

ARTIST,

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red wine because that's what they would have had in the trenches of WWI, but the paper literally has the blood, sweat and tears of soldiers who served," Boulay said.

There are roughly 150 pieces of combat paper in the display case, each of them is letterpress printed with a representation of the telegrams families in Oregon would have received when their loved ones died overseas. They read:

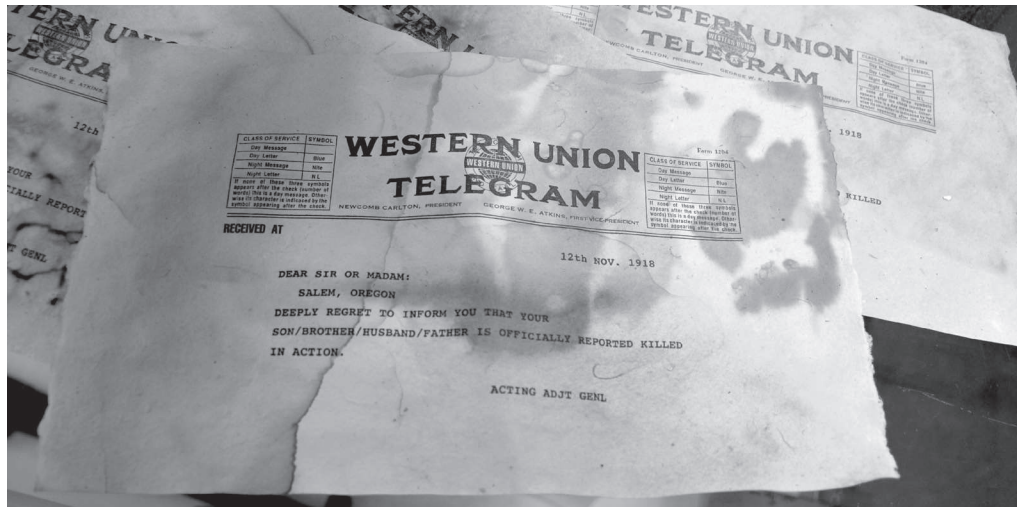
"Dear Sir or Madam:
Salem, Oregon

Deeply regret to inform you that your son/brother/husband/father is officially reported killed in action.

Acting Adjt Genl"

While the actual telegrams would have picked one of the four options Boulay chose for his project, he felt including all four in his representation added to the almost chilling tone of the impersonal messages.

"One of the poets I read, Wilford Owen, was killed about a week before Armistice Day, which marked the end of the war. His mother received the telegram informing her of



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

The death notice telegrams that are part of the exhibit are printed on combat paper, which is made from the uniforms of veterans who served in the Middle East and other conflicts.

his death while church bells were ringing in celebration," Boulay said. "Reading about that was where the inspiration for the telegrams came from."

The combat paper telegrams provide the base for a perennial rye grass growing under, over and around them. Even just a few weeks into the exhibit some of the paper is beginning to mold and rot and some grass is already dying as Boulay shuffles pieces from the bottom to the top. The live grass requires constant reseeding and water.

"The soldiers back then

dealt with a lot of mold and water rot in the trenches which I think is fitting for the exhibit," Boulay said. "Even the glass display case feels a bit like a coffin."

The constant witness is a field camera taking photos at frequent intervals and capturing the progress, and decay. Eventually, Boulay will stop tending the grass and allow nature to take its course. After the exhibit ends Nov. 15, he plans to let the telegrams and grass turn to compost which he hopes to use to fertilize flowers at a military cemetery.

"I want it to speak to the cycle of war repeating itself from before WWI right up to the present day. Like the poem, I want to capture the duality of time. On one hand, it heals all wounds, but it also allows us to forget," Boulay said. "I would like to scale it up somewhere and have a display for all 968 Oregon members of the armed forces who died in WWI, maybe all 117,000 Americans one day. But I want it to be interactive, a place where people can take part in the act of remembering or forgetting."

BUDGET,

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"They built into their forecast an expectation to get about a 7.5 percent return on investments every year. For the last several years, it's been nothing close to that. The last report I saw for this year had an expected return of about 4.8 percent," Wood said.

That leaves PERS employers, like the City of Keizer, to make up the difference.

While the increases are hefty, Wood said they are not catastrophic. Keizer will fare better than other, older and/

or larger cities with more employees on the rolls that are part of a pooled rate program.

"We are outside that pool which means the city's demographics are looked at in isolation and our payments are adjusted based on those findings," Wood said. "But things like this are the driving factor behind not adding more police officers."

In some cases, PERS employees receive PERS benefits on top of Social Security and deferred payment programs equivalent to 401Ks. Keizer employees do not participate in Social Security benefits, they have 457 deferred payment accounts that are viewed as the equivalent.

births

• **Ricardo Azael Centeno** was born September 25, 2016 at Silverton Hospital. The baby boy weighed 6 pounds. The parents are Ricardo Centeno and Cynthia Cabrera of Keizer. Sibling Agliyan, 4.

• **Colton Cyril Dryden** was born September 28, 2016 at Silverton Hospital. The baby boy weighed 7 pounds 7 ounces. The parents are Matt and Alishia Dryden of Keizer. Siblings Owen and Olivia. The grandparents are Steve and Mary Stanley of Salem.

• **Wyatt Sadler Johnson** was born September 28, 2016 at Silverton Hospital. The baby boy weighed 7 pounds. The parents are William and Carolyn Johnson of Keizer. The grandparents are Greg and Debbie Ego of Keizer, John and Claire Johnson of Spar-tanburg.

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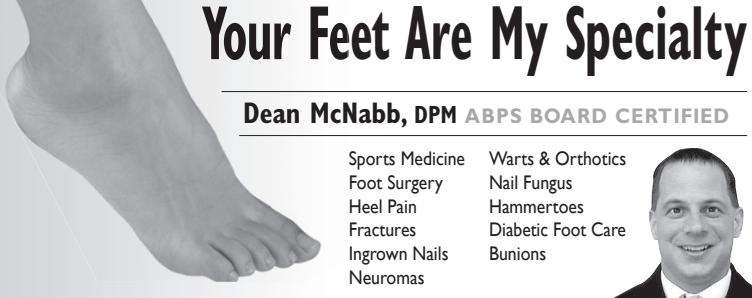
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