KeizerCommunity

McNary senior leads *The Snowman's Dance*

By DEREK WILEY Of the Keizertimes

It's not Christmas at City Dance Theatre until the studio's annual performances of The Snowman's Dance.

"As much as Nutcracker is this has become a tradition for our families," director Zoe-Lisa Banton said. "My kids know nothing happens in my house until after Snowman's over and then we do the tree and everyone's ready.'

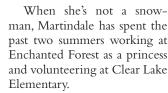
McNary senior Sydney Martindale, who has been in the show all 10 years, agrees.

"We always get our Christmas tree the day after Snowman," she said." It gets us ready."

The 11th annual performances will take place Saturday, Dec. 3 at noon and 3 p.m. in McNary High School's Ken Collins Theater.

Tickets are available for \$10 in advance at the studio or the door but the 3 p.m. show is nearly sold out.

Martindale started at City Dance Theater in the first grade, was a snow bunny in the inaugural performance of The Snowman's Dance and has worked her way up to playing the lead Snowman.



She's also been in two mua tradition in the ballet world, sicals with the McNary drama department—Legally and Beauty and the Beast.

The Snowman's Dance features 165 kids, ages 2-18, from all over Salem-Keizer playing everything from tapping reindeer to hip hopping Santas to little baby snowflakes.

"I always say it's a magic journey of friendship of a snowman and a little girl and they get to explore each other's worlds and all the different characters come to life," Banton said." We have people that see it ever year and cry. It's a fun holiday message of friendship and magic and imagination."

Tho show is loosely based on the children's picture book by Raymond Briggs, turned animated television special-The Snowman.

"It's kind of a dream for me because when I was 15 and starting to get into teaching and was training as a dancer, this was when The Snowman was huge in England where I grew up," Banton said. "The music was so inspiring to me as a dancer at that time and I kept saying to my mom and dad one day I'm going to make this into a show. Eleven years ago



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wilev

McNary senior Sydney Martindale, left, playing The Snowman, enjoys a rehersal of The Snowman's Dance at City Dance Theatre with Delaney Rothmeyer, who plays the Little Girl. The show is Saturday, Dec. 3 at noon and 3 p.m. at McNary High School.

it was the right group of kids."

Banton's The Snowman's Dance has music from The Snowman but also Harry Potter and The Firm. Ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, lyrical and contemporary dance are all repre-

Give your home the

"We cover everything that we teach," Banton said. "Those classes are all represented."

While the story remains the same, characters change ever

"This year we are bringing in wooden soldiers," Banton

said. "It's kind of a Rockette number with some of my older kids and we've never done that before. Last year we brought in an owl to our forest scene. We add different things each year

to jazz it up." The show lasts about an love it."

hour and 15 minutes.

"We just kind of hit them in the face with everything and they walk out crying and ready for Christmas," Banton said. "My in-laws are Jewish and they come every year and

We are **EVERYTHING** Ехсерт OVERPRICED

Simple Cremation \$795

Inexpensive Burial and Funeral Options

Pre-Planning Available On-Site Crematory



503.393.7037

Se habla español

4365 RIVER RD N, KEIZER

Windows & Doors [Shower Doors] Mirrors & Skylights CUSTOM TABLE TOPS VISIT OUR SHOWROOM 1450 Front St - Salem 503.581.2559 www.encoreglass.co CCB #196078

Encore Treatment

Santa Claus to fly into town The Salem-Keizer Volca-

noes will play host to this season's biggest star when Santa Claus flies into Volcanoes Stadium at noon on Saturday, Dec. 3. Keizer kids are invited to

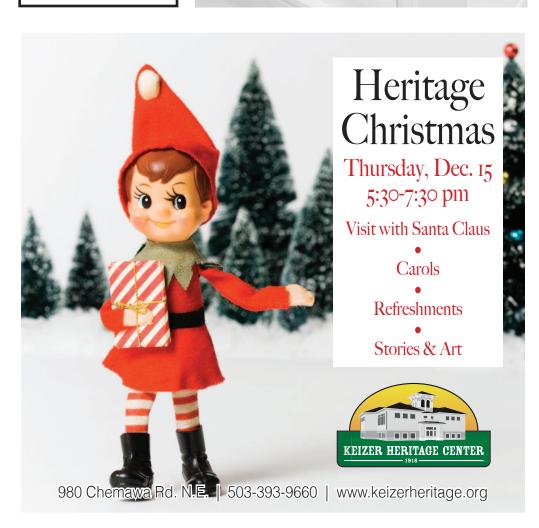
come to the stadium early to get a good place in line to get in to talk to Santa and tell him what they want for Christmas. St. Nick will be at the sta-

dium to 3 p.m. or until the last good little boy or girl has seen him and gotten a candy

Free photographs will be available of Keizer kids on Santa's lap.



Santa Claus will be at Salem-Keizer Volcanoes Stadium Saturday, Dec. 3 from noon to 3 p.m.









GET TO THE POINT

for all of your automotive needs - tires, brakes, oil change and mechanical.



HAS A **NEW** NAME





Thank you for supporting a locally owned business. (503) 463-8473 • 3824 River Road N.