new patients at West Valley Physicians & Surgeons Clinic - 555 SE Washington St., Dallas, 503-623-7301. With a proactive healthcare approach, Dr. Hadley provides family medicine for your entire family from newborns to adults with annual exams, immunizations, lifestyle counseling, sports physicals, skin care, cancer screenings and more. For more on family medicine, visit salemhealth.org/vwv.

Steven A. LaTulippe, M.D., P.C.: South View Medical Arts - 531 SE Clay St, Dallas 503-623-5430. Providing comprehensive care in adult, pediatric and geriatric medicine. Quality medical care is derived from a partnership between the physician and the patient. Working together, we can certainly optimize your

chances for living a long, healthy and fulfilled life. This is highly valued family medicine. It affords the best opportunity to provide an all encompassing range of care that takes into account the "whole person" -your physical, emotional and spiritual needs. I have had additional training in several areas including: Dermatology, Endoscopy, Office Gynecology, Minor Surgery/Procedures, Pediatrics, and Geriatrics. Visit our website: www.svmedicalarts.com

GYNECOLOGIST

• **Dr. Keita Sakon:** West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic – 591 SE Clay St., Dallas, 503-831-0784. Dr. Sakon provides gynecology exams and procedures, including hysteroscopy and laparoscopy, as well as family planning, abnormal Pap evaluation, treatment of pelvic pain, symptom control for menopause and abnormal periods. He works in Dallas on Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. seeing patients at the clinic and performing gynecological procedures in the West Valley Hospital surgical suites. See salemhealth.org/vwv

HEARING HEALTH

• **Joyful Sound Hearing Services, Inc.:** Mark Sturtevant, 312 Main Street, Dallas. 503-623-0290. Providing Polk County with hearing solutions for 30 years. Services include: Hearing evaluations, Diagnosing hearing loss: impedance; Fitting all types of hearing devices, Servicing all makes and models of hearing aids; Ear inspections. Wax removal; Hearing protection. Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-4 pm. (Fridays by appointment only)

IMAGING SERVICES

• **West Valley Hospital Imaging Services:** 525 SE Washington St., Dallas, 503-623-7302. Offers state-of-the-art all-digital diagnostic imaging services. With your physician's referral, we provide your bone densitometry, CT scan, fluoroscopy, mammography, ultrasound, X-ray and MRI services. Check out our new comfortable and spacious mammography suite. Visit salemhealth.org/vwv.

LABORATORY SERVICES

• **Laboratory Services:** Available at two convenient locations in Dallas and Monmouth. Both labs are fully accredited, providing collections and testing with healthcare provider referral. Employment and self-referral drug testing is offered. The West Valley Hospital lab in Dallas is open 24 hours, seven days a week at 525 SE Washington St., 503-623-7303. The Monmouth lab is located in the Monmouth Medical Center, 512 Main St., Suite 300, 503-838-1388. It is open Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., closed between noon and 1 p.m. Appointments are not required. See salemhealth.org/vwv.

MASSAGE THERAPISTS

• **Amber Hawkins, LMT:** Practical Massage – 151 NE Kings Valley Hwy, Dallas (inside Future Images) 503-831-1001. We specialize in Swedish, Deep Tissue, Cupping Therapy, and Thai Massage. Currently accepting motor vehicle insurance claims. Helping people feel better one massage at a time. Available by appointment.

• **Lisa R. Roe, BA, LMT:** Doing business at Thornton Chiropractic 1650 Monmouth St. Independence, 503-838-3346. Nationally certified for therapeutic massage and bodywork. *Swedish/Deep Tissue *Prenatal *Foot Reflexology *Shiatsu (short from Kata) *Gift certificates! *MVA and W/C Insurance billed *Rates, Services, Background Information, and Seasonal Specials listed on www.amtamembers.com/lisarroeLmt Licensed since May 2006 NCTMB#502202-05 OR#12832

