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Silverton High School choir. JENNIPHER KOCH

Choir

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was the parents, the teachers, even members of other choirs," said senior soprano Emily Mageske. "At state, we got to hear amazing music by many other amazing choirs, and we are all supportive of each other."

The path to state started last September, when Haole-Valenzuela, dubbed "Mr. H," welcomed 50-plus students into concert choir. It was a young choir, deep in lowerclassmen but ready to work. In auditions, he'd selected members for their work ethic and character as much as their talent.

"We had a long road ahead," he said. "We all had a lot of questions about where it was going to go."

So they got to work. Section leaders created bonds with underclassmen, each building a culture unique to the part they sing. For example, tenors call themselves "the sisters," with "Pops," sophomore Murphy Bell, as their leader. Baritones are "comrades" whose motto, "Some are more equal than others," is witty and sarcastic.

"Mr. H makes everything so fun and so comfortable," said Sydney Bersin, a senior alto.

With all the talk of fun, it's hard to believe that Haole-Valenzuela's personal challenge for 2018-19 came from a movie quote all about work.

In the film, "The Martian," actor Matt Damon, portraying an astronaut stranded on Mars, said, "At some point, everything's going to go south, and you're going to say, this is it. This is how I end. Now you can either accept that, or you can get to work. That's all it is. You just begin."

The work began with rigorous in-class exercises, an expectation to learn harmony parts at home, and, finally, extra weekend rehearsals. To beef up choir members' sight-reading skills, their director regularly passed around sheet music, played the first note, and then made them figure out the rest of the song without accompaniment.

A longtime vocal performer himself – first at Sprague High School and then at Oregon State University – Haole-Va-

lenzuela said he's toned down his personal perfectionistic tendencies to focus on teaching teamwork and perseverance. In class, he attempts to teach his students what he wishes he'd known in high school – failure is a learning tool.

"We've really tried to grow into the choir's culture the idea that it's OK to make mistakes," he said.

Now at year's end, he has an award-winning choir whose members work hard and seem to genuinely care about each other and their director. Rather than being scared of him, they're "scared to disappoint him," Bell said.

"He's like a dad to us, and you don't want to see his disappointed dad face," Mageske said.

"But he doesn't hold grudges at all," said Lisa Kurns, a senior alto. "He cares about everyone, about their mental well-being."

Additional student leaders choir this year are seniors Anthony Flushman, a tenor, Sylvan Domst, a bass, and Anelise Williamson, a soprano. Boring and Williamson are choir president and vice president, respectively, titles that come with the job of conducting the choir in their director's absence.

All of them are planning to go to college. Only Boring plans to major in music, although the others said they will audition for music groups on campus. Their colleges range from Willamette University, Reed College and the University of Portland to the University of Montana and Western Oregon University, while courses of study include biology and pre-med, history, political science, education, math, and chemistry.

For community members who want to hear the choir's award-winning songs, the spring semester's free concert is at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21. It will be held in the auditorium at the high school.

Their songs are "O Quam Gloriosum," by Tomas Luis Victoria, "Spätherbst," by Johannes Brahms and "There Will Come Soft Rains" by Connor Koppin. These are followed by a "nonsense choral dubstep" piece "Miniyama Nayo," by Paul Rudoj and "Run On," a Johnny Cash classic arranged for choir by Gary Ruschman.

'Days Gone'

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Crater Lake recreated 'pretty faithfully'

His favorite Oregon locale that makes an appearance is Crater Lake, which (spoiler alert) plays an important role in the game's third act. He grew up in Southern Oregon and has visited the iconic lake several times. "I have an affinity for that and the history of it," he said.

The lake was formed after Mount Mazama exploded some 7,700 years ago, with snowmelt and rain filling the resulting caldera over 700 to 1,500 years, according to the Crater Lake National Park Trust.

Founded in 1902, Crater Lake National Park is now home to the country's deepest lake at 1,943 feet, according to the National Parks Service.

Garvin acknowledged developers took liberties with their source material, but said they recreated Crater Lake "pretty faithfully."

Developers also found inspiration in smaller communities like Chemult on Highway 97 south of Bend. They drove through those places looking for items they could fictionally recreate in-game, whether it was "big, cheesy truck stops" or motels, he said.

Marion Forks — which in reality is located along Highway 22 west of Mount Jefferson — also gets an in-game shout-out when you as a player rescue someone from a house there following a big shootout.

"Those were super important to try to include in the game, because we definitely felt, you know, we're not the kind of game that's going to have big

cities," Garvin said. "We wanted to have, you know, the equivalent of that in 'Days Gone.'"

Crafting the game's environment is a complex process that requires teamwork and reference photos and video.

