

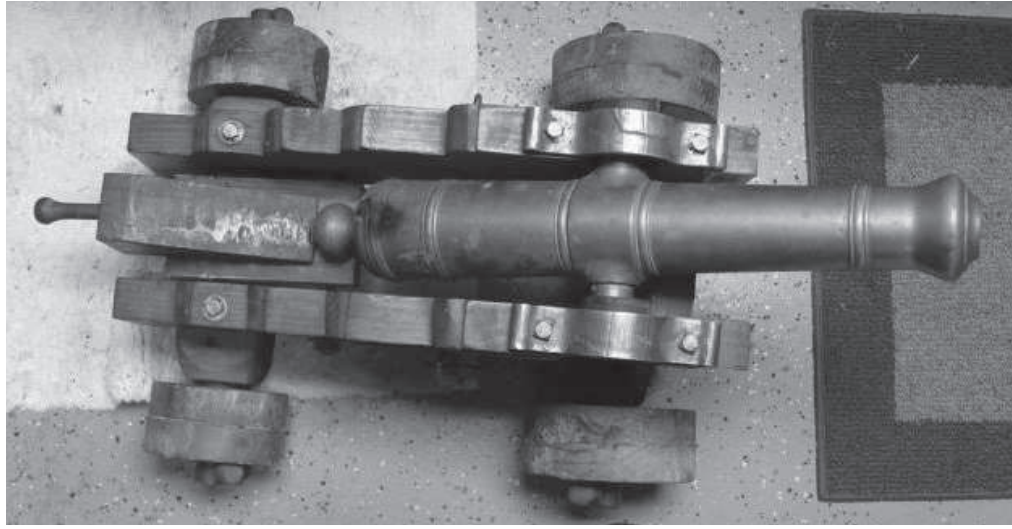
# Man celebrates Trump victory with cannon fire

One Keizer man was arrested and two more given citations stemming from a decision to celebrate Donald Trump's presidential victory by lighting off a cannon.

On Wednesday, November 9, at 8:47 p.m. officers from the Keizer Police Department responded along with members of the Keizer Fire District to the intersection of 7th Avenue Northeast and Kestrel Street Northeast on a report a loud explosion.

One concerned and alarmed citizen reported there was a large plume of smoke seen after the explosion. The cause was not immediately known and it was not known if anybody had been injured.

The responding police officers arrived within two minutes of receiving the call and observed the large plume of



A Keizer man was ticketed after lighting off this cannon at his home. He was ticketed for disorderly conduct.

smoke was still lingering in the air behind the residence located at 5130 7th Avenue N.E.

Officers made contact with a female subject who was located in the driveway of the residence and began a

conversation with her as they attempted to determine the cause of the explosion and if anybody had been injured. As

officers were speaking with the female subject in the driveway, her boyfriend confronted them. That man, later identified as 21-year-old Triston Poteet of Keizer, refused to follow the officer's orders and he grabbed one of the officers as he confronted them. Poteet was taken into custody at that time for harassment and interfering with a police officer.

The officers continued investigating the incident and identified another individual, 45-year old Michael Dingle, as being the individual who caused the explosion.

Dingle cooperated with the investigation and told the investigating officers he ignited a cannon in his backyard as he was celebrating Donald Trump's presidential election victory.

Dingle told the investi-

gating officers no projectiles were shot from the cannon and that he hid it in his garage just prior to police and fire units arriving on scene. He said the cannon had been made and given to him by his father several years ago and he feared officers would seize it if it were found.

Dingle gave the investigating officers consent to enter his garage to view and photograph the cannon he had hid. Officers cited and released Dingle at the scene for one count of disorderly conduct.

In addition to Dingle being cited and Poteet being taken into custody, officers also cited the female they initially encountered in the driveway of the residence. Velda Housley, 20, of Keizer, was cited for one count of interfering with a police officer.

## APPLE, continued from Page A1

days and was there and helped on his worst days. I am truly thankful for everything she has done. She gave me hope when I needed it the most."

When a new student was having a tough time adjusting to Gubser and having behavioral problems, Mills would spend most of her day helping him cope with the stress of the school. And when the boy's mom got him an appointment to see a local child psychiatrist, Mills went with them, even though snow and ice cancelled school and most of the district staff was off that day.

That kid has also moved on but Mills stayed in touch.

"When kids leave here that doesn't mean that's the end of my time with them, especially when it's not that they just graduated and moved on," Mills said. "You spend the most time with the kids that have the most needs so I get to know them the best. They wiggle their way into your heart. I like to keep in touch with them."

Mills received one of 13 Crystal Apples out of 47 nominees at a ceremony on Thursday, Nov. 4 at Salem's Historic Elsinore Theater.

"Just the nomination itself was amazing," Mills said. "It was just nice to know that the work I do day in and day out was recognized by other people."

Mills, who grew up in Forest Grove, has been the

school counselor at Gubser for 16 years.

"A lot of my friends growing up came from divorced families or in crisis families and I didn't have that and I always felt really lucky to come from a family that wasn't a broken home and just was always fascinated with helping and supporting people that needed that help," Mills said. "I wanted to work with kids and I just really liked the school setting where you got to work with all the kids instead of just select ones."

Along with doing exercises in problem solving and anger management for all the students at Gubser, Mills also runs small groups for kids who need additional help and works with children one-on-one.

She brought Pennies for

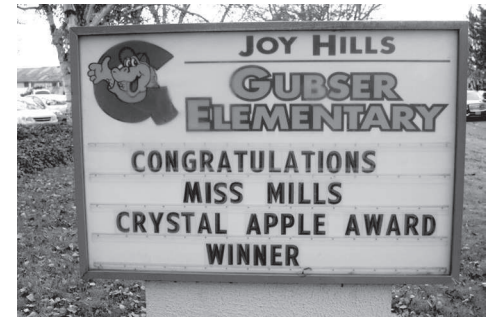
Patients to both Gubser and Cummings, where she also worked for three years during budget cuts.

Gubser alone has raised \$15,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

"I just wanted our school to do a community service project," Mills said.

Mills also coordinates a memorial fund, named after former Parent Teacher Club Treasurer Cathy Short, who lost her battle with cancer. Each year, Gubser uses \$400 from the club's budget to help its students in need with basics like clothing, tooth brushes, sleeping bags, glasses and even paid the electric bill for a family last year.

"She stretches every dollar and finds ways to make the biggest impact with the



Gubser staff and students congratulated Michelle Mills on their reader board.

KEIZERTIMES/ Derek Wiley

Memorial Fund money," said Vickie Jackson, the club's bookkeeper. "Cathy Short would be so proud."

Mills noted she gets a lot of help from the Gubser staff.

"I love everything about this school," she said. "Our staff is not just a staff, it's a family and most people refer to it as our work family, our Gubser family. People don't usually leave from here unless they're

retiring so we've all gotten to know each other really well and when things are rough, we're there to support each other. It's not my kids and your kids. It's our kids so everyone is willing to always step up and help others and when people are in need and struggling, whether it's personal or at school, everyone's got each other's back for that as well. We look out for each other."

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