OPTOMETRIST/OPHTHALMOLOGIST

• **Christopher D. Johnson, OD:** Mid-Valley Eyecare, a member of Vision Source - 986 SE Uglow Ave., Dallas, 503-623-3538. Our friendly and competent staff focuses on enhancing the quality of your vision and life. We provide a thorough vision exam that includes checking your eye health while utilizing the latest diagnostic testing. We carry a complete line of quality frames, lenses, and contact lenses to meet your vision needs. New patients are welcome and we look forward to seeing you soon! Please visit our website, www.mveyecare.com

• **Dr. Scott Stice:** An anterior segment surgeon and comprehensive ophthalmologist, Dr. Stice performs eye procedures, focusing on cataract surgery including specialty lenses and glaucoma management. He currently serves as president of the Marion- Polk Medical Society. Dr. Stice sees patients at Eye Care Physicians & Surgeons at 1309 Liberty St. SE in Salem, and performs procedures in West Valley Hospital's new state-of-the-art surgery suites as well as procedures in Salem and Silverton. West Valley Hospital is located at 525 SE Washington St. in Dallas. For an appointment with Dr. Stice, call 503-585-2022, or fax a physician referral to 503-566-3734. Visit salemhealth.org/vvh.

ORTHOPEDIC

• **Dr. Steve Yao:** Specializes in sports medicine and knee-replacement procedures. Dr. Yao sees patients at the Hope Orthopedics of Oregon satellite office in Dallas, and schedules surgeries nearby at West Valley Hospital in the new state-of-the-art surgery suites. For an appointment with Dr. Yao, call 503-540-6300. The Hope Orthopedics Dallas location is at 607 SE Jefferson St., Dallas. West Valley Hospital is located at 525 SE Washington St., Dallas, 503-623-8301. Visit HopeOrthopedics.com and salemhealth.org/vvh.

PODIATRIST

• **Tom Mesdag, DPM:** Monmouth Valley Foot Health Center - 343 Main St. E, Monmouth 503-838-3668. Podiatric sports medicine, infants, children & adults.

• **Dr. Ruben Pollak and Dr. R. Tyson Scott:** Both podiatrists see patients at West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic and provide procedures and surgeries for feet, ankle, bunions and plantar fasciitis at nearby West Valley Hospital in the new state-of-the-art surgery suites. Request one of these podiatrists and get your surgical care done locally. Dr. Scott sees patients at West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic on Wednesdays, 8 a.m.-noon. For an appointment with Dr. Scott, call 503-370-8784, or fax physician referral to 503-362-4017. Dr. Pollak sees patients at the Surgical Specialty Clinic on Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. For an appointment with Dr. Pollak, call 503-831-0784, or fax physician referral to 503-623-2612. West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic is located at 591 SE Clay St., Dallas. Visit salemhealth.org/specialty.

REHABILITATION/PHYSICAL THERAPY

• **Craig Hawkins, DPT, OCS;** Matthew Stensrud DPT; and Andi Gilbertson, DPT: Pinnacle Physical Therapy located in Keizer and Dallas - 210 W. Ellendale Ave., Suite 100, Dallas 503-623-2433. Pinnacle Physical Therapy is a private, therapist owned clinic that provides out-patient physical & aquatic therapy services to the Dallas community and surrounding areas. We work with the referring doctor to coordinate a detailed treatment program designed especially for you based on our thorough evaluation. We treat all ages for many conditions including: motor vehicle/work injury, back/neck pain, sports injury, women's

health issues, balance/dizziness, post-surgical rehabilitation, headaches, plantar fasciitis, shoulder/knee pain, and much, much more! Website: pinnacle-physicaltherapy.com.

• **Sherrill Beck, PT; Troy Hatten, PT; Phil Segura, DPT; Janelle Hanni, DPT; Cindy Neth, PTA; Jennifer Batmale, PTA; Diane Rocak, OT:** West Valley Hospital provides a wide range of rehabilitation/physical therapy services in Dallas and Monmouth/Independence. Our experienced therapists have expertise in physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and aquatic therapy (at Dallas Aquatic Center). We are located at 525 SE Washington St. in Dallas, 503-623-7305; and serve Monmouth and Independence at the Monmouth Medical Center (se habla español), 512 Main St., 503-838-1388. Call today for an appointment and let us help you get moving again. For more on our services, visit salemhealth.org/vvh.

