

# Keizertimes

SECTION A

DECEMBER 4, 2015

\$1.00

## Literacy at Kennedy



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald  
Leticia Lemus reads to her daughter and son, Galilea and Isai Rangel, as part of a literacy event at Kennedy Elementary School. More than 200 students received free books as part of the event held last week.

## Bud Pierce is named parade grand marshal

By CRAIG MURPHY  
Of the Keizertimes

The doctor is in the car. Bud Pierce, a longtime medical cancer doctor and 2016 candidate for Oregon governor, has been named grand marshal of the Dec. 12 Festival of Lights Holiday Parade in Keizer.

Next Saturday's 7 p.m. parade down River Road isn't just a normal event: this is the 25th anniversary of the nighttime parade, which started in Salem and moved to Keizer in 2011. The theme of this year's parade, appropriately enough, is Silver Bells.

With the parade being at night and in mid-December, the potential always exists for a cold and/or wet night. Pierce hails from Southern Califor-



Bud Pierce

nia and earned both his medical degree and completed his residency in fellowship training at the University of California Los Angeles. So is the potential weather an issue?

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## Keizer native dies on Mt. Jefferson

By CRAIG MURPHY  
Of the Keizertimes

A Keizer native died after a fall while climbing Mount Jefferson last weekend.

Tommy Fountain, 32, and wife Alison, 29, were climbing Mt. Jefferson on Sunday, Nov. 29, when authorities say Tommy fell into a crevasse.

Multiple agencies joined in an effort to find the couple, with preliminary information indicating Tommy had been injured. Alison was able to communicate with rescuers via text messages. Authorities indicated early Monday morning Tommy had fallen into a crevasse.

Searchers knew where the Fountains were Sunday night, but the difficult terrain slowed rescue efforts.

One team of searchers was delivered about 2,000 feet below the couple early on Monday morning, but it took them several hours to reach the Fountains. Another team of searchers was flown into the area later that morning.

Shortly after 9 a.m. Monday rescuers reached the Fountains, but found Tommy deceased as a result of his fall. Alison was reported to be in good condition, with crews working to get both of them down the mountain. Alison was reunited with family shortly after. Crews returned Tuesday afternoon to retrieve Tommy's body.

According to their Facebook pages, Tommy was a buyer for Illinois-based Topco Associates LLC, a retail

food purchasing organization.

Tommy's page lists him as being from Keizer, but Sgt. Chris Baldrige with the Marion County Sheriff's Office confirmed the Fountains live in McMinnville. Alison's page lists her as being a nurse at Reach Air Medical Services in Corvallis and at



Photo courtesy Facebook Keizer native Thomas "Tommy" Fountain, 32, died after a fall on Mount Jefferson on Sunday, Nov. 29. His body was found by searchers the following day and brought down on Dec. 1.

Willamette Valley Medical Center and Cancer Center in McMinnville.

Multiple pictures showed both Tommy and Alison to be avid climbers. Tommy, a 2002 McNary High School graduate, leaves behind a young daughter. The couple married in 2013.

Keizer City Councilor

Roland Herrera remembers coaching Tommy in Keizer Little League for two years at the Majors level.

"He was my lead-off guy for the Yankees," Herrera said. "He was an incredible catcher and a great kid. It's very tragic. I feel so bad for his family. His parents were as good as you could hope to find in Little League. It's such a sad thing."

Though he hadn't seen Tommy in about a year, Herrera noted they chatted on Facebook.

"I can't believe it," Herrera said. "He was such a vibrant young man. He was such a great kid. It's such a big loss. He was a leader. He had so much potential. It was truly a pleasure coaching him. He was one of those kids you don't forget."

"He was just a wonderful kid to be around, very positive," Herrera added. "He was always making people laugh. He was a fun guy. It was hard news to hear. I can't imagine what his family is going through. I coached his brother, too. They were both good kids. Tommy will be missed. I'm so sad for the family."

Assisting the MCSO with the rescue efforts were personnel from the Linn County Sheriff's Office, Corvallis Mountain Rescue, Eugene Mountain Rescue, Marion County Jeep Patrol, Marion County SAR COM team and the Oregon Coast National Guard.

## Panthers pounce on AVID learning

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

For the past six years, teachers and administrators at Claggett Creek Middle School have put a focus on AVID teaching methods, after Christmas break it will start looking the part as well.

"We're going to visually reinforce priorities for our students. If a college-going culture is important, we have to reinforce that everywhere students are in the building," said Rob Schoepper, CCMS principal.

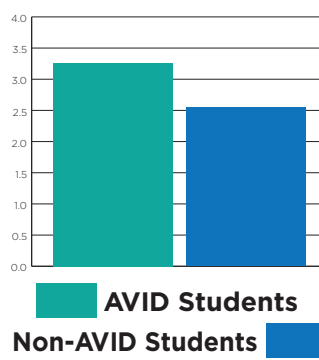
AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a teaching methodology that emphasizes college- and career-readiness through writing-to-learn strategies that allow students to spend time reflecting on lessons as much as absorbing information itself. AVID students spend more time working in small groups and support each other through the challenges they encounter in school alongside trained tutors on loan from local colleges.

