

Keizertimes

SECTION A

MARCH 24, 2017

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Matching grants jettisoned for skate park repairs

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The immediate future of Keizer's Carlson Skate Park was on the line at a meeting of the Keizer Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Tuesday, March 14.

The board was faced with a decision of suspending a matching grant program to cover much-needed repairs at the park or a looming closure of Carlson if it continues to deteriorate.

After a lengthy discussion, board members decided to suspend the matching grant program in favor of repairs at Carlson. Reaching a resolution meant moving forward under the assumption that the parks department would receive no additional funding in the city budget in the coming fiscal year and that no fee would be created to establish a dedicated parks fund.

"I think we've done great things with the matching grant program, but we've had two

"With size comes a much higher cost for the repairs,"

— Robert Johnson
Keizer parks supervisor

failed (matching grant) attempts with the skate park and we have skaters in the parking lot because (Carlson) is not fit for use," said Robert Johnson, Keizer parks supervisor.

ONE-OF-A-KIND

Carlson Skate Park was built with majority-volunteer effort and opened in July 1999. At the time, the total estimated value was \$360,000 and the city only provided about \$20,000 of that cost. It would be worth about \$530,000 today adjusted for inflation, but it's suffered serious depreciation over time.

Please see REPAIR, Page A6



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald, Andrew Jackson
Keizer's Carlson Skate Park is showing its age and the city's parks supervisor fears that the deterioration will accelerate if something doesn't happen soon.



Derby girls
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Commishes want more on Safeway fuel proposal

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The Keizer Planning Commission opted to continue a public hearing on a proposed Safeway fueling center on River Road North at its meeting Wednesday, March 15.

Representatives of Safeway requested a continuation of



the process while they determined how to deal with a prohibition on sales of other merchandise in a proposed amendment to the city's development code. But commissioners also wanted to hear more on other issues brought up during a public hearing. Concerns about traffic, especially in re-

gard to the Keizer Fire District's ingress and egress, were at the forefront for the commission (see sidebar Page A9).

Continuing the public hearing delays the commissioners' decision regarding whether the fueling center should be permitted. The Keizer City Council, however, will have the final say on the matter.

In most other areas along River Road, a gas station would be a permitted use. But, even before Keizer had a development code, the then-

city councilors decided to put an "overlay" zone in the area between Claggett and James streets on River Road North and Elizabeth Street and Bailey Road on Chemawa Road. The overlay still prohibits several types of development (see sidebar, Page A9) and one of them is a fuel station. Safeway needs the restriction to be modified for the fueling center to move forward. The fuel center would be placed on an undeveloped spot in the Safeway parking lot.

Commissioners were given four options for a decision: doing nothing and keeping the restrictions in place; eliminating the restrictions entirely; backing a text amendment proposed by Safeway that wouldn't allow the city to place conditions on traffic mitigation and other issues; or allowing the fueling station as a conditional use so long as Safeway committed to other improvements and traffic mitigation efforts.

Please see FUEL, Page A8



Civic Center clean-up
PAGE A3



Claggett becomes AVID demo school

By DEREK WILEY
Of the Keizertimes

After 18 months of coaching and a day full of evaluations, Patrick Briggs, AVID State Director for Texas, didn't make Claggett Creek Middle School wait any longer.

"I congratulate you for being named an AVID Demonstration School," he said on Wednesday, March 15 to applause from CCMS faculty and staff.

Claggett Creek is just the third AVID Demo middle school in Oregon, following Parkrose in Portland and Stephens in Salem, which received the distinction just the day before.

AVID validates schools for one-, two- and

three-year terms. CCMS received three and will be re-evaluated in 2020-21.

"The longest I can leave you with is three and I feel very comfortable doing that based on everything I saw," said Briggs, who visited AVID classrooms and tutorials in all three grade levels.

Briggs complimented Claggett Creek's culture.

"I love your vision," he said. "When I saw your vision this morning, it really touched me from the very beginning. Your vision that you believe all students, that means 100 percent of them where I come from, all of them are going to graduate high school ready for college and career."

Please see AVID, Page A9

KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley
Claggett Creek Middle administration and AVID teachers stand with a banner after being named a National Demo School on Wednesday, March 15.

Burglary underscores need for more officers

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

A 42-year-old Salem man, found stuck in a window and bleeding, is in cuffs after allegedly attempting to burglarize Keizer's One Stop Smoke Shop in the wee hours of Thursday, March 16. But it wasn't Keizer Police officers who responded to the call.

At 12:51 a.m., the Keizer Police Department were contacted by a private security officer who responded to a burglary alarm at the store located at 3926 River Road North in Keizer.

When the security officer arrived on the scene to check the business he found a burglary suspect stuck in a window on the north side of the business. The security officer reported the suspect was moaning in pain and requested paramedics respond as well.

None of Keizer's three night shift officers were available to respond, but Salem Police Department officers and Keizer Fire District both did.

Six minutes prior to the report of the burglary at-



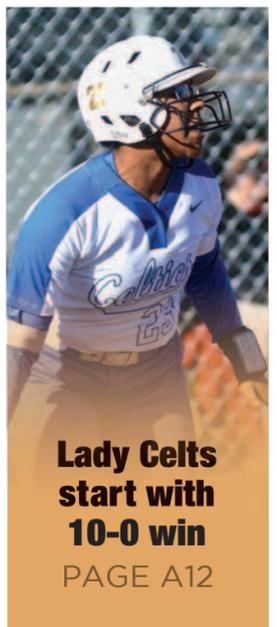
J. Alvarado

tempt, KPD's three night shift officers responded to a report of trespass and menacing at Smoker Friendly Market, 5135 River Road N.

The suspect at Smoker Friendly had been asked not to return to the business after a prior encounter and the 9-1-1 caller reported he had just pulled a knife.

"This was a serious call with a report of a subject that was armed with a knife, therefore sending three police officers was prudent and justified," said KPD Deputy Police Chief Jeff Kuhns.

Please see BURGLAR, Page A8



Lady Celts start with 10-0 win
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Good Sleep Workshop

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