

TURF,

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It will be held as a contingency fund, in case of overruns, until the project is complete.

The turf project will now proceed as planned with existing field beginning to be removed the week of June 15. After removal is complete, the groundwork will be laid for the new turf, meaning rock, concrete and drainage piping. The actual turf will be installed beginning in July.

McNutt, who has helped oversee projects at four other district high schools, said he's dealt with the fourth-and-goal scares every time out.

"We had the same thing happen at Sprague when we did the first one and something similar every time since," he said.

The is the first time in the career of Ron Richards, McNary athletic director, that a new field will be installed under his purview. Richards said the existing field is good for football, but he is eager to see Celtic soccer teams use the turf.

"More and more, those teams are playing away games on turf and that changes things a lot for them," Richards said. "Having a home structure that handles their use is going to be

great."

Richards said the project was unexpected and exciting.

"I most want to thank all the volunteers and the Athletic Booster Club members who have made this possible in a short amount of time," he said. "Our goal now it to make sure we continue the fundraising effort to make sure the ABC can use other funds to support our school and club teams."

With the new turf, McNary will be able to host more activities, both school- and community-related year-round. Each time the natural field is used it needs time to recoup and recondition, which translates into only about 160 events per year. The new field is expected to withstand 10 times the traffic.

More sporting activities, including McNary's soccer and lacrosse teams will be able to host games on the field. The McNary marching band will be able to practice there, and additional physical education classes will be able to use it.

"We have a good crew working on this project and many of them have ties to McNary," McNutt said.

The field is expected to be prepared for a grand unveiling Saturday, Aug. 22, the date of McNary's annual Blue Day.

"Aug. 22 will be one of the biggest days for the school in the past decade," Bethell said.

PALMA,

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Dylan Juran said selling a park was expensive and sound- scary, but the park wasn't exactly enduring to him.

"I don't care for that park, to be honest," Juran said.

Richard Walsh stopped short of suggesting a sale and instead asked for an appraisal to be done to see what the property is worth. That idea was approved and the idea was discussed at last week's council meeting.

Before councilors talked about the subject, however, three citizens asked for the property to be saved.

"I know it's overgrown, but that can all be fixed," said Darrell Richardson, who lives next to Sunset Park, which was redone over the years. "Then we won't lose a park on the river. If you sell, maybe you can purchase another piece close to the river so people can use the river. Keizer is made up of volunteers who would go down and clean it up."

Mayor Cathy Clark emphasized no decision has been made yet.

"The question was if proceeds could be used for other parks," Clark said. "The thing tonight is whether to get an appraisal."

Richardson said the money and land would both disappear after a sale.

"I'm opposed to the selling of the land," he said.

Public Works Director Bill Lawyer discussed the Parks Board discussion.

"They want to look at the options," Lawyer said. "They see it as not highly desirable because of the shape, the steep bank and the tough river access. Selling the property was a big discussion. No one knows what it is worth. We need to get an appraisal to see what could be done."

Gary Blake noted he was representing citizens from the neighborhood around the park and has gotten many comments on the topic.

"To help improve the park, one citizen is donating to help build walkways," Blake said. "The neighbors are very inter-



KEIZERTIMES file/Craig Murphy
Keizer City Councilors and Parks Board members looked at Palma Ciega Park during the annual Parks Tour last September.

ested in the park. Please keep us in the loop. We're glad to offer options for the long-term."

Clark was glad to hear the interest.

"This is the conversation that is just beginning here," she said. "I don't know where it will end but it's good (to discuss it)."

Blake said a "number" of people want to make the park a destination.

"They want it similar to Sunset Park, where you can go right down to the river," Blake said. "They want Palma Ciega to have a friendlier outlook so people will want to go there."

Rhonda Rich, president of the West Keizer Neighborhood Association, urged no sale.

"Money from a sale is enticing," Rich said. "But once a park is sold and the money is spent, you can't go back. This is a neighborhood park. Let's have conversations. I don't see an urgency to do this."

City attorney Shannon Johnson later recommended councilors approve getting an appraisal. Councilors eventually approved spending \$1,900 on the appraisal by a 5-2 vote, with Kim Freeman and Dennis Koho going against the motion.

Committee continues to look at ped safety

By CRAIG MURPHY
Of the Keizertimes

What, if anything, can be done to lessen the likelihood of pedestrian versus vehicle accidents at intersections such as River Road and Sam Orcutt Way in Keizer?

