



Bill Hugill (second from right) from project consultant Leathers and Associates talks with Dave Bauer (far right) about food logistics while at the Big Toy playground site at Keizer Rapids Park on April 7. Standing by are project general manager Mark Caillier (far left) and Bill Lawyer, the Public Works director for the city of Keizer. Community volunteers will be building the 15,000 square foot play structure from June 10 to 14.

HUGILL, continued from Page A1

"Everybody is on track and knows what they need to do," Hugill said following the meeting. "Mark has done a good job getting everyone going in the right direction. There are some groups that have a bigger job ahead of them, but that's the nature of the job. Some of the jobs are huge."

Caillier expressed confidence as well after the meeting.

"I feel pretty darn good," Caillier said.

Hugill said Leathers will typically send two consultants to a build site, though there might be a third coming to Keizer in two months.

As various people gathered at the Big Toy site in the morning, Caillier emphasized the need to keep an open mind.

"We're going to learn a lot today," he said. "A lot of things I thought we were doing right were not right."

Hugill started at the site by having measurements tak-

en and stakes put in to mark boundaries, while comparing what he was seeing with what the drawings showed.

Surveyor Robert Hamman with Multi-Tech Engineering said it could take two days to get staking done before the build begins on June 10, which is a Wednesday. That led to discussions about how early work should be done on the site before actual construction of the play structure commences.

"I have laid out some play areas, but not one with this much detail," Hamman said.

Hugill wasn't just looking at the site to make sure everything fit. He was also deciding where other things like a pre-fab area, food and snacks, volunteer check-in and parking should go. The level of detail went down to decisions like how many portable toilets should be brought in as well as how many tents and what size they should be.

The five days of construction are scheduled to be completed on a Sunday, leading to Caillier asking if the structure would be officially open on that day.

"I would say you could do

a soft opening on Sunday," Hugill said. "You can have a limited opening on Sunday evening, for maybe an hour."

Volunteers are encouraged to sign up for one or more time slots on the project's website at www.keizerbigtoy.org, in part so the food committee can know how much food to have on hand. Dave Bauer, who is heading the food team, told Hugill the Keizer Fire District is being used as a base for the food.

"The number of volunteers you'll have is a crapshoot," said Hugill, noting many times volunteers will show up unannounced.

Hugill, who made the trip to Keizer as a replacement for injured colleague Doug Hanauer, briefed with project manager Kyle Cundy at Leathers about a week before coming here. A representative from Leathers was last in Keizer back in November 2013.

"This is about figuring out the logistics, where things will be and how to get things on site," Hugill said. "My job today is to fill in people on what their job will be. Everyone has a lot to do. It benefits everyone to be prepared."

MUSTANG: 'Willingness and trust is a big part'

(Continued from page A1) horses that have been easy to work with, but she's an overthinker and I've got to get into her mind," Elisabeth said. Elisabeth knows this is happening when Calypso freezes up and her eyes go wide.

While the training has gone smoothly for the most part, there was one scare. Elisabeth was cleaning Calypso's rear hooves when the horse kicked her in the knee. Elisabeth went down and was able to stand up, but the room was spinning.

A trip to the emergency room revealed nothing more than a bad bruise and sprain, but Elisabeth was undeterred. She used the crutches she needed for a few weeks as simply one more thing for Calypso to become less afraid of.

"I put her and my other mare out in the ring. I would rub it on Suzie and then Calypso," she said. "I've been really surprised by how willing she is to learn new things. She wants to please people but she doesn't know how sometimes."

Elisabeth has even gotten Calypso to lie down a few times. It's a horse's most vulnerable position and no small feat on the part of her trainer.

"Willingness and trust is a big part of the score," Elisabeth said.

Elisabeth spends about 15 hours a week working with Calypso in preparation for the day of competition in May. After that's over, Elisabeth



Submitted Elisabeth Bursleson lays hands on Calypso for the first time more than two months ago. Bursleson has about 40 days left before Calypso must be competition-ready.

has to reassign the horse. Fortunately, Calypso won't be going far. A family in Hillsboro has agreed to give her a forever home.

