



# the deuce

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# Lee, Moles battle for school board

By **CRAIG MURPHY**  
*Of the Keizertimes*

Chuck Lee is a familiar name around Keizer. Lee is the former longtime president of Blanchet Catholic School who currently is president of the Mountain West Career Technical Institute, set to open this fall. He previously served on the Keizer City Council for seven years and is seeking a third term on the Salem-Keizer School Board in the May 19 election.

Lee's opponent is Tim Moles, a Keizer native who graduated from McNary High School in 1985 and returned to Oregon a few years ago. He is currently starting Joules Power Inc. in Prineville.

The two men are competing for the Zone 6 seat on the school board, representing Keizer. With ballots being sent to voters this week, here is an opportunity to see how Lee and Moles responded to identical questions.

Keizer Fire Board candidates will be featured in next week's *Keizertimes*.

*Why are you running for this seat?*

**Lee:** I'm running for my third term on the school board because I want to be a champion for kids who also models a deep commitment to community service. I have been an educator for more than 40 years and believe the success of our country depends on quality public schools.

**Moles:** Community and education are the bedrocks. It starts here. A common sense of accountability is all I'm asking for. We have to be responsible to each other in a community. Having worst graduation rate as a state, we are part of that number. That is unacceptable.

*There has been a lot of talk regarding the upcoming implementation of full-day kindergarten. What is the best strategy for locally implementing it?*

**Moles:** First I would have to look at the budgets. I'd go further up the chain. I don't believe we have accountability of children on the level we're talking about until the age of 8. From kindergarten to age 8 is the transition time when a family puts the child in the system. By age of 8, the child is clearly coming in. The idea is not to create another hierarchy.

**Lee:** The best strategies to implement full-day kindergarten can be described in three different ways. First of all we have a serious overcrowding issue with this implementation of a full-day kindergarten so we need to find creative ways to provide a quality environment for students. Secondly, it is important that the legislature and governor provide adequate funds to take care of our facilities issues and finance the expense of hiring more teachers. Finally it is important for the district to begin the hiring process to make sure we get the best teachers possible for our kindergartners.

*How do you feel about current testing standards and what, if anything, would you like to see changed about them?*

**Lee:** I support Common Core and the Smarter Balanced student assessments. I support them because it increases the rigor that our students need to be exposed to and attain. While I support this, I also support the right for parents to opt out of the Smarter Balanced student assessments.

**Moles:** I'd leave the standardized testing. You have to



Lee

Moles

have some way to measure if students are meeting the standards. You do it on the front end and back end of the year, you have a baseline of where you are with that child. With Common Core, a child must meet that standard. It's not appropriate. That has to be a judgement call left to teachers and administrators. They have to have the tools to carry that out.

*What grade would you give the district overall in terms of educating our children?*

**Moles:** I look at the overall state of affairs of education in our state, not individual districts. I'm not here to beat up on anybody.

**Lee:** I would give our district high marks for the education we provide. Since I was elected to the school board we have cut \$144 million dollars from the operational budget. We have had to lay off hundreds of employees and take several furlough days. Despite that our dropout rate has been significantly reduced and our test scores have improved. We have also built four new schools and done deferred maintenance on virtually all of our schools.

*What would you like to see done to improve the job the school district is doing?*

**Lee:** To improve our district we need to focus on three things. We need to invest in early childhood education, we need to implement full-day kindergarten and continue to

invest in career and technical programs that prepare students for the work place and get them advanced college credit.

**Moles:** I would like to see the school board get involved in rolling up their sleeves and cleaning up schools in the physical form. I took my dog for a walk by Clear Lake Elementary. The grass was up to the doors. And that's one of our newest schools. That's unacceptable. I think we can do better.

