

Cherriots is Moving Forward

By CRAIG MURPHY
Of the Keizertimes

Increased frequency of service along key bus routes in Salem and Keizer will be taking effect on Sept. 8.

The Salem-Keizer Transit Board of Directors recently approved a Moving Forward plan, after a year of outreach efforts by transit officials.

Allan Pollock, general manager for Cherriots, noted the changes represent phase 1. In the first phase, popular routes will increase to stops every 15 minutes, as opposed to the current 30 minutes. The routes will keep the stops every 15 minutes from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., dropping to stops every 30 minutes from 7 to 9 p.m.

The first phase does not include added evening or weekend service.

"We morphed phase 2 and 3 into just phase 2, for evening and weekend service," Pollock said.

As previously mentioned in the Keizertimes, weekend service was eliminated in 2009 due to budget constraints being faced at the time.

"For phase 2, the board asked me to do some outreach events and report back my findings in May," Pollock said. "The board will not go (for a vote) in May. We are potentially looking at November 2015 or later. More revenue would be needed."

Pollock said two options are being looked at to bring in additional revenue, either of which would require a vote. One option would be a five-year property tax at \$.58 per



KEIZERTIMES/Craig Murphy

Cherriots general manager Allan Pollock (right), shown talking to U.S. Rep. Kurt Schrader during the Keizer Transit Center's grand opening in 2013, will be doing outreach about two options being looked at to expand bus service in the area.

\$1,000 of assessed value or a permanent payroll tax.

"In order to implement phase 2, it will take \$5 million a year," Pollock said. "It would have to be new revenue."

Prior to the May 28 board meeting, community outreach meetings will be held.

"What the board is really doing is trying to determine what the community support is for the two options and when we should seek going out for the ballot measures," Pollock said.

It hasn't been determined yet when an option would be sent out for a vote.

Jared Choc, Planning and Technology manager for Salem-Keizer Transit, gave a syn-

opsis of Moving Forward in October.

"Phase 1 is increased frequency on busy routes," Choc said at the time. "That's a change from now. Now, routes operate with peak service. We've found bus usage is consistent through the day. Buses are running on a consistent schedule with this new phase. It will hopefully lead to increased ridership. The bus is used by commuters, but not all workers have shifts that start at 8 a.m. It's becoming more and more of a national trend that ridership is more stable throughout the day than in the past."

According to a statement from Cherriots, Moving Forward will add crosstown routes resulting in fewer transfers and reduced travel time while staying within the current budget. As one example, riders can catch a bus every 15 minutes on South Commercial Street in Salem and take it to the Keizer Transit Center without any transfers.

Choc noted last year a common question transit officials get is when weekend service will be restored.

"Everyone tells us they want weekend service," Choc said. "We have a proposal for that. This is preplanning for what Saturday service could be. We're trying to do more with the resources we have."

More information about Moving Forward is available at the Cherriots website online at www.cherriots.org/movingforward.

Keizer Albertsons is converting to Haggen

By CRAIG MURPHY
Of the Keizertimes

The Albertsons in Keizer will soon become a Haggen.

The store is one of 20 Albertsons or Safeways in Oregon being converted to Haggens in the first half of 2015.

As previously mentioned in the Keizertimes, Washington-based Haggen Food and Grocery used to have 18 grocery stores and 16 pharmacies in Oregon and Washington, but is in the process of acquiring 146 Safeways and Albertsons around Oregon, Washington, California, Nevada and Arizona.

Albertsons and Safeway underwent a merger earlier last year, with the agreement to sell 168 stores to acquire merger approval as part of AB Acquisition LLC agreeing to buy Safeway for \$9.4 billion. Haggen is acquiring 146 of those stores, including the Albertsons in Keizer that opened in 1985. The Safeway in Keizer will be unchanged.

Nine stores are listed for transition to Haggen this month, with eight of them being Albertsons. The first conversion is expected to take place in Lake Oswego today, March 20.

The Keizer Albertsons is one of eight stores listed for conversion in April.

