


FOOD,

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in Monmouth and last year pulled out 3,700 pounds of produce from his garden that includes 700 strawberry plants, 40 tomato plants and 16 6-foot blueberry bushes.

"I live in a normal house, a normal yard," Taylor said. "I've just converted, everything is food."

Along with bringing much of the food to his 240 students to be used in the classroom, Taylor also reached out to his friends and brought in 700 pounds of pumpkins this fall from one farm and 1,600 pounds of apples from another. Students made 600 pounds of apple and green tomato relish.

"I teach them how to pickle, how to freeze, how to can, how to process," Taylor said.

The natural next step was to teach the students how to grow, which meant Claggett needed its own garden.

"Day dreaming with the administration, it took off," said Taylor, after more than 100 students spent Monday, April 23 planting fruit trees and strawberries.

Highway Fuel provided a truckload of dirt.

The garden includes twenty-four trees, purchased at cost from Scenic Hill Nursery in Albany. Nearly 30 Claggett families got the same deal, planting fruit trees at their own homes.

Also in the school garden are 800 strawberry plants, 60 blueberry plants, peppers, lettuce, tomatoes and onions.

Much of the work was done by Taylor's family, foods and culture class, where students learn how families can grow their



Assistant Principal Jen Williams helps Claggett Creek students Derick Dowers, Chloe Farr and Rylee Jones plant strawberries in the school's garden.

own food, whether they live in an apartment or on five acres and everything in between. The class went to Mt. Angel Meat Company to see how meat gets to their table as well as Fessler Nursery in Woodburn.

Along with family, foods and culture, Taylor also teaches a six-week course where sixth graders learn how to cook breakfast, an 18-week course where seventh and eighth graders cook breakfast, lunch and dinner, and a year-long advanced foods class full of students who want to explore culinary arts in high school or even want to pursue a career in the industry.

"We push them pretty hard and they make some extraordinary food," Taylor said. "I want to teach the kids about the agricultural world, how to grow their own, how to save money, how to become self sufficient, how to eat healthier and we make everything from scratch in my classrooms."



Linda Grenz with CCMS students Jeffrey Grenz and Jesiah Bartlett, whose families gave money to the school's garden.

FUTURE: Residents lack places to work in city limits

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rates – more than 50 percent in the past five years – even those spaces could become a less attainable option.

In the most recent data the report surveys, Keizer had only a one-month supply of available housing inventory while a six-month supply is considered balanced. In addition, Keizer is expected to need 4,500 new housing units to accommodate growth through 2033, and construction of new homes still hasn't returned to pre-Recession levels. Growth in most types of construction is hampered by a lack of space to expand, which is likely to put a renewed emphasis on whether and how to expand the Urban Growth Boundary Keizer shares with Salem.

In terms of jobs, Keizer

is more of a bedroom community than ever. There are approximately 15,500 workers living in the city and only 6,500 jobs. Only about 1,300 residents (20 percent) live and work within city limits. The biggest growth industries in the past decade have been in health care and social services and retail while construction jobs have suffered the most, a 5 percent drop. Health care and social assistance jobs and professional and business services are expected to be the biggest growth areas in the next 15 years.

Keizer is also aging quickly. The number of households in the range of 55 to 64 years old grew 4 percent in the last four years and households with adult 65 or older grew 9 percent in the same time period. Those trends coincide with aging of the oldest in the Baby Boom generation.

Community Band at MHS May 16

The Keizer Community Band is inviting the public to a free concert Wednesday, May 16, at 7 p.m. in the McNary High School auditorium.

Michel Koenig, a retired Salem-Keizer band director, leads the Keizer Community Band. The group is made up of 45 members from Salem, Keizer and surrounding communities.

The band will feature marimba soloist Chad Mann. In addition it will play marches, music from *Lion King* and *Music Man*, and other festive tunes.



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