*Between the two of you, there is a past, current and future involvement with technical education. How necessary is it for school districts to beef up such efforts?*

**Moles:** My overall view is to increase educational efficiencies, wherever we can find them. Once students are 16, there are three tracks. You have the liberal arts students. The bulk will be going vocational so they can get a job to pay for things; they need to be prepared for that life. Then you have the other guys that aren't doing anything. That's their choice; they're enough of an adult to know they reap what they sow. We need to do more work with industries to come back with what they are looking for (in future employees). Come up with a list of you do this, you are eligible for employment.

**Lee:** As a board member and in my professional life I'm fully committed to improving our career technical education programs. I will continue to support the growth and sustainability of CTE (career and technical education) by working with fellow board members, community and industry partners and district staff to ensure we have the resources to do so.

## Today in History

The British Parliament passes the Tea Act, a bill that greatly lowered the tea tax it paid to the British government, thus granting it a de facto monopoly on the American tea trade. — May 1, 1773

## Food 4 Thought

"A long habit of not thinking a thing wrong gives it a superficial appearance of being right." — Thomas Paine

## The Month Ahead

### Continuing

*All My Sons* by Arthur Miller, at Pentacle Theatre through Saturday, May 9. For tickets and schedule visit pentacletheatre.org.

### Saturday, May 2

Fabric Fair, Salem Scottish Rite Center, 4090 Commercial St. S.E. Noon to 4 p.m. Large variety of fabric and notions for sale to benefit charities. 503-409-2543. facebook.com/fabricfair.

Artists' reception, Keizer Art Association, in connection with May exhibit, *Celebration of Flowers*, 2-4 p.m. Keizer Heritage Center, 980 Chemawa Rd. N.E. Show at Enid Joy Mount Gallery runs through May 30. Gallery hours are 1-4 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays. keizerarts.com.

Free Comic Book Day at Tony's Kingdom of Comics, 5420 River Road N, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on May 3.

### Sunday, May 3

Lemonade Day in Keizer and Salem. Hundreds of stands created by kids throughout the region will sell lemonade made from their own recipes. Teaches children about entrepreneurship.

Extraordinary Young Musicians at St. Paul, 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church 1444 Liberty Street SE. Bryanna West, vocalist. (503) 362-3661 or visit stpaulsoregon.org.

### Monday, May 4

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

### Tuesday, May 5

Keizer Budget Committee meeting, 6 p.m. at Keizer Civic Center.

Community Build Task Force meeting, 6 p.m. at Keizer Civic Center.

### Wednesday, May 6

Claggett Creek Watershed Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in Room B at Keizer Civic Center.

### Thursday, May 7

Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, 7:30 a.m. at Keizer Civic Center. Official kickoff to the Keizer Iris Festival.

College and Career Fair at Claggett Creek Middle School, 5-7 p.m. Colleges, businesses, community organizations and military personnel will share information to the public. Free BBQ, raffle for a tablet. 503-399-3701.

Keizer Budget Committee meeting, 6 p.m. in council chambers at Keizer Civic Center.

### Friday, May 8

Author Thomas Romano will sign copies of his new children's book, *Wild Creatures of the World*, at The Book Bin East on Lancaster Drive at Sunnyside Road. 3 p.m. 541-361-1235.

### Saturday, May 9

*Moonlight Masquerade*, St. Edward Catholic Church's 10th annual auction/dinner. 6 p.m. \$25 tickets include dinner and one drink. Masks are encouraged. For tickets visit sainteds.weshareonline.org.

Keizer Art Association presents its annual fundraiser, The Mad Hatter Tea Party, 12:30-2:30 p.m. Keizer Heritage Center, 980 Chemawa Road N.E. Tea, light luncheon, tea hat contest and more. Tickets are \$20, \$200 for table of eight, available from any KAA board member. For more information visit keizerarts.com.

*When Rock was Young*, the Elton John Tribute, 7:30 p.m. at The Historic Elsinore Theatre. Tickets range from \$25 to \$45. elsinoretheatre.com.