Schoepper and Kelley Greer, CCMS's AVID coordinator, have been working together the past few weeks on ways to incorporate AVID goals into the atmosphere at the school itself. New looks in the hallways, as well as new names for them, flags representing local and regional colleges and other changes are in the works for unveiling when students return

to classes in January. "Our kids struggle picturing themselves three or eight years from now, this is a way to help them visualize where they'll be," Schoepper said.

Greer said the ideas were

### 2013-14 GPA at Claggett Creek



sparked by a visit to Gresham's Parkrose High School, an AVID demonstration school, earlier this year.

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— Rob Schoepper, CCMS Principal

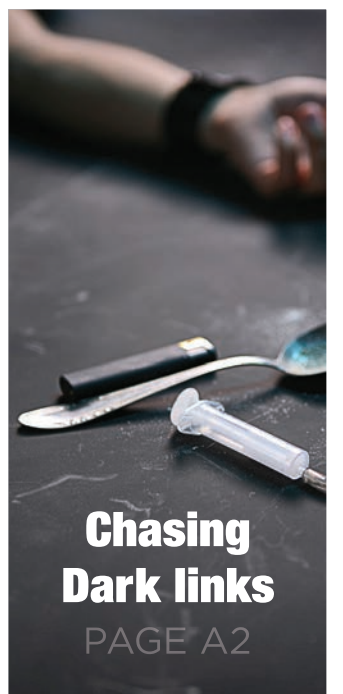
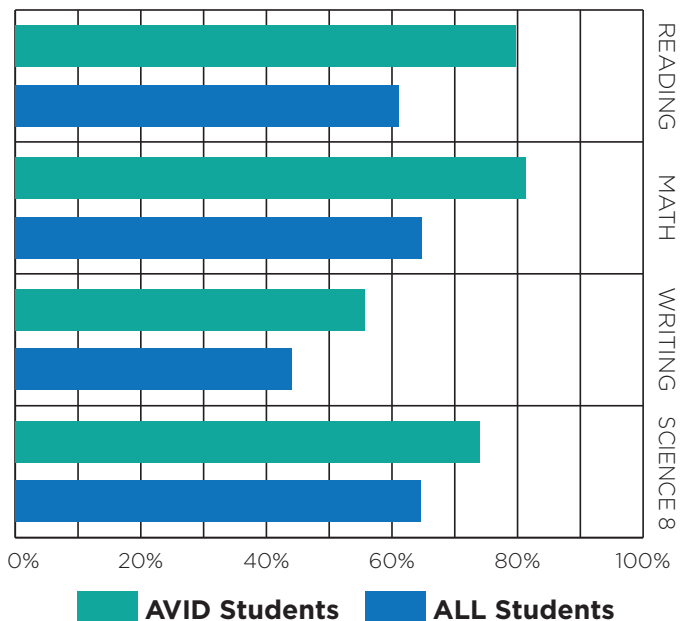
The cosmetic changes coincide with a culture shift at the school, a big push to incorporate AVID strategies schoolwide.



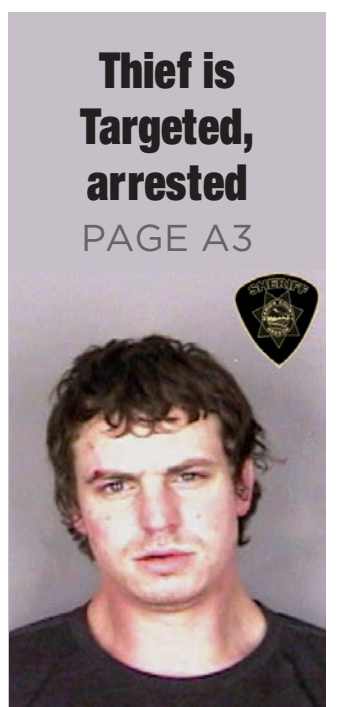
KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald  
A Claggett Creek Middle School AVID student looks over his notes during class Tuesday, Dec. 1.

All graphs by KEIZERTIMES/Andrew Jackson

### 2013-14 OAKS Testing Results for Claggett Creek Middle School



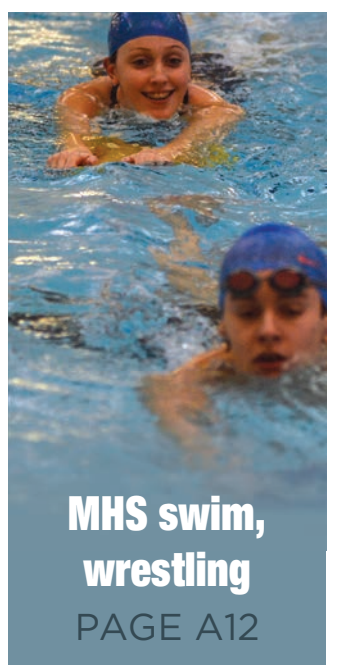
Chasing Dark links  
PAGE A2



Thief is Targeted, arrested  
PAGE A3



Christmas tree lighting  
PAGE A8



MHS swim, wrestling  
PAGE A12



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