

Much

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unfortunately gunmen going into schools with high-powered rifles can just blow door locks right off," he said.

George consulted with critical groups, such as the Oregon State Fire Marshall's Office and the American Disability Act representatives, to ensure that S.O.S. works within the codes. He said he's received thumps up from public safety personnel -- police, sheriffs, fire fighters -- with whom he has demonstrated and discussed the product.

Now he's trying to share his invention with school districts, but he said that part of the journey has been the most difficult, and he suspects it is due in part to school budgets.

He stresses that S.O.S. is designed not just to be effective, but cost effective as well; equipping a classroom door would cost about \$95.

"To do service to our kids and to our state, this is something I think should be looked at," George said.

He invites anyone who would like to take a look to visit his RMD website: www.researchmachinedevelopment.com. He's also happy to discuss his project and can be reached at 503-874-4188 or via email at rmd988@netzero.com.

Silverton's Toastmasters

Speaking of...fill in the blanks. The Silverton chapter of Toastmasters International meets from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each Friday at 7th Day Adventist Church, 1159 Oak St., Silverton. It's not affiliated with the church, but the accommodations at that site fit the group well.

A couple members of the local Toastmasters, **Barb Rivoli** and **Cayla Catino**, stopped in to share some insights into the group. First and foremost -- everyone is welcome. So if you've ever thought about brushing up on speaking and listening skills or would just like to have a positive mingling experience, this might be something to explore.

"I joined Toastmasters not just to promote my business (Great NW Finds), I just wanted to become a better speaker with anyone I'm talking with," Barb said.

She shared a thought from the local chapter's leader **Mike Peterson**, who said Toastmasters activity not only helped him become a better speaker, but listener -- hence, it helped his marriage as much as it helped his business.

Cayla agreed. "It's not just public speaking, its building confidence and developing listening and leadership skills," she said.

Barb said membership comes out to about \$10 per month, but anyone can stop in on Friday and check it out with no obligations. She encourages anyone who would like to learn more to visit the local chapter's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/silvertontostmasters. Interested folks can also email **Ann Snelling** at annsnelling@onlinenw.com, to learn more about the local chapter.

Sharing skills

Toastmasters probably helps Cayla in a variety of capacities given that she wears a variety of hats.

During the chat she also informed us about some updates from Mt. Angel headquartered North Willamette Valley Habitat for Humanity, where she is the



Friends Barb Rivoli, right, and Cayla Catino visited Creekside Chat on Wednesday, Jan. 18, to discuss several topics of local interest, including Silverton's chapter of Toastmasters International, North Willamette Valley Habitat for Humanity and GeerCrest Farm.

PHOTOS BY JUSTIN MUCH/APPEAL TRIBUNE



George Yonekura of Stayton is the proprietor of Research Machine Development, Inc., in Silverton. George's growing concerns after hearing more and more reports of school shootings nationwide inspired him to invent "Save Our Students," a supplemental safety device designed to secure students within the classroom during an emergency lock down.

volunteer coordinator, and with the historic GeerCrest Farm located south of Silverton in famed rural Homer Davenport territory.

Earlier in the month we heard from NWV Habitat's Development Director **Michele Finicle** regarding a building project scheduled in Silverton. Cayla

Next chat

What: Creekside Chat

Where: Silver Creek Coffee House, 111 Water St., Silverton

When: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1 (First and third Wednesdays)

Questions and information: Contact Justin Much, jmuch@StatesmanJournal.com; 503-769-6338, cell 503-508-8157

brought us an update on the non-profit's "Sign a Stud" fundraiser going on in February.

It affords the opportunity to give a donation and write a blessing on a construction stud. As the name suggests, supporting pillars are signed or have messages of encouragement and support etched into the project as a forever part of the new home.

Similar Sign a Stud events have hosted volunteers, friends and family of those participating, local officials and various habitat advocates.

"Think of it as a giant community hug," she described it. "We are looking for businesses to partner with."

To learn more, contact Michele at mfinicle@nwvhfh.org or 503-845-2177 or navigate online to www.nwvhfh.org/sign-a-stud.

