

KeizerCommunity

KEIZERTIMES.COM



McNary senior Bella Fox will compete in solo experienced acting at the State Thespian Festival on April 5-7 in Salem.

McNary senior competing in state theatre festival

capitol auto group

FEEL GOOD STORY

Saluting the people that make us proud of our community

capitolauto.com

By DEREK WILEY
Of the Keizertimes

Last April, Bella Fox got a chance to perform on the Elsinore Theatre stage at the State Thespian Festival as a cast member of McNary's production of *Defying Gravity*.

This year, she has a chance to return as a solo performer.

Fox, a senior at McNary, qualified for state in solo experienced acting at the regional competition on February 3 at South Eugene

High School.

"I have an audition slot and then if I do well I get to perform on the Elsinore stage," said Fox, who did two contrasting monologues, one a contemporary piece from *Butterflies Are Free* and the other as Calpurnia from *Julius Caesar*, at regionals in front of three different judges at three separate times.

The qualifying top 10 percent in each category from the regionals audition for the state showcase.

Fox used the competition to help her get ready for college auditions at Southern Oregon University in Ashland and Minnesota State University, Mankato, where she hopes to major in theatre.

"I didn't expect that I was going to go to state," Fox said. "I really just wanted to go there for the feedback and try to improve myself for the auditions and really perfect them"

When Fox accepted her

ribbon, she thought she was named a regional finalist.

It wasn't until five minutes later when she looked down at the ribbon and saw it said, "state qualifier."

"It meant so much," Fox said. "It was something that I really wanted to get because I'd gone to state last year for *Defying Gravity*. (I thought) if I can go in a group maybe I can prove to myself that it wasn't just my cast and myself working towards one goal but I can do it myself. I really strived to become part of that."

While Fox was the only McNary student to qualify for state, Lilla Seitz and Ingrid Dunn were regional finalists in experienced duo musical and Grace Condello was a regional finalist for solo experienced musical.

The State Thespian Festival, attended by over 1,000 theatre students and teachers from around the state, is April 5-7 in Salem.

Zombies invade Whiteaker class

By DEREK WILEY
Of the Keizertimes

Heather Woodward, language arts teacher at Whiteaker Middle School, was tired of canned teenage debate topics like, should kids be able to use their cell phones in class?

Instead she thought of what her eighth graders could argue about that would be interesting and fun.

So for two weeks, Zombies took over Woodward's classroom.

"Especially coming back fresh from a new semester, I wanted them to be excited," Woodward said. "I wanted their buy-in more than anything. It makes the rest of the unit easier if they have an idea of how to argue and they're used to talking to each other about what they're working on."

With surviving the zombie apocalypse as their objective, Woodward divided each of her five classes into teams of five students. The first thing she had the students do was pack a backpack with 10 items from their home. Using a Google earth map, groups then had to decide where they would stay and they had to back up their claims with supporting evidence to defeat the zombies.

Since Whiteaker's zombies didn't like water and couldn't swim, a popular destination was downtown Salem by the Willamette River. Other students chose farms, Keizer Station, Walmart and Costco.

They also watched videos, made posters, read books and played games.

"Kids compared it to the Oregon Trail video game," Woodward said. "There was a lot of critical thinking. We



Photo illustration

made up a list of zombie characteristics and then they had to find ways to defeat the zombies. We had a great time with it. It was almost too much fun. It was so loud in here. They were super into it. They had a market place day where they could trade items with other teams."

Using online resources like from the Center for Disease Control, which uses the zombie apocalypse to teach kids how to prepare for disasters, Woodward had enough material for a month but decided to end the zombie unit after two weeks.

"We needed to restore a little order," Woodward said. "The apocalypse, it turned out, was chaotic."

And when it became time to move on to other issues like the Civil Rights Movement during Black History Month or the school shoot-

ing in Parkland, Fla., students were more engaged and ready to talk.

"They were ready to argue," Woodward said. "The energy level was already high. The class discussions were that much deeper. They were used to talking to each other and used to having ideas where there was disagreement and that was ok."

Woodward said she will definitely do the zombie unit against next year.

"I love getting feedback from the kids," Woodward said. "They have the best ideas. They'll direct me for next year. Their feedback will be very valuable."

puzzle answers

A	A	I	M	B	E	A	S	T	A				
S	T	A	D	M	A	R	I	O	S	P	E	T	
H	A	N	D	S	P	R	I	N	G	T	R	E	T
		T	O	A	T	G	R	A	I	N			
B	A	S	S	I	S	T	L	E	A	R	N		
E	M	P	I	R	E	W	A	R	N	G	A	B	
C	U	R	T	C	A	P	E	T	B	E	E		
A	S	I	S	M	O	T	E	L	E	R	R	S	
M	E	N	M	O	R	E	L	N	E	A	T		
E	R	G	O	L	O	R	A	G	N	A	T	E	
		S	H	O	A	T	C	L	O	A	K	E	D
M	A	T	I	N	S	T	R	I	N				
B	R	E	R	S	P	R	I	N	G	T	I	M	E
A	L	E	E	E	L	A	T	E	A	L	A	R	
S	O	N	S	S	O	P	O	R	R	A	T	A	

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

Willamette Humane Society's
WillaMutt Strut 2018
ANNUAL 5K AND WALK BENEFITING SHELTER PETS

June 10, 2018
Riverfront Park, Salem
Dog-friendly, Family-friendly

Registration open now!

Registration: \$30. Adults (\$35 after May 18, 2018)
Includes t-shirt and swag.
Free youth registration with every adult registration.

REGISTER AT WHS4PETS.ORG/STRUT

CROWN
MEMORIAL CENTERS
CREMATION & BURIAL
A New Tradition™

Salem
412 Lancaster Drive NE
Salem, OR 97301
(503) 581-6265

Low Cost
Cremation & Burial
Funerals & Memorials

Simple Direct Cremation \$595
Simple Direct Burial \$710
Traditional Funeral \$2,275

Discount priced
Caskets, Urns and
other Memorial items.

Privately owned
cremation facility.
Locally owned and operated
by Oregon families.
www.ANewTradition.com

Let the sunshine in!

Don't let the beautiful weather pass you by this spring! Breathe some fresh air into your space with a remodel by Star Builders, your local Keizer General Contractor. Let us show you why we've won Best of the Mid Valley awards 3 years in a row!

STAR BUILDERS, LLC
3995 Cherry Ave NE, Keizer, Oregon • CCB# 182498
503.409.1975
starbuildersllc.com

Focus on the Important Things
Let us handle the rest

MEMORY CARE & ASSISTED LIVING
4398 Glencoe St NE, Salem
503-581-4239
TheSpringsLiving.com

The Woods
at Willowcreek