



EXPLORE

Polk County

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Itemizer-Observer
May 24, 2017 • Section C



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Explore Polk County

Welcome to Explore Polk County 2017

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of Explore Polk County 2017

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EXPLORE POLK COUNTY

From a solar eclipse to beer, county offers unique adventures

In August, tens of thousands will discover how great Polk County is as they descend on the area for one of the best viewing places of the Great American Eclipse, a total solar eclipse on Aug. 21 at 10:17 a.m.

But Polk County has much to offer year-round for outdoor enthusiasts, foodies, cyclists, pinot lovers, and members of Rogue Nation, residents and visitors alike.

Tucked between the Willamette River and the Oregon Coast Range, campsites and bed and breakfasts offer lodging opportunities for hikers and cyclists exploring trails that loop through vineyards, hills, fields — and even through towns.

The county is home of the hard-to-find (but worth the effort) Valley of the Giants, where towering, hundreds-year-old Douglas fir give visitors a glimpse into what the landscape of Oregon



Polk County offers countless scenic views, like this one of Buena Vista Road.

must have looked like in its early settler days. Parks, preserves, and historic buildings help paint the picture of the

history of the county, state and its people.

See Page 6C



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Take a drive in Polk County and you'll come across one of countless breathtaking views.

Continued from Page 5C

Polk County is ideal for birding, and not just at Baskett Slough Park. Ospreys and bald eagles make their nests near rivers that run through the county, including in Independence Riverview Park.

Roughly 30 vineyards spot the countryside, close enough together to make a day of touring and tasting, and far too many to see in just one afternoon.

Polk County is rich in culture with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde sharing their tribal heritage at the Chachalu Tribal Museum and Cultural Center, as well as a plethora of multi-cultural events at Western Oregon University, from annual powwows to luaus.

The county is home to world-class, destination trails for bicyclists, from a mountain bike vineyard loop to the Black Rock Mountain Bike area — and winding country roads in between, past farms, old barns, and fruit and vegetable stands.

If touring the county by car, the dirt and rock roads that wind between fields can make it feel like you're miles away from a town or city rather than just minutes from Oregon's capitol, Salem.

The county's rich history in agriculture brings local food straight to your table at local restaurants and farmers markets. In Polk County, we still believe in making food from scratch with fresh ingredients.

Whether you're looking to stretch your legs, canoe or raft, or just lounge around and relax, you'll find it here in Polk County. Enjoy the journey.

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, 168 SW Court St., Dallas, 503-623-2564; Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce, 355 Pacific Ave. N., Suite A, Monmouth, 503-838-4268. Visit www.explorepolkcounty.org.

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



• **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 among 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 Rüter 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.

Go for a Ride



The rush of excitement. The moments when you're flying through the air or completing a tight corner can be electrifying. Black Rock Mountain Bike Area, located near Falls City, offers cyclists a haven for experiencing a thrill ride.

Nearly 10 miles of trails are populated by ramps, elevated bridges and other features — all maintained by the volunteer organization Black Rock Mountain Bike Association.

Riders from around the world flock to the free-ride trails. Free-riding is a more aggressive subset of mountain biking that focuses on downhill rides, jumps and maneuvering through and over obstacles.

"There's nothing like this around the Pacific Northwest," trail manager Gary Weaverli said. "None of the other trails are like Black Rock. They're more tuned for cross-country style riding, where you sit and pedal up and down the mountain. At Black Rock, you jump down the mountain."

BRMBA is world-renown as one of the best spots to free ride. The International Mountain Bike Association added BRMBA to its Epic Trail Program in 2010 — a distinction given to trails based on quality of design, organization behind projects, and cooperation with public agencies.

Black Rock

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 the 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.

See Page 8C



Black Rock Mountain Bike Association maintains all trails in the Black Rock trail system.

Continued from Page 7C

BRMBA has partnered with the Oregon Department of Forestry since about 2002. Black Rock was a destination for dirt bikes during the 1980s until ODF closed it to motor vehicles. In 2002, a trio of people approached the ODF about building a sanctioned free-ride trail.

From there, Black Rock has blossomed — all thanks to dedicated volunteers.

The association holds maintenance days throughout the year when volunteers show up in full force to add, repair and maintain trail features.

"These are people who are passionate about the sport," Weaverli said. "We care about the sport, the mountain and the environment. We think about when designing trails how it might erode, how it is going to treat the rider, and how to make it fun and exciting while still being safe."

While Black Rock offers its share of challenges, you don't have to be an expert to enjoy it.

BRMBA has a "Basic Training" section aimed at beginning riders to get them used to some of the course features they'll encounter on more advanced trails.

"You can just come out and play," Weaverli said. "You don't have to hike up three miles to the top. You can do small laps and do one or two little jumps and get experience really quick."

Trails get more advanced from there.

"You can go there and progress from a person who doesn't really ride a bike, and you could become an expert just by riding the trail system there," Weaverli said.

But just as important as the quality of the trails is the community you become a part of. Weaverli said making new, lifelong friends is a common occurrence.

"We're only as good as the people who volunteer," he said. "There are ways to get as involved as you like and share a common passion with people from around the globe."

Whether you're a seasoned veteran or hopping on a mountain bike for the first time, Black Rock can be your gateway to adventure — just be ready for a thrill of a lifetime.

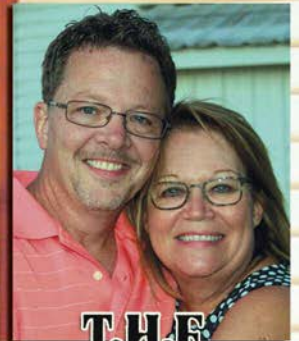
"Our slogan, if you will, is to build, ride and respect," Weaverli said. "We like to build trails, ride the trails, and respect the trails. That's what we're all about."



Black Rock features a number of different trails with varying degrees of difficulty from beginner to expert.

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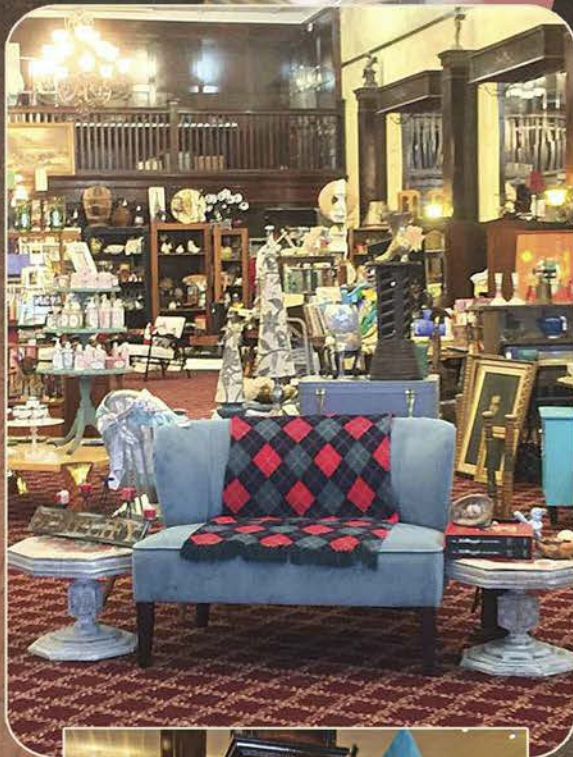
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The Valley of the Giants offers some truly inspiring views of centuries-old Douglas-fir trees.

The centuries-old Douglas-fir trees that stand in the grove named the Valley of Giants are humbling. They tower over human guests to their isolated area, reminding visitors how small they really are.



Finding the Valley of the Giants can be difficult, but the trip is worth making.

The Valley of the Giants is on 47 acres, designated as an Outstanding Natural Area by the Bureau of Land Management in 1976.

A trail meanders through the trees, designated as moderate difficulty.

The real difficulty is finding the place to begin with.

Part of it is timing.

"In the summer, it gets a little dicier because they're actively logging," said Kimber Townsend, Monmouth resident, who regularly schedules group hikes to Valley of the Giants. "You have to get to that sweet spot where they're logging, but they haven't closed for fire danger yet."

Townsend leads an annual New Year's Day hike to the forest, and says a chainsaw is recommended to get past any trees that have fallen across the road.

The trip is about 22 miles on graveled, windy roads, and the drive takes about 90 minutes. The log trucks — more familiar with the route — don't drive slowly, however.

"We always have a car in front that has a CB radio that can monitor CB traffic, so if a truck is coming, they pull over and everyone else knows to tuck in behind them, because they know a truck's coming," Townsend said. "They don't slow down — it's your job to get out of their way."

Another reason the trail is difficult to find is the road goes through a quarry.

"If you come from the south, you have to get through the quarry, and if they're actively blasting, they'll have that closed, so you have to go through Falls City," Townsend said.

When fire danger gets too high, roads to the Valley of the Giants close.

Fabulous Forest

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

Continued from Page 10C

"There's two gates," Townsend said. "If you get past the second gate, you're cheering because that was the last one."

Lastly, people who live in the area and cherish the pristine beauty of the VOG remove traces of any directions to the trail-head.

"I think the folks who are local and have grown up here don't want to see this become a typical tourist park and get damaged and vandalized," Townsend said. "BLM has put markers in that say, 'VOG.' They usually last a week or two — a month at best."

People have pulled the direction signs out or spray-painted over them to try and keep it from being found, Townsend said. Global positioning systems don't work well, either, because GPS signals are lost in the area.

"It's very difficult to find because people deliberately erase the trail," Townsend said.

But once you find the parking lot and make your way into the valley, it's worth it.

"These giant, old trees, you put your hand on that tree and think about the hundreds of years that tree has stood in that spot, and what has passed under their branches," Townsend said. "So you get that feeling of time. When you pass through this enormous tree, it's like a heart in the forest."

The trail is an organic one — maintained, but not pristinely so.

"They aren't sending up a parks and rec crew to clear the trail every year," Townsend said. "That doesn't happen. So when trees fall over the years, the trail just naturally modifies to accommodate the tree. People maneuver around it."

Or over it, as the case may be.

"There's one stretch where you're literally on it," Townsend said. "There's a big tree that's fallen, and a little sign with a guy walking that says, yes, this is actually the trail. So you step on the roots and walk the length of the tree until you get to the other side of the trail. It is the coolest thing."

Plan for a whole day, and pack a lunch. A picnic table near the Valsetz River makes for a nice resting spot before making your way back up the hill to the parking area.

While the trail is not long, Townsend said it is physically demanding.

"It's really steep, and if the footing is wet or muddy, there are some sections you're literally controlling your slide down," she said.

Also, remember the golden rule of enjoying nature: Take only memories; leave only footprints.



Some of the Douglas-fir trees are several hundred years old.

MINI COURSE, BIG FUN

Polk County is home to a different kind of golf — one that the whole family can enjoy.

Puttskee's Mini-Golf, located next to the skate park in Monmouth, offers family fun that can test your putting skills while providing a few laughs along the way.

Owner Bob Klinsky has been running Puttskee's for the past decade and a half. During that time, it's been his mission to make the course as fun and difficult as possible that people — from novice to seasoned golfers — could have a blast playing.

"I want to make it challenging enough that people want to beat their score," he said. "Otherwise, they won't come back."

The result has been a wacky course featuring obstacles such as a modified basketball hoop, miniature bridges, and a hole that splits into two different paths.

Just be ready for more than meets the eye. Oftentimes, a simple solution isn't quite as easy as it may first seem.

Each hole offers a number of different



Puttskee's offers a number of fun obstacles on its course.

paths to the goal — meaning each time you play, your round will be different.

Puttskee's is a way for families to enjoy a day out, a group of friends looking for something fun and different to do, or a way to settle a score.

The course has even been a part of some students' prom tradition.

"We had a group of high school kids come out here for their prom," Klinsky said. "They played the course all dressed in their formal wear."

Another factor that makes Puttskee's so inviting? The price.

Play Putt-Putt

What: Puttskee's Mini-Golf.

Where: 1510 Monmouth St., Monmouth.

Cost: \$3 per person (\$2 for second round).

Hours: Sunday through Wednesday, noon to 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, noon to 9 p.m. Special times for groups and parties can be scheduled. Open during summer, usually May through September, but is weather dependent.

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

At \$3 per person, it's an affordable activity that provides memories that can last a lifetime.

Puttskee's is open seven days a week during the summer.

Open hours depend on weather, so call ahead or check on the course's website for the latest information.

Buying or selling a home?

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Take a stroll through nature

State natural area provides scenic spots to take in beauty

Luckiamute State Natural Area is a haven for bird watchers to track down hard-to-find species.

From what is a morass of mud at the Luckiamute State Natural Area will grow a mature forest. A group of 25 to 30 volunteers gathered on Earth Day 2017 to plant shrubs and tree cuttings on the LSNA's boundary with a farm field. Organized by the Luckiamute Watershed Council, the event is part of an ongoing restoration effort in the 925-acre expanse of public land, managed by Oregon State Parks and Recreation, that began in 2011.

Most people visiting the area don't venture into this part of the LSNA, said Kristen Larson, the watershed council coordinator.

Visitors typically go a little further down Buena Vista road to the trailhead, but that doesn't mean the mission of nurturing native plants — and being a good neighbor to the farmer — is any less critical.

The work done on Earth Day has the double benefit of giving the native willows and dogwoods a head start and eventually make it more difficult for weeds to take root.

"The point is that it all grows up and fills and makes a closed canopy," Larson said. "Then the weeds have a harder time. You can see them on the edge, but under the willows there aren't as many."

Small willows from a previous planting bow to the wind and rain of the soggy morning, but otherwise look healthy and happy.

Larson said she sees evidence of the restoration working throughout the area.

"This is our last formal planting, apart from volunteers, so right now it's a few more years of stewardship and more volunteer activities to help weed control," she said.

In the mature forests in the area, the council's work is allowing nature to take over.

"There's just little random patches of blackberries that we've

been helping (Oregon State) Parks to control and we need to go in and fill with plants. Sometimes the forest will fill it in itself," Larson said. "Now we are transitioning more into taking care of the work that's been done and help state parks to take care of the work that has been done."

Take a stroll through those flood plain forests and you will find more than just beautiful plants and magnificent trees.

The 315 square miles of wilderness and riparian dreamscape in the making is a paradise for wildlife, from birds to butterflies.

See Page 16C



Bird watchers can go on walks through Luckiamute.

Baskett Slough

A nature lover's paradise

There is a place where you can see the natural history of an entire region — a place where you can go to get a break from everyday life and enter a haven for nature.

Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge, located off Highway 22, offers visitors a unique experience — even when compared to Polk County's numerous wildlife viewing spots.

The refuge was originally established in 1965 to provide winter habitat for dusky Canada geese.

Over the years, various restoration projects on the 2,492 acres of the refuge have allowed Baskett Slough to show off the natural history of the Willamette Valley. Photography is encouraged, and chances are you'll see a number of awe-inspiring spots along your trek.

Pets, jogging, biking, hunting and fishing are prohibited, but the hiking trails, which range in distance from less than a mile to three miles long, provide plenty of spots to take in breathtaking views — but Baskett Slough offers much more than pretty scenery.

Baskett can be a bird watcher's paradise.

More than 200 species of birds make a home at the refuge for the winter, nesting or migration stopovers, including songbirds, raptors, shorebirds and waterfowl.



Baskett Slough

What: Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge.

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

Of note: 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/WillametteValley/baskett/.

Wildlife lovers can also seek out 30 species of mammals, eight species of amphibians and 10 species of reptiles.

Included are 10 different federally listed threatened and endangered species of plants and wildlife — including Fender's Blue Butterfly — a species thought to be extinct until the 1980s.

The Refuge is part of the Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex, and includes William L. Finley and Ankeny national wildlife refuges.

If you're a bird watcher looking for a haven for your next outing, an outdoors lover wanting a place that offers a variety of plants and animals, or just someone looking to escape the ordinary, Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge should be near the top of your list.



Continued from Page 14C

The watershed council and a local volunteer organize and lead birding hikes in the area on a regular basis in the spring and fall.

Collecting birds is a hobby of birdwatchers, or birders, that involves keeping track of what birds they identify either by sight or by the bird's song. That list can be a life-time list — how many birds you've identified in your life — or an annual list — how many birds you identify in one year's time.

Look carefully enough and you will find screech owls, hummingbirds, sapsuckers, woodpeckers, sparrows, and hawks making the LSNA their home.

You will want to take your time on the trails.

Along the walk, hikers are greeted by native shrubs, flowers and trees. Most have been planted by volunteers, working to repair the habitat to its natural state. Others

have a history of growing in the area long before the settlers came.

From the north trailhead parking lot to where the roughly two-mile loop begins, an artificial forest of cottonwood and ash trees lines the

right, casting shade along the trail. Most of the trail is protected by canopy, making it a pleasant walk even on a warm, sunny day.

Additional trails connect with the loop, one taking hikers to the confluence of three

rivers, where the Santiam and Luckiamute enter the Willamette.

Other trails have canoe access or give hikers a chance to explore the forest deeper in this recovering wilderness playground.



There's plenty to see and do at Luckiamute State Natural Area.



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Dive In

Dallas Aquatic Center offers something for every type of swimmer

Whether you are looking for a good workout, a leisurely swim, or a relaxing dip in the spa, the Dallas Aquatic Center has you covered.

The aquatic center has been a fixture in Polk County since it opened in 2000, and is a water lover's paradise offering five — yes five — pools: a therapy pool, lap pool, leisure pool, lazy river, and a wading pool for toddlers.

There's also a spa to relax in after a hard swim or an afternoon having fun splashing around.

No matter what you're looking for, the Aquatic Center's schedule has time built in for

you. A full schedule of classes, lessons and lap swims are available for those looking to get into better shape or entering the pool for the first time.

It's not all work, though. A fountain highlights the fun in a shallower pool for kids to enjoy, and a rope swing for more experienced swimmers seeking a thrill.

Of course the highlight for many is the slide — a 14-foot-tall, 105-foot-long crowd pleaser.

Recreation swim times allow people unrestricted access to all of the pools and features.

If your child wants to do more, the Blue Dolphin Swim

Make a Splash

What: Dallas Aquatic Center.

Where: 1005 SE LaCreole Drive, Dallas.

Admission: Adults, \$5.50; youths (younger than 18), \$4.50; seniors (60 and older), \$4.50; families (up to four people), \$16; infants 3 and younger wading pool use, \$1.50 (**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 Dallas Aquatic Center's website at www.ci.dallas.or.us/DAC.

For more information: 503-623-9715.

Team offers a chance to take his or her swim skills to the next level.

Pool hours vary depending on the time of year, so check the aquatic center's website

for current hours. The center adds additional recreation swim times on holidays or other days when school is out to keep the youngsters busy during breaks.

The pool is also available for parties or family gatherings, making the center a go-to place for family fun — and it's all indoors, so your next aquatic adventure doesn't have to wait until good weather hits.

A pro shop sells all the supplies you'll need — swim caps, goggles and towels — as well as snacks.

The Dallas Aquatic Center hosts a variety of events from a Kids Triathlon to a Halloween event that offers frightening fun.

Want to spend some time on dry land? You don't have to go far.

The aquatic center is located next to Roger Jordan Community Park, which features a pair of tennis courts, soccer/baseball fields, pickleball courts, and a skate park. The Rickreall Creek Trail is nearby, too.

No matter if you're looking for a strenuous workout or just want to kick back and relax, Dallas Aquatic Center is your destination to make a big splash during your day.



The Dallas Aquatic Center hosts a number of events, including the Kids Triathlon.

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A half-mile trail marks notable locations at Fort Yamhill.

Discover the past

One look around Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area and it's easy to get lost in the moment.

Once a military fort that served as a border crossing between the Grand Ronde Reservation to the west and the land owned by settlers to the east, Fort Yamhill gives visitors a glimpse of the area's tumultuous past.

About 70 enlisted men and officers stationed at the fort represented the authority in the region, and as such, Fort Yamhill was positioned at the highest elevation in the area.

There were six officers quarters at the top of the hill and a fortified block house down the hill.

The men stationed there were in charge of the road in

and out of the reservation, and served as a buffer between Native American tribes and settlers.

FYSHA opened in 2006, and has worked to tell the story of the fort and the region's history in the mid-1800s.

Visitors will get a first-hand impression of what life was like at Fort Yamhill.

One of the officer's homes stands fully restored, and artifacts left behind by soldiers gives clues to what daily life was like.