As part of the conversions, Haggen leaders are looking to meet with community members in informal, public meetings. Local farmers and producers will be able to discuss selling their wares on Haggen's shelves, while small businesses can talk about co-marketing programs and non-profit organizations can learn about Haggen's community giving.

"We hope community members will join us for a fun evening to learn about how we can work together to strengthen our community," said John Clougher, CEO of Haggen Pacific Northwest.

Deborah Pleva with Weinstein PR said an exact date for the Keizer Albertsons hasn't been determined yet.

"It is slated to convert late March to early April," Pleva said. "We will reach out as soon as we have determined the date and time of the community meeting."

The conversion schedule for each store will follow a similar



Submitted

Washington-based Haggen will be the name soon on the current Albertsons in Keizer.

timeline. The store will close at 6 p.m. Haggen will take ownership of the store just after midnight and begin the conversion. Both interior and exterior signage will change at all locations and every store interior will receive a fresh coat of paint. Then two days after the closure, the store re-opens as a Haggen.

Dennis McCoy, Communications and Public Affairs manager for Albertsons, told the

Keizertimes back in December shoppers won't notice much difference.

"Under the terms of the purchase agreement, Haggen has agreed to hire all store employees upon the close of the Albertsons/Safeway merger," McCoy said.

local weather

Fri 3/20	67/47		Cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 40s.
Sat 3/21	63/39		Light rain early. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 30s.
Sun 3/22	67/44		Afternoon showers. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 40s.
Mon 3/23	57/42		Cloudy with rain. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the low 40s.
Tue 3/24	60/42		Showers possible. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 40s.

Northern Lights
theatre pub

3893 COMMERCIAL ST SE

THIS WEEK'S MOVIE TIMES

Wild (R) Fri 6:45, Sat 9:10, Sun 7:45

Unbroken (PG-13) Fri 4:10, 9:00, Sat 4:30, Sun 12:00, 5:10

The Wedding Ringer (R) Fri 9:05, Sat 7:10 Sun 8:05

The Hobbit: Battle of the 5 Armies (PG-13) Fri 6:20, Sat 7:45, Sun 6:55

Project Almanac (PG-13) Fri 2:15, Sat 2:25

Paddington (PG) Fri 11:35, 3:55, Sat 12:55, Sun 12:20, 2:20

Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1 (PG-13) Fri 8:15, Sat 6:30, Sun 5:45

Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (PG) Fri 12:00, 4:25, Sat 11:45, Sun 1:00

Penguins of Madagascar (PG) Sat 12:30

Into the Woods (PG) Fri 1:30, 5:55, Sat 2:50, 5:15, 8:50, Sun 4:30

Big Hero 6 (PG) Fri 2:00, Sun 3:00

FOR ALL SHOWTIMES GO TO
NORTHERNLIGHTSTHEATREPUB.COM

looking back in the KT

5 YEARS AGO

Prime Steak has closed

Prime Steak and Seafood at McNary Golf Club has closed. The golf club manager described the closing as "fairly sudden."

10 YEARS AGO

Let's make a deal on Keizer Station property
The Keizer City Council has put off a decision on possible condemnation of a Keizer couple's land at the freeway, opting instead to take one more shot at negotiating to buy the property.

15 YEARS AGO

City picks Kansan as new manager

The Keizer City Council has chosen Christopher C. Eppley, a 28-year-old administrator for the city of Tonganoxie, Kan. as Keizer's new city manager, succeeding Wally Mull.

20 YEARS AGO

School size stirs parent concerns

The plan to add sixth-graders to Whiteaker Middle School next fall has some Keizer parents worried. One concern was that the student body would be too large to ensure order and safety for all students.

sudoku

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

IT'S SPRING AND ALL OREGON IS STARTING TO DIG.

Hopefully for our number.

If your spring chores involve breaking ground, make sure to call 811 before you dig. We'll help make sure you're clear of any buried lines. For more information, visit PortlandGeneral.com/OutdoorSafety.



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

KEIZERTIMES.COM

Web Poll Results

Should logos or corporate advertising be permitted at The Big Toy playground at Keizer Rapids Park?

53% - No
47% - Yes

Vote in a new poll every Thursday!
GO TO KEIZERTIMES.COM



Powered by Oregon