### Sunday, May 10

Keizer Volunteer Firefighters Association annual Mothers Day Breakfast at the Keizer Fire Station, 661 Chemawa Road NE, 7:30 to 11 a.m.

By **CRAIG MURPHY**  
*Of the Keizertimes*

In the fall, Salem-Keizer Transit District is expected to ask voters for more funding to support the next phase of its Moving Forward program, with the end goal of restoring weekend and evening service.

Before that, the transit district will gain a new board member. Brad Coy is not running to retain his Subdistrict 2 position. Richard Stevenson and Colleen Busch are competing for that spot.

In terms of background, Stevenson has previously served in public office in his native New Jersey and is currently chair of the transit board's Citizens Advisory Committee. Busch has served on the KFD budget committee since 2008.

The answers below from Busch and Stevenson have been edited for brevity where deemed necessary. The same

## looking back in the KT

### 5 YEARS AGO

Keizer Council debates rate changes for sanitation

A rate increase and compost pickup by local sanitation companies will be debated at Keizer City Council's public hearing.

### 10 YEARS AGO

Two students arrested for starting fire

Two Keizer youths, and students at Claggett Creek Middle School, were arrested Saturday night on arson charges stemming from a fire earlier that day at a vacant house.

### 15 YEARS AGO

McNary actors bring the Bard to Keizer stage

The McNary High School Theater Arts Department's presentation of *Macbeth* opened last Friday to a large and enthusiastic audience.

### 20 YEARS AGO

Keizer gets grant to help owners fix homes

Keizer has been awarded a \$300,000 Community Development Block Grant to be used by low- and moderate-income owners of homes to repair their houses.

questions were asked of both candidates.

*You both have done some public service in the past. What about this particular role intrigued you?*

**RS:** I truly believe by doing public service we give back to our community. I sought appointment to the transit board's Citizen Advisory Committee with the idea of working toward

Saturday service. I have come to have an extensive background in our systems policies, current challenges and future planning goals. To be a part of this process excites me.

**CB:** Salem Keizer Area Mass Transit is a tool and connector for our area. It's a regional system with many parts and players. The intrigue became: How

does it work, why do people use it and how can I help make it better?

It's a public system which a fraction of the population uses. Yet, the number of benefits for why to ride a transit vehicle abound. For \$1.60 you can get

Please see TRANSIT, Page A13

## sudoku

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		5				2		
4			8			7		

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.

## local weather

**Fri 5/1** 74/43 A few clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 40s.

**Sat 5/2** 69/40 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 40s.

**Sun 5/3** 71/41 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 40s.

**Mon 5/4** 70/44 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 40s.

**Tue 5/5** 64/43 Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 40s.

KEIZERTIMES.COM

# Web Poll

## Results

Does the Salem-Keizer School District adequately respond to threats of violence?

**67% - Yes**  
**33% - No**

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

**Jupiter Ascending (PG-13)**  
Fri 4:15, 6:45, Sun 2:55, 5:25

**The Duff (PG-13)**  
Fri 6:30, Sat 1:55, 4:00, Sun 2:30

**Do You Believe (PG-13)**  
Fri 4:05, Sat 4:15, Sun 12:15, 4:35

**Into the Woods (PG)** Sun 12:30

**American Sniper (R)**  
Fri 6:00, 8:45, Sat 5:20, 8:00, Sun 5:45, 8:15

**Run All Night (R)**  
Fri 8:30, Sat 8:40

**Fifty Shades of Grey (PG-13)**  
Fri 4:05, Sat 6:00, 8:25, Sun 7:55

**Focus (R)** Sat 6:30, Sun 6:50

**SpongeBob Movie (PG)**  
Fri 4:00, Sat 12:00, 2:15, 3:20 Sun 12:00, 1:50, 3:45

**Paddington (PG)**  
Sat 12:20

FOR ALL SHOWTIMES GO TO NORTHERNLIGHTSTHEATREPUB.COM