

ALTERNATIVE TIMES

Magazine

BIG IDEA NEXT MEANS GRADUATION



United Way
of Jackson County

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 5



THE WELLNESS ISSUE

DONOVAN FOY IS MY SECOND GRADUATE

ATI's MINDI TERILLI IS COMMITTED TO YOUTH WELLNESS

HECTOR BAS-MEDINA TO THE U.S. MARINE CORPS

MIA DAY, (MOM) MY LIFESAVER



THE WELLNESS ISSUE





The light at the end of the tunnel can be blurry sometimes especially when you are moving away from it. Donovan Foy has been able to get through even when it seemed as if graduating was unimportant. This is what the Big Idea Next has meant to me. Although we will graduate maybe 600 students, he is the second graduate that I have claimed as my own. If you know what it means to struggle then you know what it means to want to give up. I'm proud of Donovan. The Big Idea Next is about completion, which means there is more than one way, and he has chosen to take the necessary steps to move forward.

DONOVAN FOY IS MY SECOND GRADUATE

Congratulations CMHS Class of

2022!

Cap and Gown:

Jostens Packets are available at the CMHS Main Office. The website to order: <https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/customer/1436362/Central-Medford-High-School/>

If you plan to borrow a gown you must pay a deposit of \$25, which will be returned to you when you return your gown after graduation.

Tassels and caps will be provided.

PRACTICE IS REQUIRED

Graduation Practice will be Thursday, June 2, at 11:30a.m at Spiegelberg Stadium. You MUST attend practice if you plan to walk at Graduation.

Graduation:

Graduation will be Friday, June 3, at 5:00 p.m. Students must be at Spiegelberg Stadium at 4:15pm
815 S. Oakdale Ave. Medford, OR 97501

Dress Code:

In order for a student to participate in the graduation ceremony, the student must adhere to the school dress code as well as the more formal graduation attire.

Fines and Fees:

Must be paid. A printout is available upon request.

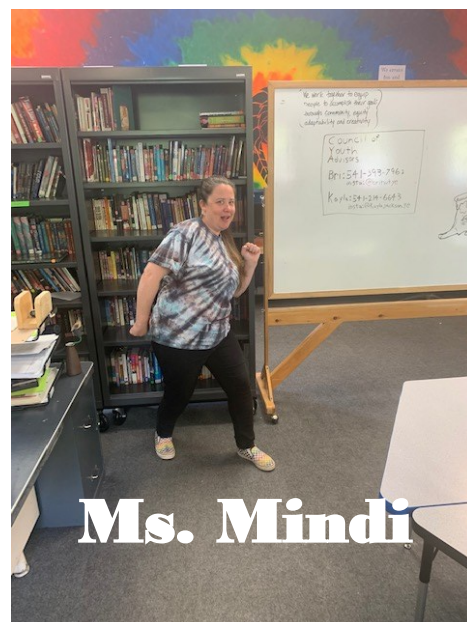


Armadillo Technical Institute (ATI) is a Public Charter School located in Phoenix, Oregon. It is Southern Oregon's oldest Public Charter school and serves all of Southern Oregon. It is a place where teachers and staff recognize that each student has potential, no matter who they are. ATI can do this because it has individualized paths toward graduation for each student. Community, equity, creativity and adaptability are key at ATI and we offer students something special. Community partnerships help provide counseling, job training and hands-on experiences that matter in the real world. Smaller class sizes allow for adaptability and flexibility for students' individual needs. Equitable practices at ATI help struggling students succeed where other institutions have failed. You can even bring your laundry to school! Need some fresh clothes? No problem. ATI students are quirky, creative and colorful. We love to see what they bring to the world in all of their unique ways and encourage them to achieve their goals and be accountable for them. One step at a time.

Students choose to attend school at ATI for a multitude of reasons, and while they may come from very different educational experiences and family backgrounds, there is one thing that they all have in common: for whatever reason, they struggled to thrive in a traditional educational setting. Students come to ATI and thrive in a place where they build meaningful relationships with their peers and their teachers. They learn to be

bold and take chances; everyone makes mistakes and mistakes are opportunities for growth.

