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moments for granted and to cherish the time you have with your friends, your family, and all the people around you," Covalt said.

Prior to concluding her speech, Covalt left her peers with a challenge before they ventured off their separate paths.

"Make the most out of every single day. When you're scared, take one step forward, always ask someone else how they are doing and drink more water. Cheers to the rest of your lives. I hope they are as ambitious as you want them to be. Go Celts," Covalt said.

The McNary leadership team enlisted McNary business instructor Brad Lomax to give the commencement address — Lomax told the crowd that it was his greatest professional honor.

During his speech, Lomax shared with the graduates his keys to happiness.

"Control the controllable: Effort, focus and attitude. Only you control those things," Lomax said. "It is a way to put things in perspective and find peace."

Lomax also left students with some advice and a note of encouragement.

"I am going to ask you to take a risk. Go big. Stretch yourself and put yourself in uncomfortable situations that you may have shied away from in the past. Take control of your life. I know these are only words but let them sink in and become a mindset," Lomax said. "I am so proud of the young men and women that you have become. In a world of uncertainty and turmoil, each of you holds my hope for a bright and prosperous future."

- A. Carter Nelson shows off his diploma.
- B. Kay Montero takes the big walk.
- C. Hannah Kenworthy.
- D. Ethan Martin.
- E. One of many decorated mortarboards.
- F. Grads celebrate as a group at the end of a ceremony.
- G. Lynnea Lopez.
- H. Rashellyn Berkey.
- I. Alyssa Brown.
- J. Remy Olson.

Photos by MATT RAWLINGS and ERIC A. HOWALD of Keizertimes



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3975 River Road N - Keizer, OR  
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