

Sheriff's search and rescue seeks volunteers

The Deschutes County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications from members of the community who are interested in becoming search and rescue volunteers.

Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue (DCSO SAR) is one of the busiest search and rescue units in the state of Oregon. In 2017, DCSO SAR completed 127 missions and over 300 trainings. Our Volunteers are highly skilled and range from general searchers to those capable of highly technical missions such as mountain rescue, swift-water rescue, diving operations and more.

Selected applicants, who must be at least 21 years of age, are required to complete the DCSO SAR Academy, which consists of approximately 100 hours of training. The 2019 SAR Academy will begin on April 1, with volunteers graduating on May 9. Generally, training occurs on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m., consisting of classroom exercises followed up with a day of training on Saturday for outdoor practical exercises.

Academy attendees will receive instruction in several areas including, but not limited to: navigation, tracking, wilderness survival, search tactics, first aid/CPR and how DCSO SAR operates. Included in the academy, is a "pack test," which consists of a five-mile hike (2-1/2 miles uphill and 2-1/2 miles downhill) carrying a 25-pound backpack. The time limit for this test is 100 minutes. Each academy attendee will be assigned a mentor to assist with the successful completion of the academy.

Applications can be found online at www.deschutes.org/jobs and must be submitted by January 18, 2019 at 5 p.m.

Once applications are reviewed, applicants that meet minimum qualifications will be contacted and required to attend an informational session. Applicants will also be required to attend an oral board interview. A background investigation will be completed for all applicants who are selected after the oral board interview.

Some qualities necessary include a flexible schedule enabling mission attendance, the ability to fit in with our current volunteers, a good attitude and the ability to function as a team player. There is a \$100 entry fee for those selected, which covers initial search and rescue volunteer clothing issued upon graduation from the academy.

Additional questions can be answered by calling the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Special Services Unit at 541-388-6501, as well as going online to <http://sheriff.deschutes.org/Special-Services/sar/> and www.deschutesearchandrescue.org.

Sisters musicians make honor band

When the honor band results were revealed, six Sisters High School students and their band leader were playing a happy tune. Remarkably, all the local students who auditioned were selected to play in the Western International Band Clinic (WIBC). So, the weekend before Thanksgiving the six packed their instruments and concert clothes and headed to Seattle.

Each fall, students throughout the Pacific Northwest, along with Australia and parts of Canada, record auditions for WIBC — and the top musicians are chosen to attend. The Sisters students who attended this year are: Dalton Gonzales (senior, trumpet), Connor Martin (sophomore, saxophone), Jack Ogan (sophomore, tuba), Simon Rhett (sophomore, saxophone), Max Springer (sophomore, trumpet) and Weston Wallace (sophomore, clarinet).

"WIBC is one of my favorite events for students because they get to be challenged musically — by the music itself, the incredible conductors they bring in, and by their peers," said Tyler Cranor, director of bands for the Sisters School District.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Connor Martin, Simon Rhett, Dalton Gonzales, Max Springer, Weston Wallace, and Jack Ogan were selected for a Seattle music clinic.

"They come back to our school with a renewed appreciation for what it takes to be great, which I hope is then passed along to the rest of the students."

Before making the trip, the students were excited about the opportunity.

"I am really looking forward to being in a more competitive environment where music is the main focus," said Martin. "I think participating in this event will help me improve as a musician overall, especially being surrounded by others who strive to heighten their abilities through hard work and practice."

WIBC high school students are placed in four

150-member bands where they rehearse for two full days under the direction of world-renowned guest conductors. On the third day, the four bands perform to a packed crowd of families. Students are provided with sheet music about two weeks before the event and are expected to arrive ready to play. In addition to practicing for their concerts, students hear evening concerts by visiting university groups and attend College Night, where they learn about music programs offered by a variety of universities.

WIBC began in 1979 as a convention for directors and students. It is held in Seattle each November.

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Tuesday, November 27
 The Belfry, 302 E. Main Ave., Sisters
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