At ATI, we are big fans of learning. Not just learning for our students, but learning *from* our students. Every day we find teachable moments and roll with them. Our students are some of the most creative people I have ever encountered, and it shows in everything that they do. This magazine's theme is wellness. And the wellness of students, both mentally and physically, is a top priority at ATI. Each day we work together to find creative solutions to problems and to help each other on our paths to wellness. Each day these students surprise me with how well they care for each other. On any given afternoon, you will see kids from varying backgrounds playing games together, shooting hoops on the court, or working on assignments. Groups that don't often mingle in a traditional public school setting thrive with each other at ATI. Our kids model grit and community action every day and we are all so much better for it.





Most of my relationships are organic, in that they are born out of thin air and without confirmation. But for some reason there is an understanding that includes respect and mutual admiration. This is the basis of my relationship with Krysten Beck. When I reconnected with Krysten, I saw this energetic young person that was in danger of not graduating from high school because she was looking for direction, but young people are resilient and its so exciting when they get focused and set goals. With the school year coming to an end, Krysten is on her way to graduating, and building her reputation as a hard working young woman. Krysten, I salute you....Will Young



KRYSTEN BECK
2022 GRADUATE



“Colorblind”

Not Influenced by Racial Prejudice

I have been at times described as a participant in the world but not really of it, which may mean transcendent. Since I was a high school sophomore I spent days wandering the streets of Los Angeles trying to find a purpose or understanding. At that time, the world truly was ghetto and there was no difference between a victim and a perpetrator. During this time in my life, I lived in an area where people caused harm for no particular reason and we all looked alike. We all had very little too.

I continued to wander, looking for a face of support and neutrality; that never happened. By the time senior year came, I really had pressure to move or become engulfed in the infernal of self-hatred, self-loathing, and ultimately drug addiction. What you have to remember is that the wandering lacked support, direction, and parental connection which some would say prompted the disconnect. Finally, I ended up in an area that frightened me more than the one I had just left because no one looked like me, spoke like me, or even dressed like me. In fact, everything I had been told about these people was off, and I was still afraid.



As I became acclimated to the area, the communication started to change, and I started to open up to my new surroundings. I was still wandering, and I started to develop confidence on my journey. I learned that hatred is not that far away and neither is love. Fortunate for me, the distribution of love had started to change and relationships started to form, and soon I was on my way to the next journey with a renewed understanding.

What a transition! Will hate rear its ugly head or will love prevail? This question was so poignant because the familiar faces brought back images and behaviors of past journeys. But what was the trigger? Was it just

a natural habitat or a sense of safety? I'm not sure, but alienation began and the relationships that I worked so hard to build had dissolved. Why would I change what I knew to be true? Wandering had taught me so much about the condition, and less about my behaviors that were affected by it.

So here I am, at peace with who I am, and the direction I'm headed. Wandering allowed me to have a clear vision instead of one that was blurred by the obstacles along the way. I suppose I learned to see the content in the journey instead of the impediment.



HECTOR BAS-MEDINA IS HEADING TO THE MARINES



Hector has become more than a young person that I mentor, he has become a member of my family therefore a nephew. We have gone through a lot in a very short time and it has solidified our relationship and ability to have meaningful conversations. From the day we met, it was clear that he wanted to become something special, and wasn't clear what that would be. Well, we know now that it is the Marine Corps, and we couldn't be happier for him. Good Luck!



JOBY PROJECT : THINK WELLNESS 2022





MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH



WHEN IN DOUBT HELP SOMEBODY OUT!

