

Keizertimes

SECTION A

JUNE 8, 2018

\$1.00

Bullet from Polk County shooting range pierces Keizer home



By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

Shots fired from an old quarry being used as a makeshift shooting range across the Willamette River made their most invasive presence known in Keizer Saturday, June 2.

Four men were cited for reckless endangering and are expected to be in court later this month.

At 10:06 a.m., Keizer police responded to a home in the 1300 block of Raphael Street North. Officer Jeremie Fletcher recovered a bullet, believed to have been fired from the shooting range, after it penetrated the home exterior wall and collided with a granite backplash.

"The bullet came to rest on a kitchen counter inside," said Deputy Chief Jeff Kuhns of the Keizer Police Department (KPD). One of the homeowners was in the kitchen when the bullet came

through the wall.

KPD coordinated with the Polk County Sheriff's Office that dispatched officers to the quarry.

"We went out there and found four people target practicing. All cooperative and remorseful," said Polk County Sheriff Mark Garton.

Emmett and Wyatt Davis, 18 and 20, respectively, of West Salem; Noah Murayama, 22, of Keizer; and Austin Williams, 27, of Salem were all cited for reckless endangering and released in lieu of arrest.

Garton said even if the bullet had not traveled into a home, the four suspects were negligent.

"The way they were shooting was not safe and we could still have charged them," Garton said.

The foursome is scheduled to appear in Polk County Circuit Court June 26 at 1:15 p.m.

Kuhns added that Keizer police are continuing to investigate the incident and additional charges may be forthcoming.

The incident follows a similar one that occurred in September 2017. On Sept. 10, a hail of bullets drove visitors out of Sunset Park and residents out of their homes. Police officers confronted a group using the shooting range and led officers to a car with an AR-15 inside it but no one confessed to using it. Officers could not prove the AR-15 had been fired or who had done so, but they suspect someone was using it to shoot at clay targets tossed into the air.

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"The way they were shooting was not safe."

— Mark Garton
Polk County Sheriff

McNary grad accepted to Stanford Llanos leaving for California this fall

By DEREK WILEY
Of the Keizertimes

Crystal Llanos thought she might be hallucinating.

So the McNary senior brought her laptop and showed the letter to her sister, the one congratulating her for being admitted to Stanford University, which at 4.3 percent had its lowest admission rate in the school's history.

Lower than Harvard (4.59), Princeton (5.5) and Yale (6.9).

Linda confirmed the letter. It was real.

"I honestly never thought I was going to get in from the start," Llanos said. "I didn't think that was a possibility for me."

Llanos' dream school was the University of Southern California. She only applied to Stanford because two of her close friends did. But Llanos still worked hard on the application, spending an hour to two every night for three weeks, writing and then re-writing her answers.

"I still don't know exactly why or what inside told me to make this the best you possibly can, even with the mentality that I wasn't going, that I wasn't getting in," Llanos said. "I'd like to think that it was just out of respect for the institution. I knew that they received many applications and I kind of didn't want to waste their time with not my best work. So I worked really, really hard on that. And I felt good about what I'd written. It was



McNary senior Crystal Llanos, with her brother Luis, a second grader at Weddle Elementary, returned to her former elementary school in cap and gown last week for the parade of honor.

exactly what I wanted to say and I was answering it in the most honest way possible."

In early December, Llanos met with her friends for dinner to celebrate how hard they had worked on their Stanford

applications. When her friends read they had not been accepted, Llanos didn't think she had a chance. She waited hours to open her email from Stanford.

After building up the courage, Llanos discovered she was

deferred and Stanford was still considering her application.

"It was a huge surprise," Llanos said. "It felt like they had said yes because I was expecting a no. I was expecting a

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Celtics graduate June 8 at fairgrounds

McNary High School will say goodbye to the class of 2018 with a graduation ceremony on Friday, June 8 at 2 p.m. at the Oregon State Fairgrounds Pavilion.



Louis Tiller, a math teacher at McNary for 19 years and a 2017 Crystal Apple award winner, is the keynote speaker.

Senior Samuel Hernandez will also address the graduates.

McNary has 16 valedictorians—Samuel Hernandez, Matthew Albright, Kailey Doult, Austin Epperly, Sydnie Gould, Noah Grunberg, Jonas Honeyman, Crystal Llanos, Beau Reitz, Michael Reyes, Jenna Robbins, Madesyn Samples, Megan Schneider, Jessy Shore, Emma Snyder, and Casey Toavs; and four salutatorians—Sydney Hamilton, Josiah Metz, Sophia Salinas and Madeline Weathers.

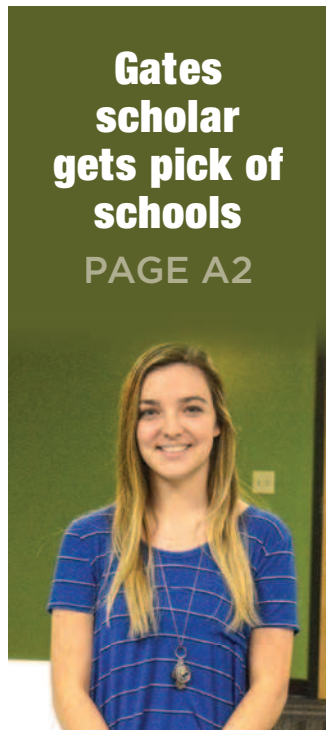
McNary's band will play *Pomp and Circumstance* and *The Star Spangled Banner*.

Principal Erik Jespersen, assisted by teachers Gary Bulen, Dawn Reichle Bailon, Laura Reid, and Joshua Rist, will present the graduating class.



Skyline helps fund scoreboard

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Gates scholar gets pick of schools

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Teens moving on from Keizer Chamber

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Keizer veteran celebrated as liberating hero



George Thompson, a U.S. Army veteran, takes part in a Liberation Day parade in Pilsen, Czechia, last month.

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

U.S. Army Pvt. George Thompson never expected to return to the country he helped liberate from Nazi occupation 50 years later. He never imagined that he would deliver a speech in Czechia following one by then-Secretary of State Madeline Albright and then meet the oldest son of Gen. George Patton, the man who led his fellow troops to victory in Europe during World War II.

However, Thompson has done all those things as a 14-time guest of honor during Liberation Day, the country's annual celebration of tossing off the Nazi yoke in 1945.

"There were 20,000 people standing shoulder-to-shoulder listening to little old me," said Thompson, coyly.

In 1945, Thompson was a 20-year-old tank mechanic with Lightning Power, the 16th Armored Division. He'd grown up in north-central Kansas and planned to enlist with the U.S. Army upon his high school graduation, but he was drafted two weeks before he could claim his diploma in person.

"I was a tough, young country boy and they sent me to Fort Knox, Kentucky, for a tough and thorough training," Thompson said. "The city boys couldn't hack it. They would fall out of march and I never did."

Thompson, now 93, still retains a midwestern drawl when speaking even though he is several decades removed from that part of the country. After years of helping his father work on

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Downer to Clackamas

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