There is also a half-mile interpretive trail — created in conjunction with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde — that marks notable locations existing at the park, giving visitors a glimpse into life at the fort and the region at the time.

Ready for the hunt

If you're ready for the thrill of the hunt, look no further than Luckiamute Valley Pheasants.

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

It's of little surprise that, in 2006, the brothers turned their family's land into a hunting preserve, Luckiamute Valley Pheasants (LVP) drawing clients from across Oregon, Washington and beyond.

"The history has a bit to do with keeping the old family farm viable," Chuck Cates said. "When you are too small to be a viable commercial farm, you need to do something."

The brothers transformed a 315-acre parcel in southern Polk County into an upland hunting preserve that they manage and stock with ringneck pheasants and the wilder Manchurian ringnecks.

"What the preserve does, more than anything else, is

take advantage of the recreational aspects of a farming and forestry operation," Chuck said.

All birds are raised on site — a personal touch that allows hunters to have the most enjoyable experience possible.

LVP has hosted a number of other events, including North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association tests, the Northwest English Springer Spaniel Club training day/open house and a Northwest Ladies Hunting Camp.

What makes LVP so attractive?

It gives hunters something that is rare — a personal experience.

The natural beauty only adds to it and makes LVP a must-see spot for hunters.

"Just you and your dog," Chuck said. "We do have some scheduling constraints for those hunts, but we understand the special relationship between an upland hunter and her dog."

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: \$220 per hunter. There is an additional \$50 per hunter charge if you do not have your own dog.

Hunting without a dog is not allowed. A guide will assist with your first hunt free of charge.

Of note: There are no provided meals or accommodations.

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

Time travel

What: Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area.

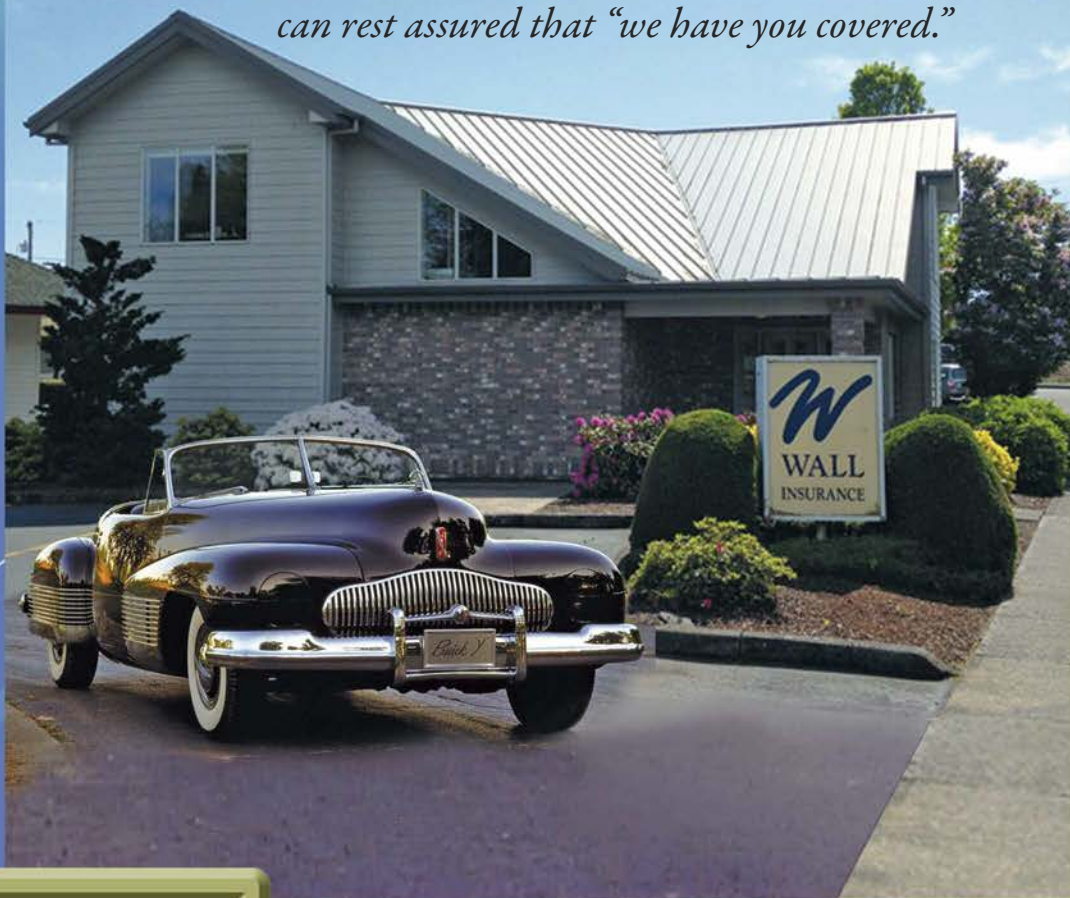
Where: 9390 Hebo Road (Highway 22), Grand Ronde.

Hours: Year-round day use park.

For more information: 503-879-5814 or go to www.oregon-stateparks.org.

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There's lots to do at Dallas City Park from disc golf to visiting the Delbert H. Hunter Arboretum to playing on epic slides.

Let it fly at Dallas City Park

If you hear a cry of "Fore!" in Dallas City Park, don't be surprised. Don't look for a golf ball hurtling toward you either — what you should be watching for is a flying disc.

That is because the park is home to an 18-hole disc golf course, popular with casual players and tournament organizers.

The course opened in 2009, and since has become one of the park's major draws.

Disc golf is more than just throwing a Frisbee around — even though it may look that easy. As in traditional golf, control of aim and distance is required. Dallas' course offers ample opportunity to sharpen your skills in a fun environment.

Most holes are short. Instead of distances posing a challenge, it's the hazards that make this course unique.

Whether weaving your way through trees or avoiding drifting into the creek, the course offers several holes that make even "pro" players need a strategy.

No tee times are necessary. Unless there's a tournament taking place, you can walk on any time during the day and take all the time you need.

Course maps and score cards are

Walk in the park

Dallas City Park is the town's largest at 35 acres.

Entrances are located at 300 SW Brandvold Drive (new side), or 600 SW Allgood St. (old side).

available online at www.ci.dallas.or.us/discgolf.

Not up for a round? The city's largest park has all the mainstays to keep families entertained for hours. Multiple playgrounds offer slides, see-saws, merry-go-rounds and more.

Trails and pathways are perfect for a creekside stroll. Tables and barbecue pits provide a great place for outdoor gatherings or quiet picnic lunches.

During the summer months, it's a common sight to see families making a splash in the creek.

Looking for something even more contemplative? Dallas City Park features the Delbert H. Hunter Arboretum, tucked away on five acres in the southwest corner of the park. The arboretum is dedicated to appreciation of Oregon's native trees, shrubs and wildflowers.

Arboretum volunteers are so committed to that mission that they've ex-

perimented with practices used by the region's Native American tribes to restore ecosystems. Last fall with the help of the Dallas Fire Department, volunteers burnt a portion of the meadow section planted with native bunch grasses. In previous centuries, tribes used annual fires as a regeneration tool in places in the Willamette Valley.

"I expect the grasses will regenerate," said Dale Derouin, an arboretum volunteer. "I'm assuming most of them will come back because they developed under this regime."

You can see the results of the experiment by taking a walk through the meadow. Along the way, stop to check out other native plants and trees growing alongside the trails.

Benches throughout the arboretum provide spots to rest or take in the views.

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

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.

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



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Explore...

Dallas City Parks

Dallas area parks offer a wide variety of recreational opportunities for our community. We have an extensive trail system for walking and biking, playground equipment, tennis and basketball courts, covered picnic facilities, an off-leash dog park, an 18-hole disc golf course, swimming at the aquatic center, and much more!

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- Birch Park
- Central Bark Dog Park
- Dallas City Park
- Gala Park
- Kinsborough Park
- Rickreall Creek Trail System
- Roger Jordan Community Park
- Rotary Park
- Sgt. Ian M. Tawney Memorial Park
- Walnut Park

For more information
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	August 18th Nu Shooz R&B - Dance 6pm doors, 7-9pm concert • \$25/ticket
	August 19th Patrick Lamb Smooth Jazz 6pm doors, 7-9pm concert • \$15/ticket
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The Polk County Courthouse stands in the center of downtown.

WELCOME TO DALLAS

Pull off Highway 22 at the Dallas exit. Drive through the picturesque farmland into town — and stay a while in Dallas.

“Expect to be treated well by the community,” said Bonnie Dreier, the programs and events manager for the Dallas Area Visitors Center. “Dallas is a small town with a big-town heart.”

Downtown is beginning to awaken from a longtime slump, boosted not in small part by the renovation under way at the Blue Garden building on Main Street. Still a work-in-progress, the exterior upgrade turned an eyesore into an example of what can happen with investment and hard work.

Just down the block from Blue Garden is Pressed Coffee and Wine Bar, one of downtown's newest additions, and one of its most successful. Pressed hosts events nearly every night of the week, drawing

people for food, fun, and a good coffee drink or cocktail.

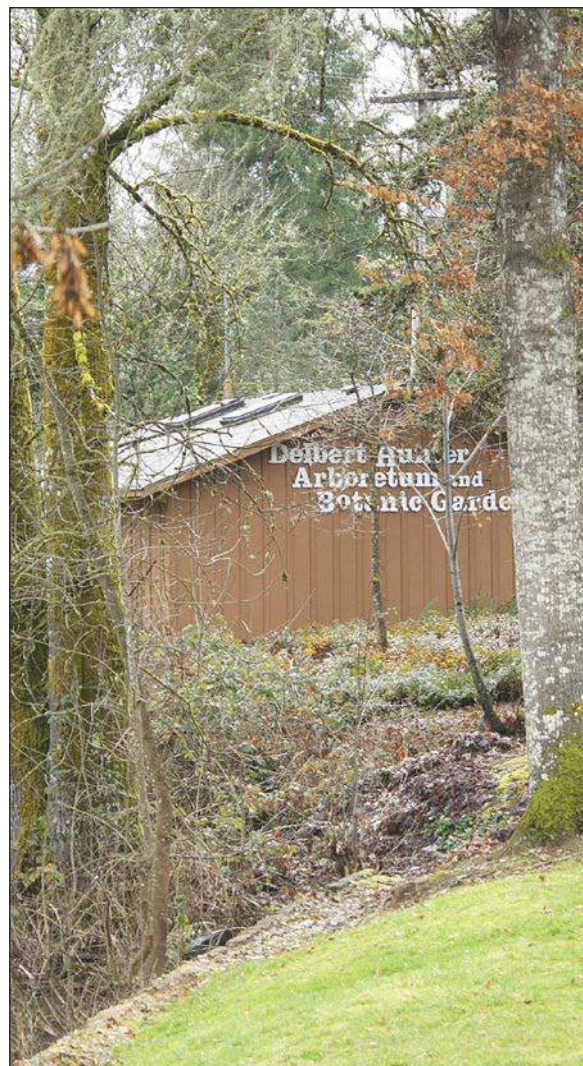
Around the corner from Pressed is Dallas Cinema (formerly the Fox Theatre), which just finished a renovation and switched to the theater-pub model, serving wine, beer and an expanded menu.

Owner Jeff Mexico, who sadly had to close the popular Motor-Vu Drive-In in 2017, decided to channel his extra time into improving the downtown theater.

“With the drive-in closed, I’ve got more time to concentrate on this, get it where it should be, and get more people in the doors,” Mexico said.

Dreier said people should spend some quality time just walking and browsing stores. She said there are now plenty of places to find birthday gifts and surprises for every holiday in the antique and variety shops, including the newly opened Dallas Emporium.

See Page 26C



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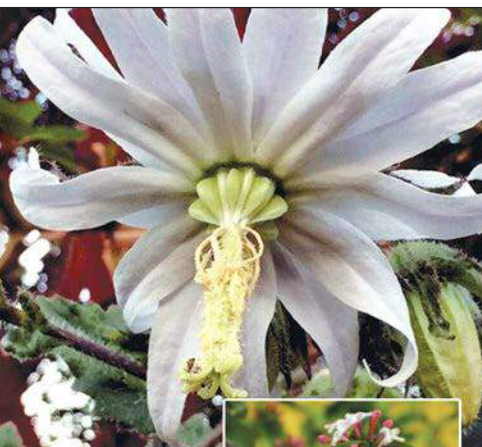
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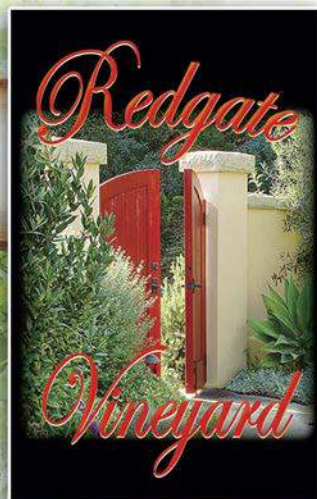
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The annual Summerfest parade brings crowded streets.



Benches dot trails and downtown for a quick rest in the sun.

Continued from Page 24C

"I would tell people to be open-minded and go shop-to-shop," she said. "Plan on eating here, browsing and discovering."

It doesn't hurt that Dallas knows how to throw a celebration. Several of them dot the calendar.

Of those events, you will find none bigger — this year, at least — than 2017 Great American Eclipse on Aug. 18-21.

Summerfest, Dallas annual community showcase, is scheduled for July 27-30 in 2017, with the eclipse-centric theme of, "A Space Adventure."

It features one of the biggest small-town parades in Oregon along with a collection of artisans, food vendors and live entertainment.

Interest in buying from local producers is best exemplified in Dallas' weekly farmers market, Polk County Bounty Market, open Thursdays from May to September.

You can grab a blanket or lawn chair and head down to the Sounds of Summer concert series.

If bundling up and enjoying a cup of hot chocolate is more to your taste, come check out Winterfest, the kickoff to Christmas.

Not to be left out of the area's July Fourth activities, Dallas introduced a new event in 2013, Freedomfest. This year, the event has a hometown barbecue contest, a beer garden, live music and fireworks on tap.

All that activity hasn't changed something else the Dallas residents are proud of: Its "hometown" feel. That's what Samantha Burns, a volunteer with the Dallas Area Chamber & Visitors Center, said is the most charming thing about Dallas.

"I like it because it is small," Burns said. "It's not Portland or Keizer. You can go for a walk and everybody waves at you."

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, 168 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 (11-12).

Parks:

- **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, playground equipment, 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 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 Park** — 920 SE Juniper St. behind the Dallas Aquatic Center. It is the only off-leash park for dogs. It has an enclosed area with a picnic table and water.

- **Rickreall Creek Trail** — The Rickreall Creek Trail will eventually nearly 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.

- **Sgt. Ian Tawney Park** — Near the Rickreall Creek Trailhead off Main Street. It has a playground and lawn area.

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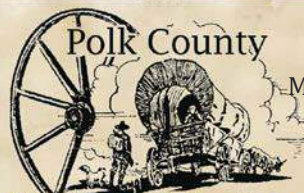
site: 112 S Third Street

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Photo by Dennis Galloway



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WELCOME TO FALLS CITY

David and Cheryl Radke see vast potential in the city of Falls City, so much so that they decided to open a bed and breakfast in the town with a population of less than 1,000 people.

Anyone driving its streets and visiting its parks can see the natural beauty of the forested hills and the cascading Little Luckiamute River falls in the heart of town.

But the Radkes have experienced something more: The people.

When the couple moved into the home they were converting into what is now the Little Luckiamute Creekside Bed & Breakfast, they had not completed their kitchen.

They mentioned that on a visit to

one of the restaurants in town. When the owners of The Bread Board, an artisan bakery in town, heard about it, they delivered the couple a surprise.

"That day, they brought enough food for a week," David said. "The people here are great."

Falls City has a strong sense of community, and volunteerism fuels many of its more successful ventures and projects.

Examples include replacing the "welcome to town" sign, an ode to the town's logging past, and a weekly program to feed individuals and families in need.

For more than two years, the town's mayor, Terry Ungricht, has done his elected job and that of city manager — for free.

"The mayor is an amazing guy," David said. "He works his butt off here. He does."

See Page 30C



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:

- **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.



The Falls City United Methodist Church is on the National Historic Register.



Flowers bloom in downtown along Main Street as the Riverview Farmers Market opens its season April 1.

WELCOME TO INDEPENDENCE

The city of Independence has a positive energy that permeates every nook and cranny of the town, from the historic downtown buildings to the thriving small businesses on Main Street, the parks, trails and schools.

"It's like a Norman Rockwell painting, except it's real," Independence Mayor John McArdle said.

Visitors must take a walk downtown, McArdle said. The fountain and amphitheater at Riverview Park — affectionately referred to as Independence's "living room" — is always busy with some activity or another, particularly during the summer months.

"I personally enjoy going down to the farmers market and enjoy all the goodies," McArdle said. "I have been known — on more than one occasion — to treat myself to a chair massage. Sometimes it's a cinnamon roll. It gets me motivated to get my lawn mowed early in the day."

This year, the city will be putting on its best show for the Great American Eclipse, Aug. 17 through 21.

"As you would expect, a once-in-a-lifetime experience with the solar eclipse: Indy Goes Dark," McArdle said. "We know how to party. It will be 244 years until there's another total solar

eclipse that will go over our community."

The festival will include movies, music, vendors, beer and other great things, McArdle said.

"Bands and film and fun for local folks and for our visitors from all around the world to Independence," he added.

Starting the first week of July and running through the end of August, Thursdays bring movies in the park as part of the River's Edge series. Fridays bring bands from all over the area to entertain crowds.

On the Fourth of July, Riverview Park is packed full of people enjoying Western Days, a four-day celebration of Independence Day.

"Where better to be on the Fourth of July?" McArdle said. "Celebrating independence in Independence."

Every year the city celebrates the Fourth with sister-city Monmouth through Western Days — and it is truly an old-town feeling. The amphitheater is also home to an annual Community Fiesta, which was attended by roughly 10,000 people last year.

"I think the best thing about being in Independence, Oregon during the summer is classic Americana," McArdle said.

See Page 32C



Continued from Page 28

Paired with that can-do spirit are the many outdoor adventures you can explore in and around Falls City.

Nearby are some of the best mountain biking trails found anywhere in the Pacific Northwest. Also worthy of exploration are the town's namesake falls and some spectacular hiking trails, if you know where to look.

Wildlife is everywhere, even in town, where you can spot deer and turkeys.

If you get hungry on your explorations, Falls City's got you covered between The Boondocks and The Bread Board.

David and Cheryl say the plan is to retire in Falls City and help develop it into a tourist destination in the county. Plans include possible wine tours and horseback riding packages.

Feel like a musical adventure? Boondocks hosts karaoke nights, which David recommends.

"It's a hoot," he said. "You've got people who can't sing, and think they can. It's fun."



Mayor Terry Ungricht flips burgers at the annual Third of July celebrations. Falls City is known to celebrate Independence Day a day early.

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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:

- **Riverview Park** — Riverview Park is located downtown between B and C 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 a 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 Seventh and Ninth 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. Polk County OSU Master Gardeners maintain a demonstration garden here, called Inspiration Garden.

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

- **Dog Park** — Located on Grand Street, east of Highway 51, about a quarter mile north of downtown. It is the only off-leash park in Independence, and was built through volunteer efforts.

- **Bicycle Boater campground** — This basic camping area has five sites, each with a picnic table and bike rack.



Continued from Page 29C

"You get a traditional flavor, but you can also have burritos or other goodies. You have enough festivals, enough reasons to be downtown. You can float in the river, be outside and play in the soccer fields, go fishing. We're big enough to have horsepower, but small enough to be tasteful and fun."

Each September, the city celebrates its heritage as "Historic Hop Capital of the World" with an old-fashioned hop festival, accompanied by a ghost walk where people may learn about the town's ghostly inhabitants.

The city is also open for business, always looking for economic development opportunities.

"We're very excited about the development of Independence Landing, the riverfront development," McArdle said. "We planned that a hotel will begin construction in late summer or fall, and, moving forward, you'll see a hotel coming up — 75-room, boutique hotel — and then residences and townhomes."

McArdle said he is proud of what the city

has accomplished in his nearly 20 years as mayor.

"I'm very proud of what we've done and where we're going," he said. "We are an All-America City."