MANNY CRUMP JR. IS RECOGNIZED AS THE RECIPIENT FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE



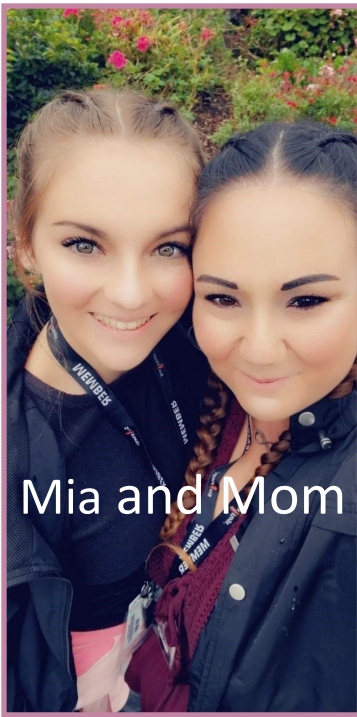
BIG IDEA NEXT



The question is how does one follow in the footsteps of a legend? And oh by the way, the legend is his dad. The best answer is that you create your own legacy based on your personal strengths and passion. For Manny Crump Jr. following his dad has been tough, and at times ,tumultuous. A year ago his self confidence reached a low point and nothing matter. Now on the verge of graduation and new friendships, MJ is ready for college and a possible enrollment at Western.

No one could see this coming.The expectations were difficult at times trying to prove that he could duplicate the exploits of his father. Meanwhile, there was a component that was not factored in, and it was his ability to lead. Not only does MJ volunteer for service learning projects, he also mentors youth in his community (just like his dad). I'm so proud to name him the 21-22 Award Winner for Community Service.





After a month at URCEO, it was clear that students had a story to tell and they were very talkative. Their thoughts and opinions were vast. There was Tristan, Gwen, and Mia with stories of triumph, indifference, and redemption. I found Mia Day to be simple and complex at the same time. Her confidence is deceptive, and she is quite conscious of the person she wants to become. Her story of redemption starts with her lifesaver mom (don't call her step mom) Stephanie. Before we go there, some unpacking needs to be done. First, her big brother has been her confidant throughout the multitude of transitions in her life. In the past, she always counted on him for advice and stability to secure her everchanging world.

She came to URCEO as a part of

the online courses and dual enrollment of the Eagle Point School District. But being involved at URCEO seemed to be the remedy. She was thinking of attending Eagle Point again as a full time student but the academic success made her current situation more appealing. At URCEO, there is no nonsense for Mia, and not having many friends on campus meant no distractions.

I asked Mia what wellness means to her and she said "Better yourself first, before you try to better others." This philosophy seems to be directly related to her earlier experiences at Eagle Point as a cheerleader. Mia witnessed a lot of bullying and unfair treatment during cheerleading to her and others. Mia would like to be the captain of the squad to make sure coaches are aware of the mistreatment, and for Mia to learn to be outspoken during difficult times.

The family dynamics are really complicated. Mom and Dad got divorced early on and were not in a good space from the beginning. Stephanie became the legal guardian and saved Mia's life and her siblings! The craziness didn't stop there; Mia has four younger siblings through three or four relationships of her parents. Mia and Brother Eli have

the same parents. Stephanie and Mia's Dad have a son, Konner. Gabriel and Scarlett are the children of mom, and Stephanie is the guardian of Peyton.

Stephanie seems to do a good job keeping everyone together, and keeping life in perspective with a hint of normalcy. Mia came up with the title "Lifesaver," and she means it. Eli knew he would, at some point, have to pass her on to an adult that would move her forward, and be a mother figure.



