

# Keizertimes

SECTION A

AUGUST 21, 2015

\$1.00

## Haggen to close its Keizer store



KEIZERTIMES file/Craig Murphy  
The former Albertsons reopened as Haggen in late April, but will close soon.

By CRAIG MURPHY  
Of the Keizertimes

It wasn't that long ago Keizer had three grocery stores.

Soon, there could be just one.

In late April, the Albertsons at 5450 River Road North became a Haggen. Washington-based Haggen went from 18 stores mainly in Washington to 164 around the West Coast in a short amount of time, taking advantage of conditions from an Albertsons-Safeway merger.

Worries at the time about such fast growth proved well founded, as the company sent out a press release Aug. 14 announcing the closure of 27 stores. The

closure list had five Oregon locations listed, including the one in Keizer.

The news came just a few weeks after a Los Angeles Times story reported Albertsons was suing Haggen for \$41 million, with Albertsons claiming Haggen failed to pay for inventory that was part of the changeover at 38 of the acquired stores.

Deborah Pleva of Weinstein PR, speaking on behalf of Haggen, said closures or a review to evaluate how new stores were doing was not in the company's original plans.

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## Keizer to cover girl

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

When she was a McNary High School student, Alesha Cubitt was likely most memorable because of her hair.

She changed colors and styles regularly, even went so far as to shave it.

"I was a complete tomboy," Cubitt said. "I was actually really shy, I did track in high school and always got last place. I wasn't great at school, but I got through it."

After graduating, Cubitt found work as a line cook at Emerald Pointe Senior Living Community. She was still working there in 2014 when she finally got around to sending some photos to Portland's Muse Models agency. For years friends and associates had encouraged the 5-foot-10 Cubitt to give modeling a shot.

This month, with her natural copper locks grown out to her shoulder, Cubitt is on the cover of a major Japanese fashion magazine, *Spur*. The cover is the result of her second international modeling trip and it's her second cover on an overseas magazine.

After connecting with Muse Models and garnering more than a little excitement about her look, Cubitt was sent to New York City where she got her first real taste of the modeling life and connected with Next Model Management, the agency sending her to the far-flung corners of the globe.

"I went to do some testing



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald  
Left: McNary graduate Alesha Cubitt with a copy of the Japanese fashion magazine, *Spur*. Her photo made the cover of the September 2015 issue. Part of Cubitt's spread in a recent Japanese issue of *Madam Figaro*. Cubitt's star is on the rise with her mother agency, Portland's Muse Models.

shoots to get myself out there and I just kind of hung out and practiced how to walk," Cubitt said. "I learned that one of my feet kind of pointed in when I walked and I had to learn a whole new way to walk. It's a lot

harder than it looks, but I've gotten better at it ever since."

She put those skills to work on her first international modeling trip to Australia earlier this year where she was part of the 2015 Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week.

"So far, I really like doing shows. I like photo shoots, but the adrenaline of trying to fit into what the designers want as far as attitude on the stage is fun," she said. She stayed Down Under for a month-and-a-half while

working runways and taking part in fashion shoots.

"The best part was staying at Biondi Beach, which was just beautiful," she said.

Cubitt just returned from her second international

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KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald  
The sand volleyball courts have been a popular addition to Keizer Rapids Park.

By CRAIG MURPHY  
Of the Keizertimes

The three new sand volleyball courts are being used.

But please, be courteous and share with fellow Keizerites.

That was the message from Hans Schneider, who spearheaded the project at Keizer Rapids Park, to members of the Keizer Parks and Recreation Advisory Board last week.

"The courts are complete," said Schneider, who did the

project with \$5,000 in assistance from the Parks Board's matching grant program. "It's still a little bit of a work in progress. We are adding a sprinkler system. We are talking to Robert (Johnson, parks supervisor for Keizer) about getting a sand dig area for kids. Kids are using the sand and bringing dirt into the courts. Maybe we could put up a sign for kids to use the sandbox."

Another change has been in terms of watering.

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## No more Tightwad Tuesdays

By CRAIG MURPHY  
Of the Keizertimes

Say goodbye to Tuesday Community Days at Keizer Community Center.

When the new city hall opened in 2009, the city contracted with an outside company to manage the facility. Those duties were brought in-house the following year and a new rental rate structure was adopted in 2011.

The rates have been the same since then, but have drawn increased scrutiny during the last couple of budget seasons. Revising the rates became a high priority in the spring since about \$90,000 a year in general fund money is being used to offset losses from facility rentals.

In particular, the Tuesday Community Day discount rate — sometimes referred to as Tightwad Tuesday — has come under fire. While the intent six years ago was to allow groups to rent space in the community center for an entire day at a flat rate, state agencies were the most common users, taking advantage of the lower rates and stacking up meetings



KEIZERTIMES/Craig Murphy  
Per usual, the parking lot at the Keizer Community Center was full Tuesday as groups took advantage of lower Community Day rates. The special Tuesday rates have been eliminated.

or conferences on Tuesdays. By taking advantage of those rates, that meant less revenue for the city.

"The Community Day rate is not being utilized by Keizer groups," city recorder Tracy Davis said.

That has now been changed. A resolution approved by Keizer City Councilors on Monday eliminates the Tuesday Community Day special rates. Small rooms (1,000 square feet) will now be \$25 per hour, as opposed to \$15 for two hours and \$15 per additional hour in the past.

On Community Day, the rate was a flat \$15 per day.

Medium rooms (3,000 square feet) will now be \$100 per hour (up from \$90 per hour and \$90 per day flat rate on Tuesdays), with a 25 percent rental discount for Keizer citizens not using the room for business and a 20 percent discount for government partners. The large ballroom rate is now \$250 per hour, up from \$220 per hour (or \$220 per day on Tuesdays), with the same discounts for Keizer citizens and government partners.

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