Trails along the Willamette River give adventurers glimpses of wildlife ranging from eagles to ospreys and other critters.

Whether it's enjoying a meal and drink — crafted with local ingredients — at the Three Legged Dog, or eating specialty rolled lasagna at the Naughty Noodle, picking up freshly baked goodies or browsing antiques, McArdle said downtown is the top of his list when he has out-of-town visitors.

Don't forget breakfast at the Starduster Café at the Independence State Airport where you can enjoy a hearty — and delicious — breakfast and watch experimental aircraft take off and land.

On top of all that, Independence is a "Gigabit City," which is good for economic development, McArdle noted.

"We're putting things in place for the future," he said. "We look forward, that's how to make good things happen."



Kids play with a boat, made by BillyWild the Toymaker, in the downtown fountain.



Gentle Woods Park is the location for the annual Monmouth Independence YMCA Easter Egg hunt.

WELCOME TO MONMOUTH

Driving down Highway 99W, one may not realize the gem they pass through when they get to Monmouth. Turn onto Main Street and discover a historic downtown filled with shops and restaurants selling local goods and handmade fare.

Monmouth has long been considered a bedroom community, with the majority of residents working in nearby Salem or Corvallis, but that doesn't mean it isn't open for business.

More and more, lights are on into the evening hours with pubs and restaurants attracting students, Western professors and residents alike.

"I've always loved that it's the small-town feeling, but with so much more than a small town because of the influence of the university," said Miriam Haugen, resident, business owner, and president of the Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce board of directors. "We've got culture, and we've got cool restaurants, and we've got interesting things going on and interesting people who live here."

Recent efforts to define Monmouth's vision, Monmouth Engaged, revealed the importance of trails. This has led to increased efforts to improve access and safety for cyclists and pedestrians in the town.

Monmouth is home to Polk County's sole bike and bicycle repair shop, Veal's Bikes Plus. The town also plays host to many cycling events, from Cycle Oregon to Bike MS.

With the rise in bicyclists, the bike and pedestrian committee applied for and received a grant to install two bike-repair stations in the city.

Monmouth residents know to bring out-of-town guests to visit downtown Monmouth.

"Main Street Park and the splash fountain are a major draw," resident John Oberst said. "I'm a big fan of Yeasty Beasty. It's a place the whole family can eat."

The Main Street Park Amphitheater is home to the summer concert series, "Monmouth Music in the Park," and features a variety of artists.

See Page 36C



2017 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 1 through Nov. 25.

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 7 through Nov. 26.

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 1 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 4 through Sept. 28.

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."

For more on Polk County's farmers markets, see page 79C.



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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. A half-mile paved walking trail was built in 2015, along with a network of graveled trails in the interior. The park has been the recipient of many new trees to create a young arboretum. 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 new permanent amphitheater, 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. White-sell 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.



Children take advantage of Main Street Park's water fountain on a hot day.

Continued from Page 33C

The main event for this summer will be the Aug. 20 Pink Floyd tribute concert, on the eve of the Great American Eclipse.

For Haugen, the town's Fourth of July festivities are not to be missed.

“This is like homecoming,” she said. “You have to be home for the Fourth of July. It's just special. I love sitting on the banks of the river and watching the fireworks right there. It's cool. Even if you do have to fight the crowds, I'm still willing to do it.”

Monmouth was once known as the last dry town in Oregon, but now is part of a craft beer and local wine movement, including tap houses and wineries. Airlie Vineyards and Emerson Vineyards are both in the Monmouth ZIP code.

The town is home to Western Oregon University, the oldest public university in Oregon.

At the beginning of December, WOU and Monmouth partner to light the giant sequoia on campus and celebrate the coming of the Christmas season with crafts, cookie-tasting contests, and caroling.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the tree lighting event, so expect more activities this Dec. 1.

A little-known fact about Monmouth is the community of peafowl found on Olive Way East, Sacre Lane and neighboring streets.

“We have so many cool places, restaurants and things that we're pretty proud to show people our wonderful little town,” Haugen said. “It's got a lot to offer.”



The sequoia tree at Christmas.



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The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde host powwows throughout the year.

WELCOME TO GRAND RONDE

By Dean Rhodes

Spirit Mountain Casino may be the unincorporated community of Grand Ronde's — and the state's — most popular tourist destination, but there's plenty more to Grand Ronde than meets the eye.

Grand Ronde has a long and storied history. Tribal ancestors lived throughout the Willamette Valley, southern Oregon and the Oregon Coast since time immemorial.

They were moved to the Grand Ronde Reservation beginning in 1856, after ceding most of what is now western Oregon to the federal government in five ratified treaties.

Federal recognition was taken away from the tribe, and it was terminated in 1954, but the Grand Ronde Tribe, through the work by tribal members, friends and community allies, saw the tribe restored on Nov. 22, 1983.

Today, the tribe's reservation and land holdings total more than 12,000 acres.

The tribe's story is on display in the Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center, 8720 Grand Ronde Road, which opened in 2014.

The center features an exhibit detailing the tribe's history and created an archive for cultural artifacts.

A second phase is currently under construction and, when finished, will have a large, permanent exhibition display space, work rooms for curating public exhibits, artifact processing, special processing and freezer, long-term storage for cultural archives and work rooms for Tribal research.

The museum is closed to the public until early 2018 for construction.

When fully completed, the museum will be approximately 17,000-square feet. The name Chachalu means "the place of burnt timber" in honor of what members of the Tualatin-Kalapuya Tribe named part of the Grand Ronde area that had been destroyed by a wildfire.

See Page 40C





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The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde's Governance Center is at the heart of the community.

Continued from Page 38C

The museum's logo features a camas lily, a plant known for restoring itself after forest fires — a symbol for the tribe's restoration after being “burnt” through placement on the reservation and termination.

The tribe also hosts a number of unforgettable cultural events that are open to the public. Those include powwows in July and August, arts and crafts fairs at the casino, and more.

In addition, 14 miles of public hiking trails on the Grand Ronde Reservation and the popular Big Buck campground are maintained by the tribe, and makes the area perfect for those looking for an outdoor adventure. To use the campground, members of the public must obtain a pass at 503-879-2424.

Grand Ronde is also where you can find the 108-acre Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area, operated by Oregon State Parks. Fort Yamhill was a mili-

tary outpost that was in operation from 1856-66, and established to protect and control Native Americans on the Grand Ronde reservation.

Also, located in Grand Ronde is the world-class West Valley Veterans' Memorial dedicated to those from the West Valley area who have served their country. The four black granite pillars represent the major branches of the U.S. armed forces and have more than 2,300 names etched into them. The tribe holds an annual ceremony to honor West Valley veterans every Memorial Day.

Whether you're looking for a Vegas-style gaming experience, a trip to learn more about the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Native American history in Oregon, or to check out one of the many colorful cultural events, Grand Ronde offers a compelling mix of history and fun.

For more information about the Tribe and the area, visit www.grandronde.org.

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 allowed, but permits are required. Call 503-879-2424 for more information.

The Chachalu Tribal Museum and Cultural Center features a replica of a longhouse.

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Western Oregon University's Wolfie attracts a crowd during the annual trick-or-treat in downtown Monmouth.

WELCOME TO WESTERN OREGON

By Lisa Catto

In rural Polk County, Western Oregon University serves as a bustling academic and cultural center.

WOU, the oldest public university in Oregon, has traditionally been known as a leader in training teachers. The College of Education has earned numerous national awards and recognition. For the past couple of decades, WOU has flourished as a liberal arts institution with popular majors of business, criminal justice, and psychology.

WOU also hosts a satellite campus for Oregon Health and Science University's



nursing program. The Research Institute has been a part of WOU since 1989, and leads research in education, human services, and health.

The university offers the Western Tuition Choices, which provides two tuition options to save now or save later. The Tuition Promise lets students pay a bit more their first year, but it locks in that rate over the course of four years.

The Traditional Plan will pay a bit less their first year, but the tuition rate grows each year.

WOU also provides a variety of programs to support first-generation and low-

income students on their path to graduation such as the Student Enrichment Program. For the past eight years, WOU has received annual recognition for outstanding advising from NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising.

Beyond academics, WOU is a place for the community to enjoy art, culture, social and athletic events.

For the art lovers, there are numerous artist series and recitals by the music department, theatre and dance productions throughout the year, and the Smith Fine Arts Series that brings well-known performers to Monmouth. There are rotating exhibits within the art galleries of Campbell Hall, Werner University Center, and Hamersly Library.

See Page 44C

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512 Main St., Suite 300
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Family medicine: Dr. Charles Essex
Megan Brassine, FNP

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Independence

1601 Monmouth St., Suite 100
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Continued from Page 42C

For the lifelong learners, there are several speakers series throughout the year sponsored by disciplines such as social sciences and gerontology. There's also a Community Lecture Series hosted by the Center for Academic Innovation.

For the sports fan, there are National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II athletics events happening all year along with tailgating before many of the games. WOU often hosts conference and regional championships for NCAA and the Great Northwest Athletic Conference. Plus there are games year-round for the various club sports teams like rugby and lacrosse.

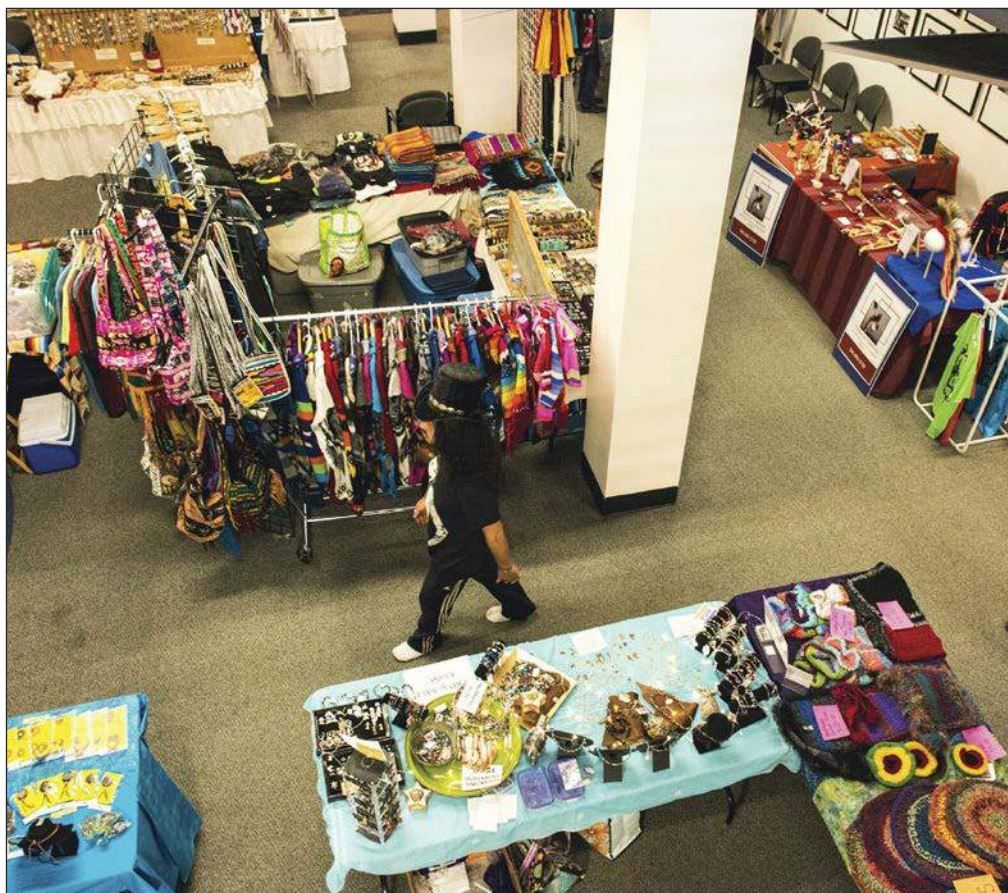
WOU also hosts a variety of special events throughout the year such as Homecoming, International Night, the powwow, Academic Excellence Showcase, and the beloved and long-running Holiday Tree Lighting (we're celebrating the 50th this year). Campus events are listed at calendar.wou.edu.

Looking to satisfy an interest in local history? There's a free Monmouth Historic Walking Tour app for iPhone and Android users. Stop at the Historic Gentle House Gardens and Event Center to visit the museum and grounds, then grab a cup of coffee at the new café in Hamersly Library or Caffè Allegro in Werner University Center.

Follow WOU on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @WOUnews, or Snapchat @WesternOregon.



Western Oregon University had one of its largest graduating classes in 2015.



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Photo by Dennis Galloway

Trivia nights



Trivia nights are traditions for friends to get together to test their trivia chops.

Trivia tests knowledge, funny bone

Who coined the phrase, “Happiness is a warm puppy”?

The not-so-shocking answer to that question was revealed during the first round of Pressed Coffee & Wine Bar’s Thursday Night Trivia contest.

The answer? Charles Schulz, the cartoonist author of *Peanuts*.

Some in the crowd react in a “I should have known that” fashion. That would happen frequently during the night as teams learned whether their answers were correct.

David Shein serves as the trivia master for the weekly event that has grown popular in part because of how much fun he has emceeing the game.

Shein, once a contestant on “Jeopardy!” and winner on the trivia game show, “Win Ben



Teams answer five rounds of 10 questions.

Stein’s Money,” now enjoys delivering the questions more than answering them.

“One of the most fun parts of it is watching people’s reaction when you read the answer,” he said. “Invariably someone somewhere is saying

player suggestions — but don’t be intimidated.

“It’s not a high-pressure thing. It’s not like being on ‘Jeopardy!’” Shein said. “I do want to make the questions hard enough that people don’t just ace them. But my overriding goal is to make it fun. I think that is why people keep coming back.”

The rules are simple.

Shein keeps a running score for teams through the five rounds of 10 questions. The team with the most points wins.

The questions are general knowledge, ranging from history to science, sports to pop culture.

Each event has a theme, which one round’s questions are dedicated to.

Shein sprinkles in a few bad jokes throughout the night to keep things light.

See Page 48C

‘I told you that was it! I told to you write that down!’ It’s very entertaining. For me, it’s more fun than playing.”

Shein researches all the questions for trivia night — using books, the internet, Trivial Pursuit games and

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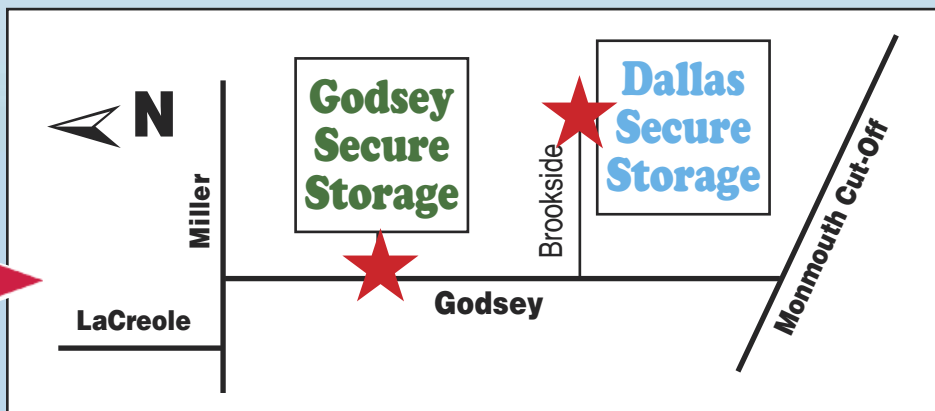
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Trivia Master David Shein sprinkles puns and jokes throughout the night.



Trivia is held each Thursday night at Pressed Coffee & Wine Bar in Dallas.

Trivia Time

• Pressed Coffee & Wine Bar, 788 Main St., Dallas, holds Trivia Night each Thursday at 7 p.m. For more information: www.facebook.com/PressedCoffee, or 503-751-1666.

• Arena Sports Bar & Grill, 174 S. Main St., Independence, hosts trivia each Wednesday at 7 p.m. For more information: www.arenasportsbar174.com, or 503-838-0054.

Continued from Page 46C

“How do you know when you run out of invisible ink?” he said, following it up with this gem: “I went to a sporting goods store looking for camouflage clothing. I couldn’t find any.”

“I have a personal theory that the louder someone groans at a pun or any bad joke, the more likely they are to run out and tell the next five people they see.”

Perhaps that explains the growth of the tournament, which has been going strong for two years.

Another fun — and perhaps

competitive element — teams often pick their names based on the theme for the week’s contest.

Shein can’t wait to see the creative names teams come up with each week — probably almost as much as players look forward to his questions.

“As long as we keep making it fun, they will keep coming back,” Shein said.

Want to test your trivia skill in another venue?

Arena Sports Bar & Grill in Independence holds its trivia night each Wednesday.

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TOTAL ECLIPSE

Polk County prepares for thousands of guests for rare event

When the Great American Eclipse hits Oregon in August, don't be surprised to see people from around the country — and the world.

First contact, when the moon begins to appear to touch the sun, begins just after 9 a.m., with full totality at 10:17 and lasting for just less than two minutes.

What makes Polk County such a great destination for viewing is its weather. Historically, our county has the best chance for clear, sunny skies.

To accommodate the influx of visitors, the cities of Dallas and Independence have organized festivals. Monmouth will host a Pink Floyd tribute band on Sunday before the eclipse, and Western Oregon University is renting its dorm rooms, apartments and fields for camping.

Businesses and wineries are holding

events before and during the eclipse, from concerts, wine tastings, seminars and tours to weekend-long excursions ending with viewing of the eclipse on the morning of Aug. 21.

You have the option of sharing your experience with hundreds of other people or finding a quiet hilltop to observe in peace and solitude.

Whatever your choice, remember a few things: Protect your eyes. Only during totality — the less than two minutes when the sun is completely eclipsed by the moon — is it safe to watch the eclipse without approved viewing glasses.

Being in the path of totality is kind of a big deal, as Dan McGlaun, owner and operator of the website www.eclipse2017.org, would tell you. He has seen 12 total eclipses around the world so far.

Each time another total eclipse nears, the excitement returns.

"It's absolutely amazing," McGlaun said. "It's one of the most spectacular sights you'll have in your life. It's hard to qualify what you'll experience. It'll affect you emotionally and physically. It's one of the coolest moments."

With the path of totality stretching across the country, eclipse chasers are choosing spots close to their region — so expect to see lots of people from California, Washington and other western states, McGlaun said.

True eclipse chasers are flexible — ready to move to a different

part of the path of totality if their first choice has bad weather.

McGlaun has even seen people have planes ready to take them to other parts of the path of totality on a moment's notice.

That means bad traffic should be expected in and out of Polk County Monday morning.

Eclipse viewers who hoped to catch a first glimpse of the event on the coast may be disappointed to find a marine layer or fog locking out the sun. If that's the case — which is pretty common for the Oregon Coast in August — they will head east toward Polk County.

The truly dedicated eclipse chasers are willing to travel around the world to see a total eclipse. McGlaun should know — he's one of them.

He's confident that once someone experiences a total eclipse something changes inside of them.

"It's like a drug — you just want more," McGlaun said. "It's so stimulating and so unbelievably cool. You know what it's going to kind of look like, but they're all slightly different. You can also see what the animals are doing. What the other people are doing. People who video tape themselves, the first timers almost always do things they are embarrassed about later."

A bit of advice from a Monmouth resident David Kasnick, who witnessed the total eclipse that could be seen in Oregon and Washington in 1979, remember to soak in the spectacle. Don't spend the entire time taking photos or video of it.

Having those mementos is important, but so is soaking in what will be, for most people, a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

"Just enjoy it," he said. "Don't distract yourself. There's going to be a million pictures of it."

There's something about seeing the sun become totally eclipsed, feeling the temperature drop about 10 degrees and standing in awe with a group of people that a photo can never capture.

See Page 52C



Proper eye protection is a must when viewing the eclipse.

