

# Day of Service coming Sept. 12

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is planning its second Day of Service at Champoeg State Park on Saturday, Sept. 12, and the public is invited to join hundreds of other volunteers. Chores will include bark dust, removing ivy and blackberry vines throughout the park. Clean up work at the park will begin at 9 a.m. and be concluded by noon.

A hot dog barbecue will follow. Volunteers are asked to bring rakes, shovels and wheelbarrows. Work gloves are a must. The day will start at the Oak Grove overflow parking area where duties and teams will be assigned. For further information contact Didi Orr at 503-869-8746 or Phil Bay at 503-930-2649.

## Holiday card contest

A call has been made to area artists to enter submissions for the 2015 City of Keizer holiday greeting card. The Keizer Public Arts Commission, which works to bring art into the community, invites residents of all ages to submit art work that expresses the holiday season in Keizer. The deadline is Friday, Sept. 18. All submitted entries become the property of the city. The artist of the selected artwork will receive a \$100 gift card to Michael's Art and Crafts. Contest rules and an application can be downloaded at keizer.org; they are also available at city hall. This year the Keizer Public Arts Commission, whose goal is to bring public art into our community, invites Keizer residents of all ages to submit artwork expressing the holiday season.

# Dedicating the Big Toy



KEIZERTIMES/Lyndon A. Zaitz  
Mayor Cathy Clark addresses the crowd during the Big Toy dedication on Saturday, Aug. 29.



KEIZERTIMES/Lyndon A. Zaitz  
From left: Crater, state Rep. Bill Post, Marion County Commissioner Janet Carlson, task force chair Marlene Parsons, Mayor Cathy Clark and Richard Walsh.

## Big Toy group looking at grant options

**By CRAIG MUPRHY**  
*Of the Keizertimes*  
City officials will be applying for a grant in the spring for the Big Toy's surface.

The question remains just how much will be applied for. The Community Build Task Force is still meeting, even following June construction of the play structure at Keizer Rapids Park and last Saturday's official grand opening, in large part to apply for more grants in the future. While engineered wood fiber is the current surface, the

hope all along has been to have a spongy, poured-in-place surface. That option was eliminated from the project budget in the spring, with the idea being grants would be applied for in the future to secure the necessary finances. If funding is secured and the new surface is put down, the current surface would be removed and put into other Keizer parks. Thus the discussion at Tuesday's CBTF meeting. The biggest grant being looked at for next year is the Oregon Parks and Recreation

Department's Local Government Grant. City leaders applied for a \$150,000 grant through that program in 2014 but didn't get it. Though the new surface is the main improvement being sought, there is the possibility of other improvements such as an expanded trail and possibly new restrooms being added to the tally. Marlene Parsons, chair of the CBTF, used estimated figures from Bill Lawyer, Keizer's Public Works director. "The poured-in-place will cost roughly \$175,000," Parsons said. "If you get a \$100,000 grant and a \$100,000 match, that is \$200,000. We want to put in more of a path and paving. We do have old system development charges money of \$100,000, but that's it. If we go for more, we're talking about other fundraising and other grants."

Lawyer said something else needs to be done first. "We need to identify the scope of the project first," Lawyer said. "What's going to be included in the project?" CBTF member Richard Walsh liked Carlson's suggestion of tying projects into the disability theme, with things like an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant path. Councilor Brandon Smith suggested adding permanent restrooms to the list, but Lawyer noted cost issues. "The problem with a permanent bathroom right now is it has to be vault toilets, or we have to put in sewer," Lawyer said. "Just to get the sewer there is at least a \$300,000 project. It's a major, major project." Smith suggested looking at other improvements down the road in the KRP master plan and asked about seeing if other groups might have funds available to use as a match. Lawyer wondered if that would be overstepping the group's bounds. "This is the Community Build Task Force; you're talking about Parks Board issues," he said. "This is just for the Big Toy."

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