



MON & TUE, FEB 13-14

RYAN REAVES & DAN GABRIEL will perform at 7pm and 9pm. Admission is only \$10. Ages 21 & over only. Reserved seating for this show. Purchase tickets at

UFC208 - Sat, Jan 21 **Holm v. Randamie**

box office or at our website.

WOMEN'S FEATHERWEIGHT BOUT 9 FIGHTS IN ALL ON THE HUGE SCREEN Live Fights at 5:00 (21 & Over) - Tickets \$13 Reserved Seating Available Now Online.

Today in History

An Air Florida Boeing 727 plunges into the Potomac River in Washington, D.C., killing 78 people. The crash, caused by bad weather, took place only two miles from the White House.

— January 13, 1982

Food 4 Thought

"When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it."

— Henry Ford

The Month Ahead

Friday, January 13-Sunday, January 15

2017 Mid-Valley Home Show, hundreds of exhibits. Oregon State Fairgrounds. Free admission and parking. Hours are Friday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. homebuildersassociation.org.

Saturday, January 14

Millstream Knitting Guild meets at Arrowhead Mobile Park Community Center, 5422 Portland Road N.E. in Salem,10 a.m. to noon. New members welcome, \$24 membership per year. For more information, visit millstreamknitting. wordpress.com.

Keizer Homegrown Theater auditions, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Keizer Civic Center, 930 Chemawa Rd. NE.

Willamette Valley Genealogical Society meets at 10:30 a.m. in Anderson room A and B of the Salem Public Library (585 Liberty St SE). Pam Vestal will be speaking about Voting Records: Genealogy's Best Kept Secret." For more information, call (503)363-0880.

Monday, January 16

Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Government offices closed.

Tuesday, January 17

Keizer City Council meeting, 7 p.m., 930 Chemawa Road N.E.

Free admission all day at Hallie Ford Museum of Art, 700 State Street. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday, January 20 Inauguration Day.

Keizer's own Inaugural Ball, 7 p.m., Keizer Civic Center, sponsored by Marion County and Polk County GOP. Tickets are \$10, \$15 at door. Come as you are. For tickets visit marioncountygop.org/events.

Salem Progressive Film Series screens We the People 2.0. Grand Theatre, 191 High Street N.E. 7 p.m. Admission: \$5.

Menopause the Musical at the Elsinore Theatre. Starts at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 6:30. Tickets are between \$29 and \$55. Buy tickets online.

Noises Off, a comedy by Michael Frayn, opens at Pentacle Theatre tonight at 7:30 p.m. Show continues through Feb. 11. Visit pentacletheatre.org for dates and tickets.

Willamette University's Paulus Lecture Hall hosts Prof. Roger Hull on the art of Louis Bunce, kicking off the new exhibit at the Hallie Ford Museum of Art. 5 p.m. 245 Winter Street S.E.

Saturday, January 21

Keizer First Citizen and Awards Banquet, Keizer Civic Center, 930 Chemawa Rd. NE. Theme is Total Eclipse of the Heart. Drinks and dancing begin at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$55 a person or \$400 for a table of eight. RSVP by Jan. 16.

Monday, January 23

Keizer Festival Advisory Board meeting, 6 p.m. 930 Chemawa Road N.E.

Tuesday, January 24

Free admission all day at Hallie Ford Museum of Art, 700 State Street. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesday, January 25

Community Dinner at St. Edward Catholic Church. Hosted by Lakepoint Community Church. 5 to 7 p.m. Free, donations gladly accepted.

Hall Willamette University, 3 p.m.

Friday, January 27-Friday, January 28 First Taste of Oregon, the premier wine, spirits, cider and brews tasting event, 4 p.m. at Oregon State Fairgrounds. Admission

is \$10, \$40 for VIP, \$8 for seniors. firsttasteoregon.com.

Sunday, January 29 Fellini at the Circus. Salem Concert Band concert. Hudson

Monday, February 6

Keizer City Council meeting, 7 p.m., 930 Chemawa Road N.E.

