

# Keizertimes

SECTION A

AUGUST 4, 2017

\$1.00

## KPD officers clear out another squatter home



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

Squatters in a Rivercrest Drive home had already created a fourth bedroom inside the garage. A woman suspected of subletting rooms in the house and running an unlicensed daycare is being sought.

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
*Of the Keizertimes*

The living room of the home at 4363 Rivercrest Drive North is no different than what one might expect.

There is a bookshelf with books, a collection of dolls sits atop it, an entertainment unit with a flat-screen television and an assortment of DVDs, some unfolded laundry covers one of three chairs. There are family photos on the walls and an aquarium with a half-dozen or so fish. Cats dart through the room at will, but no one has any idea how many “belong” at the house.

“It looks almost legit, but she was trying to steal the

house,” said Sgt. Bob Trump, of the Keizer Police Department. “She” is Michelle C. Reid, aka Michelle Ristau, a woman who allegedly moved into the residence late last year while it moved through the foreclosure process. Reid was not present during the search, but police are planning to pursue charges related to fraud and theft.

“We were able to contact the former owner and — between talking to him and looking at some other factors — we were able to get a search warrant to come in and look for evidence related to identity theft and trespassing,” Trump said.

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“It looks almost legit, but she was trying to steal the house.”

— Sgt. Bob Trump, Keizer Police Department

## Back from the trenches

Local legislators return home with tales of woe, triumph



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

State Rep. Bill Post and Oregon State Sen. Kim Thatcher recently wrapped up the 2017 Oregon Legislature session.

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
*Of the Keizertimes*

Sen. Kim Thatcher and Rep. Bill Post planned to host a joint town hall on Thursday, July 27. It ended up being an intimate affair with just two members of the community and one newspaper reporter in attendance.

In lieu of the town hall, *Keizertimes* sat down with the state legislators to talk about the 2017 Oregon Legislature session. While Thatcher and Post — both part of the Republican minorities — notched a few wins, the pair agreed that the process was bogged down from the get-go.

“On the House side, the Democrats would climb a massive hill, march their people up that hill — knowing full

well that a bill would die in the Senate or get amended or gut-and-stuffed completely — and it happened at least four times,” Post said.

As an example, he offered up House Bill 2005, a bill addressing pay equity. Post said Republicans in the House opposed the bill because it left out veterans and imposed “massive” punitive damages. Republicans, Post said, submitted a minority report addressing those concerns that was voted down.

After passing the House on a party-line vote, the Senate took up the issue and included the changes requested in the House Republican’s minority report.

“Why march up that hill to

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KEIZERTIMES/File art

## KPD-based parole officer is a boon for department, clients

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
*Of the Keizertimes*

Max Marshall had been in and out of prison four times when finally he connected with Eric Bandonis.

“We formed a relationship because I accepted his accountability. He let me earn things like leaving the area to go fight wildfires,” Max said. “He’s given me references for other things and he’s been my best advocate. I’ve been off parole for a couple of years and he’s still a resource for me.”

Bandonis is the Keizer Police Department’s resident Marion County Sheriff Office (MCSO) parole and probation officer. Unlike most parole and probation officers, who work out of central offices in Salem and elsewhere, Bandonis has a dedicated space in the Keizer police station where he meets with clients and attempts to keep them on the straight-and-



Eric Bandonis

narrow path.

Ten years ago, the Keizer police station was designed specifically to incorporate a parole and probation officer and Bandonis’ resulting relationship with Keizer police and his clients pays big dividends, according to all involved.

“KPD is a phenomenal partner. They were so forward-thinking to say they wanted community corrections to be part of what happens there, and we couldn’t be more humble to be part of that family,” said Parole and Probation Division Commander Jeff Wood.

Bandonis said his role in the community is part police officer and part counselor.

“We want to focus on cognitive issues and provide

clients with tools so they don’t reoffend,” Bandonis said.

Bandonis supplies assistance in areas as simple as crafting a resume or as complex as conflict resolution and just about everything in between. He also checks in with clients regularly to make sure they are attending court-mandated appointments and paying restitutions and other fees.

“Parole officers ensure that they take care of those things and, if they don’t, we make sure there are consequences,” Bandonis said.

Parole and probation officers have specialized caseloads. For Bandonis, it means working with about 45 Keizer-based parolees who have run afoul of the law in mostly drug-related crimes, but the list includes those convicted of assault, robbery and theft. Much of it

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## McNary track, turf field temporarily closed to public

By DEREK WILEY  
*Of the Keizertimes*

After a string of vandalism that concluded with the cutting of lacrosse nets in April, McNary principal Erik Jespersen had to make a difficult decision and lock the gate to the track and turf field until security could be increased.

“It wasn’t a knee jerk reaction, certainly,” Jespersen said. “We actually sustained several hits before finally I felt like I had to boost up our security. It was with a very heavy heart that we had to close the facility for a while because it’s really not what I want to do but I really don’t want our stuff to get destroyed either.”

The concession stand has



E. Jespersen

received the brunt of the damage, with doors and sliding glass windows having to be replaced multiple times. A golf cart and Gator utility vehicle were also stolen. The Gator was later found at Keizer Rapids Park by the river with a broken axle.

“McNary is Keizer’s school and we want to make sure that our doors are open to the community,” Jespersen said. “We’re also asking that the community help us keep it safe and accessible. We all need

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Boxing with a mission  
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National Night Out  
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Steamed Up  
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Northwood claims city swim title  
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