Artists work on terrain such as hills, ravines and valleys; foliage such as trees and bushes; and textures for the roads, ground and plants, Garvin explained. Assets are crafted using photo-editing software Photoshop, computer animation software Maya and other tools, he said, adding that assets aren't "scanned."

Game-editing software "allows us to combine all these assets into the game world where they are placed," he said. "Sometimes we have concept art for how an area should look; often we have reference photos."

Here are other Oregon locations, real and fictional, that get homages in the video game, according to a list provided by a Sony spokeswoman:

- Marion Forks, Chemult, Crescent, Gilchrist, Rogue Camp, Camp Sherman
- Iron Butte Ranch, which is based on Black Butte Ranch
- Mount Bachelor, Mount Jefferson, Mount Washington, Mount Thielsen, Mount Scott, Diamond Peak
- Lost Lake, Diamond Lake and Crater Lake
- Wizard Island, Mazama Village, along with other sights around Crater Lake
- Santiam River
- Klamath Marsh National Wildlife Refuge

Jonathan Bach has been a business and City Hall reporter with the Statesman Journal since 2016. Contact him by email at jbach@statesmanjournal.com, call (503) 399-6714 or follow him on Twitter @jonathanmbach.

Obituaries

Leon Fausitin Johnston

CORVALLIS - Leon Fausitin Johnston, 98, passed away in Corvallis on Friday, May 3, 2019. There will be no services held at this time. Fisher Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

City hall

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County Tax Assessor's office.

The Mt. Angel City Council authorized Mathiesen to make an offer on

the property on Palmer Street for \$47,760; that's the amount of money owed to Marion County for back taxes, interest and fees on the property.

The assessor's office real market value of the land is \$132,430, though it was as high as \$326,240 as recently as 2012.

She made the formal offer by letter to the Marion County Commissioners in late April.

"Assuming they decide to move that forward, that would be heard by the board on May 22," Mathiesen said.

The property was likely to be put up for public auction, but Marion County gave Mt. Angel the opportunity to purchase the building before it did.

The two adjacent properties are connected since one building slightly overlaps the two pieces of property.

For the two lots to be separated at an auction, the building on the property would have to be torn down.

If the city's offer is approved by the commissioners, that would likely happen anyway as the building on the property is too small to house the city hall and police department.

"We would tear it down," Mathiesen said.



Current Mt. Angel City Hall. CHRISTENA BROOKS / SPECIAL TO THE APPEAL TRIBUNE

Since the 2016 assessment, alternatives have been presented, including purchasing a piece of property across Church Street from its current location and building a new city hall for over \$9 million.

The city attempted to buy the former Wells Fargo Bank building earlier this year with the idea the building could become its new police station, but that ended in February the city and building owner Mike Mungra couldn't agree on a purchase price.

Mathiesen declined to reveal the price offered for the former Wells Fargo property, but Marion County Tax Assessor's property records show it was last sold for

\$300,000 in 2017.

Had the city purchased the Wells Fargo property, it would not have solved all of its needs as it would still need a new home for city hall.

"It had some challenges that council recognized," Mathiesen said. "We really need to solve both problems."

When the city was considering the property across Church Street from its current city hall, it commissioned renderings and tentative plans for a new structure, but Mathiesen said the concepts could still be used on the Palmer Street property.

The conceptual drawings were for a two-story building with 12,000

square feet, with the idea it would be large enough to serve the community's needs for the next 30 to 50 years.

As the Palmer Street property is in Mt. Angel's core it would be subject to the city's Bavarian design code.

"The Bavarian theme district overlays the majority of the downtown core. If we look at any building in our downtown property, that applies," Mathiesen said.

To fund building the new city hall and police building, the city will look for grants, community partnerships and contributions from private businesses, but it likely will have to put a bond measure to voters.

"If everything is going according to schedule, we would likely look to place something on the ballot in May of 2021," Mathiesen said.

The city could sell its current city hall after constructing a new one, but tentative plans have called for turning the property into a park that could be used for multiple purposes.

"With Oktoberfest every year, we are always looking for every inch of space we can provide," Mathiesen said.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Permit Amendment T-12902
 T-12902 filed by Shawn and Kimberly Schurter, 10520 Sunnyview Rd NE, Salem, OR 97317, proposes a change in point of appropriation under Permit G-17694. The permit allows the use of 0.54 cubic foot per second from a well in Sec. 20, T7S, R1W, WM for irrigation in Sects. 19, 20, and 30, T7S, R1W, WM. The applicant proposes to move the point of appropriation to Sec. 19, T7S, R1W, WM. The Water Resources Department has concluded that the proposed permit amendment appears to be consistent with the requirements of ORS 537.211. The last date of newspaper publication is 05/22/2019. Silverton Appeal June 15, 22, 2019

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