• **Josh Christopherson, PT, Cert-SMT; Ian Gilkison, PT, DPT; Kim Magers, MS/CCC-SLP ; Jeremy Ainsworth, MS, ATC:** PT Northwest - 221 Main St. E. Monmouth 503-838-4244. PT Northwest has 10 clinics spread across the Mid-Willamette Valley including 2 in Polk County. PT Northwest is an independent private practice rehabilitation group operating in the Willamette Valley since 1977. We provide physical, occupational and speech therapy as well as athletic training at local high schools, universities and sporting events. We work to serve our community, strive to provide excellent care, and remain dedicated in assuring optimal patient outcomes. Visit www.ptnorthwest.com for more information.

SHAMANIC PRACTITIONER

• **Marian Simon, MA:** 503-831-0158, simonart@teleport.com, <http://mariansimon.com>. Shamanic practitioner and counselor specializing in spiritual healing and development since 1994. From my experience, whatever issues you may have can be healed on a spiritual level. Shamanic healing for soul retrieval, emotional or physical trauma, depression. Resolve issues from the past. Spiritual advice for divination questions, long distance healing. Remove curses, heal localized pain, and connect with spirit guides and ancestors. Clearing for home, office or property of earthbound spirits or negative past. Blessing ceremonies for home or newborn children. Personal, spiritual development. May your soul be guided and your heart content with spiritual light.

SURGEONS

• **Dr. Alison Smith:** West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic surgeon - 591 SE Clay St., Dallas, 503-831-0784. Provides general surgery services for a wide range of needs including breast cancer, gallbladder, biopsies, abdominal surgery, as well as colonoscopies. General surgery appointments are scheduled Mondays and Thursdays with surgeries scheduled at West Valley Hospital. Dr. Smith is located at the West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic. Visit salemhealth.org/specialty.

UROLOGISTS

• **Dr. Jaffer Bashey,** a board-certified urologist, sees patients at West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic - 591 SE Clay St, Dallas on Tuesday mornings, providing complete diagnosis and treatment of urological disorders and diseases for adults and children. He schedules outpatient surgeries at West Valley Hospital, including cystoscopy, minor bladder and prostate surgery, bladder and kidney stones, circumcision, vasectomy and other procedures. For an appointment, call 503-561-7100. Physician referral may be required and can be faxed to 503-561-7124. Visit salemhealth.org/specialty.

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Bethell Woods Bed & Breakfast owners and husband and wife, Cindy Bethell and Roger Asbahr.

Your home away from home

Bed-and-breakfasts offer the perfect getaway for exploring the region

Need to get away? You might not have to go as far as you think.

Polk County boasts six bed and breakfasts within its borders for those looking to leave the stresses of everyday life for some down-home hospitality in a charming, relaxing environment.

Each establishment also has its own unique quirks and history.

For those looking for peaceful contemplation, a visit to Bethell Woods Bed & Breakfast is in order. The charming B & B is tucked away on 11 wooded acres off Highway 22 west of Dallas in the heart of wine country.

For owners Cindy Bethell and her husband, Roger As-



bahr, they hope to offer their guests the same escape they move to Oregon provided them. Bethell grew up in Oregon — the property is her family's — as did Asbahr, but they both ended up working high pressure careers in Washington, D.C.

"Now, when people ask me

what I do, I say 'I'm a groundskeeper.' And I couldn't love it more," said Asbahr.

Strolling the property, the sound of cars whizzing past on Highway 22 fades with a glimpse of Bethell's lovingly kept rose garden and soothing flow of the nearby waterfall and pond.

A one-bedroom Forest Cottage and smaller, but cozy Garden Room provide the perfect atmosphere for quiet relax-

ation, perfect for travel-weary guests — and their hosts.

"We were both raised in the country and we feel so natural being back," Bethell said. "We are so happy to be here."

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AIRLIE FARMS BED AND BREAKFAST

Where: 14810 Airlie Road, Monmouth.

Amenities: Six rooms available, but only two have a private bath. For groups, three to five rooms can be rented as a suite. Free high speed wireless Internet; wine tour discount available.

