

One week, two outages

It's not too often power goes out in Keizer during relatively calm weather.

It's even less frequent for the power to go out twice in the same week.

Yet that's just what happened last week in Keizer. In both cases, power outages were caused by crashes.

Shortly after midnight on Jan. 26, Portland General Electric (PGE) started getting calls about power outages throughout the 97303 zip code.

"A vehicle hit a breaker box," said Stan Sitter, a spokesperson for PGE. "In that box was a large breaker controlling a feeder for a large area. There were 3,047 customers affected.

It happened at 12:15 a.m. and was repaired at 6:47 a.m."

Sitter said the accident was on the 2900 block of Tepper Lane NE, which is in the Keizer Station area. However, other reports listed the accident as being at 35th Avenue and Perkins Road.

A second crash later in the week did happen on Tepper Lane. Jeff Kuhns, deputy chief with the Keizer Police Department, said the crash was reported shortly after 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 29.

"We responded to a report of a single vehicle that slid off the road and hit a power box," Kuhns said. "The box is located in the very northeast corner

of the Target parking lot. PGE responded to the scene of the incident to repair the damaged box and to restore power."

Kuhns said there were no injuries reported in the crash and the vehicle — shown to be a Porsche in witness photos — was towed from the scene.

"It was very close to, but not the same place as the accident that caused the previous power outage," Kuhns said.

An online PGE report Jan. 29 listed outages for 2,950 customers in the 97303 zip code and 100 in the 97305 zip code. Some Keizerites got their power back shortly before 10 p.m., with others having power restored around 10:30 p.m.

FIRST: 'The first one will control the 1,000 foot area'

(Continued from pg. A1) Control Commission must first issue a state retailer license. Once that is submitted, the application gets date and time stamped.

"That date/time becomes the priority date as long as the application is not later denied," Johnson said.

The 1,000 foot gap between retailers means, unlike other cities, Keizer shouldn't have recreational marijuana shops next to each other or across the street from each other.

Nate Brown, director of Community Development for Keizer, said there has been interest in opening such businesses in Keizer.

"We have been contacted by four individuals that want to open a shop," Brown said. "As we understand how the state processes (applications), they will be processed in order of the production cycle. It is conceivable they will be issuing licenses in batches. We have no way to evaluate or judge that. The more fair way is the first person coming into the office with all the

information, and it seems to be complete, gets a time and date stamp. That is used for priority because of the 1,000 foot rule."

City Manager Chris Eppley provided more information about potential retailers.

"The reason we're here tonight is at least two applicants would have facilities directly across the street from each other," Eppley said. "We have a rule they can't be located any closer to each other than 1,000 feet, so that we don't have a proliferation of marijuana shops in an area. The first one in will control the 1,000 foot area. In our estimation, this is the best way to do that."

The city permit would have to be renewed annually, which prompted a question from councilor Brandon Smith about what would happen if a retailer "disappears in the middle of the night three months in" and still has nine months left on the permit.

"If proprietor A disappears in the middle of the night and proprietor B wants to open

across the street, B could call A and see if they want to give up the license. Then they can apply," Brown said.

Councilors unanimously approved the revised ordinance.

Councilors also revisited the taxation of recreational marijuana once again. Previously, councilors had approved a 10 percent local tax on recreational marijuana. Since then, House Bill 3400 has been adopted by state legislators, which calls for a state tax of 17 percent and a local tax of no more than 3 percent.

"I want to get feedback from the council before we put it on the ballot," Johnson said. "The 3 percent local tax would have to go to voters. It would be on the November ballot. We want to do it early in fairness to any business people might want to apply for."

Johnson said a city's portion of the state tax will be divided up based on how many recreational marijuana facilities are in that city, with more facilities meaning more money for the city. The city attorney also feels Keizer would struggle trying to defend the 10 percent tax being upheld when the state local limit is 3 percent.

"The Legislature has made it clear they will preempt that," Johnson said. "I think there would be an uphill challenge to support that."

Council president Dennis Koho, who has previously expressed being tired of dealing with the marijuana issues, did so again.

"We've spent so much time on this issue, we deserve the 3 percent," Koho joked. "This is the result of some bad legislation. Now we have a hodgepodge of regulations around the state."

Councilors unanimously approved the idea of the local option tax being sent to the ballot.

WKNA meetings on disaster prep

How can you prepare for a disaster?

Answer these questions: Where will my family be and how will I reach them? Where will I get medical help? Am I prepared to live without the essentials? How will I pay for

things? How will I repair damage? Do I live work or visit a tsunami hazard zone?

To learn the answers, attend the next two West Keizer Neighborhood Association meetings. WKNA will host both meetings at the Keizer Civic Center.

On Thursday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. there will be a presenta-

tion by the Marion County Office of Emergency Management. On March 10 at 7 p.m., there will be a presentation by the Keizer Fire Department and CERT (Community Emergency Response Team).

All Keizer citizens are invited. Refreshments will be served. Go to www.westkeizer.org for more information.



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Member spotlight

TC Resale and Donation Center

David Wilkerson, the one-time rural preacher, is known as the founder of an international drug rehabilitation program called *Teen Challenge* that has one of the highest success rates anywhere in the world.

Since its first center opened in New York in 1960, *Teen Challenge* has grown to nearly 250 centers in 48 states and more than 1,000 centers in 95 countries. In Puerto Rico the organization is building an AIDS hospital, the first of its kind.* The Salem *TC Resale and Donation Center* supports this program, and the Keizer Chamber of Commerce is proud to welcome them as members.

The Thrift Stores accomplish three major goals in our communities:

- Provide job-training to *Teen Challenge* students;
- Offer low-cost, sustainable retail options to local shoppers;
- Contribute financial support to local *Teen Challenge* centers.

Kevin van DYKE II is an area manager, including oversight of the Salem store. He helps develop job training for the local *Teen Challenge* program, supports the community providing low cost and sustainable goods and trains students for a vocation after the program. This includes a one-year living with-in the program, after-care and counseling for challenged youth and young adults.

Having worked many years in retail, Kevin and his wife and two children found themselves in Salem to help family. Being a thrift store shopper, Kevin found his new position while doing just this. Now as manager he can compare the customers today from those in his past.

"I have a way now to help improve the lives of my customers. Some are trendy shoppers, some are thrift shoppers and some are those with little to no means. I feel we can help change a life while not breaking the bank," says van DYKE.

Stop and shop at *Teen Challenge Thrift Store*, find what you need, save money and help support a program that supports local teens wanting to find their way back to normal.

Salem TC Resale and Donation Center
Kevin van DYKE II
503-585-6278
3060 Portland Rd. N.E.
Monday-Saturday 9 am-6 pm


*www.teenchallenge.com




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