

NIGHTMARES COME TO LIFE

at school just south of Keizer

By **ERIC A. HOWALD**
Of the Keizertimes

A list of memorable reactions by visitors to Salem's Nightmare Factory as recalled by the actors involved:

- Frightening one man so badly he started swinging a handbag at the actor who cornered him. (Trevor Robertson)

- Scaring a woman so badly she fell on her backside before running past the actor and into multiple walls before

escaping to another room. (Lizzy Zachary)

- Literally just staring at a woman in line and causing her to black out. (Kivo Leferve)

- Making people pee their pants. (Multiple actors and, yes, it happens.)

"What's even crazier is that they will announce it to everyone when they do it,"

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TOP: Jenna Odey as Meaoud. CENTER: Jolinda Mathis as her Pennywise-inspired take on a clown. RIGHT: Trevor Robertson is prepared to scare inside his Nightmare Factory room.

Gridders drop to 0-4
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Conserve now to save later
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Keizer mayor honored by peers with major award

The prestigious James C. Richards Award was presented Friday evening to Keizer.

Mayor Cathy Clark during the League of Oregon Cities' 94th annual conference in Bend.

The award is given to an elected city official who serves the citizens of Oregon through an exceptional personal investment in intergovernmental affairs.

Clark was cited for being an unwavering champion for the Keizer community, a leader in the Mid-Willamette Valley and among mayors across the state.

During her years on the Keizer City Council, Clark led efforts to coordinate local library services, fund miles of streetscape and transportation improvements and helped develop a new civic and event center.

In 2017, she was pivotal in creating stable funding for parks and police services and has taken a keen interest in directing public resources to homeless programs that have made measurable impacts.

Regionally, Clark been a steady presence in conversations regarding transportation

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"Real leadership isn't easy, it often necessitates dealing with very difficult, challenging issues, issues that others prefer to ignore — not Mayor Clark."

— John McArdle,
Mayor of Independence



Submitted
Keizer Mayor Cathy Clark (second from left) accepts the James C. Richards Award at a ceremony in Bend.

Where to turn depends on need, but help is available

By **CASEY CHAFFIN**
For the Keizertimes

Juanita Aniceto was starting to get worried.

As a youth support specialist with the Salem Drop, a youth community center-slash-support network, she invests a lot of time, energy and care into the young people she works with.

When a boy she had been working with for a while told her no one cared about him, and he might as well not even be here, she was concerned. But she was able to check in on him when he came to the Drop.

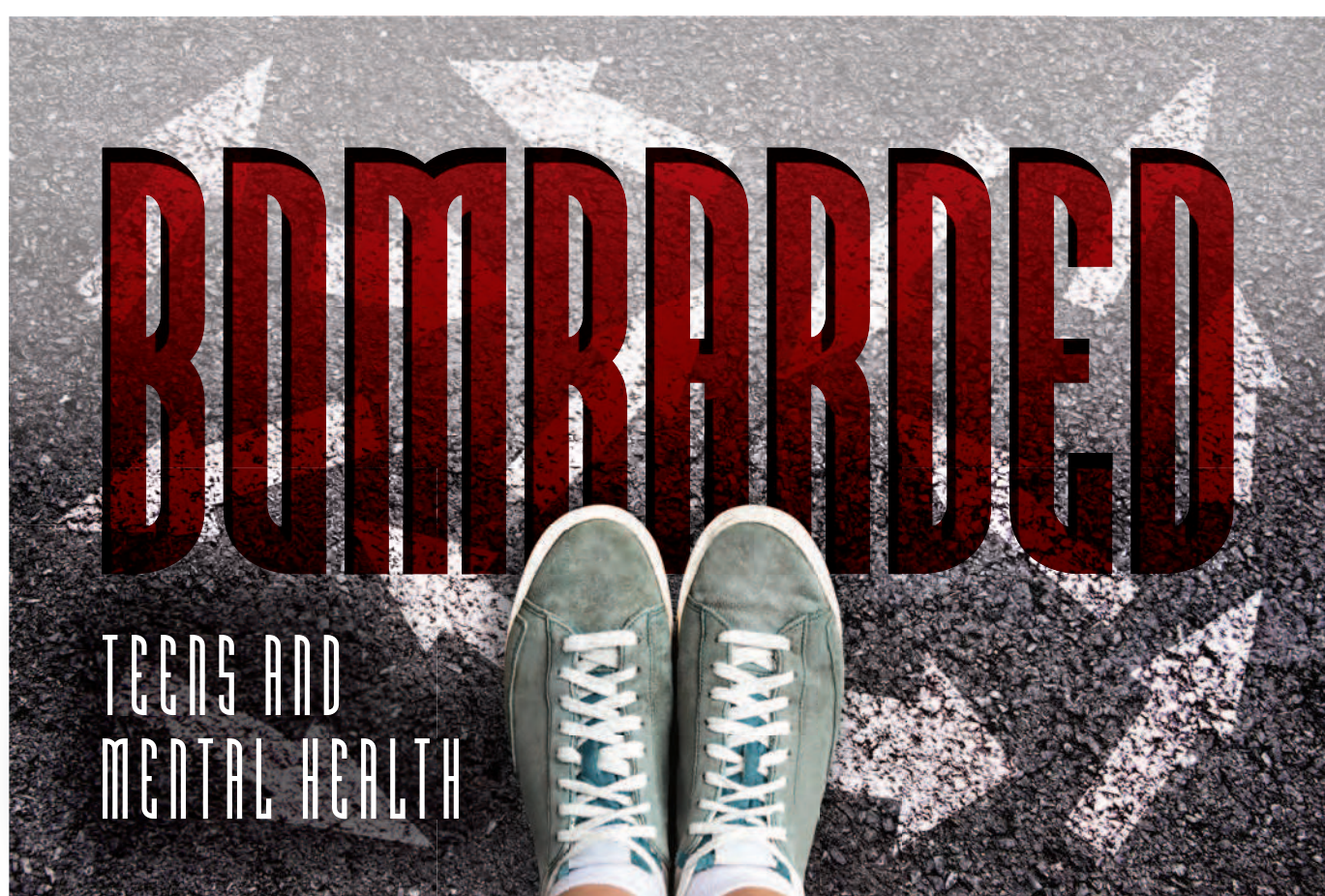
Then, one day, he didn't show up. He also didn't respond to Aniceto's texts checking in. She waited, another day went by. Still no response. As time passed on that second day, she became more distraught. Did something happen? Is he still alive?

Just as she received permission from her boss to go check on him in person, the boy walked through the door.

Aniceta sunk into a nearby chair, frazzled but relieved.

"I couldn't stop crying," Aniceto said. "Because for a minute, I thought he had died by suicide."

Aniceto said sometimes it's



difficult to convince the kids she works with they're more than a job. But this moment convinced the boy.

"He started crying," she said. "And he said, 'Now, you've given me a reason to

live.'"

The teen told her that when he thinks of dying by suicide, he remembers how the idea of him dying brought Aniceto to tears. He tells her, "I know there's somebody that

cares about me, so because of that reason I can't give up on myself."

"That's the number one thing," Aniceto said. "[Young people] need somebody to believe in them," she said.

And that goes for all kids, not just those who are currently depressed or suicidal, she said.

"All youth are at risk," said

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First responders get financial booster
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A sportsman and a spokesperson
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