

Comcast helping Big Toy project

By CRAIG MURPHY
Of the Keizertimes

A cable TV company learned about a big park project in Keizer thanks to e-mail.

That led to Tim Goodman, director of Government Affairs for Comcast Cable in Oregon and Southwest Washington, publicly thanking Janet Carlson at the March 2 Keizer City Council meeting.

Carlson, the Marion County commissioner, is co-chair of the fundraising task force for the Big Toy playground project, scheduled to be built by community volunteers over a five-day period in June at Keizer Rapids Park.

Part of the public thanking included a \$1,000 check and a pledge to help in the future.

“Sometime back in the early fall Commissioner Carlson e-mailed me some information about a park here in Keizer, that you guys were developing a Big Toy,” Goodman said. “She indicated some financial help might be needed. Upon her request, I put in a request to Comcast. I was able to get a little bit of money.”

But that wasn't all. “In addition to that, I believe you guys are looking at a June construction date,” Goodman said. “I talked to our local tech op who manages all the local (Comcast) cable guys in Salem-Keizer. They are interested in putting together a team to come help you'll put it together.”

Goodman then explained why he wanted to do the presentation while sitting next to Carlson.

“I have to give Commissioner Carlson credit, because

we wouldn't have known about it if it hadn't been for her bending my ear a little bit,” he said. “I've had the check with me for a couple of months, but we were trying to coordinate a time when we could both be here together. I have a check for \$1,000 I wanted to give you tonight, and a commitment for a work crew for when you do the construction in June. That's why we're here tonight. I wanted to give her some recognition.”

Carlson noted she had responded to what seemed like an open invitation from Goodman.

“When he asked me, ‘What can we do to help in Marion County?’ I said, well, we've been working on this project in Keizer,” Carlson said.

According to Goodman, the project hit a nerve for him since he was formerly a parks and recreation person for 14 years in California.

“We did a project similar to this back in the day,” Goodman said. “I know how this works. I have a check for whoever wants to take it.”

Mayor Cathy Clark had councilor Marlene Quinn, chair of the Community Build Task Force, accept the check and pose for a picture with Goodman and Carlson.

The following evening, Carlson gave a fundraising update during the monthly CBTF meeting. Carlson noted she'll be talking about the project this spring on Comcast Newsmakers, while fundraising co-chair Richard Walsh has been talking to churches about getting volunteers for the June 10 to



KEIZERTIMES/Craig Murphy
Tim Goodman (left) from Comcast thanked Janet Carlson (right) and pledged his company's support to the Big Toy project during the March 2 Keizer City Council meeting.

14 build dates. She also commended former mayor Lore Christopher for “going like gangbusters” in getting financial commitments.

According to figures from Carlson, recent contributions have included \$2,500 from Mountain West Investment Corporation, an additional \$2,000 from Keizer Rotary for a swing set (in addition to \$30,000 already contributed by Rotary to the project), \$5,000 from Keizer Elks for a log cabin, \$1,000 from Northwest League of Professional Baseball for a bench and \$8,000 from Salem-Keizer Volcanoes for a new volcano slide, which was highlighted in last week's *Keizertimes*.

Carlson's figures show more than \$223,000 has been raised. With the budget recently being lowered to \$319,000 in light of a cheaper surface, approximately 70 percent of the funds have

been raised. “This is looking real good,” Carlson said.

Carlson noted sometimes additional funding ends up being a wash, as exemplified by the funding from the Volcanoes. “Another interesting thing is sometimes there are puts and takes,” she said. “The Volcanoes are providing money, but that's also an expense we didn't have previously.”

Carlson also emphasized fundraising isn't necessarily done once build date arrives.

