

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sheriff patrols focus on seatbelts

POLK COUNTY — The Polk County Sheriff's Office will participate in the national Click It or Ticket campaign through May 29 in an effort to save lives through increased seat belt use. According to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 88.5 percent of passenger vehicle occupants buckled up in 2015, but nearly 50 percent of occupants in fatal crashes nationwide were not restrained. Deputies will focus on highways such as Highway 22, Highway 51, Highway 99 and Highway 18. This effort does not limit enforcement to these highways, but these highways will serve to link a "Coast to Coast" seat belt enforcement effort. For more information: www.nhtsa.gov/ciot.

Shetterly named to OCF board



Shetterly

SALEM — Dallas resident Lane Shetterly has been elected to serve a four-year term on the board of directors of The Oregon Community Foundation. Shetterly is a partner in the law firm Shetterly Irick and Ozias in Dallas, where he began his law practice in 1981.

Shetterly serves on the OCF Northern Willamette Valley Leadership Council. In addition to the OCF board of directors, he serves on several other boards of directors of nonprofit organizations including Western Oregon University, Legal Aid Services of Oregon, Oregon Law Center, Oregon Environmental Council, and Salem Health.

Home sustained heavy damage in fire

DALLAS — Seven people were displaced following a fire on the 900 block of Southwest Maple Street on May 8. Firefighters were dispatched at about 7:25 a.m. to a report of a house fire, according to Dallas Fire & EMS. First responding fire personnel found the residence filled with heavy smoke and fire coming out of one of the windows. All of the occupants had already been evacuated. Approximately 20 firefighters were on scene and worked quickly to get the fire under control and prevent the fire from spreading to nearby residences. The home sustained heavy smoke, heat and water damage. The residents of the home were assisted by the American Red Cross. No injuries were reported. Dallas Fire & EMS was assisted by Southwest Polk Rural Fire District and Polk Fire District No. 1. The cause of the fire is being investigated by the Dallas Police Department, Oregon State Fire Marshal's office and Marion Polk Fire Investigation Team.



Imogen, played by Lindsay Spear, must decide between two suitors in Shakespeare's "Cymbeline."

Play mixes old, new, adds lightsabers

Western's 'Cymbeline' set in 1980s high school for modern twist on old story

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — It's high school in the '80s, complete with all the teen angst, drama, romance, comedy — and lightsabers — and Shakespeare.

Shakespeare in the '80s? That is the vision of director Ted deChatelet for Western Oregon University's production of "Cymbeline," opening May 25 and running through May 28.

The play is one of Shakespeare's romances, deChatelet said, and not as well-known as others.

Cymbeline starts out from an argument between two men, deChatelet said. The two characters are impetuous and immature, he said.

"How will a contemporary audience relate to this?" he asked himself. "High school."

The play has a cast of 22 with a wide range of experience, from professional actor and Western professor David Janoviak, who plays

Showtime

What: Western Oregon University's Department of Theater and Dance's production of Shakespeare's "Cymbeline."
When: May 25 through 28. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m.
Where: Rice Auditorium, WOU's campus.
Admission: General \$12; students \$7; seniors \$10.

Cymbeline, to Edgar Lopez, who plays Belarus.

While it isn't Lopez's first time on stage, it is his largest role to date — something that came as a surprise to the sophomore.

"When I saw the part I got cast in, I said, cool, I don't know, I thought I was just this regular hunter out in the woods," Lopez said. "As I read it I was like, wow, this guy is in the whole second half of the show. I was not expecting it. I am very nervous, but, hey, just take it one step at a time."

Lopez's character has been wrongfully banished by King Cymbeline after false rumors were spread. In retaliation,

Belarus kidnaps Cymbeline's sons and raises them as his own out in the woods. His character is tough and mean, Lopez said, which is not like him at all in person.

Off stage, Lopez is a calm and quiet type, he said. On stage, he will make a dramatic transformation — not just in acting his character, but in physical appearances, donning a Mohawk and warrior paint.

Lindsay Spear plays Imogen, the daughter of Cymbeline and a princess. While Belarus is more of an adult in the show, Imogen is all teen.

"She's really funny and kind of torn up because a lot of things in her life have

turned upside-down," Spear said.

In teenage angst style, Spear's character spends a scene listening to the Smiths and dancing in her room, feeling sad.

"It's definitely something I had to explore because I don't usually deal with grief in a dark-humor sort of way," Spear said.

The play brilliantly mixes the classic plot twists and turns of Shakespeare set in an '80s high school. Instead of sword fights, characters are armed with lightsabers. Even those who are not well-versed or comfortable with the language of Shakespeare will enjoy it, Spear said.

"We hope the '80s atheistic kind of makes it more clear, so people can relate to it even if they might not catch what every single line might be," Spear said.

The actors' body language helps, too, Lopez added.

"It's Shakespeare plus '80s plus lightsabers," Lopez said. "You can't go wrong."

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September

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For more information and to purchase tickets visit: www.micc-or.org

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