Tuesday. February 7

Road N.E.

Keizer Economic Development Commission meeting, noon, 930 Chemawa Road N.E.

Wednesday, February 8 Keizer Planning Commission meeting, 6 p.m., 930 Chemawa

Council drills down on parks issues

By ERIC A. HOWALD Of the Keizertimes

Keizer's newest city councilor wasted little time jumping into the fray facing Keizer parks at a joint city council and parks advisory board work session Monday, Jan. 9.

Councilor Laura Reid kickstarted a discussion of the parks survey, which is now available at keizer.org, with two pointed questions.

"Do we have legal obligations to maintain parks?" she asked.

Bill Lawyer, director of Keizer Public Works, said the city's only obligation was to knock down grass and weeds.

"We have to maintain them to be compliant with city ordinance, but we do not have to maintain things like play structures. One of the problems is that if we have to turn off irrigation systems it will lead to weeds and not grass," Lawyer said.

Reid followed up questioning whether there was a minimum amount of parks space the city was required to

City Manager Chris Eppley responded saying that there was no minimum,

but there was a maximum amount of space the city was allowed based on zoning codes. While the city is approaching the maximum allowable amount of park space, Lawyer pointed out that west and northwest Keizer are considered underserved in terms of park space available.

Eppley added that regulations set outside of Keizer also affect the parks.

"If we have a path it has to be ADAcompliant (Americans with Disabilities Act), the parks also have to be safe to be covered by insurance," Eppley said.

The parks survey, in addition to asking about parks priorities, asks whether residents would support a fee to create a dedicated fund for Keizer parks. Option range from no fee to \$8 per month with a variety of benefits at each level \$2 or

Councilor Amy Ryan said even the largest fee on the survey was under the average amount paid for parks in comparable cities. However, she said what swayed her on the issue was the cost of deferred maintenance.

"The costs of waiting had the biggest impact on my view of where we are and what's needed," Ryan said.

For example, recently completed repairs on the parking lot at the south end of Claggett Creek park cost \$7,000 more than an estimate the city received a year prior.

Costs at other parks are also mounting the longer repairs are delayed. Carlson Skate Park was valued at about \$360,000 when it was completed in 1999. Only \$20,000 of that came from city coffers, the rest was donated time and materials. Adjusted for inflation, the initial value of the park is more than \$500,000 in today's money, which is how much it will cost to resurface and redesign portions of it after nearly two decades of use and deterioration.

"We have to grow up as a city and start paying the appropriate amount to make parks functional, or we are going to have to start shutting things down," said Jim Taylor, a former city councilor and current member of the parks board.

The work session only drew a handful of residents. Some offered warm to lukewarm support and one adamantly opposed (see related story below).

The full meeting is available to watch at keizertv.com.

Parks fee collection method takes fire

By ERIC A. HOWALD Of the Keizertimes

A Keizer City Council work session to launch the parks survey Monday, Jan. 9, turned contentious when one Keizer resident voiced adamant opposition to the idea of attaching a fee to water and sewer bills to create a dedicated parks fund.

"I would rather you close three or four parks than try to collect this fee the way you are trying to do it," said Judy DeSpain.

DeSpain said the survey, which does not include language saying how a dedicated parks fee would be collected, is disingenuous.

"The issue is adding it to people's utility bills, and what upsets me most is that you are not having a vote," DeSpain said.

While neither the Keizer Parks and Recreation Advisory Board nor the city council are recommending a fee yet - they are waiting for results from the

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parks survey in mid-March it is one of a slim number of avenues for the city to pursue in raising the funds needed to maintain and improve Keizer parks. To date, the most commonly-discussed method for collecting a fee would be through the city-issued utility bills, but it could also be set up as an additional bill - with additional costs – if a fee moves forward.

'We're in this situation because a governing body did not take care of things. This fee can be added to or raised at the whim of a future city council," DeSpain said.

Mayor Cathy Clark countered DeSpain's claim that the city has failed in its duties.

