

Italian Alps severs a ski-lift cable, sending a tram crashing to the ground and killing 20 people. - Feb. 3, 1998

Food 4 Thought

"Character consists of what you do on the third and fourth - James A. Michener, author. Born Feb. 3, 1907

The Month Ahead

Continuing Through Saturday, February 11

Noises Off, a comedy by Michael Frayn, at Pentacle Theatre at 7:30 p.m. Show continues through Feb. 11. Visit pentacletheatre.org for dates and tickets.

Saturday, February 4

Keizer-Salem Area Senior Center pancake breakfast. 8 to 10 a.m. All-you-can-eat for \$4. Children 5 years and younger are free.

Monday, February 6

Keizer City Council meeting, 7 p.m., 930 Chemawa Road N.E. 930 Plymouth Drive N.E. in Keizer.

Tuesday. February 7

Keizer Economic Development Commission meeting, noon, 930 Chemawa Road N.E.

Free admission all day at Hallie Ford Museum of Art, 700 State Street. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesday, February 8

Keizer Planning Commission meeting, 6 p.m., 930 Chemawa Road N.E.

Thursday, February 10

Keizer Homegrown Theatre presents Love Letters by A.R. Gurney starring Mary Bauer Opra and Joe Egli, 7 p.m. at Keizer Heritage Center, 980 Chemawa Rd. N.E. Tickets are \$15, available at the door or by visiting brownpapertickets.

Saturday, February 11

Millstream Knitting Guild meets at Arrowhead Mobile Park Community Center, 5422 Portland Road N.E. in Salem,10 a.m. to noon. New members welcome, \$24 membership per year. For more information, visit millstreamknitting. wordpress.com.

Celebrate Oregon's 158th birthday in the state capitol Galleria. Enjoy birthday cake, historical characters and entertainment. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Saturday, February 11 – Sunday, February 12

Pinot and Chocolate at Willamette Valley Vineyard, 8800 Enchanted Way S.E. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. both days. Tickets are \$15 (\$10 for members). wvv.com, 503-588-9463.

Sunday, February 12

Keizer Homegrown Theatre presents *Love Letters* by A.R. Gurney starring JoAnne Beilke and Jerry McGee, 2 p.m. at Keizer Heritage Center, 980 Chemawa Rd. N.E. Tickets are \$15, available at the door or by visiting brownpapertickets.

Monday, February 13

Keizer Čity Council work session, 5:45 p.m., 930 Chemawa Road N.E.

Tuesday, February 14 Valentine's Day

Keizer Homegrown Theatre presents Love Letters by A.R. Gurney starring Lore Christopher and Lyndon Zaitz, 7 p.m. matinee at Keizer Heritage Center, 980 Chemawa Rd. N.E. Tickets are \$15, available at the door or by visiting brownpapertickets.com.

Free admission all day at Hallie Ford Museum of Art, 700 State Street. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday, February 17 – Saturday, February 25

Lear's Daughters presented by the Willamette University Theatre Department at M. Lee Pelton Theatre on campus. Performances at 7:30 p.m. with 2 p.m. matinees on Sunday, Feb. 19 and Saturday, Feb. 25. Tickets are \$12. boxofficetickets.com.

Saturday, February 18

A night of music, art and wine as the Salem Symphony presents *Pictures at an Exhibition* at the Historic Elsinore Theatre. Art showcase and wine tasting at 6 p.m. Tickets range from \$30 to \$70. elsinoretheatre.com.

Sunday, February 19

Afternoon Tea at the Library a fundraiser for the Keizer Community Library, 3:30 p.m., upstairs in the Keizer Heritage Center, 980 Chemawa Road, NE. Tickets \$25.

Loving Hearts dinner-dance, Keizer/Salem Area Seniors. Ham dinner, music by The Fantastics. Raffle. Doors open at noon, dinner starts at 12:30 p.m. 930 Plymouth Der. N.E. ksacenter.com.

Add your event by e-mailing news@keizertimes.com.

KFD honors excellence with annual awards

By DEREK WILEY Of the Keizertimes

Keizer firefighter Matt Dryden pinches himself all the time.

"I always wanted to work at Keizer Fire District," Dryden said. "I'm ecstatic to be here. I was tripping over myself to get my application in. It is truly a huge gift to me, just to work here."

That enthusiasm is just one reason Dryden was voted both Keizer Fire's 2016 Rookie and Employee of the Year by the district's captains and chief of-

"Matt is always very happy and cheerful and smiling," KFD Public Education Specialist Anne-Marie Storms said.

Dryden also has a strong work ethic.

"You ask him to do something, he's going to see it to the very end," Captain Aaron Pittis said. "You never have to worry about any issues whatsoever. Say it once and it's done."

Dryden, who grew up on a farm between Monitor and Woodburn, moved to Keizer in 2001. He started at KFD as a volunteer in 2005 as a way to meet people and get involved in the community.

