

# KRP land acquisition can be used for Big Toy grant request

By **CRAIG MURPHY**  
*Of the Keizertimes*

Efforts to secure a large grant for more work at the Big Toy play structure have gotten a boost.

At last month's Community Build Task Force meeting, a lingering question was whether the city's purchase of Keizer Rapids Park property more than five years ago can count as a grant match for future projects. Wayne Rawlins, who used to be in charge of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department's grant program until retiring three years ago, pledged to help with that and other topics related to the project.

Marlene Parsons, chair of the CBTF, shared what Rawlins discovered during Tuesday's meeting.

"Our land acquisition does count," Parsons announced to cheers. "That is going to qualify, so we're excited about that. Wayne is working hard on it. They're working diligently on putting the grant together."

Parsons noted Rawlins has been meeting regularly

with Jackie Franke and Nate Brown, director of Community Development for Keizer. Brown applied for a \$150,000 grant through the OPRD's Local Government Grant program last year on behalf of the Big Toy project, but the application was denied.

Brown will be submitting another application by the end of March 2016.

At this point, it's yet to be determined how much will be asked for. The grant would require a 50 percent match. With the land acquisition valued at \$1.2 million, that would significantly raise the amount that could be asked for.

By the time the CBTF next meets in early January, the hope is more numbers could be known. The main purpose for the task force to continue past the June construction of the Big Toy was to secure funds for a poured-in-place surface, which is estimated to cost \$150,000.

The scope of the improvements has since been expanded to possibly include a paved pathway to the play structure

and bathroom facilities. Such improvements have been identified as future work to be done in the KRP master plan. Because of that, the Keizer Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has agreed to come on board as a project partner.

More partners are being sought, including the Keizer Parks Foundation and Marion County Parks Board. Marion County Commissioner and CBTF member Janet Carlson is working to get additional partners on board at the county level.

Bill Lawyer, Public Works director for Keizer, noted estimates are being gathered for various projects.

"We have good estimates for bathrooms," Lawyer said. "A sewer disposal system is one option. I don't have a pathways estimate yet."

Lawyer noted cost estimates for the pour-in-place spongy surface need to be updated, since there was a change.

"The quote we got from (one) company was only for surfacing," he said. "It didn't include the concrete base that

has to go down first. That's a huge difference. The \$150,000 we talked about all along was for the complete project."

A bathroom facility would cost about \$160,000 and a sewer pump system would be about \$115,000.

"So I'm thinking we're looking at about \$500,000 for everything at this point," Parsons summarized. "Over the next couple of months, we need to solidify as many costs as possible. In January we'll vote for what we want. Then we have to vote on it in the council."

Lawyer said it's his understanding the land acquisition can count towards a match.

"The land cost \$1.2 million and we can count that 100 percent towards our match," Lawyer said.

Richard Walsh said that meant city System Development Charges (SDC) funds wouldn't have to be used on the grant application, but Brandon Smith disagreed.

"Maybe we want to put something in as a good showing," Smith said.

## obituaries

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### Oliver Bryant Jackmond

November 1, 1930 – October 25, 2015

With wife Katherine and daughter Patti by his side, Oliver Bryant Jackmond, 84, passed away on Oct. 25, 2015 at Salem Hospital.

He was born Nov. 1, 1930 in Quitman, Miss. to Marshall and Bertha Jackmond. Predeceasing besides his parents were daughter Sandra, brother James and sister Denise. Surviving are his brothers Arnold and his wife Colleen and Michael as well as five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and extended family.

He served in the U.S. Army as head of a map-making unit in Tokyo, Japan. Graduating from Oregon State University, Oliver was affiliated with Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity. Professionally

he was both a registered engineer and surveyor. He was also a member of American Arbitration Association.

Oliver retired from the Oregon Department of Transportation as deputy engineer after almost 33 years of service. In June Oliver and Katherine celebrated 60 years of marriage.

A memorial service will be on Nov. 14 at 1 p.m. in the Jason Lee United Methodist Church. Donations may be made to the church.

Arrangements handled by Keizer Funeral Chapel in Keizer.



O. Jackmond

## Cuties craving candy



Photo by Eric A. Howald/KEIZERTIMES

A large group of children from Enchanted Child Care and Preschool dressed in their finest Halloween attire and paid their annual visit to the Keizertimes on Friday, Oct. 30. Enchanted Child Care is located at 158 Chemawa Rd.

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