

Keizertimes

SECTION A

MAY 5, 2017

\$1.00

'He was walking him right toward the wood chipper'

Man charged with attempted murder

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

A Stayton man is being held without bail after allegedly trying to push a co-worker into a running wood chipper.

Keizer Police Department was contacted by an employee of a Salem tree service working in the 900 block of Moneda Avenue North about 2 p.m. Thursday, April 27. The caller reported that one employee "snuck up" behind a co-worker, assaulted him and attempted to throw him into a wood chipper. The incident had occurred about 45 minutes prior to contacting police.

Investigating officers learned that the victim was loading brush into the wood chipper when his co-worker – identified as Scott Edward Iverson, 26, of Stayton – came up behind him and put him in a chokehold while pushing his torso over onto the feeding table of the machine.

The struggle continued and the victim told police Iverson



Scott Edward Iverson

attempted to push him into the wood chipper a second time. A third co-worker spotted the altercation and intervened by pulling Iverson off the victim. Iverson then reportedly walked away from the scene on foot.

Kris Adams, a neighbor a few doors down from where the incident occurred, said she had just pulled into her driveway and looked down the street toward the noise.

"They were just going at it.

The guy getting beat up was a little bigger it looked like, but the smaller guy was just pounding on him," Adams said. "The little guy looked pretty strong and the thing that absolutely terrified me was he was walking him right toward the wood chipper."

Adams said she started to approach them men and had her cell phone out to call 9-1-1 when the other worker intervened.

"The victim's face was bloodied when it was all over," Adams said.

The victim told police he was unaware of any reason for the attack, but that he feared for his life at the time.

Investigators located Iverson at a restaurant and lounge in Stayton about 4:30 p.m. Friday, April 28, and he was taken into custody without incident.

He was taken to Marion County Correctional Facility where he is being held

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Fire board to have contested race



Christopher



Riddell-Norstrom

By DEREK WILEY
Of the Keizertimes

Both Ron Christopher and Shannon Riddell-Norstrom, running for Keizer Rural Fire Protection District Director, Position 1, come from a long line of firefighters.

Christopher's father was a firefighter in Redmond for over 40 years and his uncle was the Fire Chief of Redmond for more than 30 years.

"Fire service has been a part of my entire life and I am proud to contribute to the services provided in my home town," Christopher said.

Riddell-Norstrom's grandfather was one of the first volunteer firefighters in Keizer in the 1950s. Her uncle also served.

"He (uncle) would drag me to the fire station and let me go down the pole and look at the engines, Riddell-Norstrom said. "I just have a lot of fond memories of being a kid and getting to go to the fire station."

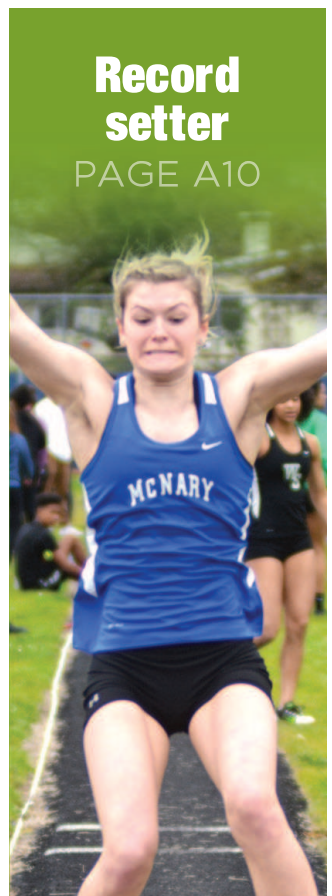
Both Christopher, the incumbent, and Riddell-Norstrom are also long-time Keizer residents.

Christopher and his wife, Lore, the former mayor, have lived in Keizer for over 30 years and raised their children here.

"I have deep connections with the citizens that I represent," Christopher said. "I listen to what they have to tell me and I am committed to represent them in the way I feel they would want."

