

# Keizertimes

SECTION A

JULY 8, 2016

\$1.00

## Young man dies after River Road collision

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

A 20-year-old Keizer man died of injuries sustained in a vehicle-on-pedestrian collision in the early morning hours of Friday, July 1.

Walter Westgarth, 65, of Keizer was driving a 2005 Volkswagen Passat four-door wagon northbound on River Road North in the curb lane through the intersection of Chemawa Road Northeast with a green traffic signal when Anthony Jon Ernest stepped off the sidewalk into the roadway where he was struck by the Passat.

It is not known whether Ernest saw the vehicle or if he was distracted.

Westgarth stopped his vehicle immediately on River Road and cooperated with the investigation.

Ernest sustained life-threatening injuries and was transported to Salem Health where he later died.

The driver showed no signs of impairment and no citations or criminal charges have been filed.

Ernest's mother, Jill Pallin, posted on Facebook Saturday, July 2, informing friends and



UPPER LEFT: Anthony Jon Ernest. ABOVE: A small roadside memorial was placed on the corner of River Road North and Chemawa Road Northeast in the days following the collision that killed Ernest.

relatives that brain trauma suffered in the incident was "irreversible."

On Monday, Ernest underwent organ donation surgery. His heart, liver and both kidneys were already slated for delivery to other patients at the time. Pallin

encouraged friends to celebrate her son's journey into new lives as they set off fireworks on July 4.

A Facebook memorial page, included outpourings from friends and family.

"I'm so glad we became close friends. I still can't believe

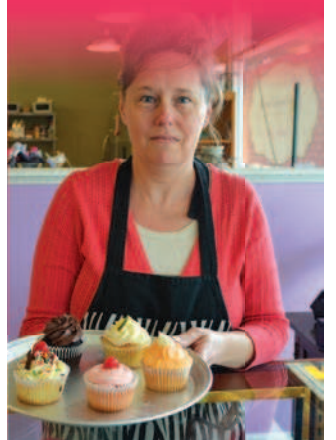
you're gone. I will never meet anyone else like you and I'm so grateful for the times we spent together," wrote Shania Sierra.

"Throughout the day I keep catching myself thinking about you and I just keep saying, 'I cannot believe

Anthony's gone' and 'this isn't real,' I don't think this will ever actually hit me that you're gone, Anthony. I don't want to believe it and I don't want to accept it. I love you," wrote Andrea Rodriguez.

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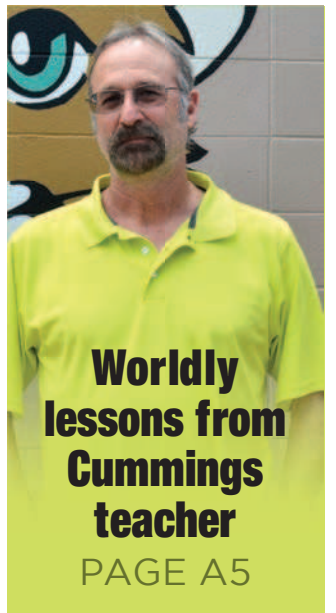
Cupcakes at Keizer Florist  
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Keizer Rapids lands major grant  
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Worldly lessons from Cummings teacher  
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Top draft pick joins Volcanoes  
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Submitted by Keizer Fire District  
Fire crews responded to a garage fire on Faymar Drive Northeast Monday, July 4.

## Two-alarm blaze in central Keizer

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

Emergency services were kept busy over the Fourth of July weekend culminating in a two-alarm fire Monday, July 4.

Crews from the Keizer Fire District were summoned to 804 Faymar Drive N.E. The owner of the home awoke to crackling and smoke and opened the door to his garage to find it fully engulfed in flame.

While the source of the

blaze is still under investigation, Division Chief Brian Butler said the cause may have been fireworks.

"He got his wife and stepdaughter out of the home but, for right now, they can't live there," Butler said.

While the blaze was contained to the garage after about 20 minutes, the rest of the home suffered severe smoke damage.

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## No, Kevin Costner isn't moving to Keizer

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

If you run in certain online circles, you might have heard that the star of *Dances with Wolves*, *Waterworld* and *Field of Dreams* is moving to Keizer.

While it isn't out of the realm of possibility, the Keizertimes was unable to contact Costner's representatives for confirmation and the source of the rumor is a website, km8news.com.

The site has a disclaimer stating, "KM8 News is a fantasy news website. Most articles on km8news.com are satire or pure fantasy." The contact is fantasynewswebsite@gmail.com.

Such sites are known as "clickbait" and are aimed at generating advertising revenue with sensational headlines and photographs to attract readers, typically at the expense of quality or accuracy.

KM8 News also includes



WIKIPEDIA/Gordon Correll  
Costner, who isn't moving to Keizer, at the 2014 Toronto International Film Festival

reports of Eminem moving to Jackson, Miss., and a previous report of Costner moving to Fredericton, New Brunswick in Canada.

We're certain that Mr. Costner travels widely with his film and music projects, but Keizer hasn't shown up on any of his tour dates, and isn't listed in any filming locations of his recent movies.

That said, we look forward to his unannounced project *Tangos with Cows*, which is reportedly a "spiritual sequel" to his hit 1990 film, and we would like to remind him that there is at least one small herd in Keizer city limits for the time being.



## To arms, to arms, ye soldiers

By DEREK WILEY  
Of the Keizertimes

Jack Bentley, a Navy veteran from Dallas, was visiting Fort Stevens State Park 26 years ago when he was asked if he wanted to fire an old Civil War cannon.

That's all it took to convince Bentley to join the Northwest Civil War Council.

"They were looking for recruits and I fell into the trap," he said. "I liked shooting that cannon. That got me going and that's why I've been doing it ever since. I love it."

Bentley was one of more than 300 reenactors who converged on Antique Powerland

KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley  
Jack Bentley holds a Henry rifle used during the Civil War at a reenactment in Salem.

in Salem for an annual Civil War reenactment, which included battles and demonstrations, July 2-4.

Tom and Catherine Harper, who live in Hillsboro, have been reenactors for nearly as long as Bentley. The Harper's are in their 24th year. Tom was in the battalion command up until a couple years ago. Now he plays the part of Cooper and Catherine has always been his wife.

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