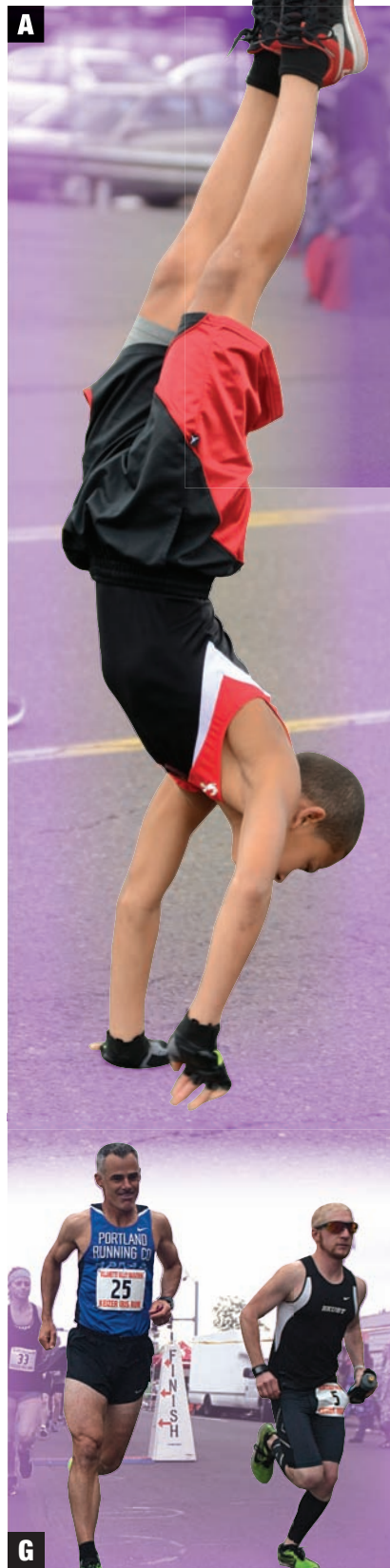


Keizertimes

SECTION A

MAY 22, 2015

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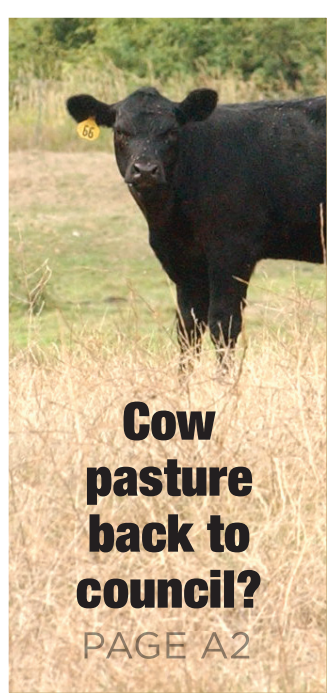
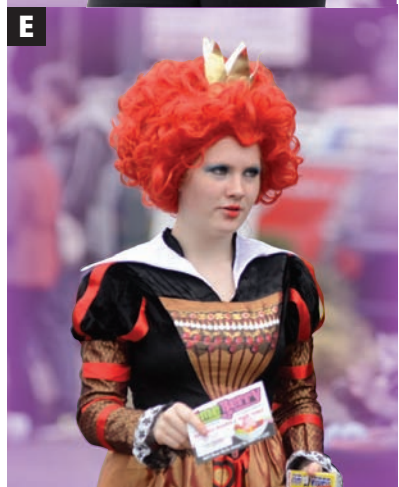


Keizer IRISFESTIVAL Review in Pictures

Photos by Eric A. Howald and Craig Murphy, Dee Moore and Andrew Jackson/KEIZERTIMES



For more photos see pages A11-13 and also check out our Facebook photo gallery. For parade video, check us out on YouTube.



Cow pasture back to council?
PAGE A2



City staff getting healthy
PAGE A5



Lady Celts win the league title
PAGE A8

Patterson, Hart, Lee, Busch win races

By CRAIG MURPHY
Of the Keizertimes

Yes, there was the contested school board race and the contested transit board race. But the two races from the May 19 election that truly got people fired up — bad pun intended — were the two contested battles for positions on the Keizer Fire District Board of Directors.

The Position 3 battle between James Mulhern and Chet Patterson was an interesting clash since Mulhern is a 21-year firefighter with the Marion County Fire District No. 1, the entity that had a memorable — and expensive — battle with the KFD a few years ago. Patterson, meanwhile, is one of Keizer's founding fathers and was part of the original Keizer City Council when the city was incorporated in 1982.

Mulhern campaigned in part to help MCFD and



KFD work together better. His campaign drew the ire of multiple groups at KFD, who in turn supported Patterson.

Then there was the Position 5 race between longtime former city councilor Jim Taylor and Betty Hart, whose husband Mike served on the fire board for years until health issues forced him to resign his seat late last year.

In the end, Patterson and Hart scored convincing wins. Meanwhile, Chuck Lee easily won a third term on the Salem-Keizer School Board and Colleen Busch won the Subdistrict 2 race for the Salem-Keizer Transit Board.

According to the initial Marion County Clerk's Office results on Tuesday night, Patterson led with 1,616 votes, or 57.51 percent as opposed to 1,176 votes (41.85 percent) for Mulhern.

"It's very rewarding and humbling to put your name out there and to have the voters reward you with votes," Patterson said. "It's a big responsibility."

Patterson, who noted Mulhern didn't emphasize his involvement in the firefighting profession, felt his experience with financial management was key.

"That said a lot about the

expertise I have and what I bring to the board and the fire district," Patterson said. "My commitment goes back to the early 1980s. When I retired (as a CPA), I wanted to get back involved in the community. This really does it in a big way."

Mulhern didn't return messages seeking comment on the results.

In the other race, Hart handily won with 1,761 votes (60.7 percent) compared to Jim Taylor getting 1,126 votes (38.81 percent).

"I'm really excited. I have to admit I worked pretty hard on this election, so I was really hopeful I would win," said Hart, whose efforts included being in last weekend's Keizer Iris Festival Parade. "Getting the results showing me in the lead was great. I had a lot of help doing this. Anybody who's working on an election has a lot of people helping and

I certainly had a lot of people helping me."

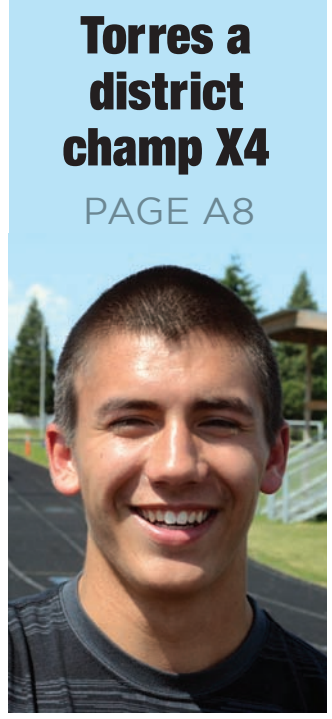
Hart credited her husband for encouraging her to run.

"What really makes me excited about this opportunity is I have some skills to bring to the fire district that I hope will be supportive of moving the fire district in the direction it needs to go," she said, noting Taylor has "done a lot to serve" the Keizer community. "I've been working in local governments as a member of staff. Having to develop policy and local budgets, I do bring a different set of experiences."

Taylor, who has applied for an opening on the Keizer Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, was gracious after losing on his birthday.

"She'll be fine," Taylor said of Hart. "I'm happy for her. She'll do a fine job. I'm disappointed but I'm not upset at all."

Please see RACES, Page A10



Torres a district champ X4
PAGE A8



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