“Even if we don't reach the \$95,000 left to raise by then, there will still be people who want to donate later once it is built,” she said. “We're not going to say it's over until it's over. The build date is not the end date for fundraising. We will probably need to think of ongoing maintenance costs and grants for activities in the park. June may not be the end.”

the deuce

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Today in History
Astronomer William Herschel discovers Uranus, the seventh planet from the sun.
— March 13, 1781

Food 4 Thought
“Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former.”
— Albert Einstein

The Month Ahead

Through Thursday, March 28
Keizer Art Association presents its March show: *Home is Where the Heart Is* at the Enid Joy Mount Gallery. Gallery hours are 1-4 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays. keizerarts.com.

Pentacle Theatre's run of *The New Mel Brooks Musical: Young Frankenstein*, directed by Robert Salberg. Tickets are \$24. Visit pentacletheatre.org for show times and availability.

Through Tuesday, March 31
Vintage hats, glove and handbags from the private collection of Kathe Leigh Mash on display at Keizer Heritage Museum. 2-4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays. keizerheritage.org.

Friday, March 13
Pinot for the Parks, fundraiser for Keizer Parks Foundation benefitting the Big Toy project. Starts at 6 p.m. at Keizer Civic Center. Tickets \$25 each.

Friday, March 13 - Saturday, March 14
Native Plant Sale from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Friday and 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Saturday at Bauman Farms, 12989 Howell Prairie Road in Gervais.

Saturday, March 14
Rossini's *La Donna del Lago* based on the novel by Sir Walter Scott starts at 9:55 a.m. at Regal Santiam Stadium 11, 365 Lancaster Drive SE. Tickets are available at the door, \$22 for seniors and \$26 for general. (503) 983-6030.

Willamette Valley Genealogical Society meets at 10:30 a.m. at the Life Source Community Room at Candalaria Terrace, 2661 Commercial Street SE, Salem. There will be a tour of the office space at Candalaria Terrace. For more information, call (503) 363-0880.

Sons of Norway potluck, 6:30 p.m., Salem Masonic Temple, 1625 Brush College Rd. N.W. 503-910-3302. sonthor42salemor.org.

The Salem Pops Orchestra presents *Gypsy Fiddles* at the Grand Theatre, 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15. grandballroom.info.

Sunday, March 15
Downton Abbey Tea at 11 a.m. at Deepwood Estate.

Salem Concert Band presents Historic Elsinore Theater In The Steps of Sousa at 3:00 p.m. at Elsinore Theater, 170 High Street SE. For tickets and more information call (503) 362-0485 or go to www.salemconcertband.org.

Monday, March 16
Keizer City Council meeting, 7 p.m. in council chambers at Keizer Civic Center.

Tuesday, March 17
Keizer Points of Interest Committee meeting, 5:30 p.m. in council chambers at Keizer Civic Center.

Free admission day at Hallie Ford Museum of Art, 700 State St. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Visit willamette.edu/arts/hfma for exhibit details.

Thursday, March 19
Volunteer Coordinating Committee meeting, 6 p.m. in council chambers at Keizer Civic Center.

Greater Gubser Neighborhood Association meeting, 7 p.m. at Gubser Elementary School.

Friday, March 20 - Saturday, March 21
The annual Deepwood Estate Erythronium and native plant sale will be held from 10 am. to 3 p.m. both days at the estate at Mission and 12th Streets in Salem. 503-363-1825. historicdeepwoodestate.org. Free admission.

Saturday, March 21
Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus LIVE! Starring Peter Ster in the theatrical comedy based on the best-selling book. Begins at 7:30 p.m. at The Historic Elsinore.

Add your event by e-mailing news@keizertimes.com.

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There have been tours of Keizer organized by city groups like the Keizer Parks and Recreation Board.

But one of the city groups organizing a road trip? That's a bit more unusual.

The Keizer Arts Commission - soon to be renamed Keizer Public Arts Commission - has scheduled a March 26 road trip to Grand Ronde.

The purpose? To look at to-

public hearings

The Keizer City Council will consider a supplemental budget for the 2014-15 fiscal year budget at its meeting on Monday, March 16. The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. in council chambers at Keizer Civic Center.

looking back in the KT

5 YEARS AGO
Councilors won't buy library building
A building purchase proposal for the Keizer Community Library was rejected by city councilors, saying the city simply didn't have the money.