"Our parks funds come from the general fund and the general fund has flatlined and our expenses have not," Clark

The city gets an annual 3 percent increase in property taxes, but found out in October 2016 that an additional

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Wine lecture Jan. 19

Place – The Terroir of Willamette Valley Winemaking.

On Jan. 19 at 7 p.m., the Straub Environmental Center will be presenting Straub Environmental Lecture: A Taste of the

Dr. Scott Burns, professor of geology at Portland State Uni-

versity, will reveal why the Willamette Valley produces fine

wine. The lecture will be located in Loucks Auditorium at the

Salem Public Library, 585 Liberty Street S.E. The admissions

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PERS (Public Employee Retirement System) payment would likely consume the lion's share of this year's property tax increase. At the time, City Finance Director Tim Wood said the city could expect similar payments due for the next couple of bienniums.

Without room to expand the parks budget within the existing general fund, maintenance, even basics like regular mowing, could suffer without additional funds, said Public Works Director Bill Lawyer said during the work session.

The city is only obligated to perform mowing in parks which means other amenities could be closed or removed without repercussion beyond resident dissatisfaction.

Both Clark and Councilor Roland Herrera said the focus, for the time being, is on whether residents would support a fee, not the mechanism by which it would be collected.

"One of the options we put on (the survey) is status quo. If that is what the majority of people want, then there's not much we will do to move it forward," Herrera said.

looking back in the KT

5 YEARS AGO

Renaissance Inn has new owner

A California based investment company has purchased the Keizer Renaissance Inn and Conference Center. They were attracted to the size of the hotel, the revenue and the

10 YEARS AGO KPD's Officer

of the Year

Officer Gene Zuniga was honored as the Keizer Police Department's Officer of the Year. He will soon be taking on a new assignment as part of KPD's motorcycle patrol.

15 YEARS AGO

Surprise gift gives lift to fire district

The district was remembered in the will of a former Keizer resident, and received a check from the estate of Betty Uglem for \$26,311.42. The will stipulated that all of the money be used to maintain and upgrade the district's ambulance service.

20 YEARS AGO

Residents flee in face of rising water

A motor boat was the only way to get around low lying parts of Keizer as residents waited out the surprising flood. Homes were flooded on Jakewood Court in the Country Glen subdivision.

The Parkersville Dam, an irrigation dam, about 10 miles east of Keizer, built in 1962, may not operate properly, causing flooding in

Get your First Citizen banquet tix

Tickets are now on sale for the upcoming First Citizen & Awards Banquet sponsored by the Keizer Chamber of Commerce.

The event is scheduled Saturday, Jan. 21. Ticket cost is \$55 for individuals or \$400 for table sponsorship. The night begins at 6 p.m. To purchase tickets, go to

www.keizerchamber.com.

In addition to naming the city's new First Citizen, awards are presented for Merchant of the Year, Service to Education and a President's Award goes to a person selected by the outgoing president of the Chamber board of directors.

The Keizer Civic Center, 930 Chemawa Road N.E., will host the event.

Northern Lights



Sat 1:00, 6:40, Sun 12:00 Office Christmas Party (R) Fri 6:45, 8:55, Sat 7:20, Sun 6:45. 8:45

Allied (R) Fri 7:45, Sun 5:05 The Accountant (R)

Sun 6:05, 8:35

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children (PG-13) Fri 2:00, 3:30, Sat 4:10,

Fri 8:40, Sat 4:55, 8:35,

Trolls (PG) Fri 2:20, 4:15, 5:55, Sat 12:25, 2:30, 4:35, Sun 12:20, 3:10, 4:10 Storks (PG)

Fri 1:40, Sat 12:00, 3:00,

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Vote in a new poll every Thursday!

GO TO KEIZERTIMES.COM

KEIZERTIMES.COM Web Poll

Besides television, whats your family's primary entertainment choice?

33% – Family game nights

32% - Movie theater

23% - Sporting events 7% - Concerts

5% - Live theater