CLASS,

continued from Page A1

"She's been with me all four years," Johnson said. "She's really helped me build my confidence because she's a pretty tough person herself. She's someone I really look up to because of that."

Johnson, who began playing the trombone in the fifth grade, will double major in music and chemistry at the University of Utah, where she was awarded three scholarships from the school of music as well as a fine arts academic scholarship that will pay her full tuition.

"I just really enjoy music and just everything about how it makes you feel," Johnson said. "I really want to be a cardiothoracic surgeon when I'm older. I shadowed a skin cancer surgeon a couple summers ago and I was really fascinated by it. I want to do that but I also want to incorporate music into my life."

Holt, who plays violin in the orchestra and sings in the choir and men's a cappella group, also credits music for his academic success.

"I think music really helps the learning process, for sure," he said.

Of the seven Valedictorians, five play an instrument: Johnson (trombone), Holt (violin), Posterick (cello), Gray (cello) and Miller (clarinet).

Holt has also been a three-sport (football, baseball, swimming) athlete all four years at McNary.

"You just have to prioritize," he said. "I don't have a lot of down time to chill. I think it's crazy to think that people can go home after school because I always have a practice after school. It's a lot of work but it's definitely worth it. It's a lot of fun."

Holt, a leader at the LDS church in Salem, will leave for a two-year mission in August. He then plans to attend BYU and major in neuroscience.

Hoag has acted in six plays with the MHS theater department as well as written two one act plays.

She's attending the Oregon State honor's college, where she'll double major in English and chemistry.

Hoag has received the Theater Distinguished Artist of the Year and Distinguished Young Women scholarships, as well as an academic achievement award from OSU.

"I'm going to miss the theater a lot," she said. "I'm going to miss my friends. It's still hitting me that I'm going somewhere and they're not coming with me and that's scary."

Gray has also been heavily involved in the theater department but behind the scenes designing sets. She has played the cello since the fourth grade and was in the orchestra at MHS for three years.

"I'm definitely going to miss McNary," Gray said. "There's a couple teachers that have meant a lot throughout. With theater, it's basically a family in there so there's going to be a lot of people that I'm going to have to leave behind that were really special."

Gray plans to attend Chemeketa for one year and then transfer to either OSU or UCLA.

Mueller has spent many hours at McNary in the machine shop and plans to follow his father and become an electrician. He'll get training at IBEW 48, a trade school in Portland.

"Dad inspired me and said it's probably one of the best trades to go into," Mueller said. "I was thinking carpenter but it's heavy work and not as much pay. I have my own little wood shop at home so I've fulfilled that endeavor."

Miller was on the MHS girls soccer team for all four years, the symphonic band for one year, wind ensemble for three years and marching band for two years. She also played in the all-city and all-state bands.

"I put so much work in," Miller said. "It just makes me feel like my work paid off. It wasn't all for nothing. I'm definitely going to miss all my friends I made in soccer and band and all my hard classes that I have."

Posterick, who plays in the chamber ensemble, said she will also miss the music program and going to see plays at the high school.

Along with playing the cello, Posterick was in the science club and played in the Powder Puff football games.

She'll be attending Chemeketa Community College and wants to be a medical technologist.

Like all of the valedictorians, Posterick isn't taking the honor for granted.

"Normally everything comes easy but this I had to work for," she said.

MHS graduation June 10

By DEREK WILEY
Of the Keizertimes

KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

McNary alum Kacey McCallister will deliver the keynote address at the 2016 commencement ceremony Friday, June 10.

"Failure is not an option. It's a requirement."

That's the message McNary alum Kacey McCallister will deliver to the 2016 graduating class as the keynote speaker in a ceremony Friday at 5 p.m. at the Oregon State Fairgrounds Pavilion.

"Throughout our lives the way we learn is by trying and as we try we are going to fail," McCallister told the *Keizertimes*. "As we fail, we learn. Without failure, we don't learn. Failure is actually a part of life. That's how we grow. That's how we become great."