2017

DON'T FOREGOT
YOUR
ECLIPSE
GLASSES



TOTAL ECLIPSE WEEKEND SCHEDULE

12
-
8
1
ST
AUGUST

FRI

KICKOFF PARTY AT 7 PM

- NIGHTTIME MUSIC CONCERT BEGINS AT 8 PM
BARRACUDA, ALL FIRED UP, AND SHOOTING STAR
(HEART, PAT BENATAR, AND BAD COMPANY TRIBUTE BANDS)
- FOOD VENDORS, WINE & BEER GARDEN OPEN TIL 1 AM

SAT

FESTIVAL OPENS AT 10 AM (VENDORS & FOOD)

- DAYTIME MUSIC 1 PM - 6 PM ON THE FAMILY STAGE
- NIGHTTIME MUSIC CONCERT BEGINS AT 8 PM
PIGS ON THE WING (PINK FLOYD TRIBUTE BAND)
- FOOD VENDORS AND WINE & BEER GARDEN OPEN TIL 1 AM

SUN

FESTIVAL OPENS AT 10 AM (VENDORS & FOOD)

- DAYTIME MUSIC 1 PM - 6 PM ON THE FAMILY STAGE
- NIGHTTIME MUSIC CONCERT BEGINS AT 8 PM
STEELHORSE AND JUKEBOX HEROES
(BON JOVI AND FOREIGNER TRIBUTE BANDS)
- FOOD VENDORS AND WINE & BEER GARDEN OPEN TIL 1 AM

MON

MUSIC FROM ROOF OF PRESSED COFFEE & WINE BAR AT 8 AM

- JAN LOOKING WOLF BAND OF BROTHERS
- VENDORS OPEN AFTER THE ECLIPSE UNTIL 2 PM
- FOOD VENDORS AND WINE & BEER GARDEN OPEN TIL 2 PM

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TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

AUG. 21, 2017

Indy Goes Dark

Independence is ready to go dark on Aug. 21 for the Great American Eclipse.

The five-day festival is planned to celebrate the eclipse, and will happen in Riverview Park.

On the website, visitors — or residents — may book campsites and buy tickets to a beer fest on Saturday. Souvenir glasses will be available.

The festival kicks off Thursday, Aug. 17, with River's Edge movie in the park. The film will be free, and promises to be space-themed.

Friday, enjoy an Aerosmith tribute band, Aeromyth Pumped.

Saturday will be a food truck festival and beer fest, along with live concerts throughout the day and kids activities.

Sunday continues with more live music, food trucks and entertainment.

Monday morning will include breakfast in the park, a presentation by a professor from Western Oregon University on why total solar eclipses are so rare, and the eclipse itself. Live music will follow.

Events are still being planned for this festival. See what's new: Independencegoesdark.com.



David Kasnick, of Monmouth, photographs the 1979 eclipse.

Continued from Page 50C

"It's more than what it looks like," McGlaun said. "If it was only about that, you could look at it on TV or a photo. There's something that the camera can't totally catch. You see it in person and then you see a picture, you can't believe it's the same thing. Your eyes can see so much more tone range."

Another total eclipse won't be seen even close to the Pacific Northwest until 2045.

"If the moon were closer to the earth, it would block the sun almost every month and no one would care," McGlaun said. "If it were smaller and farther away, it would never eclipse the sun."

Dallas Eclipse Celebration

The Great American Eclipse is coming in August and event planners in Dallas have a big downtown party on tap.

Dallas Eclipse Celebration on the Square will be from Aug. 18 to eclipse day Aug. 21, hosted by the Dallas Downtown Association, Dallas Area Visitors Center, Pressed Coffee & Wine Bar, Dallas Arts Association, the city of Dallas, and other downtown businesses.

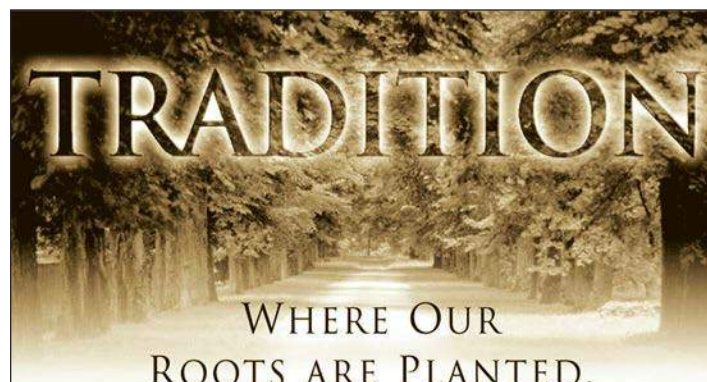
The kickoff party is Aug. 18 at 7 p.m. when vendor and food booths open downtown. Live music begins at 8 p.m. with Barracuda, All Fired Up and Madd Company (Heart, Pat Benatar, and Bad Company cover bands). Food vendors and wine and beer garden are open until 1 a.m.

Aug. 19 and 20, the festival opens at 10 a.m. with vendors and daytime music. Pigs on the Wing (Pink Floyd cover band) plays at 8 p.m. Aug. 19. Steelhorse and Jukebox Heroes (Bon Jovi and Foreigner) are featured starting at 8 p.m. Food vendors and wine and beer garden are open until 1 a.m. both nights.

On eclipse day, Jan Looking Wolf Band of Brothers will play from the roof of Pressed Coffee & Wine bar starting at 8 a.m. Vendors, food vendors and beer and wine garden open until 2 p.m.

Applications from food or food truck vendors, artists or those selling eclipse-related merchandise will be accepted. Vendors receive a parking space during the event and discounted rate on accommodations.

For more information or to get a vendor application: dallaseclipse2017.com.



TRADITION

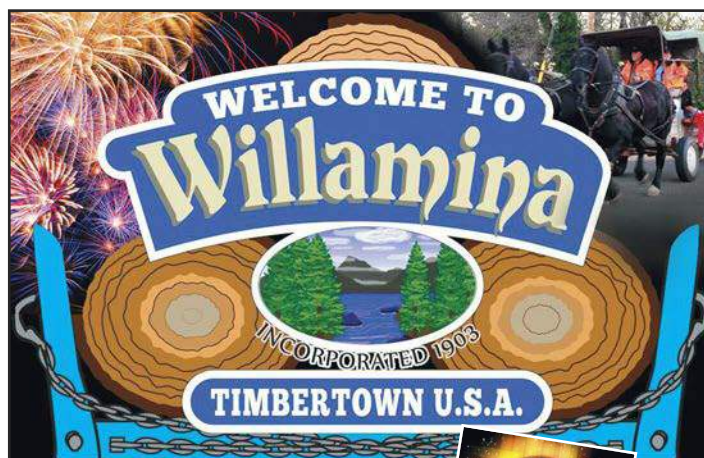
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You are encouraged to move to the music at Guthrie Park's old-time jams.

WELCOME TO GUTHRIE PARK

Community center hosts old-fashioned music, dances

You can hear guitars, mandolins, fiddles and accordions and voices singing before you open the door at Guthrie Park Community Center.

The soulful music — and the clear connection among the musicians playing it — is as comforting as a warm breeze.

"This is the only place I think I've been that we hear this music," said Corine Fraser, who spends each Friday night at the Guthrie Park Acoustic Jams.

She comes with her daughter, Joan Coleman, who plays the accordion.

"I just love the music. Everybody is so nice and friendly," Fraser said. "Joan has played ever since she was in the third grade. When we went camping, we would always take the accordion with us, and we always had a group around us."

That tradition continues each Friday night at Guthrie. Coleman is part of more than a dozen musicians that drop in the circle to play.

"Jam" is the correct description for the

Jam time

What: Guthrie Park Friday night jams.

When: Fridays at 6:30 p.m.

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

Admission: Free, but donations are accepted.

Of note: Guthrie Park hosts gospel music jams the third Saturday of the month at 7 p.m. Admission also is free.

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

gatherings. There are no set lists or specific acts taking the stage. It's just people sharing a love of playing and listening to music.

Moving clockwise, each musician selects a song and begins playing and sometimes singing it.

Those who know the tune join in right away. Those who don't pick it up soon enough.

In the audience, toe tapping is

contagious, and some sing or hum along with the tune.

The closeness of the players to the audience — most musicians sit in chairs in front of the stage, not on it — makes the gathering seem less like a concert and more like a group of friends having fun.

"We came out six years ago and have been here every Friday night since," said Lyle John, as he worked in the kitchen on one Friday.

He said it isn't just the music that brings him and his wife back each week.

"It's the whole package," he said.

The jams began decades ago, part of Guthrie owner Sally Clark's vision to make the former school house a place where people could celebrate old-time folk, swing and country music.

It's working.

"It's just enjoyable to come in and listen to them. They have such a variety," Fraser said. "You find yourself singing with all the songs."

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You don't have to plan a trip to the strip in Las Vegas to get the full gambling and entertainment experience.

Spirit Mountain Casino, located in Grand Ronde off Highway 18, offers the the thrills and fun of Vegas' finest — all without having to book a flight.

The casino floor stretches 90,000 square feet and includes 2,000-slot machines, a 24-hour poker room, a bingo hall, Keno, and popular table games like blackjack, craps and roulette.

Day or night, the casino floor is always open, meaning you can test Lady Luck on your schedule.

Want to make your day trip an excursion? Spirit Mountain boasts more than 250 rooms ranging from standard accommodations to deluxe suites, so no matter if you're feeling like a high roller or just want a bed to crash on, Spirit has you covered.

But gambling only tells part of the story.

Spirit Mountain is also home to first-rate dining and entertainment.

The two-story events center has seen acts like ZZ Top, Terry Fator and Bill Engvall perform.

Spirit Mountain also hosts a variety of special events that appeals to almost all

Let the good times roll

What: Spirit Mountain Casino.

Where: 27100 SW Salmon River Highway (Highway 18), Grande Ronde.

Hours: Casino and lodging 24 hours a day; restaurant hours vary.

Of note: Spirit Mountain offers a free shuttle bus to and from the casino seven days a week from numerous departure points in Portland, Salem, Woodburn, Corvallis, Keizer and other areas. Check out spiritmountain.com/directions/ for more information and schedules.

For more information: 1-800-760-7977; spiritmountain.com.

interests from a tattoo expo to a holiday wine and spirits fair.

But all that excitement may mean your appetite will be kicked up.

Spirit Mountain has all the dining options you need.

The Cedar Plank Buffet features seven chef stations with an international selection from pizza to seafood to Asian entrees.

If you want something a little more private and upscale, Legends Restaurant offers dining in a relaxed environment. Mountain View Sports Bar gives sports fans a chance to catch the big game, and offers a full bar and music on the weekends for those 21 and older.

While Spirit Mountain has a plethora of options for adults, don't be afraid to bring the kids. The Spirit Mountain Arcade offers the latest games, and Playworld offers kids a chance to navigate a play structure, arcade-style

games or sit back and watch a movie.

With so much to do, it's no wonder why Spirit Mountain has become a top tourist spot, attracting about 3 million people each year, according to state tourism statistics.

The only question is are you feeling lucky?

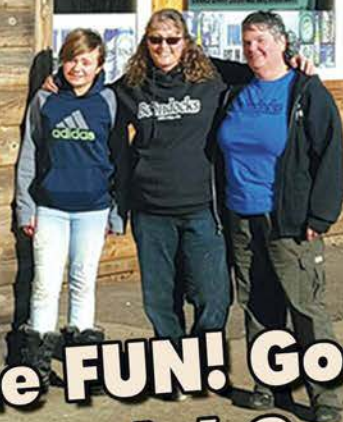


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Cross Creek Golf Course in Dallas offers an 18-hole course for golfers to enjoy.

Fancy yourself the next Tiger Woods? Or are you picking up a golf club for the first time? No matter your expertise, Polk County's golf courses offer a chance to experience a sport that players will tell you is both heaven and hell — all within a single round.

But any frustrations are quickly overridden by the memories made with friends and family, and the joy from a sport that families can enjoy together.

"I love that golf has kept so many of its original traditions and is still considered a gentleman's sport," Cross Creek owner

Tim Tarpley said. "It's a great way to get the family together and enjoy an evening."

CROSS CREEK

Tarpley has one goal in mind for Cross Creek Golf Course — the county's newest golf course — get as many golfers out and enjoying the sport as possible.

Each hole has four tee boxes with total yardage ranging from 5,111 to 6,884 yards over the 18 holes.

See Page 59C

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. Juniors: \$10/\$20; students: \$13/\$24; seniors: \$15/\$26 (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.



Cross Creek offers a number of majestic views.

Continued from Page 58C

"We have several tees on every hole which makes a huge difference on most of the holes," Tarpley said. "This is by design to make it as challenging as a golfer would like."

There are special rates for college and high school students.

Ongoing activities include Sunday couples fun night, Monday ladies day, Tuesday men's day and a Wednesday league.

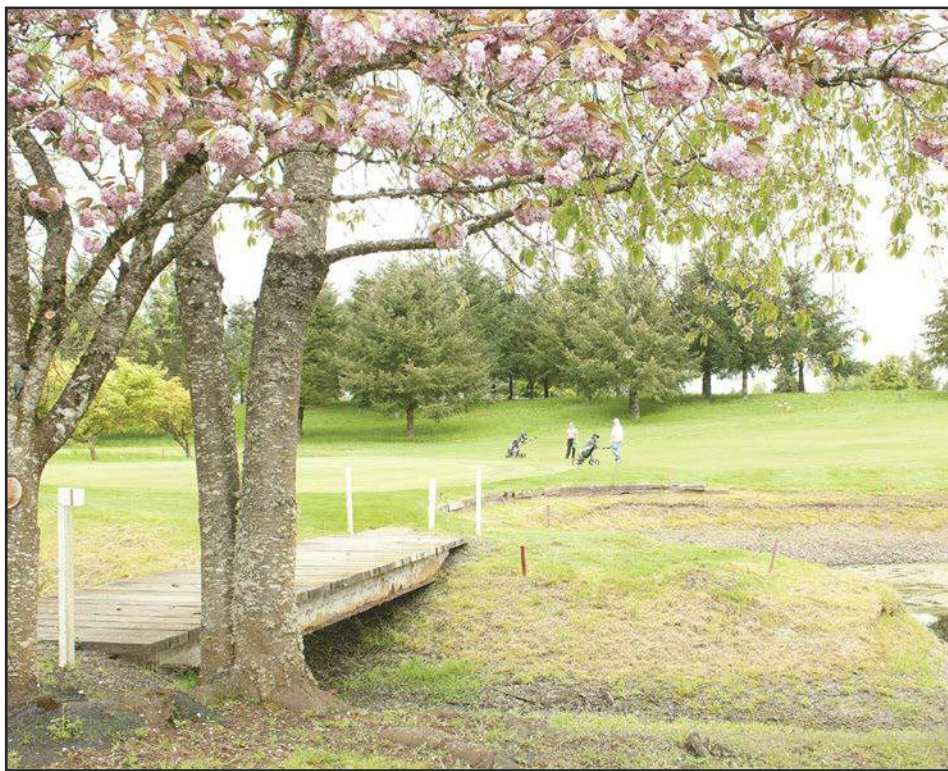
For less experienced golfers, Tarpley said free and reduced-rate clinics will be offered in the future.

Every hole offers a beautiful view, but holes No. 3, a par 4 with mounds on the left side of the fairway and a pond on the right, and No. 14, a par 3, stand out.

"(No. 3) isn't a long par 4, so if you keep the ball in the fairway, you are rewarded," Tarpley said. "The green is protected by a sand trap on the front left and on the right side. The mounds around the back and sides of the green help to keep the ball from going astray if you miss the green. No. 14 is probably the prettiest view on the course. The green is large with several elevated tees placed on the face of a hill. You get to watch your ball all the way to the green."

The course honors golf's traditions, yet is welcoming to new players, making this an attractive spot to enjoy or learn one of life's greatest games.

There is also a driving range and a clubhouse to enjoy a quick bite or a drink after



Dallas Golf Club boasts a nine-hole, par-31 executive course.

a long round.

Cross Creek's widespread appeal makes this an easy entry point to improve your skills or just enjoy a stroll.

"People should expect one of the best and most consistently maintained golf courses in the area," Tarpley said. "They will also receive the best value and friend-

liest service in the valley. "

DALLAS GOLF CLUB

Sometimes, you're looking for a shorter time out on the course. Dallas Golf Club, the county's lone executive course, fits that bill perfectly.

See Page 62C

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: Open dawn to dusk, seven days a week. Open year-round.

Rates: 9 holes, \$12; 18 holes (play course twice), \$18. Students/seniors (with valid ID/ages 59 and up): \$10 and \$15. Juniors (14 and younger): \$5 and \$10 (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) allows players 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. Upgrades to the pro shop, RV camping and a restaurant are coming soon.

For more information: 503-623-6832, www.dallasgolfclub.wix.com.



Don't let its shorter distances fool you. Dallas Golf Club can be challenging.

WOU brings world-class acts

Each year, Western Oregon University hosts the Smith Fine Arts Series, five to seven world-class acts that play on campus in Monmouth. This year will be the 40th anniversary of the series.

Keller Coker, executive director of the series, is the man behind the scenes, recruiting and booking acts for the year.

The series starts in October and runs through spring and includes performances from jazz to dance to vocalists to organists.

"The groups are all very different," Coker said. "There's different audiences. I love it when people buy a season ticket and whatever they don't want, they give it to their friends."

He creates pieces for artists that are performed by students in the Western Hemisphere Orchestra.

"It's a great opportunity for them," Coker said.

While the artists are in the area,

they usually teach some kind of a master class, working with students or doing educational outreach.

"It's different for every show," Coker said. "We try and bring in school-aged students throughout the year. That's a big component for us."

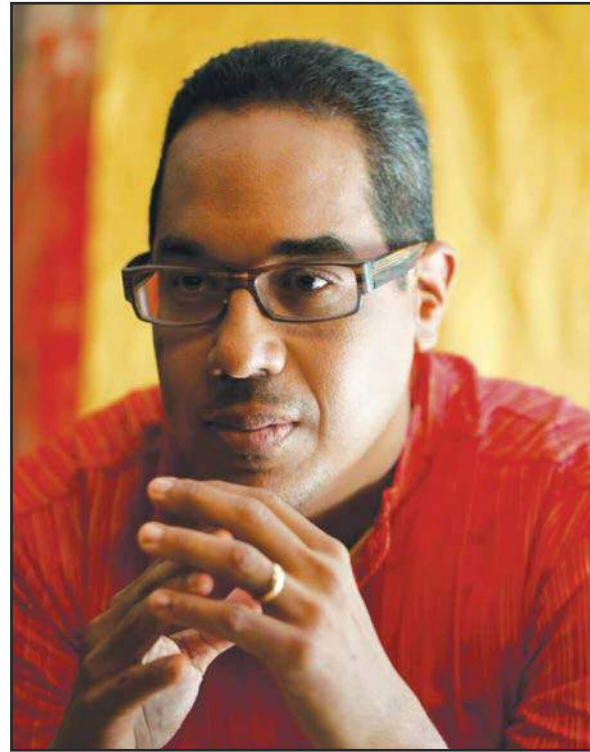
Coker has been the executive director for the series for nine years, and said it's the board of directors, the community and student support that make it so successful.

"The board of directors fundraise like crazy," Coker said. "The community supports us through ticket sales, and then, maybe the most important leg for support are the students at WOU. They come to concerts; they make it happen."

If the students didn't support the series, it wouldn't happen, he noted.

It's not too late to catch the last act of the 2016-17 season, Danilo Perez with the Western Hemisphere Orchestra on June 10.

For more information: wou.edu.



Danilo Perez will perform June 10.

POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Sheriff Mark Garton

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— Sheriff Mark Garton

"The Polk County Sheriff's Office provides sustainable quality programs and services that focus on the safety and security of our schools, homes, businesses and highways which contribute to the quality of life for every segment of our community."



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Oak Knoll Golf Course is one of three courses in Polk County.

Continued from Page 59C

The 2,250-yard, par-31 layout features shorter distances that make this course easily accessible for newer golfers with five par 3s and four par 4s.

Just don't get too comfortable. Accuracy is key to success. Bunkers and water hazards await wayward shots. A missed fairway may lead to hitting a recovery shot from another hole's fairway.

That mix of accessibility to new golfers and challenges for experienced players makes Dallas Golf Club unique, general manager Cody Britt said.

Jeff Gordon, golf instructor, offers lessons for anyone whether you're looking to refine your game or learn the basics.

The ninth hole provides a fun way to end your round. Elevated tees give way to a green surrounded by water on three sides.

Dallas Golf Club also features a driving range and has carts available to rent.

OAK KNOLL

Oak Knoll is the county's oldest course, originally founded in 1926. The 18-hole course is 6,279 yards from the back tees and 5,263 yards from the front.

