Suicide prevention discussed at school district board meeting

By HERB SWETT
Of the Keizertimes

Suicide prevention was the focus of a work session of the Salem-Keizer School Board on Tuesday, Sept. 24.

A nationwide problem, student suicide has a higher rate in Oregon than the country as a whole.

A team of counselors made a presentation on local efforts to prevent suicide.

Ishawn Early, suicide prevention coordinator for the district; Courtenay McCarthy, lead school psychologist for the Salem-Keizer Student Threat Assessment Program; David Fender, coordinator of the district's Office of Behavioral Learning; and Leilani Slama, vice president for community engagement for Salem Health, were the presenters.

The presentation noted that the district now has 112 counselors, 11 school psychologists and licensed therapists at 27 schools, as well as seven additional therapists who are involved in the issue. Six counselors were added to the traditional high schools in 2018, and the district would like to have more therapists, but finds no more available at this time.

The following statistics were shown:

• Suicide is the second leading cause of death among people aged 10-24.

• One in six students nationwide in grades 9 through 12 seriously considered suicide in the past year.

• Oregon's age-adjusted suicide rate of 17.7 per 100,000 residents in 2015 was 33 percent higher than the national average, and Oregon ranked 13th among the states in suicide incidence.

• Suicide rates for Oregon and the other states have increased since 2000.

Because of a state law that took effect before the current school year, students are allowed to have excused absences for mental health days.

Mental health issues have also been incorporated into the Salem-Keizer curriculum.

After the presentation, the board proclaimed September as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.

police scanner

SUNDAY, SEPT. 15

9 p.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 700 block of Dearborn Avenue NE.

MONDAY, SEPT. 16

12:33 a.m. - Arrest for restraining order violation in the 5000 block of Briarwood Corner N.

1:48 p.m. - Arrest for warrant served in the 1000 block of Allendale Way NE.

5:17 p.m. - Arrest for warrant served in the 900 block of Chemawa Road NE.

6:15 p.m. - Arrest for shoplifting and criminal trespassing in the 3000 block of River Road N.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 17

10:22 a.m. - Failure to perform duties of driver when property is damaged in the 4000 block of River Road N.

11:02 a.m. - Assault in the 1000 block of Lockhaven Drive NE.

11:45 a.m. - Failure to perform duties of driver when property is damaged in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Boulevard NE.

3:53 p.m. - Arrest for restraining order violation and unlawful delivery of methamphetamine in the 5000 block of Briarwood Circle N.

5:54 p.m. - Arrest for probation violation in the 100 block of Homewood Court N.

7:11 p.m. - Arrest for criminal trespassing and unlawful possession of methamphetamine in the 5000 block of Wittenberg Lane NE.

9:11 p.m. - Arrest for warrant served at the intersection of Cherry Avenue NE. and Manbrin Drive NE.

9:20 p.m. - Arrest for warrant served and restraining order violation in the 100 block of Apple Blossom Avenue N.

10:48 p.m. - Disorderly conduct in the 3000 block of River Road N.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 18

8:54 a.m. - Bicycle theft in the 5000 block of River Road N.

10:25 a.m. - Illegal possession of marijuana in the 1000 block of Alder Drive NE.

10:47 a.m. - Arrest for warrant served in the 100 block of Homewood Court N.

10:52 a.m. - Arrest for warrant served in the 900 block of Chemawa Road NE.

8:11 p.m. - Arrest for warrant served, criminal trespassing and shoplifting in the 4000 block of River Road N.

9 p.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 3000 block of River Road N.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 19

2:20 a.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 4000 block of Delight Street N.

6:58 a.m. - Restraining order violation in the 100 block of Homewood Court N.

10 a.m. - Identity theft in the 4000 block of Northside Drive NE.

10:05 a.m. - Arrest for warrant served in the 900 block of Chemawa Road NE.

4:51 p.m. - Arrest for warrant served, residence burglary and criminal damage in the 1000 block of Clear Lake Road NE.

9 p.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 4000 block of Bailey Road NE.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 20

12:08 a.m. - Arrest for warrant served and disorderly conduct in the 700 block of Plymouth Drive NE.

5:49 a.m. - Injury from traffic accident at the intersection of River Road N. and Wheatland Road N.

7:35 a.m. - Unlawful entry to vehicle and theft from motor vehicle in the 4000 block of Bailey Road NE.

9:04 a.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 3000 block of Cherry Avenue NE.

10:04 a.m. - Sudden death in the 1000 block of Cynthia Court N.

11:20 a.m. - Shoplifting in the 700 block of Chemawa Road N.

3:30 p.m. - Physical harassment in the 1000 block of Alder Drive NE.

6:37 p.m. - Traffic accident at the intersection of Chemawa Road N. and River Road N.

11:47 p.m. - Arrest for warrant served in the 5000 block of River Road N.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21

4:03 a.m. - Arrest for motor vehicle theft in the 4000 block of 13th Avenue NE.

5:07 p.m. - Vandalism in the 1000 block of Bair Road NE.

5:15 p.m. - Shoplifting and robbery in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Boulevard NE.

6:30 p.m. - Theft in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Boulevard NE.

10:23 p.m. - Arrest for warrant served at the intersection of Homewood Court N. and River Road N.

11:07 p.m. - Arrest for disorderly conduct in the 5000 block of River Road N.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 22

12:53 a.m. - Unlawful entry to vehicle and motor vehicle theft in the 4000 block of 18th Court NE.

9 a.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the 1000 block of Della Way NE.

6:35 p.m. - Vandalism in the 1000 block of Northern Heights Loop NE.

MONDAY, SEPT. 23

1:51 a.m. - Physical harassment in the 6000 block of Fenwick Court N.

KT on vacation

Submitted photo

(Left to right) Beth, Heather and Lauren Murphy took their *Keizertimes* on a trip to Israel to see the sights where Biblical events took place. They are pictured here in front of the empty tomb (supposedly where Jesus was buried and rose again).

You too can have your photo in the *Keizertimes*. Simply take your paper to your destination, snap a picture with you and your group holding it, and send the photo along with everyone's first and last names to kt@keizertimes.com.

Submit Crystal Apple nominations to SKEF

Do you know a teacher, administrator or classified staff person who goes above and beyond to create a positive learning environment and help kids achieve their dreams? Honor them by nominating them for a Crystal Apple Award. The annual event is set for Thursday, Nov. 14, at Salem's Historic Elsinore Theatre.

Salem-Keizer Education Foundation, along with Salem-Keizer Public Schools and the Salem and Keizer Chambers of Commerce, present the awards each year to deserving education professionals who go the extra mile in providing safe and positive learning opportunities for our students.

Nominations forms can be found at any school in the district or on the Salem-Keizer Education Foundation website (www.skeducationfoundation.org).

District nominees must have been employed by Salem-Keizer Public Schools for at least three years prior to the current school year.

All nominations must be received by 5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 17.

The 2019 celebration will again feature a red-carpet entrance for nominees.