"I had no envision of making it a career," Dryden said. "I caught the bug and after a year or so thought I would really like to make this a career. It's a great way to make a difference in people's lives."

Dryden remained a volunteer firefighter for five years and began taking classes at Chemeketa Community Col-



Keizer Fire District Chief Jeff Cowan congratulates firefighter Matt Dryden on one of his two awards Monday, Jan. 23.

lege, where he earned his associate's degree.

Dryden was then hired as a career firefighter and maintenance officer at Stayton Fire District. After five years, a paid position at KFD opened in December, 2015.

Coming back to Keizer was an easy decision.

"I always loved it here," Dryden said. "It's where my kids go to school. It's central for me, great people, great department."

Dryden was surprised to win even Rookie of the Year, much less Employee of the

"I was pretty shocked," he said. "I was very humbled to receive it. I just come to work and do my job and work hard and I always have and I always will. And I love coming to work and I love helping people out. I just do my job and there's 32 paid guys here and we're all doing the same work and we're all doing our jobs

above the level." Other honorees at KFD's annual banquet were: Mike Jensen was named EMT of the Year, Victor Hess was voted Volunteer Firefighter of the Year and Jared Caruth responded to the most alarms.

Four service awards were given: Amber Butler (20 years), Greg Biben (15 years) and Jeff Gallinger (10 years). Greg Rands was honored for serving on the KFD Budget Committee from 2004-16.

KHT's *Love Letters* open Feb. 10

Homegrown Theater will open its 2017 season with Love Letters on Friday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m.

The play, directed by Linda Baker and written by A.R. Gurney, will take place at Keizer Heritage Center, 980 Chemawa Rd. N.

It features two friends, Andrew Makepeace Ladd III and Melissa Gardner, both born to wealth and position, whose lifelong correspondence begins with birthday party thank you notes and summer camp postcards.

The piece is comprised of letters exchanged over a lifetime between two people who grew up together, went their separate ways, but continued to share confidences. As the actors read the letters aloud, what is created is an evocative, touching, frequently funny but always telling pair of character studies in which what is implied is as revealing and meaningful as what is actually written down.

Two additional performances are scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 12 at 2 p.m. and Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 7 p.m.

well-known Different Keizer citizens will share readings: Mary Opra and Joe Egli on Feb. 10, Jerry McGee and JoAnne Beilke on Feb. 12 and Lore Christopher and Lyndon Zaitz on Feb. 14.

Tickets are \$15 and are

WILL YOU BE THERE THE

Will you be there when a life needs to be saved? When homes are threatened by a natural disaster The answer is "yes" if you're a member of the National Guard.

there for your community at NATIONALGUARD.com or cal

NATIONALGUARD.com

-800-GO-GUARD.



KEIZERTIMES/Andrew Jackson Mary Opra and Lyndon Zaitz will take on roles in the changing cast of Love Letters, a Keizer Homegrown Theatre Pro-

available at the door or online at http://www. brownpapertickets.com/ event/2830743. KHT is also offering season passes for \$40, a savings of \$20 off the cost of individual show cider and coffee.

tickets. Season tickets can be purchased at the door of Love Letters productions.

Doors will open an hour before each performance for again for the 2017 season a complimentary cupcake happy hour with sparkling

sudoku

Enter digits from 1-9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit.

So must every

column, as must every

3x3 square.

5 6 9 3 8 4 6 7 6 5 8 7 1 8 3 4 7 2 5 6 3

KEIZERTIMES.COM Web Poll Are protests still effective in creating change?

75% - No **25% -** Yes

Vote in a new poll every Thursday!

GO TO KEIZERTIMES.COM



March 4 Marion-Polk Food Share

will host the seventh annual Seed Exchange on Saturday, Mar. 4, from 10 a.m. to noon. The exchange will be hosted at the Marion-Polk Food Share, 1660 Salem Industrial Drive N.E.

The Seed Exchange is an opportunity for home gardeners to bring seeds to share and take home free seeds. The goal of the event is to distribute seeds so that local families can grow their own healthy, nutritious food.

looking back in the KT

5 YEARS AGO

E-Verify, gun rightsThatcher's top goals

Keeping concealed handgun license holders' information private and mandating state agencies screen potential employees for their immigration status tops Rep. Kim Thatcher's 2012 legislative agenda.

10 YEARS AGO

Fallen protector Army Pfc. Ryan J. Hill of Keizer was killed in Baghdad, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near the Humvee he was driving. During his high school years, Hill spent time working as a courtesy clerk for the Keizer Albertsons. He is remembered for his intense love and dedication to his mother, Shawna Hill who was a tireless advocate for him.

15 YEARS AGO

Avid volunteer takes firefighter honor A firefighter for the Keizer Fire District, Frank Bracken, was named volunteer firefighter of the year.

20 YEARS AGO

Schools fill up, new ones needed Two middle schools — White-

aker and Stephens — are overflowing. The district wants to build a new middle school in the south end of Keizer. That could cost \$16 million.