General Manager Dick Mason said the course is perfect for family outings — with the flat course being ideal for golfers of all ages to get out and enjoy an afternoon outside.

Oak Knoll's variety — from holes with barely a tree or hazard in your way, to holes like No. 14, a par 3 that has thick trees lining both sides of the fairway — makes the course an exciting challenge to tackle.

Hole No. 14, a par 3, may seem simple at first. But with trees lining each side of the fairway, an errant shot means a lost ball.

"(Hole 14) is a picturesque spot and one that is both challenging and fun," Mason said.

Oak Knoll

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: 7 a.m. until dusk. Open year-round. Oak Tree Inn Restaurant open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Rates: Monday-Friday: 9 holes, \$18; 18 holes, \$33. 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 on site, 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.

Oak Knoll has a driving range — including covered spots for when the weather doesn't cooperate — a practice green and a full bar and restaurant where golfers can enjoy a meal and a drink before or after a round.

A pro shop means you have access to all the supplies you need.

Oak Knoll offers lessons for new golfers. The course strikes a perfect balance between being accessible while offering challenges.



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Hidden garden holds more than water features

You may have driven past it 100 times and never taken the turn up the driveway, but you should.

Independence Nursery and Water Gardens is an oasis nestled in between Les Schwab and the Polk County Fire District No. 1 Station 90 on Monmouth Street in Independence.

"It's bigger than you think, driving by," said Ed Matteo, who manages the nursery with his wife, April. "There's a lot of plants in here."

Matteo carries a wide variety of trees, shrubs and roses.

"I've got lilacs, Japanese maples, great woods, myrtles — pretty much anything as far as plants you'd have outside," he said.

He has dozens of Japanese

maples to choose from, some with delicate, lacy leaves, others with larger foliage.

"That's a big leaf magnolia," Matteo said.

This tree will have a large, mostly unscented flower when it blooms.

But his specialty is in creating water gardens.

"Water lilies, floating plants, fish," Matteo said. "The lilies in this one are just beginning to come up now. You can see all the little fish swimming in there."

No space is too small to accommodate a pond. Matteo has a number of working water gardens on the property to inspire the novice or the expert. Some of his ponds are covered in spring moss, which will die out naturally as the summer moves in.

See Page 66C



Ed Matteo sells everything you need for a soothing pond.



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Ed Matteo shows how large the flower on this dogwood was before it died back.

Continued from Page 64

"You can put stuff in the water to make it go away, but I don't add anything to these," Matteo said. "You can put an algae control product that will get rid of it that doesn't damage the fish or anything like that."

Matteo has everything you need to create a calming, water space in your own backyard — all you need is a shovel, a call to 811, and some elbow grease to get started.

"Digging the hole is the biggest thing," he said. "Once you get the hole in the ground, you can put the liner in in a day, and then usually you'll continue upgrading them. You can start small — as low as 30 gallons all the way up to whatever you want."

Matteo carries more than 30 varieties of water lilies in about 80 tanks. The lilies bloom in May or June.

"They have different colors on them," he said. "The one with the spotted leaves, that's a yellow lily," he said, pointing out the different varieties. "This one will open up bronze, and then it turns yellow and sometimes a little bit of orange in it."

Water lilies aren't the only plants that enjoy being in the water. Matteo also carries Louisiana irises, calla lilies, water bamboo, water hyacinth, and native cattails.

The plants help keep the water clear, and small fish keep mosquitos away. Matteo not only sells the small fish, but also koi, golden catfish and goldfish.

The goldfish available aren't the kind you imagine winning at a carnival, but vibrantly colored with beautiful fins.

"They look like koi, but for a smaller pond, you can put these in and there's no problem," Matteo said. "Koi require a larger pond."

His parents started the water gardens in 1990. Matteo and his wife took over management after he retired from the Navy.

For the land-based areas of the garden, Matteo carries 70 varieties of hastas, a wide selection of Austin and carefree roses, a variety of blueberries.

You may be surprised by what you find walking through the



greenhouses and at the selection at Independence Nursery — there's surely something for everyone, whether your thumb is solidly green or you're just getting started in the gardening realm.

Tucked away in one greenhouse are citrus trees, which Matteo said will do well in Oregon as long as they are brought inside during the winter.

"It's hardy to about 35 degrees," Matteo said of the lemon trees.





Where HISTORY comes to LIFE



Polk County's rich history preserved in museum

Quilting is an original upcycling project, taking worn out bits of material, or flour or sugar sacks, and sewing them into something that is not only beautiful, but also useful.

"The material's free cause you had sacks, and you have a blanket when you're done," said David Moellenberdt, president of the Polk County Historical Society.

The Polk County Museum has a collection of historic quilts that it displays annually. The quilts are not out year-round, as little hands can cause damage to the old works of art.

Pioneers would dye flour or sugar

sacks, cut them into strips or shapes and assemble them into an intricate design. Other quilts were embroidered with flowers or signatures.

Some detail family history. Others honor U.S. presidents.

The quilt collection is one way the museum brings history to life.

"We have a little bit of everything, just about," Moellenberdt said.

Displays tell the story about the Kalapuya Indians who lived in Polk County before the settlers migrated west on the Oregon Trail.

Artifacts found in the county show how Native Americans used small rocks

to keep their fingers smooth, helping keep their aim true when shooting an arrow.

Antique working looms with partially completed rugs wait for a demonstration day, when weavers will come in and show children and adults alike how they work.

"On Family Day, we'll have two weavers, and a spinner, and a quilter," Moellenberdt said.

The Oregon Trail section lists the suggested supplies pioneers should pack when attempting the long trek, as well as the perils they faced.

See Page 68C



The museum contains many historic homes and buildings in the form of doll houses.

Continued from Page 67C
“It shows how people died,” Moellenberdt said. “Not many from Indians, just diseases, that kind of thing.”

In the museum, Polk County residents’ efforts in various wars are honored, from the Civil War to Vietnam. Mannequin Fred Polk is there, in full uniform.

“Fred Polk used to be in that corner there,” Moellenberdt said. “I’d come in in the morning, and it’s dark in there, and look up and he’d be standing there. Scared me. So we reorganized.”

One section of the museum contains remnants of lost cities — ghost towns of Polk County — such as Valsetz and Black Rock.

Next to that is a mock schoolhouse, with photos of all of Polk County’s schoolhouses on the walls. Some are still in use. Others are empty foundations and bricks where the house used to stand.

“When we have kids tour groups in here, one of the kids always becomes the teacher,” Moellenberdt said. “The other kids sit at the desks and they have a class of some kind or another.”

Some exhibits, like the schoolhouse and old typewriters, are hands-on. Others, including antique pianos, organs and doctor’s tools, are for eyes only.

Visitors can walk through a pharmacy, dentist’s office and

Learn more

• **Gentle House** — 855 Monmouth Ave. Free, by appointment. 503-838-8673.

• **Independence Heritage Museum** — 112 S. Third St. 1 to 5 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday. \$3 for admission; children free. Second Saturdays are free. 503-838-4989.

• **Polk County History Museum** — 560 S. Pacific Highway (99W), Rickreall. 1 to 5 p.m., Monday, Wednesday through Saturday. Admission ranges from \$1 to \$5. 503-623-6251.

• **Historic Brunk House** — 5705 Highway 22W, Salem. Open second Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. For more information or to schedule an appointment: 503-838-6603.

doctor’s office, and see how tools have changed — and how they’ve stayed the same.

Some innovations are still used — like a potato ricer — and others, while brilliant, are not used anymore, like an old toaster that can be used over a campfire.

Soon, the collection will be easier to wade through.

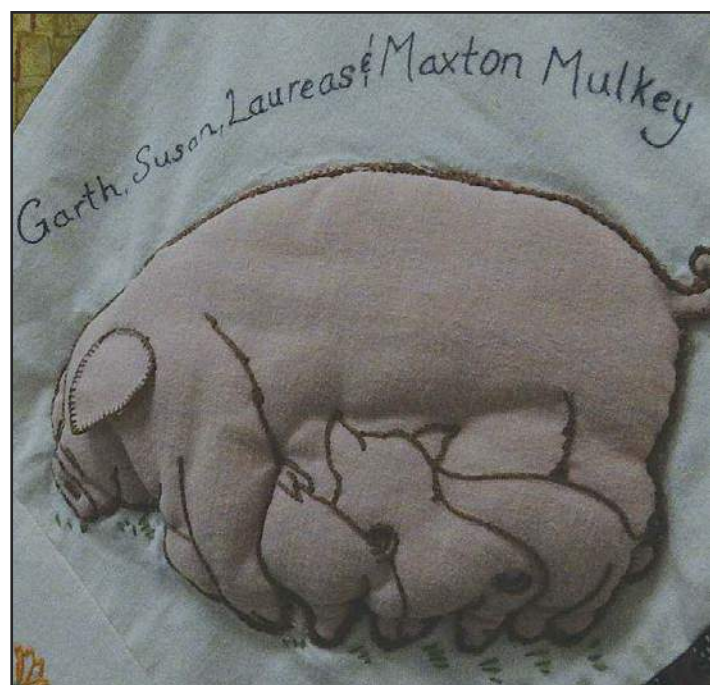
“We’re digitizing everything, slowly but surely,” Moellenberdt said.

The museum tries to show all aspects of the county, he said, and preserve it.

“That’s our goal in life,” he said. “To show people like you what it looked like, what happened here.”



Visitors may use the old typewriters on display.



Quilting is an old form of upcycling.

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A WINE UTOPIA

Willamette Valley named wine region of the year

In recent years, the rest of the wine world has begun to discover what those of us in the Northwest have known for a long time: Oregon wine is world-class.

In 2016, Oregon celebrated 50 years in the wine industry. In that time, Oregon has developed a reputation for high-quality pinot noir and other cool-climate varieties. So much so that it's getting the attention of industry giants such as Jackson Family Wines Louis Jadot (France), which has purchased vineyards in the valley.

All the buzz about Oregon wine is recognized in Wine Enthusiast's decision to make the Willamette Valley its wine region of the year in 2016, part of its annual "Wine Star Awards."

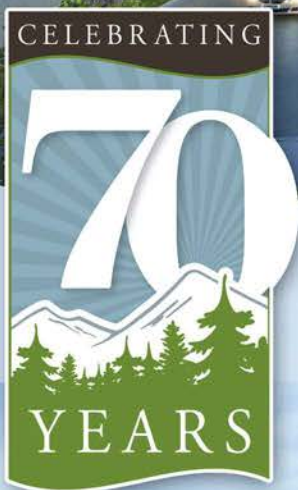
The magazine selects its winners through an extensive process.

"At the annual editorial meetings, about 40 staffers gather to pitch stories and nominate people and places for the Wine Star awards," said Paul Gregutt, a Wine Enthusiast contributing editor who focuses on Oregon wine. "After much debate, the list for each category is winnowed down to the final five."

Publisher Adam Strum selects the winner from those finalists, and Gregutt wrote the story on the Willamette Valley, giving a brief history of the area's unique industry.

See page 72C

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Vineyards in Polk County host a variety of activities besides tasting, such as Emerson's volunteer harvest day in 2016.

Continued from Page 70C

"The vintner who first explored the valley's potential were pioneers," Gregutt wrote in the Wine Star story. "There was no history to build upon, no grapes to purchase to produce wines while they waited for the new vineyards to bear fruit. Only one of the first dozen or so vintners had any agricultural experience."

In dawning years of Oregon wine, vintners chose to use their collective knowledge and experience to develop and produce quality wines.

"We collaborated, meeting monthly to talk about such things as vine spacing, training, weed control, where to buy posts and wire," one of those first vintners, David Adelsheim, is quoted in the story. "We made up for our lack of knowledge by everyone sharing what knowledge they had."

Gregutt, who has covered Oregon wine since 1985, said that level of cooperation hasn't changed much, even in light of the recognition the region receives.

"I've written extensively about the second-generation winemakers, and they are as tight knit as their parents were 40 years ago," he said.

Gregutt sees more success in the future, noting the

emergence of Oregon Chardonnay, pinot gris and Riesling. He said he's found regions from the Columbia Gorge, Umpqua Valley, Rogue Valley and Applegate Valley are producing quality wines.

"I love the opportunity to write extensively about Oregon wines, vineyards and wineries," Gregutt said. "I think it's absolutely at an amazing point in its growth. And truly, the wines are world-class."

Polk County wineries, in the heart of the Mid-Willamette Valley, are no exception to that characterization.

Andreas Wetzel is a fourth-generation winemaker, with his roots in Germany. His family owns Chateau Bianca, located on Highway 22.

"It's the perfect region for growing wine grapes," Wetzel said. "It's aesthetically pleasing too. It's the type of farming that people are driving by, looking at the hills, and they can see these nice, neat rows. It's very eye-appealing."

Wetzel loves his job, which is part farmer, part weatherman, part winemaker and part marketing director. Because he can produce 50,000 gallons of wine, he makes wines for other local wineries who want to showcase their harvest.

See Page 74C





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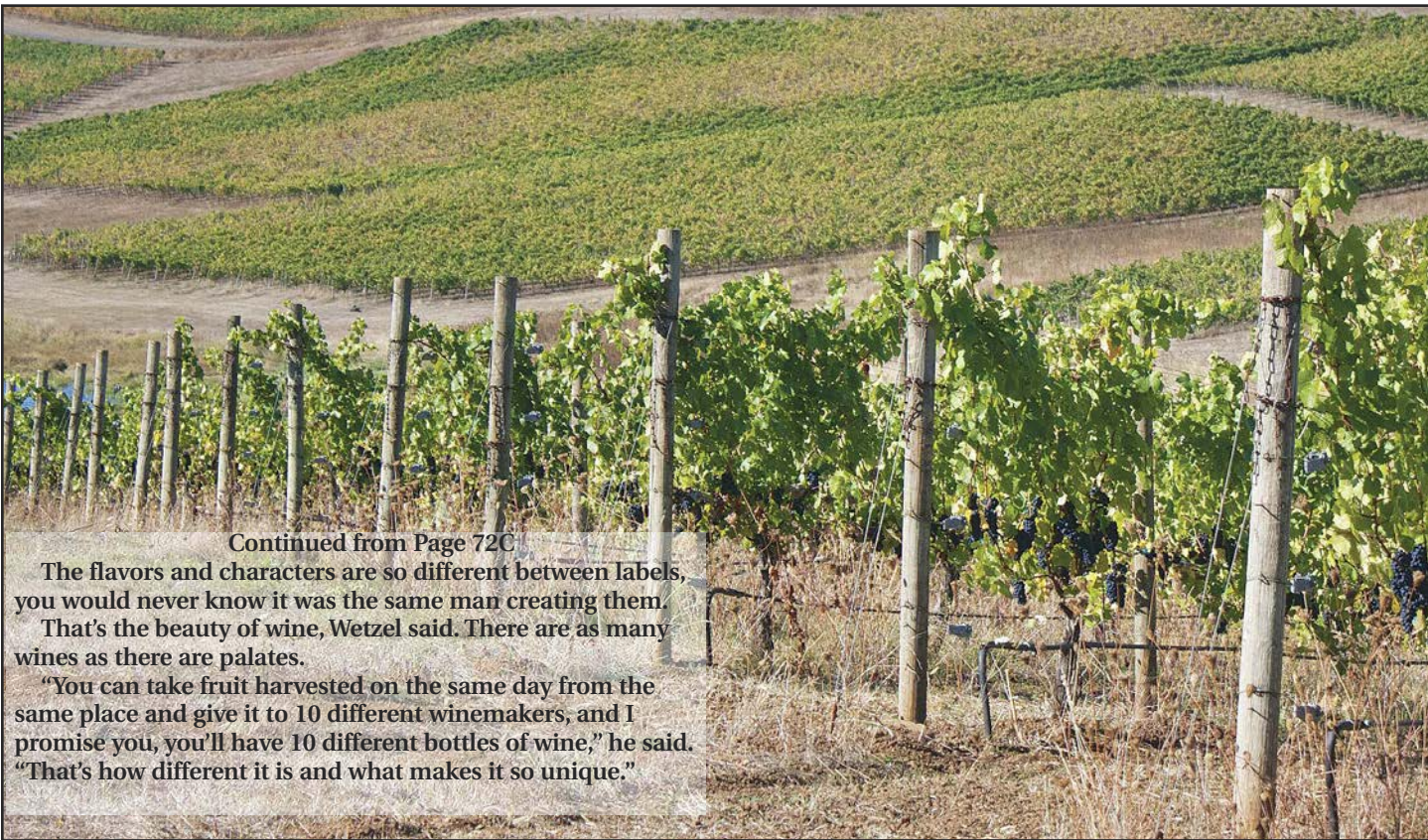


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Continued from Page 72C

The flavors and characters are so different between labels, you would never know it was the same man creating them.

That's the beauty of wine, Wetzel said. There are as many wines as there are palates.

"You can take fruit harvested on the same day from the same place and give it to 10 different winemakers, and I promise you, you'll have 10 different bottles of wine," he said. "That's how different it is and what makes it so unique."

Sample local vintages

Many of the region's wineries offer wine tastings seasonally or year-round. Call ahead to confirm schedules and operating hours.

- ◆ **Airlie Winery**, 15305 Dunn Forest Road, Monmouth (Airlie). 503-838-6013. www.airliewinery.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.
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- ◆ **Dragonfly Creek Wines**, 14020 Orchard Knob Road, Dallas. 503-720-3807.
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- ◆ **Emerson Vineyards**, 11665 Airlie Road, Monmouth. 503-838-0944. www.emersonvineyards.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.
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- ◆ **Namaste Vineyards**, 5600 Van Well Road, Dallas. **Tasting room**, 3250 S. Pacific Highway (99W), Independence. 503-623-4150. www.namastevineyards.com.
- ◆ **Orchard Heights Winery**, 6057 Orchard Heights Road NW, West Salem. 503-391-7308. www.orchardheightswinery.com.
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- ◆ **Whistling Dog Cellars**, 1915 NW Oak Grove Road, West Salem. 503-708-9105. www.whistlingdogcellars.com.
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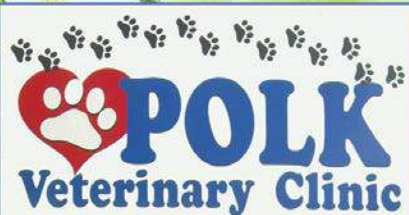


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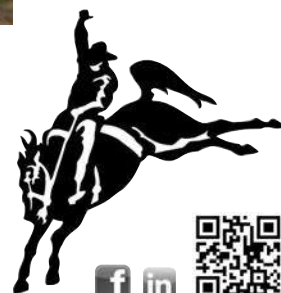
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BEERTOPIA

Oregon has become one of the top destinations for beer lovers — and Polk County is at the center of this utopia for suds seekers, with good reason.

The area offers a unique opportunity. Visitors have a chance to tour different beer destinations and experience the entire process from harvesting hops to enjoying a cold one on a summer afternoon.

Rogue Farms, located in Independence, has 52 acres of hops, marionberries, pumpkin and cucumber fields. Tours are available upon request and give people a chance to have an up-close and personal look into the process of harvesting hops.

Those tours give a unique view of the process of harvesting and brewing.

Rogue's wide selection of beers also means you can enjoy the fruits of their labor afterward.

"Polk County is a great destination to see where beer begins — in the dirt," Cheryl Gillson said. "This part of the Willamette Valley is abundant in history of hop farming from the late 1800s to current day. Once the hop capital of the world, the valley is proud of its agricultural and brewing heritage."

Of course, Rogue is far from the only spot to grab a brew.

There are a number of local spots to enjoy a beer. Whether you stop at the West Valley Taphouse in Dallas, which has about 60 beers, ciders and wine on tap, to places like The Three Legged Dog in Independence or Monmouth's Yeasty Beasty, which pair food and beer, there's no shortage of great beer in Polk County.

And if you're on the prowl for something special, check out the Hop and Heritage Festival, held Sept. 23.

The festival celebrates the rich history and traditions of the Willamette Valley — with a homebrew competition helping to highlight the festivities.

See Page 78C



Beer lovers will find a lot to like in Polk County.



Rogue Farms offers tours throughout the year on request.

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Continued from Page 76C

The festival also highlights cooking with beer — helping to prove that beer can do much more than serve as a beverage.

No matter what kind of beer you like, chances are you'll find a new brew tailored to your tastes.