10 YEARS AGO
Blueprint for River Road unveiled
Keizer's River Road Renaissance project would “set the table” for developers to overhaul and update the city's business core. The plan calls for creating a chain of five commercial districts each with a different ambiance and focal points.

15 YEARS AGO
Woman tracks erratic driver to drug cache
A call from a 19-year-old Keizer woman resulted in a major drug bust at a home near McNary High School. Police found suspected heroine and methamphetamines, marijuana and a .357 Magnum handgun.

20 YEARS AGO
Police phone delays get council attention
City officials pledged to try to improve the Keizer Police Department's telephone system, which they concede has frustrated many callers to the department.

Road trip for Arts Commission

tem pole art.

In case your first question is why an art group from Keizer would be traveling to look at totem poles, the answer is actually simple. There are two Douglas firs in front of the Keizer Civic Center that were trimmed a couple of months ago.

Jill Hagen and Lore Christopher from the KAC have a shared vision of a local artist doing art on one of the trees, with members of a local tribe doing art on the other. Hagen has been in contact with a Grand Ronde tribal group to explore the idea of doing a totem pole in front of city hall.

During the Feb. 24 KAC meeting, Hagen gave her update.

“They want us as a com-

mission to go out there and see the standing totems they have in Grand Ronde,” Hagen said. “They want us to visit as a group, do a presentation to us and then do a presentation to our group here. They said the images they'd be using are more authentic and local to this area. They would approach us in a sacred manner.”

A potential issue would have to be worked out.

“The pieces would have to come down for carving,” Hagen said. “Pine is not the best thing (for carving) because it has knots. They like cedar the best.”

As such, Hagen said the current standing Douglas fir wouldn't be good.

“They want it to be on the ground level while they work

on it,” she said. “These are standing. That will not work for them.”

KAC member Rick Day, owner of Advantage Precast in Keizer, said cedar logs could be put up once they are finished on the ground.

“We could do concrete pits and then put the wood in there,” Day said.

Please see TRIP, Page A3

local weather

Fri 3/13 71/50 Cloudy. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.

Sat 3/14 62/48 Mainly cloudy and rainy. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 40s.

Sun 3/15 59/47 Cloudy with rain. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the upper 40s.

Mon 3/16 68/44 Clouds giving way to sun. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 40s.

Tue 3/17 68/43 Showers ending by midday. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 40s.

sudoku

1				2	3
		4			
5		6		7	4
3		2	7	4	6
	7				8
2	4	1	9		5
4	2		8		9
			5		
6	3				1

Enter digits from 1-9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.

KEIZERTIMES.COM

Web Poll Results

Where does your household donate money locally?

- 40% - Community non-profit organization(s)
- 38% - Combination of any of the above
- 13% - Don't give to any organization/school
- 5% - Sports program
- 2% - Elementary school
- 2% - High school
- 0% - Middle school

Vote in a new poll every Thursday!
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THIS WEEK'S MOVIE TIMES

Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1 (PG-13) Fri 6:00, Sat 5:15, 10:15, Sun 5:45

The Hobbit: Battle of the 5 Armies (PG-13) Fri 8:45, Sat 2:10, 7:40, 10:15, Sun 3:00, 7:30

Into the Woods (PG) Fri 6:20, Sat 12:20, 2:45, Sun 2:20, 5:00

Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (PG) Fri 4:00, Sat 3:30, Sun 1:00

Taken 3 (PG-13) Fri 6:45

The Wedding Ringer (R) Fri 9:00, Sat 8:15, Sun 8:05

Unbroken (PG-13) Fri 4:10, 8:25, Sat 12:50, 5:40, Sun 12:00, 4:35

Wild (R) Sun 7:15

Big Hero 6 (PG) Fri 4:05, Sat 12:00, Sun 12:15

Penguins of Madagascar (PG) Sun 2:40

FOR ALL SHOWTIMES GO TO NORTHERNLIGHTSTHEATREPUB.COM