

# Keizertimes

SECTION A

FEBRUARY 17, 2017

\$1.00

## No field improvements for eclipse event

### Funding, manpower shortage to blame

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

As city officials and volunteers plan for an event to mark the passage of a total solar eclipse over Keizer in August, an emphasis has been placed on putting the city's best foot forward.

Plans included leveling and re-seeding a 7.5-acre field in the southwest corner of



Keizer Rapids Park to make it welcoming for visitors who

pay to camp there in the days preceding the solar event.

That won't be happening. Keizer Parks Supervisor Robert Johnson told members of the Keizer Parks and Recreation Advisory Board that a combination of permitting and aftercare maintenance requirements were halting the plan. "We're required to have a (Department of Environmental Quality)

permit when disturbing more than an acre of soil near the river. The permitting process would cost \$1,800 we don't have, and take about five weeks," Johnson said.

The five-week wait would mean a start date past the prime time for seeding, Johnson added.

"The other side of it is that if you develop that land, it's going to create an expectation. Right now, we mow it once or

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## Reclaimed

KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

Matt Tate, owner of Timbr and Moss, shows off some of his reclaimed-wood state boards.

## Artist upcycles materials into state pride

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

Last summer, Matt Tate made a call that changed his life.

Tate had been trying to get his reclaimed furniture and décor business, Timbr and Moss, off the ground for the better part of a year. He'd had some successes locally, but nothing sustainable enough to begin throwing caution to the wind.

Then he made a cold call to organizer's behind Portland's Street of Dreams, an annual showcase of luxury homes in the Portland area.

"I found their number online, called them and ended up leaving a voicemail. I told them I was a new upcoming company specializing in barn wood décor and designs and I thought I had something they would want to check out," said Tate, whose workshop is on River Road North in Keizer.

Within 24 hours, the Street of Dreams organizers called back to arrange a meeting. Five minutes into the meeting they told him they wanted to arrange a three-year deal to showcase his work in Street of Dreams homes.

Tate's trademark product are what he calls "state boards,"

reclaimed wood he brings back to life and transforms into the outlines of a given state. Each section is cut individually and then pieced together giving the whole project a rustic feel. Depending on customer preferences, he can add any of a variety of embellishments ranging from door hinges to hearts to backlighting. The state boards are what caught the eye of the people behind Street of Dreams, but he's also made clocks, serving trays, bat houses, custom business signs and a variety of other interior decorating items.

The call to show off his wares at Street of Dreams turned into a flurry of activity for the following month. "I built as much product as I could, with a lot of friends helping, and went up for the first weekend exhibition with \$40 in my wallet, but it was a hit from the get-go," Tate said.

For the next four weeks, Tate spent almost every waking hour in his shop making products to take to the Street of Dreams events each weekend. Some friends would show up after work to assist, others volunteered in his booth on the weekends.

"I kept challenging myself

each week to see how much I could build and, each time, I showed up with more. I would still sell out," Tate said.

By the time the final weekend of the event rolled around, Tate had a goal and

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## Homeless initiative group recommends new advocate

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

If everything goes according to plan, the area's homeless will have a new advocate in the near future.

The Mid-Willamette Homeless Initiative wrapped up a year of meetings by recommending the establishment of a new project manager position oversee the coordination of public and private efforts combating homelessness.

While some details still need to be hashed out, both Marion County and the City of Salem were prepared to commit \$40,000

each toward the cost of a new position. Keizer Mayor Cathy Clark also said Keizer would try to financially support the new position, the exact contribution was left undefined at the meeting.

The task force, at the recommendation of Clark, also agreed to approach the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (MWVCOG) about housing the position.

MWVCOG is an association of more than 40 local governments including counties, cities, special districts and the Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde that assists in coordinating regional planning and development activities, fostering interaction and educating member organization about major regional issues. Local jurisdictions are assessed

dues and those are used to pay for support services offered by MWVCOG. The project manager would presumably oversee the efforts of local governments and non-profits to

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### BY THE NUMBERS

# of people experiencing homelessness each year

**1,660**

People on any given day, in Marion and Polk counties, including

**116**

veterans

**1,397**

Students in Salem-Keizer School District during 2015-16 school year

**300**

Reentering Marion County communities from prison

**200-500**

Domestic violence victims



**KYBA teams clash**  
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**Food truck rules revised**  
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**WMS choir cabaret**  
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**Swimmers at GVC meet**  
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## RIVALRY RENEWED



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley  
McNary junior Chandler Cavell fights for a rebound in the second half of a 81-71 Greater Valley Conference loss at South Salem on Tuesday, Feb. 14. See Page A10 for more sports news.

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