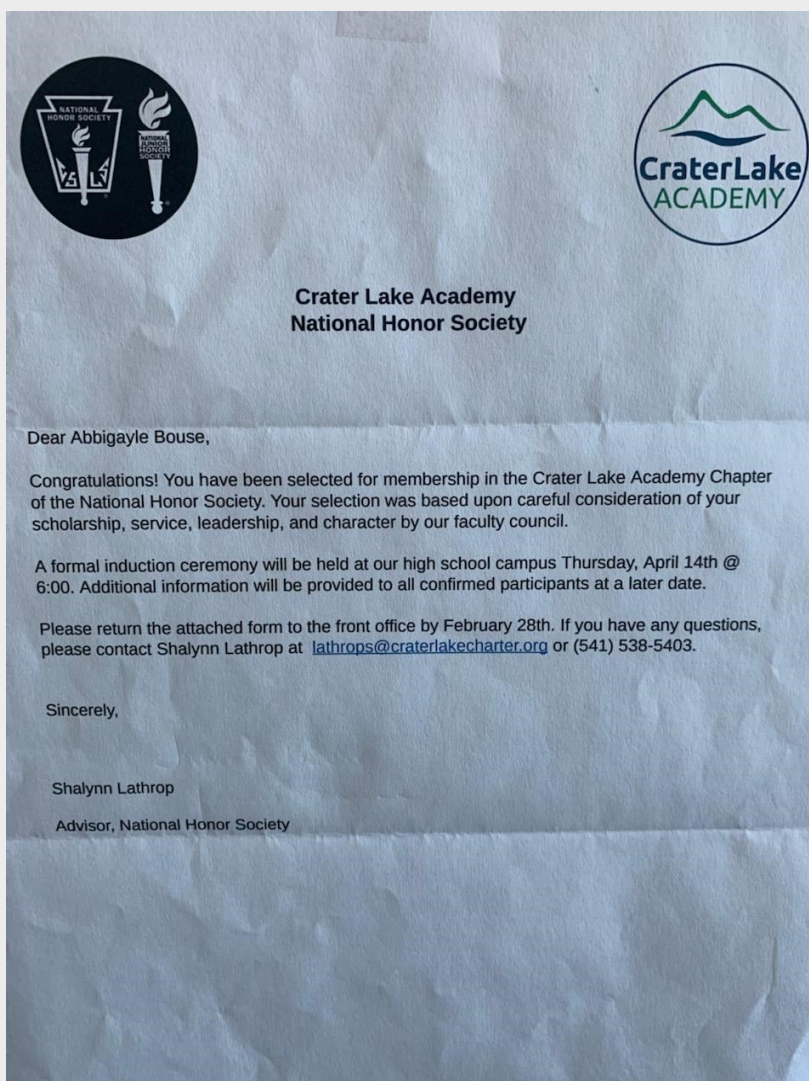


ABBY BOUSE

2022

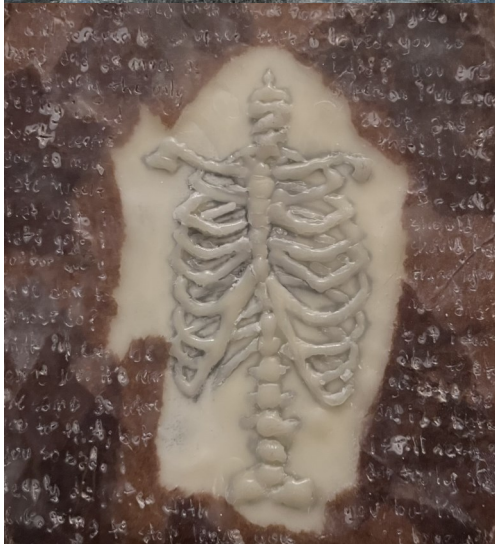
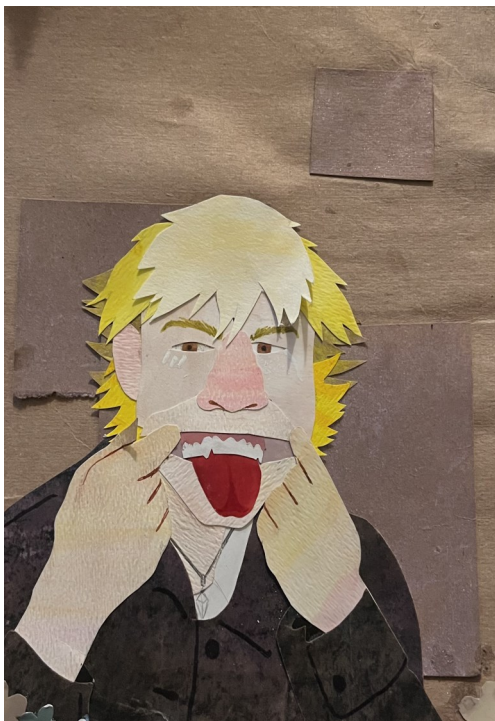
ALTERNATIVES TIMES CONTRIBUTOR OF THE YEAR