And if your experience with beer has been limited, be prepared to have your mind blown by the selection and variety of tastes and flavors.

Even if you think beer isn't for you, it's time to give it another chance. From the mixing of flavors from coffee to peppers, brewers are trying new combinations all the time. Quite simply, there's likely a fla-

vor combination you'll love that's just waiting to be found.

The sheer number of beers available can be overwhelming to newbies but before long, you'll be discovering whether an India Pale Ale or a porter suits you best. At nearly all of the beer destinations in Polk County, knowledgeable beer lovers can help you find out what beers you love the most.

"It's hard to know what a beer drinker will like, whether seasoned or new to craft beer," Gillson said. "We believe in variety, so we brew everything from our light Honey Kolsch to our 5 Hop Dark IPA."

That level of variety extends to all of the hot spots in Polk County.

Want a beer?

- **Rookies Sports Tap Room** in Monmouth has 52 beers on tap and a menu crafted around the varying flavors that can be found in Northwest brews.

- **The Three Legged Dog** in Independence keeps several beers on tap to complement its creative cocktails and farmers market-inspired cuisine.

- **Monmouth's Yeasty Beastly** offers a classic pair: beer and pizza. The pizzeria has only craft brew on tap — no Coors Light or Bud.

- **West Valley Taphouse in Dallas** is one of the area's newest beer destinations.



Rogue Farms is one of many beer destinations in Polk County.



West Valley Taphouse offers a variety of beers and ciders.



Rogue Farms gives visitors a look at the process of harvesting hops.



FARMERS MARKETS

Polk County Bounty Market starts the first Thursday in May, where vendors offer handcrafted items, veggies and fruits.

Polk County has four to choose from all summer long

You can tell it's springtime when the Independence farmers markets kick off their seasons in April. The markets run each Saturday April through October and November.

The Original Independence Farmers Market is in the parking lot of Independence Umpqua Bank and features a variety of crafts — including a birdhouse and bee house maker.

The Independence Riverview Market at Riverview Park will be the host of summertime Art in the Park, sponsored by the Independence Downtown Association in June, July and August.

Both markets host nonprofits at a special rate.

At Riverview, home-based businesses have been invited to make guest appearances throughout the season.

"They don't have brick and mortar," Sue Barker said. "It gives them a chance to get some exposure and some face-to-face."

Barker said it will bring the community into the market, as well as the market being for the community.

It's the perfect time to head to the markets. Plenty of leafy greens are available, with summer berries around the corner.

"I talked with my strawberry guy yesterday and he said he is planning on the eighth of June," she said. "Once the sun comes out, all this rain and everything is going to make it wonderful. It's frustrating because things rot or get beat down from the rain."

Plants are ready to take home and add to any garden or flower bed.

In May, Polk County Bounty in Dallas kicks off its five-month season.

The eighth-season opener comes after a harsh winter and soggy spring, so produce may make a later appearance than normal, but opening week had plenty for shoppers to browse.

"We will have a lot of plant starts to start the season with, a lot of home baked foods, canned foods," said Market Manager Bonnie Dreier. "This is the plant-start season of the market."

Live entertainment will dot the market schedule, but Dreier would love to have more acts.

"We are looking for live music, for people wanting to get that exposure," she said. "We would love to plug them in down there."

Bounty is hosting a few special events this season, the first is May 25 with Republic Services, focusing on recycling. The company will be back for a second event during the summer months.

On June 1, Oregon Olive Growers — yes, we can grow olives in Oregon — is holding a tasting event.

"We are very excited about that," Dreier said.

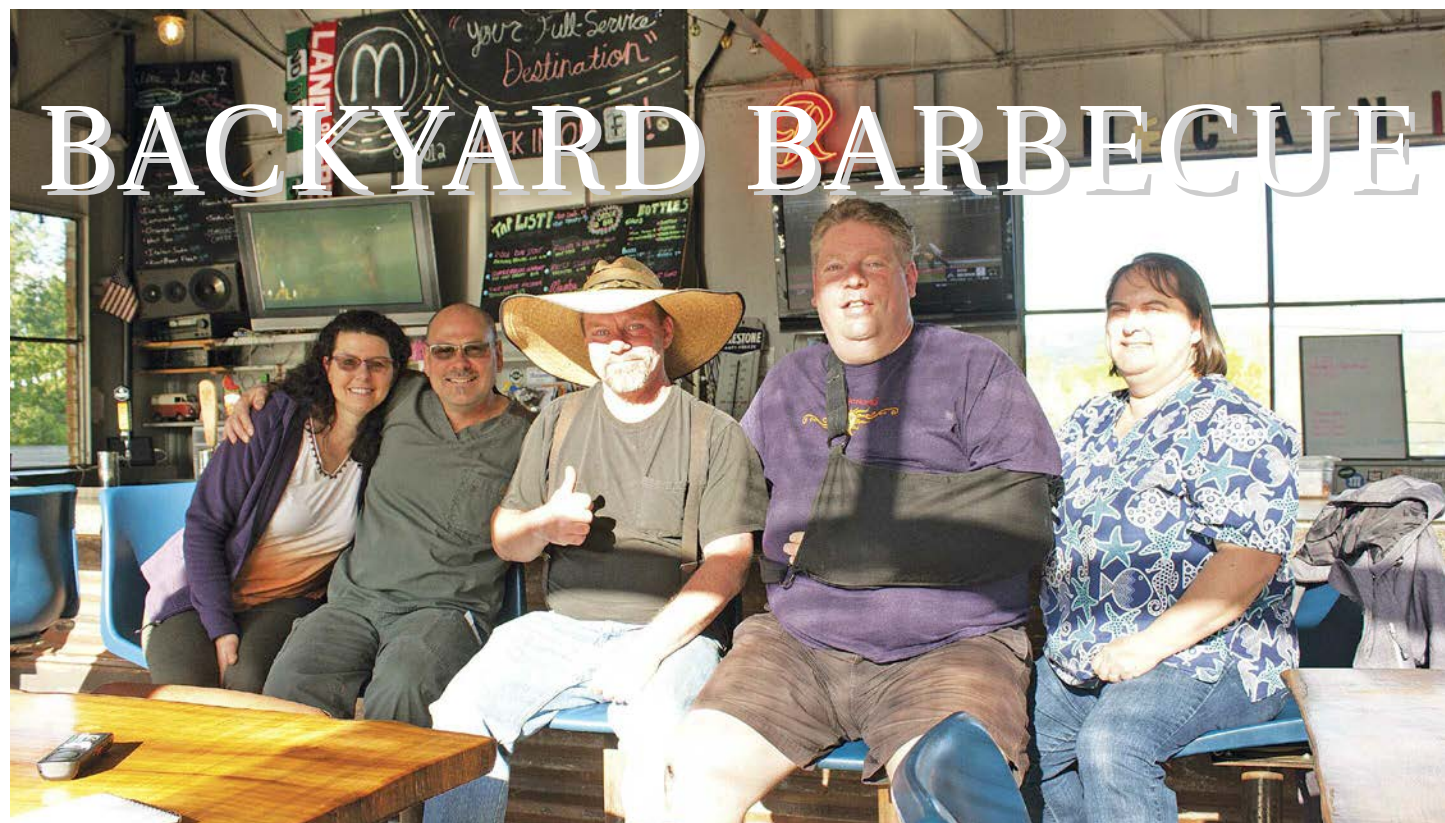
The lunchtime crowd will enjoy the return of Black Rock BBQ and El Pique as market regulars.

Dreier said customers should check updates on the market's Facebook page to see who will be selling each week.

After last season's record breaking year, Bounty Market is looking forward to another great season — and some better weather on the horizon.

"I believe this year is going to be really good," Dreier said.

For more information: See Page 34C.



Ray Walter, center, runs the barbecue at IndePit at Mecanico in Independence.

A plethora of smoked meat choices await

Ray Walter has been cooking almost his whole life. His latest food adventure, IndePit at Mecanico, is furthering that journey.

Walter said he's tried a lot of other jobs, but since deciding to focus on food, he's happier and calmer.

"It's always just been natural to me. I've been doing it my whole life," he said. "I've done other things, trying to find a more manly career, but I've always been at home and happy in the white coat."

Walter brought his unique — for the Northwest, anyway — brand of barbecuing to Mecanico in February 2016, making a partnership with former owner Matthew Lind. Walter's barbecuing start in Independence was at the former 2EZ Café in 2014.

In March, Walter took over the Mecanico pub side of the business.

"I've been holding down the fort for a year, running barbecue," Walter said. "Now, the whole thing is mine."

A culinary school graduate who said he could take a more traditional chef position that would pay nicely, Walter chose to stick with building a barbecue following in Independence.

Walter's barbecue is cooked in an actual pit — not a barrel smoker — that he built out of cinder blocks and has been expanding since setting up at Mecanico. He started with a four-foot pit and now has a 16-foot pit, and a small staff to help him tend to it.

"I'm setting the bar higher for genuine barbecue in the Northwest. This is more like what you would find in the South," Walter said. "We are in Oregon. People don't barbecue the way they do down there."

Mecanico, a converted gas station that still has the bay doors,

Time for Barbecue

What: IndePit at Mecanico.

Where: 87 S. Main St., Independence.

Hours: Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 8 p.m.

Contact: 971-267-6006; www.facebook.com/indepitbarbeque/

What: Black Rock BBQ.

Where: Various locations. Tuesdays and Fridays at Pill Box; Thursdays through September at Polk County Bounty Market.

Contact: 503-969-9699; www.facebook.com/blackrockbbq.

What: BG's Bar-B-Que.

Where: 189 Pacific Highway S. (99W), Monmouth.

When: Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4:30 to 8 p.m. for dinner.

Contact: 503-420-4143.

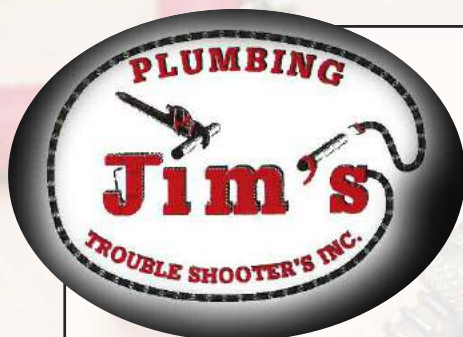
features a bar with seven beers on tap and daily menu of what comes out of the pit and sides like baked beans, coleslaw and macaroni and cheese. For dessert, Walter rotates Dutch oven peach cobbler and chocolate stout cake.

People can sit in the bar or in what Walter calls "the backyard" that has tables and fire pits.

"People get to hang around the fire pits, have a few beers, smoke a cigar. You can have your dog here. You can't get that in a restaurant," he said. "That's what I love about this. It's like hanging out, having a barbecue in the backyard."

See Page 82C

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Black Rock BBQ can be found at local festivals, the annual Polk County Fair, and weekly farmers markets.

Continued from Page 80C

IndePit isn't the only place for barbecue in Polk County. Lucky Halcom's Black Rock BBQ has developed a following, in the literal sense.

The popular food truck rotates locations throughout the week and loyal customers tend to follow him from place-to-place.

Black Rock's menu features wood-smoked pulled pork sandwiches and nachos, ribs, sausage, chicken and brisket.

Halcom spends three days a week in Dallas, Tuesdays and Fridays at the Pill Box, 625 SE Miller Ave., Dallas; and Thursdays through September at the Polk County Market at the Academy Building, 182 Academy St., Dallas.

Halcom said the truck will be Polk County for community festivals throughout the year, including the upcoming Great American Eclipse on Aug. 21.

"We'll be around," he said.

Country ribs or smoked brisket?

Smoked turkey or pulled pork?

BG's Bar-B-Que in Monmouth has all of those, plus tasty sides like cheesy taters and cheesy garlic biscuit to make choosing what to have for dinner difficult.

Owner Bill Gordon, who lived in Kansas City for 30 years, opened the restaurant because he missed Midwest-style barbecue.

The restaurant serves plates, sandwiches and platters, with the latter being big enough to share.

"I have a fairly sharply focused menu," said Gordon shortly after opening BG's in 2016. "I do a few things, and do them well."



Bill Gordon prides himself on barbecue done right.

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BE OUR GUEST

MaMere's celebrates Northwest, WOU connection

MaMere's Guest House has gone through a subtle shift since Emily McNulty and her family have taken over the bed and breakfast last year.

"We're minimizing things a bit," McNulty said. "There was a lot in here, so we've streamlined that."

The décor retains some of the New Orleans charm it had been known for under its previous owner, but has more of a Pacific Northwest feeling to it.

"Our theme will continue to be eclectic and colorful and vibrant, but we want to continue to promote what a great place we live, so doing that through opportunities to connect with Western Oregon University, with local vineyards, and talking it (the area) up," McNulty said.

McNulty and her family have redecorated some rooms to reflect the connection with WOU, renaming the top-floor accommodations, "The Wolf Den."

~ Showers have been added where just baths existed before.

One room has been dubbed the Rose Room, celebrating the extensive rose collection on the corner property.

"We have over 40 varieties of roses on the property, which is pretty impressive

for not a huge lot," McNulty said. "We're known for our roses. During the summer, it's beautiful out front."

The house itself was built in 1890 by John Howell, a carpenter, who built it as a way to advertise his craft, according to records from the Western Oregon University Archives.

In 1891, the building was used as housing for the university, then called Oregon State Normal School. In 1924, the house was incorporated by the college as an official dorm room with elected officers, known as Howell Hall. According to the archives, Howell Hall was one of the better places to live in Monmouth. Rooms rented for the top amount of \$6 per month and had a waiting list to live there.

The house was condemned by the city of Monmouth after it fell into disrepair in 1984. Clint and Sandra Boylan bought the house in 1986 and restored it, adding it to the National Register of Historic Places in 1987.

McNulty said the history of the house might make some think it will be stuffy, but she said guests are finding it's quite the opposite.

"We want this to be your home away from home," she said. "You have an

opportunity to relax in our sitting spaces. Whether you're here for business or pleasure, we want this to be a space where you can do what you need to do."

Guests at MaMere's range from families dropping off students at WOU — or reconnecting with their Western students — to candidates for interviews, to tourists of Polk County. McNulty said she expects to see an increase in tourists exploring the area as summer approaches.

But she was surprised at how many business people rent her rooms, and her role in promoting Monmouth, Independence and the surrounding county.

"What I'm finding is the candidates (in town for interviews) especially are asking us questions that they couldn't ask in an interview, really about the vibe of the community and the great things here," McNulty said. "It's such a great community. They're thinking about this great big life change that they're about to make for themselves and their family, and we can talk a little bit about what we think as a family here."

See Page 86C



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Rates: Call property for rates.

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/.

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Where: 246 S. Main St., Falls City.

Amenities: Four rooms available — one king bed room, two queen bed rooms, and a

bunk room with four beds. Shared living room and kitchen.

Rates: Call property for rates.

Of note: Property includes a restored historic home, built in 1907 and a beautiful view of the Little Luckiamute River.

Contact: 503-539-7558, 541-9793245 or www.littleluckiamutecreeksidebnb.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: Call property for rates.

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.buenavistaoregon.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: Call property for rates.

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, 5,300 square feet 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: Call property for rates.

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; fern-hillpolly@gmail.com; www.vrbo.com/557598 or on Facebook: Fern Hill Lodge.

MAMERE'S BED & BREAKFAST

Where: 212 Knox St., Monmouth.

Amenities: Pacific Northwest-themed rooms available for rent.

Rates: Call property for rates.

Contact: Emily McNulty, 503-917-8745; mamerestguesthouse.net.

Continued from Page 84C

She and her family have become ambassadors of Polk County, McNulty said, highlighting all the things they love about the area.

Guests are surprised that a bed and breakfast is run by a young family.

"People are typically expecting an older, retired couple that are doing this on the side," McNulty said. "This isn't a business where younger people are the innkeepers. That's setting us apart, and people like that."

Emily's brother Eli lives on the grounds, and works as groundskeeper, turning lights on or off, making sure doors are locked, and taking turns with Emily in the kitchen to create entrees for guests.

Breakfasts can be as simple as quiche or a breakfast bagel sandwich — from Ovenbird Bakery in Independence or New York Bagel in Monmouth — or a full make-your-own crepe bar.

Business guests prefer something quicker, McNulty said, and so the B&B started offering make-your-own yogurt parfait bars, which has been popular.

In the afternoon, McNulty said snacks, tea and water are set out for guests to help themselves. With no one living in the house, it gives guests more privacy.

"We do like to talk if people want to talk, but we don't want to force that on them," she said.

McNulty, who had dreams of becoming an innkeeper since she was a youth, said she loves her new job.

"I get to meet such interesting people," McNulty said. "We had people from all over the world here, parents, grandparents."



EXPLORE THE ARTSY SIDE

Two galleries offer a medley of experiences in artwork

Polk County's art galleries seem small, but are mighty. The Dan Cannon Gallery of

Art at Western Oregon University attracts artists from around the world, as well as displaying the work of future famous artists: students.

The River Gallery in downtown Independence features a variety of mediums from a wide selection of artists, many of them live locally.

"There's always something new going on at River Gallery," said Ann Durley, one of the original founding partners of the gallery, which has been at its location for 18 years. "The biggest thing that's going on is a juried art show called 'Local Waters,' that we're doing in conjunction with the watershed council."

In August, the gallery will host a party and show for the Great American Eclipse on Aug. 21.

The gallery is larger than it appears, and all art is for sale. It also carries limited edition prints, cards and ceramics.

"Come take a look," Durley said. "I think you will be amazed at the diversity, quality and size of this gallery."

At Western Oregon, the Dan Cannon Gallery of Art is open from fall through spring, and closed during the summer term.

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 River Gallery**, 184 S. Main St., Independence, is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information: 503-838-6171.

"Right after Memorial Day will be our juried student exhibit," said Paula Booth, gallery director. "The last show before the summer is our bachelor of fine arts show."

Most of the art on display at the gallery is for sale.

"We often sell more work from the student show than with any other work," Booth said. "It's caught on with the community that they can come get some pretty great artwork for a good price during the student sale."

It's not just student artwork on display at the gallery.

"Each term we do two exhibits," Booth said. "Each lasts about five weeks. Those are national; some are local or regional."

Artists are sometimes determined by request of faculty or students, Booth said.

"I really try and work outside my own realm of taste, so we kind of get a little bit of everything," she said. "I try and do some installation, some newer media, video and interactive kind of work. And then we do get some very traditional paintings."

Fine art is displayed throughout campus, though it's not all under the direction of Booth.

Festival celebrates Indy heritage



Come celebrate a time not-so-long ago, a time when Independence was Hop Capital of the World.

The 17th annual Hop & Heritage Festival will be Sept. 23, with all of its traditional events.

A few new events are making their way into the old-fashioned festival celebrating all things hops.

The event is held in Independence Riverview Park, with a shuttle to and from Independence State Airport, where people can enjoy a hearty breakfast of flapjacks, courtesy of the pilots from the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 299, and watch hot air balloons launch — weather permitting.

The heritage stage has been added and will have more music and entertainment, coupled with the main stage in the amphitheater.

Music and entertainment will take festival-goers back to the heyday of hops in Independence, 1856-1956.

The Ghost Walk on Sept. 22 is sure to provide shivers and good entertainment to all who participate the exploration of Independence's spectral residents.

Space is limited so get free tickets early.

All the old favorites that make the festival great are returning: the old-fashioned contests — cookie baking, scarecrow making, beer homebrewing and pie eating — the Mayor's Critter Parade and, don't forget more beer.

Beer goes hand-in-hand with hops, but the festival also celebrates heritage.

The kids heritage tent will host old-fashioned games, such as cake walks and making juggling balls. The kids' activities are free.

Hops & Heritage is perhaps the smallest of Polk County's festivals, but it has a unique, warm charm that permeates the event.

For more information, including the schedule of events or to view YouTube videos of the entertainers: www.hopfestival.org.



A slice of patriotic Americana

Looking for something to do between Independence's annual July Fourth Parade and picking a location to watch fireworks?

If you want a relaxing Independence Day afternoon in the park, Dallas' Freedomfest has the answer.

The daytime showcase is

the revival of the barbecue contest sponsored by MAK Grills. It not a sanctioned event like those held in the past, but an up to 10-team amateur contest that will pit hometown contestants against each other.

"We are opening it up to something that embraces

everybody," said contest coordinator Beth Jones.

