



PHOTO/Lyndon Zaitz

Santa figurines from the private collection of Harry Pease are on display at the Keizer Heritage Museum through the end of December.

A Heritage holiday

Dozens of Santa Claus figurines from the private collection of the late Mary Pease is on temporary exhibit at the Keizer Heritage Museum inside the Keizer Heritage Center through the end of December.

Mary Pease was married to Harry Pease, a long time educator in Keizer schools, a founder of Keizer Little League and Keizer's First Citizen in 1968.

The Santas are ceramic and each has its own lifestyle theme.

Continuing the Christmas motif, the Keizer Community Library is featuring more

than 15 Breyer Horse figurines from the collection of Natalie Rick, a library volunteer. Rick has been collecting the Christmas-themed horses for more than 20 years. Each horse has distinctive decorations, each playing on a specific story. This display will also be exhibited until the end of December.

The Keizer Heritage Museum is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Keizer Community Library is open Monday-Thursday, 1-7 p.m., Friday, 1-4 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday 1,4 p.m.

Mia Lou Cantrell and Kailey Garza were the two luckiest kids in Keizer on Tuesday, Dec. 6.

The two were chosen by drawing to help Santa Claus flip the switch on the lights of Keizer's Christmas tree at Walery Plaza.

Hundreds of kids and their families gathered for the annual ceremony that marks the unofficial start of the Christmas season in the Iris City.

The crowd was entertained by a choir from the Boys and Girls Club, accompanied by the Grand Jazz and

Swing Band.

As emcee, Dave Walery periodically checked in with Santa on his arrival status, the crowd enjoyed hot cider and cookies.

At 6:40 p.m. Santa, with the help of Kailey and Mia Lou (with her dad, Tony Cantrell) turned on the 3,750 multi-color lights on the 76-foot tall tree to loud cheers and applause.

The next holiday event in Keizer is the Holiday Lights Parade on Saturday, Dec. 10.

More photos on the Keizertimes Facebook page.

R & R Tree Service saves Christmas in Keizer

By LYNDON ZAITZ
Of the Keizertimes

Keizer's Mr. Christmas—Dave Walery—had a problem. The holiday wouldn't be the same if there were no lights on the city's Christmas tree to switch on at the scheduled ceremony on Dec. 6.

Each year Walery oversees the hanging of decorations along the city's main thoroughfares which includes the 76-foot tree at Walery Plaza at River Road and Cherry Avenue.

The problem this year was the rig that has been used in the past to reach the top of the tree—Keizer Fire

District's 100-foot ladder truck—was unavailable due to scheduled maintenance.

"I was going through my list of people," said Walery. He called different groups that helped in the past but none had a rig that could reach to the top of the tree.

"I happened to be driving by R & R Tree Service and saw their crane truck and thought, 'That sucker would get to the top of the tree.'"

"I don't know Robert (Cornett—owner of R & R Tree Service). I called and he said he would be happy to help and would help with Keizer's Christmas tree every

year from now on."

Early Saturday morning, Dec. 3, Cornett and his general foreman Tim Jones arrived with a truck with a 100-foot crane and bucket that could easily reach the top of the tree. Shortly after arriving Walery joined Jones and his small son, Derek, in the crane that took them to the top to snake electric cords down the trunk.

Following on the heels of the crane truck was the tree service's Tupen, a track lift rig with tank-style treads and stabilizing arms that makes it look like a large green spider. Cornett and Jones were

joined by other R & R Tree Service employees including Robert Kilmer and Joey Mitchell.

Cornett donated the use of his rigs while he and his staff all volunteered their time to help string lights on the tree.

Watching from ground level and helping with light stringing were local volunteers including Bob Shackelford, leader of Men of Action in Keizer, a Keizer Chamber group. Other volunteers were Shawn Lapof, Randy Cook, Larry Schmidgall, Steve Clark and Ron Freeman.

Make this Holiday One to Remember

Free gift wrapping through Dec. 24

SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS
Sunday Dec. 11th: 11am - 4pm
Sunday, Dec. 18th: 11am - 4pm
Christmas Eve until 3pm

BOUCHER JEWELERS
4965 River Rd N 503-393-0701

CONCEALED CARRY PERMIT CLASS

1PM AT KEIZER CIVIC CENTER
LOCATED AT: 930 CHEMAWA RD NE, KEIZER OR 97303

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

2 PERMIT OPTIONS: OREGON ONLY (\$45)
or **MULTI-STATE (\$80) OREGON INCLUDED**

Cash or check payment will be made at the class.
A driver license is all you need to bring.

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