

Award: Latty still recovering

Continued from 1A
The impact sent Latty's patrol car into a ditch in a position that blocked him from getting out the driver's side door.

Rodriguez, Hamilton, and Halleman joined Gibson in trying to prevent the car from igniting — it landed near a patch of dry grass on a very hot day — while waiting for firefighters to arrive.

A blaze started in spite of their efforts, and Gibson urged Hamilton to get Latty out of the vehicle immediately.

He did. Hamilton forced the pinned driver's door open as much as he could. He then cut Latty out of his seatbelt and pulled him out of the burning vehicle, with the assistance of Gibson and Halleman. Rodriguez continued to try to battle the blaze.

Latty, who was taken to Salem Hospital in serious condition and required surgery after the accident, still

is recovering from his injuries.

He suffered nerve damage in his right hand and is waiting for the feeling to return before coming back to work, Wolfe said.

"They deserve it. Words don't explain it. I love these guys."

— Deputy Shon Latty

There's no timeline for Latty's return because nerve damage healing can be unpredictable, he added.

During the presentation on Oct. 7, an appreciative Wolfe credited the four men's bravery, noting Hamilton's "brute strength" and Halleman, who "risked his own personal safety without being asked to assist," for Latty's survival.

School: DCS already has a waiting list

Continued from 1A

So far, the startup has gone smoothly with only a few hiccups, Schultz said.

"The kids, when they come in, they are pretty excited about being here," he said.

The school's focus is creating educational plans for individual students while still staying accountable to Common Core standards like other all public schools.

Education guides Julie Rain, who called DCS "a dream school" and Reinky couldn't be more excited about the possibilities.

"The format of it is so wide open and it caters to the kid," Rain said. "It doesn't have the constraints of a regular school... We can meet the kids exactly where they are."

Students who attend the optional morning classes have a say in what they learn.

They can bring course work to complete under the supervision of a teacher and work on group projects.

So far, Rain's group has learned about the solar system and why leaves turn color in fall. Reinky's students were making glow-in-the-dark slime on Thursday.

"They come up with ideas," Rain said of her students. "They will vote and



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

Rebecca O'Dell, left, and Haddie Rogers get a pointer from educational guide Cheri Reinky during a Thursday morning session at Dallas Community School.

that's what we will study. As long as I keep it accountable to the standards, I'm good. It's really self-directed. There's a lot of talk of medieval knights right now, so I'm thinking we might be going into King Arthur."

Of course, whether they decide on it or not, students learn the basics — reading, writing, and math — at home or in class.

But the curriculum and guides try to make those lessons fun.

Mission accomplished with Haddie Rogers, 9.

Her favorite subject?

Reading.

"I can't explain it," she said. "It's just really fun."

Haddie added that she likes that she only has to be in school for half a day, so she can have more free time.

Rebecca O'Dell, 11, said her favorite part of going to DCS is that she doesn't have as much homework.

"You have more free time and you can work at your own level," she said.

Schultz said the school has 125 enrolled with a waiting list. DCS, which is sponsored by the Dallas School District, could grow by 25

students a year, but the board hasn't decided whether to pursue that yet. Schultz said the priority during the first year will be implementing and then fine-tuning the board's vision. He said, much in-line with the mission, that process will include plenty of input from parents and students.

"We'll plan to touch base with our parents," he said. "We will probably do that before the Christmas break, start getting feedback about the things that are working well and the things we need to think about."

Three Reasons We Are Here... price, selection and our customers!

6th Anniversary! Sat. Oct. 17 ▲ 12-3 pm

Customer Appreciation SALE with savings of 20% OFF* STOREWIDE

Our way of saying Thank You! Tons of Door Prizes!!! *10% Off New merchandise.

APPRAISALS! 2/\$5

Item Appraisals by CAGA Certified Appraiser Ann Ferschweiler and Marla Vardell, Auctioneer. Appraisal fee will be donated to the Polk County Historical Society

Custom Ring Making by local artist Kelsey Ensz 1-3 pm

Pick from an assortment of vintage buttons and watch Kelsey work her magic creating your one-of-a-kind ring right in front of you.

ENJOY REFRESHMENTS AND MELTING POT TOFFEE. Samples available for everyone to enjoy!

Some Things

• OLD • NEW • IN BETWEEN •

Layaway Program Available Tues - Sat 10:30 - 5:30 Sun 12:00 - 4:00 • Mon Closed 857 Main St, Dallas 503-831-3100

Dallas Aquatic Center
Dive In!
PIRATES OF RICKREALL CREEK
"The Search for CPT. JACK LANTERN"
Sat., Oct. 24 \$5.00
at Dallas Aquatic Center
Rated "G" Version: 6:30-7:00 PM
Rated "PG" Version: 7:30-9:00 PM
Visit the Blue Bayou Cafe for Spooky Eats & Drinks
Carnival Games by The Dallas Blue Dolphins 50¢ a ticket

1005 SE LaCreole Drive, Dallas
503-623-9715 • www.dallasor.gov/dac

DISCOVER MI TOWN
SHUTTLE SERVICE PROVIDED
12-5 Saturday October 24th

*GET A PASSPORT
*VISIT BUSINESSES
*ENJOY GIVEAWAYS & DISCOUNTS

Tickets: \$20 online, \$25 at the door
WOU students: \$10 online, \$15 at the door

For tickets and information visit www.micc-or.org

Sheriff post to be filled

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

POLK COUNTY — Two candidates are seeking appointment as interim Polk County sheriff and interviewed for the job Tuesday.

Polk Detective Sgt. Mark Garton, of Dallas, and Yamhill County Patrol Sgt. Todd Whitlow, of Sheridan, both applied for the temporary post and went through interviews with the Polk County commissioners Tuesday.

Both have filed to be elected sheriff in the May 2016 primary, as well.

The candidate the board picks will take over the job on Dec. 1, after current Sheriff Bob Wolfe retires on Nov. 31.

The interim sheriff will serve in that capacity until January 2017, when the newly elected sheriff takes over.

The board is to make a decision by Tuesday (Oct. 20).

Whitlow was hired as a full-time patrol deputy in Yamhill in 2001. He's served in patrol, marine patrol, and jail divisions.

Currently he's a patrol sergeant supervising 10 deputies and overseeing contracts for the cities of Sheridan, Willamina, Lafayette and Dayton.

"I want to see the Polk Sheriff's Office prosper, its employees to be proud and feel secure working there, and the citizens of Polk County believing in the Sheriff's Office and supporting it to the fullest," Whitlow said.

Garton has worked in the Polk County Sheriff's Office for 18 years, starting as a cadet at the age of 17.

He's worked in the jail and patrol divisions of the office. Now he's a detective sergeant overseeing the Polk County Major Crimes Team and has also been the supervisor of the Polk County Interagency Narcotics Team (POINT).

"People deserve to feel safe and secure in their homes and during their travels throughout Polk County and, as your next sheriff, your safety is my priority," Garton said.

Sudoku solution

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