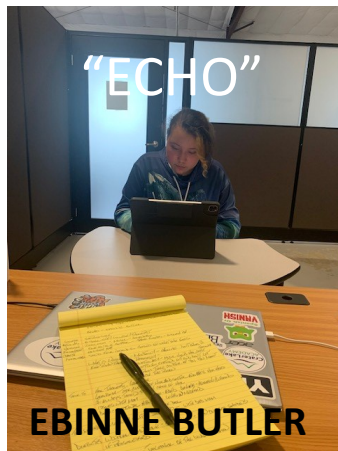
Congratulations to Abby for this award because it shows her dedication and commitment to our e-magazine and her classmates. Whether it is fiction or fact, Abby always had a story to tell. The National Honor Society recipient will assume the position as student editor for the Alternative Times. Her role as student editor will be to plan and coordinate material for our e-magazine. Abby will be responsible for the content at Crater Lake Academy and part of a bigger group that decides the monthly direction in terms of themes, photos, articles, and photos. It's a lot and she's up to it!



GWEN LOMAS

PRESENTS: VENT ART





They say after a while everything comes full circle, and if you pay attention you will remember how you got to be where you are. My journey started in 1997 when I was trying to change the lives of young people by changing communication patterns within their households, but I was not familiar with ACE's at that time (Childhood Adverse Experiences). This would've been important at that time because the components of ACE's and the obstacles that prevented conversations from taking place in the home. This included:

- Physical Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Domestic Violence
- Substance Abuse
- Mental Illness
- Crime or Imprisonment

How can young people communicate with these type of barriers in their daily lives? But I have a young lady that embodies strength and resiliency that allows her to examine things clearly

without letting these barriers overtake her. Ebinne Butler, better known as "Echo" has carved quite a niche for herself and her wisdom is exciting. Echo seems to stay to herself, and by her admission she doesn't have many friends, but she has much to say. During a lunch symposium Echo talked to the group about things she was going through, and here's some excerpts from our conversation,

First of all Echo suffers from Wolfram Syndrome which is an inherited condition that is typically associated with childhood-onset insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus and progressive optic atrophy. Consequently, she is slowly losing her sight resulting from degeneration of the nerves that carry information from the eyes to the brain. At this time there is cure, but careful clinical monitoring and supportive care can relieve the suffering.

Echo is a sophomore at Crater Lake Academy, and graduation she plans to take a year off before going to college and eventually becoming a therapist for young people (she will major in psychology). Her hobbies are music, drawing (art), and a passion for zoology. She has sold four of her drawings, and is the leader of the zoology club, with some of her focus dedicated to the Humane Society. Echo does

not like big crowds and prefers one on one conversations specifically with Emirah.

Her grandmother is her hero, and I know why! I have known her grandmother for over 15 years and she has always taken care of her family. She took custody of Echo and her twin sisters early on. Echo has limited contact with her mom while dad is trying to find a place in her life. I knew her mom as a young high school student at Eagle Point, and I was around when her uncle (mom's brother) was killed in an auto accident. That took a tremendous toll on the family which some members may not have recovered yet. Echo envisions taking care of her grandma by repaying her for stepping in when it was clear that the parents wouldn't. The adverse childhood experiences have an origin and a lineage that intergenerational. Our circle of support is necessary and long lasting it can prevent risk of disease, social and emotional problems as an adult. Echo is a remarkable young lady with the sky being the limit.



MOMENT OF SILENCE
UVALDE TEXAS
ROBB ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
5/24/22

ENOUGH ALREADY! PLEASE.

Issue No. 1: The Joby Project/Big Idea Next

ALTERNATIVE TIMES

Magazine



IN THIS ISSUE:

Self Efficacy
 Role Models
 Internships
 Perceived Social Norms
 Meritocracy
 Social Support
 June 2022: Solution Achieved!

YOUR CHAOS TOOLBELT:

Research • Essays • Journals • Sound of Music • Playwrights • Employment • Diaries