Rates: \$75-\$120 a night.

Of note: As part of Airlie Farms Quarter Horse breeding farm, horse-riding lessons and trail rides are also available, and guests may also choose to bring their own horses for their stay.

Contact: Joe and Nancy Petterson, 503-838-1500; airlifarm@aol.com; www.airlie-farminn.com/.

BETHELL WOODS BED & BREAKFAST

Where: 17950 Highway 22, Sheridan.

Amenities: Forest Cottage and Garden rooms available for rent. Free wireless Internet and access to all grounds and gardens.

Rates: \$110-\$140 per night (maximum of two people per room). Garden Room has a minimum stay of three nights.

Of note: Property used to be home of Bethell Logging Co., started by Jim Bethell, where it operated for 46 years. Bethell's daughter, Cindy Bethell, and her husband, Roger Asbahr, remodeled and opened the B&B in October 2011.

Contact: Cindy Bethell, 503-956-3377; cindy@bethellwoods.com; www.bethellwoods.com.

BUENA VISTA HOUSE CAFE AND LODGING

Where: 11265 Riverview St., Independence.

Amenities: Two rooms available with shared bath for rent; also offers weekend breakfast (Saturday-Sunday) or Friday dinners, reservations required. Dining room seats 14 people.

Rates: \$65-\$75 per night for lodging; Sunday brunches start at \$14.

Of note: Morning coffee, pastries and other breakfast items available Wednesday-Saturday, 8-11:30 a.m., no reservations necessary. For a full breakfast, call for reservations. Cash and check only.

Contact: Claudia, 503-838-6364; www.buenvistaoregon.com.

MAMERE'S BED & BREAKFAST

Where: 212 Knox St., Monmouth.

Amenities: Five Louisiana-style Mardi Gras-themed rooms available for rent.

Rates: \$89-\$149 per night. Breakfast included in price unless you opt out for a \$5 reduction per person. \$425/\$1,250 weekly and monthly rates, breakfast not included.

Contact: Terri Gregory, 503-838-1514; www.mameresbandb.com.

HANSON HOUSE BED AND BREAKFAST

Where: 23005 S. Yamhill River Road, Willamina.

Amenities: Four suites (all with private bath) available for rent. Free wireless Internet available.

Rates: \$100-\$130 per night; rates change with seasons and weekends.

Of note: Hanson House is located five miles east of Spirit Mountain Casino; free shuttle service is offered. Outdoor hot tub available on the eight-acre property.

Contact: Vicki Hanson, 541-815-3309; www.hansonhousebnb.com.

FERN HILL LODGE, VACATION HOME

Where: 6000 Fern Hill Road, Monmouth.

Amenities: Six bedrooms plus loft, four bath, 5300 square foot home for vacation rental on 25 acres. Beds for 20. Wifi, gourmet kitchen, gas fireplaces, theater room with 10 foot screen and seating for 18, Wii, exercise equipment, pingpong table, games, stocked fishing pond with row boat.

Rates: \$500-600 per night, two night minimum; varies with holidays.

Of note: Built in 2008, Fern Hill Lodge is a luxurious log lodge overlooking an acre fishing pond with views of the valley and mountains. Renters have full access to the 25-acre property and pond. Great for family gatherings, retreats and wine tasting groups.

Contact: Polly McCrea 503-930-3080; fernhillpolly@gmail.com; <http://www.vrbo.com/557598> or on Facebook: Fern Hill Lodge.



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July 16 Hillstomp – Blues

July 23 Everyday Prophets – Reggae

July 30 Machete Men – Cuban Rock

AUGUST CONCERTS

August 6 BrassRoots Movement – New Orleans Jazz

August 13 Jake Blair Band – Blues/Rock

August 20 Aaron Shinkle Band – Country/Folk

August 27 Coming Up Threes - Celtic

*Look for Monmouth Music In The Park Series on Facebook
for more information about this year's artists.*