Switching to another hat, Cayla helps direct a variety of activities at GeerCrest, which offers summer camps with a "Farm-Life Experience Week" theme and will be adding day camps this year,

12390 Sunnyview Road.

Stay tuned for some more developments in the making at GeerCrest. To learn more about the camps or to register, visit www.geercrest.org, call 503-873-3406 or email info@geercrest.org.

New developments

Speaking of new developments, Silver Creek Coffee House proprietors **Joshua and Alisha Nightingale** have put the finishing touches on the upstairs loft, which is furnished to accommodate groups or individual work stations.

Another one of their upcoming developments, "Live Local Marketplace," is scheduled to open next door on Friday, Feb. 3.

"Very unique to Silverton," Josh described it to an inquiring coffee house customer on Wednesday. It's designed to give folks in the general Silverton, Mt. Angel and Scotts Mills area a brick-and-mortar locale to vend their wares with a "Made in Silverton" theme -- a micro "Made in Oregon" scenario. They envision products ranging from wine to fresh produce or including anything from chocolate to soap.

Local producers of all walks -- be it handmade furniture, gifts, art, crafts, cheeses, nuts, honey products -- are encouraged to contact Joshua: email livelocalsilverton@gmail.com or stop by the coffee shop at 111 Water St.

Contact: *Justin Much, jmuch@StatesmanJournal.com; 503-769-6338, cell 503-508-8157 or follow at twitter.com/justinmuch*

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Silverton Appeal January 25, & February 1, 2017

Playhouse

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ing archrival and a hunky ex-boyfriend add drama to the play's laugh-out-loud humor.

Strong said she's hoping new and seasoned actors will try out for the play. This is her first time directing for Brush Creek, although she assisted with "It's a Wonderful Life" and starred in "Love in the Cucumber Patch" last year.

At auditions, she's not expecting actors to speak with southern accents, but she is planning do dialogue work in rehearsals to "capture that southern feel."

"I hope to have a mix of actors in this play," she said. "I love introducing new people to theater, and it's wonderful for experienced actors to be mentors."

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KIMBERLY STRONG
BRUSH CREEK PLAYHOUSE DIRECTOR

Next on the calendar is the opening of the children's play "The Further MISadventures of the Seven Dwarfs," penned for Brush Creek by its treasurer and longtime director Michael Wood. A total of 36 children from Salem, Silverton, Aumsville and Mt. Angel will present the show, which opens at 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 17. The nine performances are basically divided between two full casts.

Her 21st year directing Brush Creek's children's program, "Linda handles it all with a deft touch," Wood said. "That is one of the reasons the kids come back year after year."

The tale begins right after Snow White marries her handsome prince, and it follows the adventures of the Seven Dwarfs as they get separated and run across other Brothers Grimm fairy tale characters, such as Little Red Riding Hood, the Three Little Pigs, and Hansel and Gretel.

The dwarves sort-of

function as knights errant, wandering the forest and performing good deeds," Wood said. "The stories weave and interweave through each other ... it's fun for the audience, and fun for the kids."

Audiences shouldn't look for Grumpy or Doc or Sleepy. Disney has the rights to those names, and they aren't the ones the Brothers Grimm used in their 1812 story

anyway. In this play, they are Ludwig, Otto, William and Frederick, etc. The most naive dwarf -- Henry -- will delight children and their parents with the success he finds due to being good-hearted. The show is 1 hour and 40 minutes long.

Leading up to opening night, Zellner is rehearsing five nights a week, so that each cast members can attend at least twice per week. She is assisted by Emily Wood, 19, formerly one of her child actors and the new president of Brush Creek.

Tickets for "MISadventures" are on sale now at Books-N-Time in downtown Silverton and Run-away Art & Craft Studio in Salem. They can also be purchased at the door.

For the first time, Brush Creek is selling reserved-seating rather than general admission tickets: "We're tackling reserved seating for the first time," Wood said. The cost is the same: \$10 for adults and \$8 for children, seniors and students. The playhouse is located at 11535 Silverton Road NE.

Appeal Tribune

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