Riddell-Norstrom was raised in Keizer, graduating from McNary High School, and has been looking for ways to give back to the community.

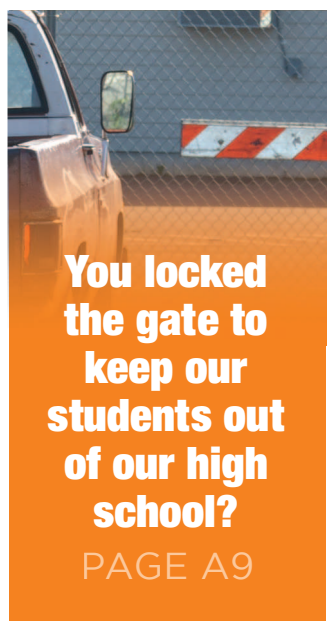
Please see RACE, Page A7



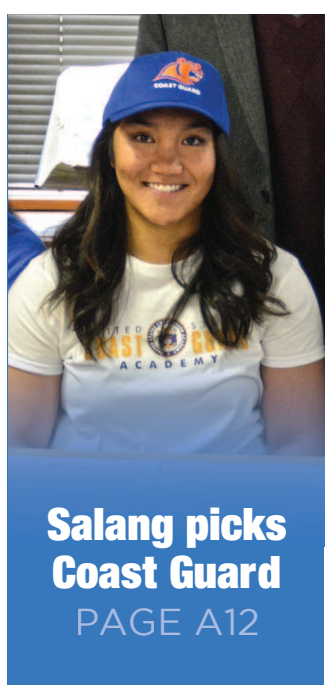
Record setter
PAGE A10



A scouting they will go
PAGE A3



You locked the gate to keep our students out of our high school?
PAGE A9



Salang picks Coast Guard
PAGE A12

How we got to here: City council takes up parks fee Monday

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

Designed by Andrew Jackson

On Monday, May 8, at 6 p.m., the Keizer City Council will hold a public forum on enacting a fee to create a

dedicated fund for city parks. The forum will not be the culmination of a more than year-long effort, but it will be

one of the more prominent opportunities for those who support the idea, and those who oppose it, to have their voices heard. The council will take public testimony, but it's not likely to be the final opportunity for residents to testify.

"The discussion will be based on the data we have received and the realities of the budget without those funds," said Mayor Cathy Clark.

Parks services are paid for out of the city's general fund and changing the amounts allocated to each isn't as easy as it might seem. The city operates on a tight budget and annual additional contributions to the state's Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) have made it difficult to expand what's available. In the most recent fiscal year, parks were given \$336,000 in the budget, which amounts to \$1,400 per acre for everything from regular mowing to repairs and improvements.

City staff, the Keizer Parks Advisory Board and members of the city council have been working for months to not only craft potential fee structures, but solicit input from residents on their support for the idea. During the first quarter of 2017, residents at each Keizer household were sent a survey asking for input. It was also available online.

Given the extensive work put into this project, Keizertimes is presenting the history as a series of questions and answers.

Why a parks fee needed?

Keizer has 240 acres of parks and two full-time employees to take care of them. There are also three or

Please see PARKS, Page A9

5 Top Safety Concerns

As ranked by Keizer Parks Supervisor Robert Johnson

Play structure replacement at Meadows Park.

Wood chips around play areas at Meadows, Northview, Claggett Creek, Country Glen and Bob Newton parks need to be dug out and replaced.

Path and walkways throughout the city's parks need resurfaced or replaced.

Court replacements at Claggett Creek and Northview parks.

Carlson Skate Park needs immediate maintenance, but should probably be remodeled.

19 Parks

240 Acres

Solution on the table

A fee to create a dedicated parks fund. Exact amount will likely be the major topic at a special Keizer City Council meeting on Monday, May 8.

\$336,000 Current Annual Budget

\$1,400 per acre to spend on everything from mowing to repair to improvements

2

Full-Time Employees

But one spends half his time on Civic Center Maintenance

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