

THE FUTURE

IS HERE



PHOTO KEIZERTIMES/Matt Rawlings

McNary head coaches Ryan Kirch and Elizabeth Doran will be starting a new youth basketball program in Keizer this fall.

Celtic coaches launching new youth basketball league

By MATT RAWLINGS
Of the Keizertimes

Part of maintaining a culture of success in high school basketball is having a high-quality youth program, which is why McNary boys and girls varsity coaches Ryan Kirch and Elizabeth Doran are teaming up with Keizer Youth Basketball Association (KYBA) to create the new Future Celts basketball program.

The Future Celts program offers multiple competitive tournament teams for boys and girls grades 5-8, with the goal of focusing on the values and philosophies of both of McNary's varsity basketball teams.

"We are looking to have this program better mirror our high school programs," Kirch said. "It allows us to implement our program values of what we see as important so that, when kids get to McNary, they are prepared as possible for what they are going to see at the high school level."

Future Celts came to fruition through multiple conversations by Kirch and Doran over the last year, who both wanted to take more ownership of youth basketball in Keizer.

"We both really wanted to revitalize youth basketball in this area and make it about kids getting better and loving

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Celebrating
KT 40
Years
1979 - 2019

A look back on the Keizertimes and Keizer's history of local news
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Honored as heroes
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CCMS stages comeback
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BOMBARDED

TEENS AND MENTAL HEALTH



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/Andrew Jackson

Mental health struggles weigh heavily on LGBTQ+ youth

By CASEY CHAFFIN
For the Keizertimes

Oregon's youth depression and suicide rates consistently outstrip the national average for youth across the board – but for LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer) youth, the numbers paint an even gloomier picture for mental wellness.

Half of LGBTQ+ youth reported they had considered suicide and one fourth attempted suicide in 2017, according to the Oregon Healthy Teens Survey.

While all youth can struggle with their mental health, LGBTQ+ youth face unique challenges and barriers to accessing care, due to the double stigma of struggling with mental health concerns and being a minority when it comes to sexuality or gender identity.

One driver of LGBTQ+ despair comes from family rejection, a topic the Oregon Alliance to Prevent Suicide has taken up in the past year. The alliance, an advisory group to the Oregon Health Authority, has spent the

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Alleged targeting, property neglect at McNary Oaks Villa



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

A fall caused by the large crack seen above led to a settlement for one resident. A year later, it still hasn't been fixed. Another resident fell in the same spot a few weeks ago.

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

Editor's note: The names of the individuals involved in this article have been changed to protect their privacy and over concern of potential retaliation.

Sheryl Jones moved into a manufactured home at McNary Oaks Mobile Village on River Road North just a few months ago, she's still waiting for the property manager to give her a copy of her lease.

"I asked and I got a copy of the rules and regulations and a statement of policy. I never got a copy of the lease," Jones said.

The property manager told Jones that contracts are held at the corporate office in Irvine, Calif., and it would take a while to get a copy back from them. The owner of the park, Investment Property Group (IPG), is the same owner that

"I was scared of what would happen if I didn't sign it. It was like a threat."

— Joann Miller

tenants of Wildwood Villa have complained about in recent months. The complaints at Wildwood range from rent increases that make it one of the most expensive parks in the area to attempts to stifle communication among residents. At McNary Oaks, different strategies seem to be at play.

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