

obituaries

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Gordon R. Cunningham, DVM

April 17, 1938 - November 27, 2018

Gordon R. Cunningham was born April 17, 1938, in Jewell County, Kansas, the only child of Otie R. and Stella May (Wiley) Cunningham. He graduated from Montrose High School in 1956 and attended Kansas State University where he completed his DVM degree in 1968.



G. Cunningham

While in college, he married Sheila Nelson and they had two sons. They divorced in 1976.

Dr. Cunningham practiced in California until purchasing Salem Veterinary Hospital in 1970. He later owned Lancaster Pet Hospital and South Salem Veterinary Clinic. Dr. Cunningham was instrumental in establishing the first after-hours

emergency veterinary clinic in Salem.

Dr. Cunningham is survived by his wife of 34 years, Joanne (Morrow) of Keizer; sons Frank (Jodie) of Happy Valley and David (Bonnie) of Keizer and grandson Kyle. He is also survived by stepson and daughter-in-law

Mike and Nicole Morrow of Salem and their sons, Matthew and Nicholas. And he leaves behind his cherished cats, Yogi and Gracie.

At Dr. Cunningham's request, no services will be held.

Remembrances to Salem Friends of Felines, 980 Commercial St. SE, Salem, OR 97302 or www.sfof.org. Assisting the family is Virgil T. Golden Funeral Service.

Gracie Miller

May 30, 1944 - December 1, 2018

Gracie Miller, born May 30, 1944 in Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, died in Keizer, Oregon on December 1, 2018. Gracie is survived by her husband of 47 years Daniel Miller and their four children, Diana Riddle (Keizer), Jonathan Rushing (Polson, Mont.), Dewayne Rushing (Salem), and

Rachelle New (Kansas City, Kan.), 14 grandchildren, and 22 great grandchildren. Gracie was a member of the United Church of God, Salem, Oregon congregation. Gracie's greatest joy was spending time with and loving her family. Services in the care of Keizer Funeral Chapel, www.keizerchapel.com.

SHOW,
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all the different (performing) departments we have here at McNary," Cavanaugh said.

As a school, McNary takes their performing arts very seriously, so getting the entire department all together in one place makes for quite the special occasion.

"It is nice to see the performing arts department working together to put on a quality performance," McNary choir teacher Andy Thomas said. "I think (the audience) will enjoy the variety of music."

"Since it is the first year of the event, the kids don't really know what to expect. So I think they are interested to see how the program works out."

In-between musical performances, the theatre crew will put on four different short plays from different classical Christmas movies.

A *Charlie Brown Christmas*, *Elf* and *The Grinch* will be the first three plays that will be featured while the fourth skit will be a mash-up that dives into multiple Christmas specials.

Trying to compact a full-length feature film into a greatly condensed version with limited cast members can be difficult. For instance, McNary student Madelyn Hurst will be playing three different roles in *Elf*.

"There are quite a bit of different things happening at once," Hurst said. "It's basically just the movie happening in about seven minutes on stage."

Hurst isn't the only one with a lot her plate.

Connor McCormack will



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley

ABOVE: Noah Schnell reads lines as he prepares for his role as the narrator of *Elf*. RIGHT: Jon Echavarría Valladares (standing) and Connor McCormack (kneeling) practice a scene from *The Grinch*. McCormack, who will also sing for the McNary choir, will portray the Grinch character while Echavarría Valladares will play the role of Max (the Grinch's dog).



be singing several holiday songs with the McNary choir. He will also be playing the lead in *The Grinch*.

"We've only had three weeks to prepare this show. It's been stressful, but it's also been a lot of fun," McCormack said.

"Working with the underclassmen has been great. All the theatre students know about the high bar that we set for ourselves."

One of the more interesting parts of this show is that is completely student-led from the theatre portion. Cavanaugh gives them pointers on how to clean stuff up, but the vast majority of running the plays successfully is put on the kids.

"It's been pretty unique with the students directing and writing our own shows," theatre student Jacob Fritts said. "We have been scheduling our own rehearsals and doing our costumes, too."

Even though a performance like this hasn't been done before, Cavanaugh is confident

in the kids ability to put on an entertaining show.

"The show is coming together great. It's funny and it's appropriate for the whole family," Cavanaugh said. "We just want to give people a night of the holidays."

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