McCallister, a double amputee who lost both of his legs after being struck by a truck when he was 6, is no stranger to failure.

His first year wresting at Whiteaker, he only won a single match. In cross country, McCallister often finished at the bottom of the pack in the beginning.

"Some people look at that as absolutely a failure," McCallister said. "Some people would quit at that point. Some people would give up on being good and that's where I'm different. Instead of looking at it as a failure, I look at it as somewhere I can improve. This is an area I can be great in."

By the time McCallister graduated from MHS, he had won two district titles in wrestling and placed fourth and second in the state as a junior and senior, respectively. In cross country, McCallister won a district title.

In 2011, he was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and received the Medal of Courage, which is presented annually to a wrestler who has overcome insurmountable challenges that make their achievements even more uplifting.

McCallister, a Western Oregon University graduate who now lives in Monmouth, looks forward to returning to McNary, where he was also in theater, choir and the mascot for the football team.

"I'm definitely excited to go back and speak to my alma matter, where I graduated from," he said. "It's a big deal. I was constantly having a lot of school pride and extolling the awesomeness of my school. It's such a big honor to be able to go back."

McCallister, who is launching a career as a motivational speaker, spoke at his own commencement in 2004 and at a school in Wyoming just two weeks ago.

McCallister will be introduced by Class President Alicia Capuchine.

Malcolm Salazar and Serena Dufour, were selected to be the senior speakers by a committee of volunteer staff members.

The MHS band will play *Pomp and Circumstance, The Star Spangled Banner* and *Sine Nomine.*

Principal Erik Jespersen will present the Class of 2016 and deliver closing remarks.

Kids: Register for free KPD camp

The Keizer Police Department is hosting its third annual Blast Camp July 12 through July 15 for boys and girls entering grades three through six.

The camp is designed to bring local law enforcement and youth closer together.

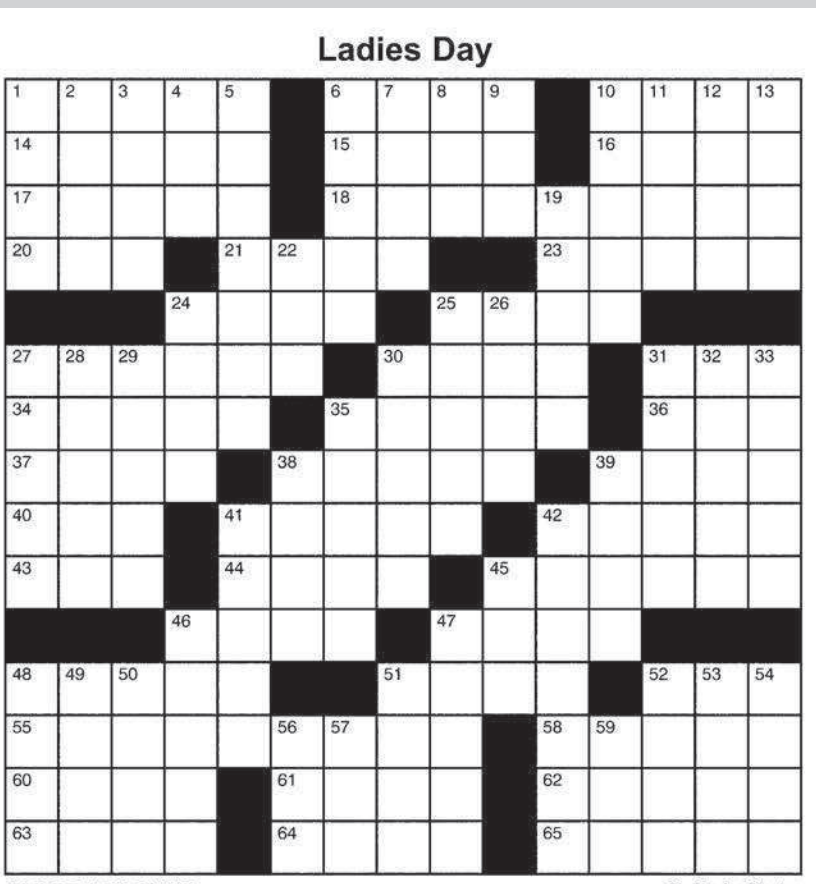
Children attending the camp will receive safety information, observe public safety demonstrations and much more. Kids will also be able to participate in several different relays and sporting activities. In addition to Keizer Police Department, participating agencies include Keizer Fire District, Salem Police SWAT and bomb teams, Marion County Search and Rescue, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and Marion County Marine Patrol.

