

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dallas police needs reserve officers

DALLAS — The Dallas Police Department is taking reserve police officer applications.

Reserve officers are sworn volunteers who supplement full-time police officers. Reserve officer training is near equivalent to that of regular officers, but responsibilities are limited by experience and ongoing training.

Candidates must be 21 years of age or older and will be required, at a minimum, to pass a written test, interviews, a criminal background check, a psychological evaluation, medical and physical fitness tests and drug screening.

A city-provided application and "supplemental police questionnaire" can be found at www.dallasor.gov. Applications should be completed and returned to Sgt. Steve Dankenbring by 5 p.m. on April 15.

'Manos' sequel exceeds funding goal

FALLS CITY — "Manos Returns," the sequel to cult favorite "Manos: The Hands of Fate" surpassed its Kickstarter fundraising goal of \$24,000 by the end of its campaign March 1.

Movie producers netted \$31,750, achieving "stretch goals" of recording new Nicki Mathis single, "Magic Circle" and travel expenses for Diane Mahree, "Maggie" in the original movie, and Bryan Jennings, son the sheriff in the first Manos, to appear in the sequel. The movie will be filmed this summer in Oregon.

The goal is to premier "Manos Returns" in November on the 50th anniversary of "Hands of Fate."

Dallas Fire presents service awards

DALLAS — On March 2, Dallas Fire & EMS held its annual years of service and training hours awards, recognizing those who worked to enhance their skill over the last year. Fire volunteers logged more than 4,000 hours in training in 2015.

Service awards: Five years of service — Dan Woolsey, Austin Champ and Brad Tootle; 10 Year Service Awards — Paul McCallum and Clete Schmitke; 15 Year Service Award for EMS — Todd Brumfield, Kim Storms and Tom Moore; 35 Year Service Award — Greg Riemer.

The Training Officer's Award was presented to engineer/firefighter Paul McCallum. Dallas Fire & EMS also recognized a community partner, Graphic Latitude, with the Excellence in Community Service award for its dedication to the department.

RFL celebration swim set for Sunday

DALLAS — Relay for Life of Polk County invites caregivers, cancer survivors, those in treatment and their families for an afternoon at the Dallas Aquatic Center this Sunday. The event is from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and will include a light luncheon, bingo, and prizes. For more information: Tami or Jen at 503-507-0120.

New fitness course coming

Independence trail system to get obstacles installed this spring

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — The 1.5-mile loop trail from the Independence Dog Park around the soccer fields is about to get more interesting.

An obstacle course with about 12 fitness stations will be installed along the pathway this spring, said Independence Sgt. Justin Hedlund, a coordinator of the project.

"I think that things like this would be really popular and help people just kind of make fitness more fun," he said. "As opposed to just going out and putting in miles, they could have obstacles if they wanted to."

Stations will include classics such as a tire field to practice old military style quick step and a place to do burpees and sit-ups.

"We will have stationary walls that people can vault over," Hedlund said.

Other stations include a balance beam, stretching station, pullup station and tire flip, he said.

Three pieces of equipment were purchased with money from a grant from Heal Cities, including a combination obstacle.

"It's a rope climb with a descending hand-over-hand ladder to a lateral hand-over-hand ladder," Hedlund explained. "It's 30 feet overall."

At the start of the trail, general information about safety and heart-rate monitoring will be installed. At each station in the fitness loop, signs will provide basic information on how to use each obstacle, Hedlund said.

"Because of our bilingual communi-



Graphic courtesy of Justin Hedlund

The course will start at the dog park and run around the soccer complex.

ty, we wanted to make sure we had signage in both English and Spanish," Hedlund said. "To do some of these explanations, I've reached out to some of the fitness people in our community to make sure we explain these accurately."

One option may be using QR codes with links to short videos for each station, showing how to use it.

"That would make translation much easier," Hedlund said.

Once the equipment is acquired, the installation should go quickly, he said.

"We're going to need building products, donations from area businesses such as lumber, logs, things like that," Hedlund said. "We're seeking some of that stuff out. We're also going to need manual labor volunteers to come out and help us cut this trail in and do these installations and help us build these things."

For more information or to volunteer to help: Hedlund.justin@ci.independence.or.us, or call the non-emergency number at the Independence Police Department, 503-838-1214.

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Falls City to consider increase to rates

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

FALLS CITY — Those wanting to attend Falls City Council meetings will need to head down to the Falls City Community Center a little earlier from now on.

Starting with Thursday's meeting, the council will meet at 6 p.m. instead of 7. The council approved the change at its February meeting.

The meeting location at the community center, 320 N. Main St., and day of the month, the second Thursday, are unchanged.

This month, the council will hold a public hearing on changing bulk water rates and sewer hookup fees.

The city's public works committee and staff will propose bulk water rates be



from \$50 to \$80.

The committee made a recommendation to eliminate "simple" and "complex" sewer hookup fees and charge one rate of \$3,250 for all hookups.

According to the agenda report prepared for Thursday's meeting, those changes would bring the city into compliance with its own code.

For more information on the public hearing or Thursday's meeting agenda, go to www.fallscityoregon.gov.

increased from \$2.55 per unit (1,000 gallons) to \$5 per unit for bulk sales of less than 10,000 gallons. The bulk sales hook up fee would also be changed

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