That issue has been looked at recently by members of the Keizer Traffic/Bikeways/Pathway Committee. Committee members have talked about doing a Public Service Announcement (PSA) to bring attention to the issue.

Sgt. Trevor Wenning with the Keizer Police Department noted earlier this year there have been four injury accidents at the intersection, all involving vehicles turning left from Orcutt onto River and making contact with pedestrians.

Committee members have been looking into what can be done to educate the public about potential safety issues.

"I did a little bit of looking into what published materials there are around the left

turn issue on River Road," Pat Fisher said at last month's committee meeting. "Quite a bit of research has been done. I didn't read the full reports, but I got the gist it's an unpredictable situation and a difficult one to prevent. One study talked about t-intersections like we have, which can have a higher crash rate than a full four-point intersection because there's no oncoming traffic. Drivers start turning right away when the pedestrian is in a more vulnerable position, in the crosswalk."

Fisher noted she had talked to Nicole Charlson, the Traffic Safety coordinator at the Oregon Department of Transportation, about the topic.

"Her recommendation was to wrap the left turn safety with pedestrians into a more general type of announcement about driver/pedestrian safety," Fisher said. "We could do it more as a news release, say in August

before school's starting, then October and again in March. In this case, it was brought up the changing sun angle in March and September might be a contributing factor."

Fisher suggested the committee could put together talking points, then have city staff interviewed for a news piece.

"I like what I'm hearing, even though I have some questions," said committee member John Henry Maurice.

Fisher said a PSA could be aimed at both drivers and pedestrians.

"It would be a reminder (for drivers) to watch out for pedestrians and why they are at risk to that kind of turning," Fisher said. "It's also a message to pedestrians to look for oncoming traffic."

While Maurice liked the dual audience, he also had a personal issue.

"I don't want to ignore my

belief that drivers are sometimes more aggressive and impatient than they should be," he said. "Says the person hit by a drunk driver and left to die. I have some issues with this."

Kathy Lincoln liked the idea of reminding the public.

"It doesn't hurt to remind people frequently in general to look out for little people, or people on skateboards," Lincoln said. "We need to remind people as much as we can."

Fisher also noted she's found some roundabout videos from Washington that can be used, in light of the roundabout expected to be built at Verda Lane and Chemawa Road next year.

GRADS,

continued from Page A1

"But it was a selfish nervousness," he said. "He had lost the ability to breathe without concentrating on every breath. But he spent every one trying to make us comfortable. He gave. He doesn't feel sorry for himself, he opened up a foundation to raise money for ALS research."

Borresen added that the lesson was reinforced as one of the McNary grads, Payton Williams, battled cancer throughout his senior year.

"You gave time and money to help a fellow student in need. You rallied around him. You gave hugs, support and encouragement. It was inspiring to see how you surrounded him," he said. "Then Payton showed all of us how to give at a student assembly. He told his story. Tired and sapped of energy, he gave his thanks and appreciation and love and he took the time to remember and thank his family."

Shortly thereafter, Borresen had all the students rise up and applaud the parents, family and teachers who had given of their time to get the students to the milestone of high school graduation.

"The opportunities ahead of you are vast, make sure you take advantage of all that is available to you, but remember it's your turn to give," he said.

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MAY - OCTOBER

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5:45 - 6:30 PM

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7:15 - 8:00 PM

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crossword

Hat Trick

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CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

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18 Makes a mistake

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41 Pork pie

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60 Pomp and Circumstance composer

61 Actress Anderson

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64 Lulu

65 Spill the beans

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67 Soccer star

68 Pub pints

DOWN

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3 Leather worker

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8 Autumn pear

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11 Marie-Henri Beyle

12 Part of Q.E.D.

13 Distress call

21 Full head of hair

22 Composer Satie

27 ___ out: used frugally

28 Food fish

30 Movie detective Ventura

31 Sign of summer

33 Pekoe and oolong

34 Final, for short

35 Architect Ludwig Mies van der ___

36 Play part

37 Mauna ___

38 Stick-in-the-mud

42 Word before oil or water

43 German river

44 Encourage

45 Circus performer

49 O.T. book

50 Rich impressionist?

51 Ford flascoes

53 Donald's ex

54 Peter of Herman's Hermits

55 Synthetic fiber

57 Muse or award

58 Ishtar, e.g.

59 Movie canine

60 Lessons for immigrants: abbr.

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