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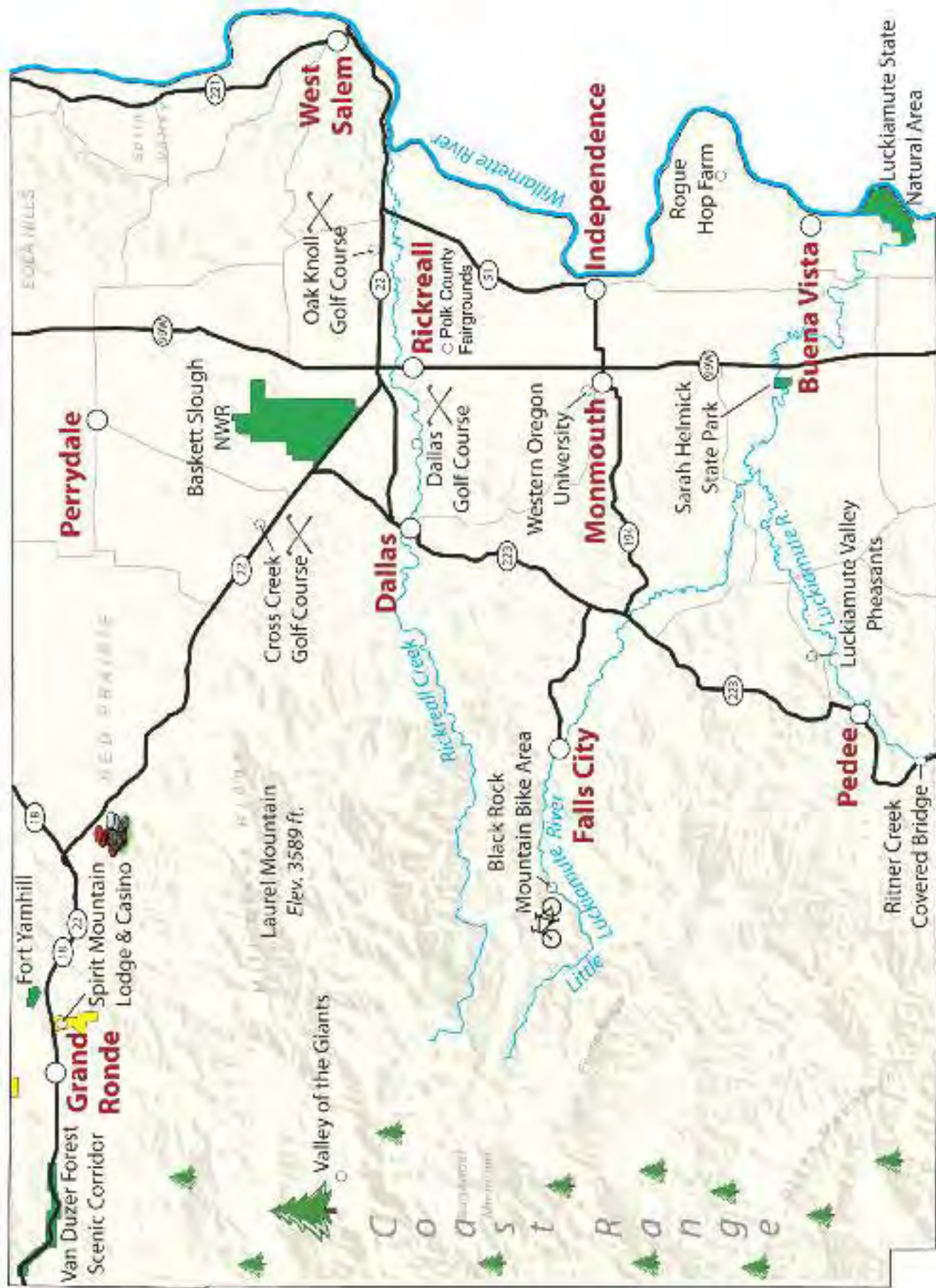
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WE CARE DEEPLY...for our community and one another. Community volunteerism and engagement is the foundation of our identity. We have built on our agricultural heritage to create a strong and innovative economy. We have invested in businesses that produce well-paying jobs. We support partnerships and a range of educational opportunities that equip students for success in our community, workforce and world.

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