The last two years, the Keizer Police Department received an overwhelming response from the local community, with approximately 200 children registering to participate. Registration for the camp is free and is available at www.keizer.org/Police/ on a first-come, first-served basis.

To allow more children to participate, the Keizer Police Department is seeking donations to help offset the costs. To donate, or if you have questions, contact Lt. Andrew Copeland at 503-856-3463 or copelanda@keizer.org.

crossword

Ladies Day



CREATORS NEWS SERVICE — By Charles Preston

ACROSS

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6 Grate harshly
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14 Texas shrine
15 Russian man's name
16 Circle of light
17 Scatter
18 Young Spanish ladies
20 Garden implement
21 Maple genus
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60 Terrible tsar
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62 Type of orange
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8 ___ *et lumière*
9 Paid athlete
10 Article of apparel
11 Roman statesman
12 Word of sorrow
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19 Enlarges a hole
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38 Fly a glider
39 Cork County port
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42 Woman wardens
45 Pekoe or Darjeeling
46 Discovered
47 Cubic meter
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51 Party not for women
52 Queen bee's palace
53 Cain's victim
54 Money drawer
56 Summer thirst quencher
57 Edward's nickname
59 College cheer

KEIZER CLASSIFIEDS

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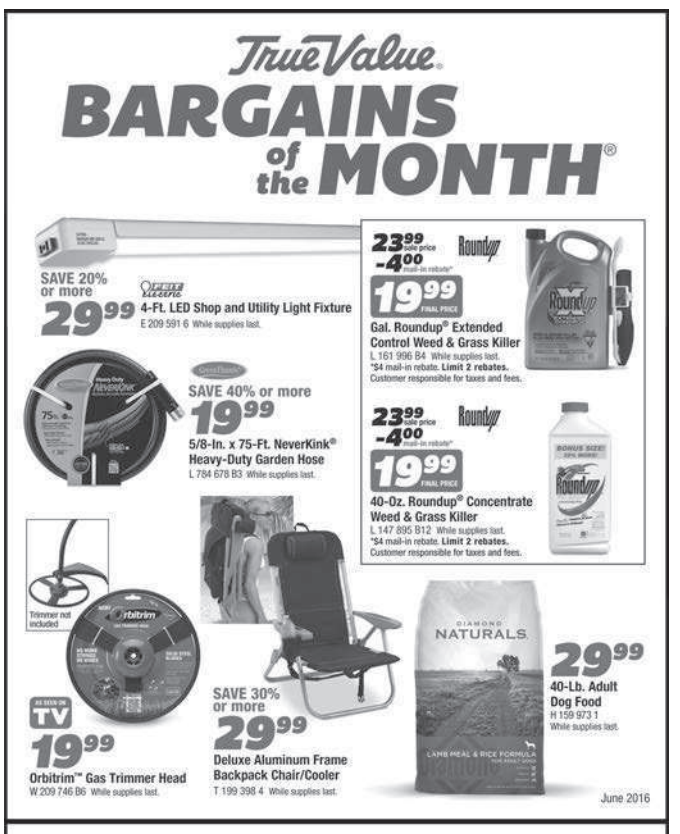

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