While it's an amateur contest, this isn't about grilling the best steak, but smoking meats.

Contestants will vie for \$1,500 in cash prizes and can sell their meats at the event.

"Motivated teams can make money," Jones said.

Jones was involved with creating Freedomfest, but took a step back in recent years. After the barbecue contest ended last year, she decided to take over that portion of the event for 2017.

The contest needs teams, so everyone interested in testing their barbecue prowess can sign up at exploredallasoregon.org/freedomfest.

Freedomfest opens at 3 p.m. in Dallas City Park at the Academy Street entrance, with vendors and a West Valley Tap-house-hosted beer garden. Live music follows at 3:30 p.m.

At 6 p.m., the event moves to Roger Jordan Community Park near the Dallas Aquatic Center.

Food trucks will be open for dinner or dessert, from 6 to 11 p.m. Live music is from 6 to 9 p.m.

The fireworks show, put on by Dallas Fire & EMS, blasts off at dark, or around 10 p.m.

INDEPENDENCE

Independence's Western Days kicks off Saturday, July 1, at 6 p.m. with dollar rides at the carnival and a showing of "Captain America: Civil War" at about 9:40 — depending on the sunset.

See Page 90C



Volunteers from Dallas Fire & EMS train to set off the Freedomfest fireworks in Dallas.



L-R: Mary Lock, Jeremy Santee-Malloy, Monica Johnson, Susan Morrill, Tony Rose, Kathy Holder

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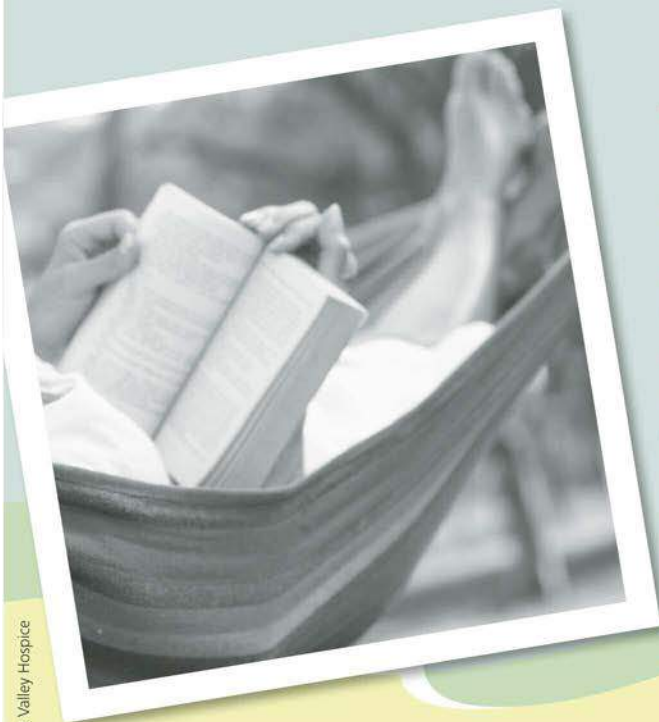
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Hundreds of runners takeoff from the starting line for the annual Mini-Marathon in Monmouth.

Continued from Page 88C

Sunday, July 2, will start with a multi-denominational church service led by the Grove in Independence. Sunday is wristband day at the carnival.

"Our new thing this year is we're doing a Talent Quest from noon all day," said Janice Thompson, chair of the Western Days commission. "The big thing about that is that the winner, no matter if it's a magician, comedian, garage band, is going to open for Cloverdale on the Fourth of July."

Monday, July 3, marks Independence's Hometown Celebration, complete with Buddy Day at the carnival.

"Buy a ride; your friend rides free," Thompson said.

The annual watermelon-eating contest returns at 2 p.m. on Monday. Entertainment by the Junebugs and Infamous Soul will wrap up the evening before the fireworks show.

This year, entrance to the show will be \$2, unless wristbands are purchased ahead of time at Les Schwab or from someone in the Monmouth-Independence Rotary Grand Parade on July Fourth.

"We're trying to give the community their opportunity to buy their bracelets ahead of time," Thompson said. "We have

not had a price increase in a very long time. Our fireworks show has gotten smaller because the price of fireworks has gone up and our budget hasn't."

This year, Thompson said she increased the budget for fireworks and security, and the increase in entry will help pay for that.

"The show should go back to what it was four or five years ago when it was really big," Thompson said.

Fireworks will be shot over the Willamette River on July 3 and Fourth.

Events on July Fourth will not start until 4 p.m., with a reading of the Declaration of Independence and a performance of patriotic songs by Central High School's choir.

MONMOUTH

Monmouth's July 4th Festival focuses on music, art and dance for two days at Main Street Park. Vendors at the festival sell handmade items and features crafts for kids and an art show.

The fun begins at 10 a.m. on July 3 and concludes for the day with the Patriotic Band Concert. Vendors open on Independence Day at 9 a.m.

Monmouth is where the popular decades-long tradition of the Mini-Marathon, a 2.6-mile race between Monmouth and Independence, starts at 11

a.m. Runners gather at Monmouth City Hall to await the start of the easy, downhill jaunt.

The fun run is followed by the Children's Parade starting Main and Jackson streets at 11:30 a.m.

No entry is needed, but be sure to be in line before 11:30 a.m. The parade ends at Knox Street.

Then, at noon, the centerpiece of the community celebration, the Monmouth-Independence Rotary Grand Parade, kicks off on Monmouth Avenue and runs down to Riverview Park in Independence. Pick your viewing place early because this hometown patriotic parade is not to be missed.

FALLS CITY

Always the spontaneous community of the bunch in Polk County, Falls City typically celebrates Independence Day a day or two early.

In 2016, a last-minute July 2 parade and community barbecue marked the occasion. Impromptu vendors — like a young boy with a lemonade stand — set up the day of the parade.

Check in closer to July Fourth to see what Falls City has planned for Independence Day.

You may be in luck to catch a truly one-of-a-kind small-town celebration.

A Space Adventure

Summerfest gears up for total solar eclipse



Summerfest 2016's Hawaiian theme brought sun and leis.

It's time to blast off. Dallas is ready to go interstellar for Summerfest, July 27-30, thanks to this year's theme, "A Space Adventure."

"We want to help remind people of the eclipse (on Aug. 21)," Bonnie Dreier said. "We'll have a kids area for children to learn about the eclipse and make fun things related to that."

Summerfest is always one of the biggest draws in Dallas and with good reason.

The four-day event, centered on the Polk County Courthouse lawn, is stacked with vendors and artisans, including the National Guard, which brings a climbing wall and other exhibits and games.

This year will see the return of the three-on-three basketball tournament.

"I believe this will be the first time since 2010," Dreier said. "It's been quite a while. ... We're super excited that the pieces came together."

Of course, the biggest draw each year is the parade, held Saturday morning.

"It's always fun," Dreier said. "People get so involved in decorating their floats. It's truly a blast to watch."

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.

And don't forget, Summerfest week offers a double-dose of Polk County Bounty. Markets are held in the normal location (the corner of Academy and Main streets) on Thursday and in conjunction with Art in the Park on Sunday.

Summerfest 2017 will also feature a number of new and unique events.

Amptgard, the Polk County chapter of the live action role playing game, will hold an event, and this year's entertainment will be highlighted by Erotic City — a Prince cover band.

A Summerfest fun run may also be in the works — Dreier said they are looking for a partner organization to help organize and run that event.

Summerfest is always a can't-miss extravaganza. No matter what you're looking for, chances are Summerfest will have something right up your alley.

"You see old friends reconnecting," Dreier said. "It's just fun."



CHRISTMAS IS ALL AROUND

The beginning of December kicks off the Christmas season in Polk County, with events in every city. Here is what is happening when Santa comes to town:

DALLAS

Winterfest officially begins at 5 p.m. on Dec. 1, with retail and food vendors, cookies, cocoa and Christmas music.

When Santa arrives a little after 6 p.m., he will have double the tree lighting responsibilities, in addition to hearing the wishes of the good little boys and girls.

St. Nick will still light the sequoia on the Polk County Courthouse lawn, but also another Christmas tree will be placed near the sidewalk on the square.

While Santa arriving via fire department escort is the most exciting part of the evening, the best part of Winterfest is the time Santa spends with children after the tree lighting.

FALLS CITY

Now in its sixth year, the Christmas tree lighting in Falls City has become a holiday tradition.

The gathering will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 2 in the parking lot next to Mountain Gospel Fellowship Church, 257 N. Main St.

Coordinator Jenn Drill said the lighting will be at 7 p.m. and will be a festive, but simple occasion. Hot chocolate, cider and desserts will be served, and Christmas music will provide holiday spirit.

"It's a time to bring the community together and celebrate the season and our community," Drill said.

INDEPENDENCE

Cynthia Jaramillo, organizer of the seventh annual Santa Train, was able to brighten the Christmases of more than 1,000 kids who came to Independence Cinema to welcome the big man via Portland & Western Railroad.

Toys for Tots provides the toys handed out to each child who comes out from 1 to 3 p.m. on Dec. 2.

Later on Saturday, the 14th annual Parade of Lights will make its way from the First Baptist Church parking lot, where entries will begin staging at 4:15 p.m. The parade officially starts its trek to Main Street at 5 p.m.

Afterward, all are welcome to an open house at Sojourn International on Main Street for hot cider, hot chocolate, and cookies — made by volunteers.

At the open house, parade participants



The Werner Center at Western Oregon University bustles with Christmas activity.



Dallas Winterfest welcomes Santa.

will be awarded the President's Choice, Best Use of Lights, Best Commercial Entry, and Best Group/Organization Entry.

MONMOUTH

The festivities to ring in the season start in Monmouth at 6 p.m. on Dec. 1 — all centered around the campus of Western Oregon University, celebrating its 50th annual tree lighting.

At 6, the holiday parade marches through downtown Monmouth and onto campus. The parade includes lighted entries from campus groups, as well as Polk County Fire District No. 1. Santa Claus rides a brightly lit fire engine to the Werner University Center, where he will be available for photos with Mrs. Claus



The Parade of Lights in Independence.

throughout the evening.

The entire campus will go dark before the 130-year-old sequoia tree will come alive with lights in dramatic fashion, and then people can make their way to the Werner Center or down to the Historic Gentle House.

The Werner Center will be bustling with activities, from music to crafts for the whole family.

Perhaps the most fun is the annual cookie bakeoff, where students, staff and faculty submit their best cookies, and the public gets to be the judge. Before you leave campus, make your way to Gentle House for the annual Wine, Warmth and Music, starting at 7 p.m.

For more information: wou.edu.

8th Season **POLK COUNTY Bounty MARKET** **May - Sept**

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Music in the Park

MUSIC, FOOD, BEER & WINE GARDEN
Main Street Park Amphitheater • Monmouth
Every Wednesday ~ July 5 - August 30 ~ 6:30pm

JULY CONCERTS
July 5: Shinkle Family Band — Folk, Country
July 12: Wildwood Allstar Revue — Rock
July 19: Hillstomp — Blues
July 26: Jenny Don't & The Spurs — Country

AUGUST CONCERTS
August 2: Sol Seed — Reggae
August 9: Cascade Crescendo — Jamgrass
August 16: Root Jack — Rock
August 23: Dina y Los Rumberos — Cuban Salsa
August 30: Coming Up Threes — Celtic

**Look for Monmouth Music In The Park Series on Facebook
for more information about this year's artists.**

SPONSORS: Brandt's Sanitary, Christ's Church, City of Monmouth, Columbia Bank, Crush, Edward Jones - Ben Meyer, iHomes, Itemizer-Observer, JB Firewood, Kampfer Enterprises, KMUZ 88.5 FM, Main Street Ice Cream Parlor, Main Street Pub & Eatery, MaMere's Guest House, MAPS CREDIT UNION, Marr Bros Bark, MINET, Monmouth Fitness Club, Monmouth Power & Light, Mungo Signs, OREGON STATE Credit Union, Partnerships in Community Living, PT Northwest, RJ Mobility Service, Sandra Paoli Windermere, Sing Fay Restaurant, Smith Fine Arts Series, Veal Bikes Plus, Vibrant Pet Styling, Walt's Print & Copy, Windermere, Yeasty Beasty.

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
*Bring your chairs and blankets.
We'll see you in the park!*






Hear ye, hear ye

Shrewsbury Festival provides fun for all in September

If you want to go to a summer festival that is a little out of the ordinary, look no further than the annual celebration of Shrewsbury.

This isn't your everyday small, rural city get-together — unless it's 500 years ago in England.

Shrewsbury is the namesake of a Renaissance faire taking place in a farm field near the Polk County's border with neighboring Benton County.

The annual Shrewsbury Renaissance Faire takes visitors to an Elizabethan town's streets, market, stages, jousting ring, and not-to-be missed tavern.

In 2017, the festival takes place on Sept. 9-11, transforming a field in Kings Valley 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 artisan vendors. There are also scores of historical re-enactment groups featuring dancers, jugglers, magicians, musicians,

storytellers and theatrical performers.

With so much going on, there's not a lot of time for boredom.

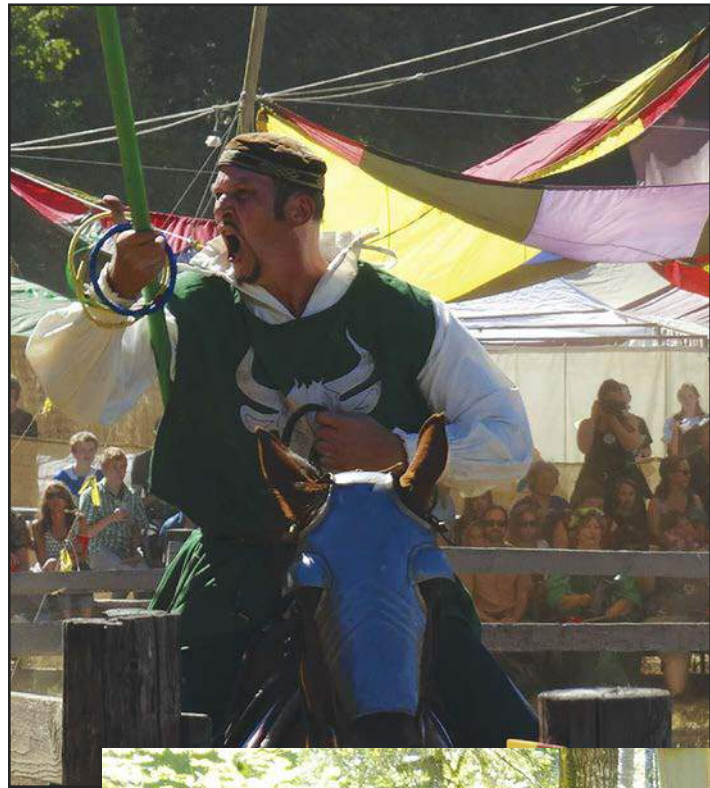
Learn how to swing a sword or try your hand at a longbow at one of several interactive exhibits.

A jousting exhibition, combat melee and horsemanship demonstration are highlights.

Dressing in the fashion of the time and using the language is encouraged, but by no means required. You should bring your sense of humor and know that street performers like to engage festival attendees.

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 younger.

For more information and admission discounts: www.shrewfaire.com.



RIVERS EDGE

SUMMER SERIES

Presented by



July 14, 7:30pm



5 Guys Named Moe, July 28, 8pm

**Idol Generation
July 21, 8pm**



**Schwing Band
Aug. 11, 7:30 pm**



**Aug. 4, 8pm
Shoot To Thrill**



**Chance McKinney
Aug. 25, 7:30pm**



**Aerosmith Pump
Aug. 18, 8pm**



**Aug. 19, 8pm
"Indy Goes Dark"**



**\$5 Suggested Donation
Lawn Seating — Bring blankets
and chairs**

Visit our website for concert times • Concessions & Brewery/Wine Vendors 6 PM

2017 Blockbuster MOVIES!

Thursdays July 9:45 approx. August 8:30 approx.
Lawn seating: Bring your blankets! **All movies are free!**

Aug. 10 - Weird Science • Aug. 17 - Star Trek Into Darkness • Aug. 24 - Beauty and the Beast
July 13 - Finding Dory • July 20 - Lego Batman
July 27 - Moana • Aug. 3 - Ghostbusters Answer the Call



MEDICAL DIRECTORY

ACUPUNCTURE

• **Lyndsay Posey, L.Ac.; Gabriel Prewitt, L.Ac.: Willamette Acupuncture and Wellness**—289 E. Ellendale Ave., Suite 601, Dallas, 503-751-1460. We specialize in the treatment of pain, fertility, digestive disorders and motor vehicle accidents. We accept all insurance and offer free 15 minute consultations.

AUDIOLOGIST

• **Evan L. Evans, Ph.D and Julie B. Evans, AuD** both doctoral level Audiologists. Serving our hearing impaired since 1980 with two locations: 1343-A Monmouth St., Independence 503-838-3001 and 2296 NW Kings Blvd., Corvallis 541-757-2500. Free hearing screenings by our hearing aid specialist. Offering full & complete diagnostic evaluations, counseling & recommendations by our clinical Audiologists. Other Audiological services include testing, management and treatment options for Tinnitus. We have the knowledge and experience to assist your physician with the diagnosis of disease and disorders pertaining to hearing and the hearing mechanism. Our Audiologist credentials include: The American Academy of Audiology (F-AAA) and The American Speech Hearing and Language Association's Certificate of Clinical Competency (CCC-A) EM

CHIROPRACTOR

• **Drs. Sharon and Marty Thornton: Thornton Chiropractic**—1650 Monmouth St., Independence 503-838-3346. Serving families for over 19 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

• **Michael Kirkland, D.C.**—289 E. Ellendale Ave., Suite 503, Dallas, 503-831-4668. We recently moved our office across the parking lot into Dr. Gayle Wilson's former suite. Serving Polk county for 35 years and going on 30 years using the Activator method. This method helps restore spinal balance safely and effectively. We share the office with Debbie Saxby, LMT.

• **Jennifer Sneeuwjagt, D.C.—Chiropractic First**—306 Main St, Dallas, 503-831-4820. Chiropractic care for the whole family. Offering hands on techniques, drop table, and activator. Quality time spent with each patient. Custom made orthotics available. Most insurances accepted including motor vehicle accidents. New patients welcome. Join us on Facebook for special monthly offers. "Start feeling better today, discover the benefits of chiropractic."

CLINICS

Salem Health West Valley medical and specialty clinics are accepting new patients at their locations in Dallas, Monmouth and Independence. With a proactive health care approach, the clinics provide care for all ages from newborns to adults. Services include annual exams, immunizations, lifestyle counseling, salemhealth.org/westvalley.

• **Family Medicine**—512 Main St., Suite 300, Monmouth, 503-838-1182

• **Family Medicine**—555 SE Washington St., Dallas, 503-623-7301

• **Specialty Clinic**—591 SE Clay St., Dallas, 503-831-0784

• **Central Health and Wellness Center**—1601 Monmouth St., Suite 100, Independence, 503-838-0045

URGENT CARE CLINIC

• **Emurgent Care Urgent Care Clinic**—109B E. Ellendale Ave., Dallas, 503-623-3199. "When injury and illness can't wait, come see us!" We are a convenient walk-in clinic. Open every day with no appointment needed. We treat illness, personal or work related injuries, perform DOT (call to schedule), employment, and sport physicals, wound care, minor surgical procedures, and splinting. We have in-house lab and x-ray. Most insurances accepted. Our staff will do their best to provide quick, considerate, and excellent medical care. Website: www.emurgentcaremedical.com

COUNSELING

• **Cross & Crown Counseling:** Kate Koens, NCCA Licensed Clinical Christian Counselor and Certified Temperament Therapist is accepting new clients at her Dallas office. She works with individuals in a safe environment to help individuals find healing and fulfillment by teaching good communication skills, appreciation for self and others, appropriate responses to individual and family needs, how to build relationships of trust, appropriate crisis responses, and how to obtain overall family wellness emotionally, mentally and spiritually. Some specific areas of counsel offered are marriage and family adolescent issues, depression, past and present trauma, grief, identity crisis, divorce, childhood losses, and feelings of hopelessness. Our goal is to help individuals to their full potential and to live decisively with truth, relevance and purpose. For more information or to schedule an appointment please call 503-917-1625 or visit our website: www.crossandcrowncounseling.com

DENTIST/ORTHODONTICS

• **Dr. Kenneth Winokur:** 503-838-1633, 329 S. Main St., Independence. New patients welcome, relaxing gas available, many insurance plans accepted, evening hours. www.independencedental.org

• **Matthew W. Woolsey, DMD:** 503-623-8010, 155 W. Ellendale Ave., Dallas. Dr. Woolsey provides full service comprehensive dental care for adults and children. Expect a comfortable and pleasant experience as well as outstanding care for a lifetime. New patients are always welcomed. Please visit our website: dallasoregondentistry.com

• **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-Wednesday from 8:00am to 5:00pm and Thursday 8:00am-1pm.