Since taking on the challenge, Elisabeth's mother, Tamra, has a new word for what she thought was her daughter's stubbornness.

"She's tenacious. If she sets out to achieve a goal with Calypso, she won't quit until she makes significant progress," Tamra said. "I was hoping the stubborn would pay off somehow."

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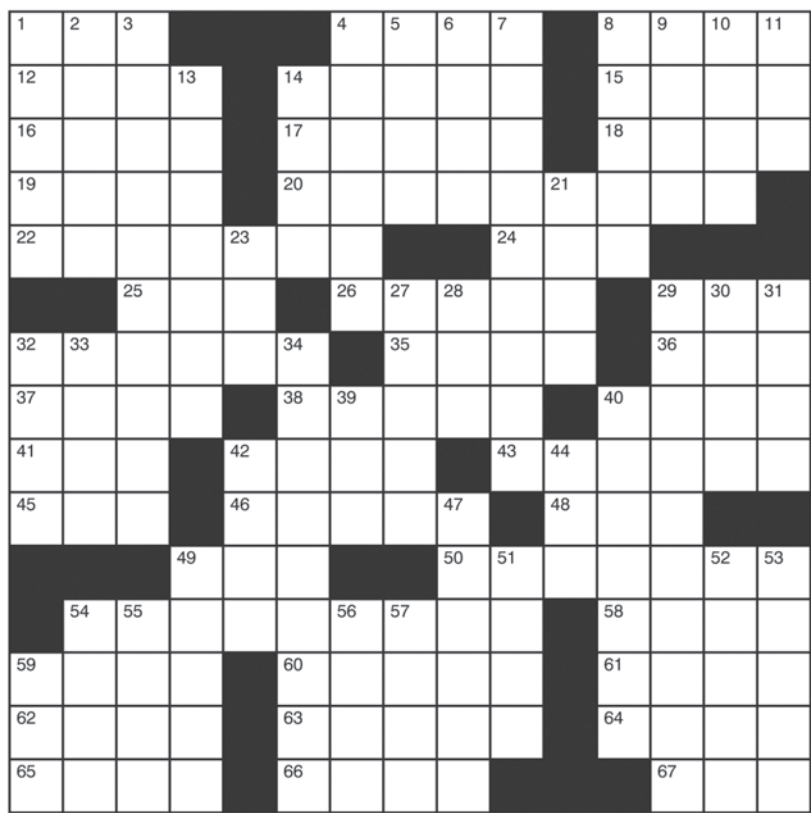
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ACROSS

- 1 Groove
- 4 Mail
- 8 Red-coated cheese
- 12 Will- ___ -wisp
- 14 Veil material
- 15 Thatch
- 16 Other, abroad
- 17 Kind of soup
- 18 Military transport
- 19 Prophet
- 20 13
- 22 Locks
- 24 Bean variety
- 25 Luxurious
- 26 Scout, at times
- 29 Weep
- 32 Snub
- 35 Church area
- 36 Harry's successor
- 37 Landed
- 38 Mad
- 40 Corn lily
- 41 Crew
- 42 Stravinsky ballet
- 43 Baffled
- 45 Spelling contest
- 46 Elate
- 48 Salamander
- 49 Skill

DOWN

- 50 Was charitable
- 54 10
- 58 Washington's Janet
- 59 Grotto
- 60 Merchant ship
- 61 Old king of England, Denmark, and Norway
- 62 Sharif
- 63 Water nymph
- 64 To be, in Belleau
- 65 Departed
- 66 List ender
- 67 Affirmative

23 Neighbor of Isr.

- 27 Foolish
- 28 Crazy ___
- 29 26
- 30 Migrant worker
- 31 Rosary unit
- 32 Metrical foot
- 33 Kind of club
- 34 Nine
- 39 Caviar
- 40 Valid
- 42 Farm unit
- 44 English ref. bk.
- 47 Disclose
- 49 Prevent
- 51 Pill
- 52 Harden
- 53 Is overly fond of
- 54 Fortune's partner
- 55 Lendl
- 56 Decree
- 57 Hipbones
- 59 Daunt



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