• **Dallas Family Dental, Benjamin D. James DDS, Alisha J. James DDS, Thomas L. Davis DMD.** 289 E Ellendale Ave Ste. 204, Dallas, OR 97338. 503-623-2666. Dallas Family Dental provides general and cosmetic dentistry for children and adults. We are happy to serve as your dental providers, and are now accepting new patients.

• **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

• **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.

• **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.

HEARING AID SERVICES

• **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)

HOSPICE

• **Willamette Valley Hospice**—a non-profit organization since 1978 based in Polk County, provides comprehensive hospice care services, pain management, grief services, and support for those patients and families facing serious or life-limiting illness. Through its mission of "changing the end of life experience," Willamette Valley Hospice supports adults and children living with a serious or life-limiting illness throughout Polk and Marion counties and beyond. We offer unique hospice programs, including music therapy, massage therapy, veteran services, pet therapy & programs, home palliative care, and a specialized adult foster home for hospice patients. Administrative offices are located at 1015 3rd St NW in West Salem. Patients and families are served wherever they call home. For more information on any service or program, call 503.588.3600 or visit wvh.org.

IMAGING SERVICES

• **Salem Health West Valley:** 525 SE Washington St., Dallas, 503-623-7302. With your physician's referral, we provide all-digital diagnostic services: bone densitometry, CT scan, fluoroscopy, mammography, ultrasound, X-ray and MRI. Visit salemhealth.org/westvalley.

LABORATORY SERVICES

• **Salem Health West Valley Dallas lab,** 525 SE Washington St., open 24 hours, seven days a week, 503-623-7303. Learn more at salemhealth.org/westvalley.

• **Salem Health West Valley Monmouth lab,** 512 Main St., Suite 300, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed between noon and 1 p.m., 503-838-8345. Learn more at salemhealth.org/westvalley.

MASSAGE

• **OUT OF GRAVITY MASSAGE—Julianne Klingberg DeForest, LMT** – 503-510-2256—NOW IN INDEPENDENCE. Enter Stressed, Leave Blessed - Out of Gravity Massage offers massage sessions to suit a variety of needs and health concerns. Intuitive and holistic bodywork are blended with extensive and varied education, creating a caring and knowledgeable environment of healing. Also, with a prescription and a claim number, up to a year's therapeutic massage sessions will help in your rehabilitation from a motor vehicle accident. Relaxation, well care, geriatric and pediatric massage is available, as well as motor vehicle accident rehabilitation. Infant massage instructional sessions available. Call today for an appointment. 503-510-2256 OR # 7627/ National #295187-00

• **Heather Lyon, LMT#18746—Thornton Chiropractic** 1650 Monmouth St., Independence, 503-838-3346. Specialize in pain management and working out of Thornton Chiropractic. I practice Swedish, Deep Tissue, BowenWork, and Myofascial Release all integrated with stretching techniques to naturally get you on the road to recovery. We accept Auto Injury Insurance and can help you bill your own private insurance. From chronic pain and newer injuries to stress reduction, I can help.

PODIATRIST

• **Tom Mesdag, DPM and Jackie Kordich: Monmouth Valley Foot Health Center**—343 Main St. E, Monmouth 503-838-3668. Treating all your foot care needs, podiatric sports medicine, infants, children & adults.

REHABILITATION/PHYSICAL THERAPY

• **Salem Health West Valley, 525 SE Washington St., Dallas.** Physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and aquatic therapy at Dallas Aquatic Center, 503-623-7305. Learn more at salemhealth.org/westvalley.

• **Salem Health West Valley, 512 Main St., Monmouth.** Physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy, 503-838-1388. Learn more at salemhealth.org/westvalley.

PHYSICAL THERAPY

• **Pinnacle Physical Therapy**—Located in Dallas and Keizer—210 W. Ellendale Ave., Suite 100, Dallas OR, (near Taco Bell), 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: pinnaclephysicaltherapy.com. Voted "Best of the Mid-Valley" 2017!



Polk County Fair shows off the best of ag, arts, crafts

If you are anywhere in Oregon during the month of August in 2017, you'll probably be hearing about this event called the Great American Eclipse.

Many a community festival will be using the Aug. 21 total solar eclipse — which will be visible in Polk County — as a theme. The Polk County Fair, held a little more than a week before the eclipse, is no exception.

The 2017 fair, "Moo at the Moon," will be Aug. 10-12 at the fairgrounds along Highway 99W in Rickreall.

An agriculturally centered fair, the animal barns and show arenas are the star of the three-day show. The fair has animal shows featuring rabbits to cattle and everything in between, a livestock market auction and many, many other exhibits.

Once you are finished strolling the best of the county's cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, turkeys and rabbits, there's plenty more to see and enjoy at the Polk County Fair.

There is live entertainment on the Les Schwab Stage, including musical acts and the quirky, but fun annual Beautiful Baby Contest.

Flowers, vegetables, baking, and arts and crafts exhibits — on the rise in the last few years — are sure to impress, as well.



The Rough Stock Rodeo includes everything from bull riding to mutton bustin'.

New events added in recent years, like the Thursday night Rough Stock Rodeo and the ATV Rodeo may become traditions.

Hungry? Vendors have a selection of classic fair food and deep-fried goodness on the menu. For those 21 and older, a beer and wine garden features local vino and brews.

Be sure to check the fairgrounds year-

round schedule, because there's much more going on than just the fair.

The venue hosts hundreds of events each year in the buildings it rents to the public, ranging from weekly square dances and dog obedience classes to large RV rallies and gun shows.

To see what is upcoming at this busy event center, go to www.co.polk.or.us/fair.

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503-623-2564



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Contact:
Bonnie Dreier
**Events Coordinator/
 Program Manager**
503-623-2564



Ribbon Cutting



Luncheon



Summerfest



Bounty Market

168 SW Court St., Dallas, Oregon
503-623-2564 | www.dallasoregon.org



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 worship and bible study starting at 6:30 p.m. Come join us for a relaxed study around a cup of coffee or drink. Men's prayer is Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Women's 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 Foursquare Church—Located at 976 SW Hayter St. on the corner of Washington and Hayter. Worship Gatherings: Sundays at 10:00 a.m., Youth Group: Sunday evenings (Dinner at 5:30 and Youth Group from 6:00-8:00 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 Presbyterian Church—Invites you: Warm, spirit-filled fellowship with traditional Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., engaging discussion study groups, prayer "chain" and a loving spirit--Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m., men's breakfasts Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m., women's groups, needle craft group and Indoor Play Park (for children with accompanying parent). Sensitivity to older adult accessibility and needs. 789 SW Levens, Dallas. 503-623-3397 dalpreschurch@gmail.com

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 7:00 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. and 7:00 p.m. (women); Group Bible Study 2:00 p.m. *Nursery care provided.

Faith Evangelical Free Church—2290 E. Ellendale Ave., Dallas, 503-623-8034. We are a multi-generational community engaged in the mission of sharing God's love and the Good News of Jesus near and far. We would love to have you worship with us on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. and we invite you to come be part of all that God is doing in and through Faith EFC! You can find us on the left as you head out of Dallas. For more information, email us at info@faithfreechurch.org, check out our website www.faith-freechurch.org, or follow us on social media @FaithEFCDallas.

First Baptist Church—245 SW Church St., Dallas, 503-623-5189; Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 7:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Pastor Rick Bratton. Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:45 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 6-7:00 p.m. Everyone Welcome!

First Christian Church—Joyfully Worshiping and Serving. We are located at 1079 SE Jefferson St. Dallas, Pastor Darren Anderson. Sunday begins with "Live Wire Worship" with Praise

Team at 8:30 a.m., Sunday School for all ages is at 9:30, and Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. with nursery provided at all services. Men's Bible Study meets Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m.; Christian Women's Fellowship meets the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. (Sept. – June). Please call the church office at 503-623-2569, for more information on other meetings and events or check our website at www.dallas1stchristianchurch.wordpress.com.

Grace Community Church—598 E Ellendale Ave. Dallas, 503-623-4961. Lead Pastor- Dave Bertolini, Sunday Worship: 1st Worship Gathering- 9:00 a.m., with Youth & Adult Sunday School running concurrently. 2nd Worship Gathering- 10:45 a.m. Programs for children ages 0-5th grade provided during both services. *Summer Schedule June 18-Sept 3. Kids, Youth & Adult Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Gathering at 10:45 a.m. New for this summer! Saturday Night Worship Gathering at Pressed (788 Main St) starting June 24 at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome! Visit our website at: www.graceindallas.org for office hours, sermon downloads, event information and more!

Living Word Faith Fellowship—830 SE Shelton St., Dallas, 503-623-9062. Pastor Joan Siewert. Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Worship 7:00 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. Ladies second Saturday of the month at 11:30 call for location. Pastor Michael Van Dyke in charge of men's fellowship. Call for additional information.

Salt Creek Baptist Church—15075 Salt Creek Road, Dallas, 503-623-2976. Lead Pastor David Curtis. Associate Pastor Vince Rediger. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Worship 10:50 a.m. Nursery provided for worship services. Classes for all ages. High School Students meet at 6:30 pm on Tuesday and Middle School Students meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday. Please call for information about other meetings or visit our website at www.saltcreekchurch.org.

St. Philip Catholic Church—825 SW Mill St., Dallas, 503-623-2440. Weekday Mass 12:15 p.m., Saturday Vigil, 5:30 p.m., Sunday Masses, 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church—1486 SW Levens St., Dallas at the corner of Levens & Cherry. Worship with Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m. Father Fred Heard, Vicar. We have a longstanding tradition of friendly hospitality toward all people regardless of race or ethnicity, marital status, disability or socio-economic status. We are a "Believe Out Loud" church welcoming and affirming individuals who are LGBTQ. Email: stthomasdallasor@gmail.com/www.stthomasdallasor.org. 503-623-8522. St. Thomas WELCOMES YOU!

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—1401 SW 13th Street, Dallas. Visitors are welcome to attend any of the three wards Sundays. Oakdale Ward, Bishop Roger Shinkle: 503-269-9634. Sacrament meeting 9 a.m.; Cooper Hollow

Ward, Bishop Scott Short: 503-932-6462. Sacrament meeting 11 a.m.; Perrydale Ward, Bishop William Fullmer: 503-930-5109. Sacrament meeting 1 p.m. Youth Groups all meet Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Missionaries are available for in-home teaching: 503-917-1847 or 541-441-3598 or 503-857-8828. Please visit our website at mormon.org 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 and visit our website to volunteer in the communities throughout Polk County at JustServe.org.

Trinity Lutheran Church—320 SE Fir Villa Rd, Dallas, 503-623-2233. Interim Pastor - Jim Nestingen. 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 11:30 a.m. Sundays. Wednesday evening Contemporary Service 6:30 pm. 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. Pastor-Rev. Quinton Kimbrow. Worship Service 10:55 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. (Summer Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. from June 11-Sept. 3 – No Sunday school.) All are welcome! Email dallasumc@qwestoffice.net Website: www.sites.umcdallas.com

Valley Life Center (Assemblies of God)—1795 SE Miller Ave., Dallas, 503-623-4116. Pastor Chris Baker, Associate Pastor Ted Gibson, Youth/College: Kirk and Mateasa Bathke, Children: Crystal Barker, Sunday Morning Service 10:30 am, Wednesday Family Night 6:30 pm. Please call for more information or visit our website at www.valleylifecenter.com

INDEPENDENCE

Cornerstone Church of God—4395 Independence Hwy, Independence, 503-838-5119, Sunday: Service and Children's Church 9:30 a.m. Wednesday: Kids Klubs 6:30 p.m. during school year Thursday: Bible Study 6:30 p.m. See us on Facebook. Watch service live at: website www.ccogi.org

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: Worship Service and Children's Ministry at 11 am Wednesdays: AWANA 7 pm (during the school year). Thursdays: Youth Group 6:15pm. First Baptist Church has small groups and Bible Studies 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 Gratreak. Worship Service and Sunday School starts at 10:30 a.m. Various studies, Prayer Groups, and Home Fellowships available throughout the week. Call for more information. You are welcome! Find us on Facebook.

St. Patrick Catholic Church—1275 E. St., Independence, 503-838-1242. Father Francisco Bringuella. Saturday Masses: 5pm English Vigil & 7pm Spanish. Sunday Masses: 9am English & 11:30am Spanish. Daily Masses: Monday 9:30am Communion Service. 9am Tuesday and Thursday Spanish, Wednesday and

Friday English. Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30pm-4:30pm or by appointment. Faith Formation: Monday 6:45pm-8:15pm Middle & High School. Tue: 6:45pm-8:15pm. Grades 1-4. Youth Group Thur. 6:30pm. WOU Campus Ministry: Mass Sunday 5pm at 315 Knox St., Monmouth. Tuesday 7pm Fellowship.

MONMOUTH

Ash Creek Bible Church—1483 N. 16th St., Monmouth, 503-838-0241. Located at corner of 16th and Hoffman Rd. Pastor/Teacher is Doug Burch. Sunday Worship 10:45am. Family AWANA. A conservative Baptist church. Our goal is to glorify God by growing together in Christ's likeness. www.ashcreekbible.wordpress.com

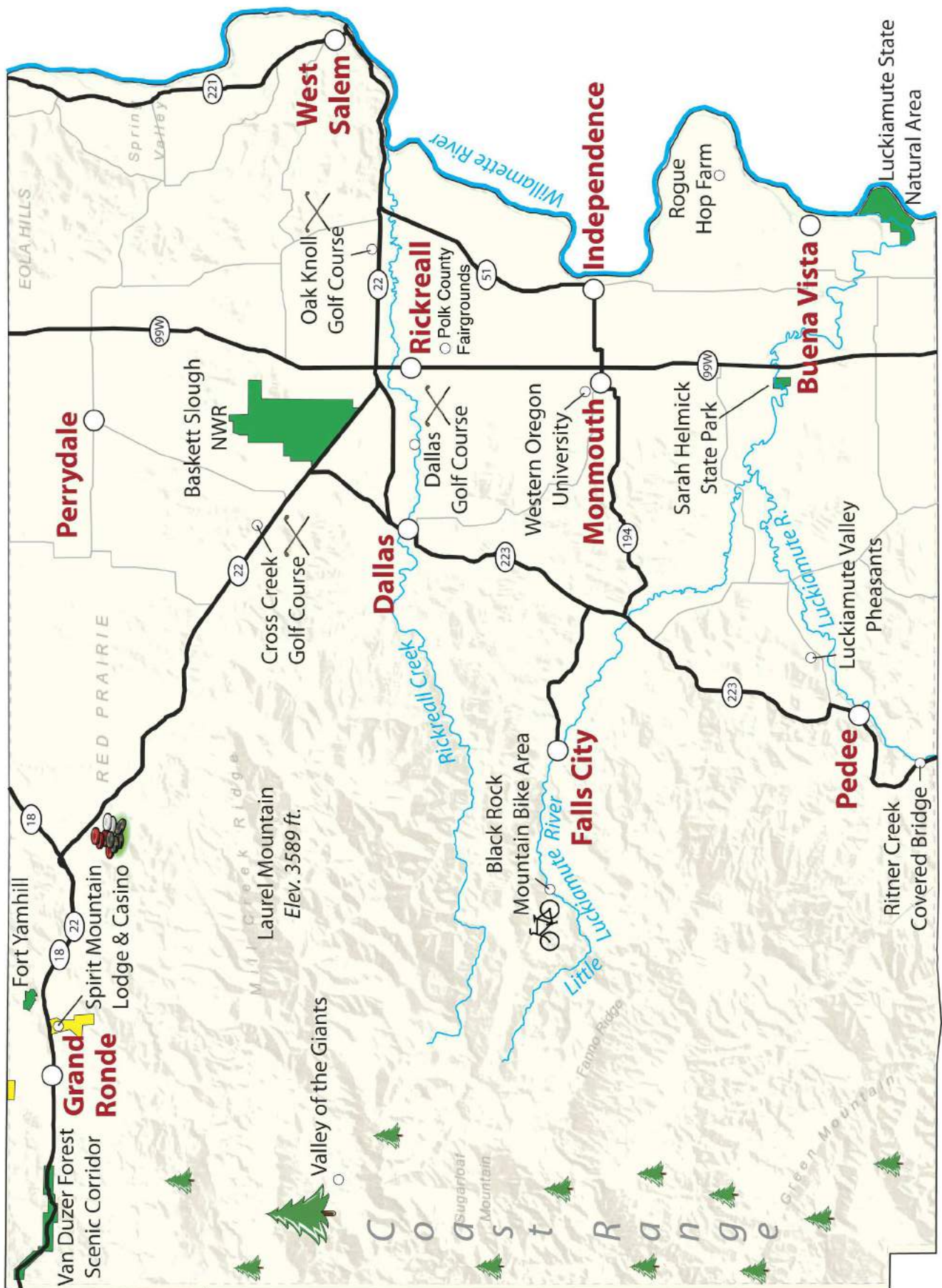
Christ's Church Methodist and Presbyterian United—412 Clay St. W., Monmouth. 503-838-1724. Our ecumenical and inclusive Christian community welcomes you to the work and worship of Christ's Church! We worship at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays with childcare provided. Our focus is on compassionate mission to those who are struggling and seeking in our neighborhood (including the western Oregon University Campus) and in the world. We have welcoming vocal and bell choirs, bible and book studies, vacation bible school, and significant mission projects throughout the year. Please join us, no experience required.

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—200 Monmouth-Independence Hwy (the church with the lighted cross on the "S" curve), Monmouth, 503-838-3459. Find Christ-centered Hope, Teaching, Fellowship, Service and Music with us! Divine Service of Holy Communion and Bible Study Sunday mornings. Summer schedule begins June 18 (Adult Bible Study 8:15; Service 9:30). Winter schedule begins September 10 (Youth and Adult Bible Study 9:00; Service 10:30). Pastor Dallas C. R. Dubke. Email faithlutheranmon@aol.com, Website www.faithlutheranmonmouth.com.

Praise Assembly—189 Monmouth Ave. S. We are part of a family of churches with locations in McMinnville, Willamina, and Mitchell, Oregon. Our English worship gathering is 11am on Sundays, followed by a Spanish service at 2pm. Nursery, kid's church, and youth group are available during the Sunday services. Other ministries include: Celebrate Recovery (Tues., 7pm), college group (Wed., 7pm), and Spanish Bible study (Thurs., 7pm) as well as two group living houses near WOU. Questions? Please check our website, www.praiseonline.net, or call us at 503-837-0300.

St. Hilda's Episcopal Church—245 Main St. W., Monmouth. Phone 503-838-6087. Join us on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. for Eucharist or Morning Prayer. Coffee hour following service. Wednesday Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. Member of the Community of Welcoming Congregations.





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Dallas has many recreational treasures including 10 parks, a dog park, and over 3 miles of creek trail. Among them is the beautiful 18-hole disc golf course meandering through our Dallas City Park and the bucolic trails found at the far reaches of the Arboretum.

Polk County's Baskett Slough Bird Refuge is home to thousands of birds that make their home there year round. With Great Herons, Mallard Ducks and even Nutria, this natural wonder just a mile outside of Dallas is a must see destination.

Surrounding Dallas are the vast world awarded wineries from the Willamette Valley, winner of the 2016 Wine Region of the Year by Wine Enthusiast Magazine. It is home to some of the most decorated wineries offering diverse varietals from Chardonnay to Pinot Gris, and of course Pinot Noir.

We are a regional center of culture, commerce, industry, education, and government. With the historic Polk County Courthouse in our downtown core, we are the seat of regional government. We have such world class manufacturing firms as MAK Metals/MAK Grills and Forest River (owned by Berkshire Hathaway – Warren Buffet). With large stores such as Walmart, Safeway and Rite Aid, we are a shopping mecca for a large territory.

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