

Keizertimes

SECTION A

SEPTEMBER 22, 2017

\$1.00

Gunfire chases visitors out of park, neighbors out of homes



By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

A hail of gunfire drove visitors out of Sunset Park and neighbors out of their homes along the Willamette River Sunday, Sept. 10.

The incident resulted in a throng of area residents turning out at the Keizer City Council meeting Monday, Sept. 18, to demand action on the part of the city. For now, it seems the only action to be taken is a sternly-worded letter to the owner of a quarry across the river who allows his family, friends and even the Salem Police Department to use part of his property as a shooting range.

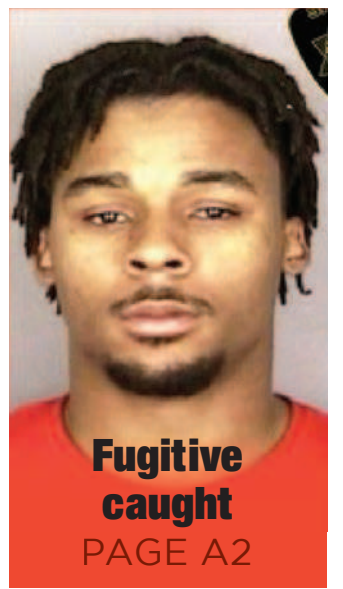
"I've been here 25 years and we've had complaints about the noise, but this is the first time it has ever risen to this level," said Sgt. Greg Barber, the Keizer police officer who responded to reports of the shots.

Barber was unable to find any bullets in the park, but doesn't doubt witnesses who fled from the riverbank who

Please see GUNFIRE, Page A8



Blow out
PAGE A11



Fugitive caught
PAGE A2

Keizer Station Hop Jacks will open next spring

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

Keizerites will have a new option for burgers and brew come spring 2018.

Hop Jacks, a Washington-based chain specializing in American comfort food, is currently building one of its newest locations on the corner



of Ulali Drive North and Keizer Station Boulevard.

"We selected Keizer because of its general proximity to I-5 and the mix of businesses in the center," said founder Mark Eggen. "We have signed a lease in the Sherwood neighborhood, and are actively pursuing several opportunities throughout the Portland and Willamette Valley areas."

The Keizer location will be the business's second in Oregon, the other opened in Happy Valley in 2016. The Hop Jacks menu includes a wide range of sandwiches, burgers, salads, tacos and three types of mac and cheese.

"Signature items include hand-formed 100-percent Angus beef burgers, icy fruit drinks served in a glass made of ice and beer served from taps of ice and poured at 34 degrees," Eggen said.

Please see JACKS, Page A8



While signs covering windows like those seen here are permitted under the current code, changes are afoot.

KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

Sign code changes draw scrutiny

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The Keizer Planning Commission continued wrestling with revisions to the city sign code at its meeting Wednesday, Sept. 13.

In addition to bringing the code in line with a 2015 U.S. Supreme Court ruling, city staff are looking to update other sections of the code dealing with the number of signs allowed per storefront, window shades and the frequency of change on electronic signs.

Content vs. Category
Two years ago, the U.S.

Supreme Court issued a ruling on the case of Reed v. Town of Gilbert and it caused cities across the nation to re-evaluate their sign codes.

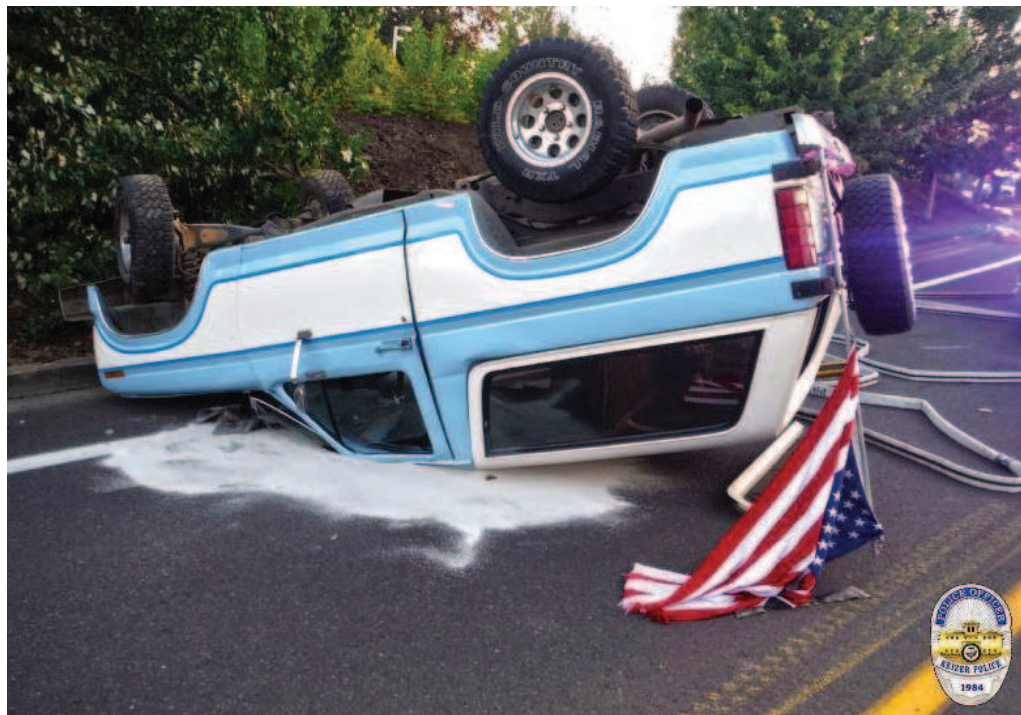
"We've spent an hour on two things and we're still shooting at ghosts."

— Garry Whalen,
Planning Commissioner

The case stemmed from the town of Gilbert, Ariz., in which a small church placed signs near various buildings where it held services; the church did not have a regular site where services were held. The church was cited twice for exceeding time limits for displaying signs and for failing to include the date of the event.

Supreme Court justices, Please see SIGN, Page A7

Rollover attributed to 'mutual road rage'



A rollover crash on Keizer Station Boulevard involving a 17-year-old Keizer Police Department (KPD) cadet and a 29-year-old man is being attributed to road rage after an investigation by the Marion County Sheriff's Office (MCSO).

About 6:50 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, Keizer police and the Keizer Fire District were dispatched to a crash involving two vehicles near the intersection of Lockhaven Drive Northeast and Keizer Station Boulevard Northeast. One of the vehicles flipped and came to a rest on its top on the roadway while the other involved vehicle left the scene immediately after the crash occurred.

Responding officers recognized the 1985 Ford Bronco that was resting on its roof

Courtesy of KPD
An off-duty Keizer Police Department cadet rolled his Bronco near the Keizer Transit Center in a crash ascribed to road rage. Both drivers have been charged in the incident.

as belonging to an off-duty KPD cadet. He has been with the department since May 2016.

Because of the possible conflict of interest, MCSO deputies were called in to investigate. Their investigation determined both drivers were mutually involved in a road rage incident. Both drivers were allegedly speeding and driving recklessly just prior to the crash. Deputies believe the other involved driver, 29-year-old Juan C. Vazquez of Keizer, cut off the 17-year-old and slammed on his brakes causing the cadet to turn his vehicle in an effort to avoid a collision. Doing so

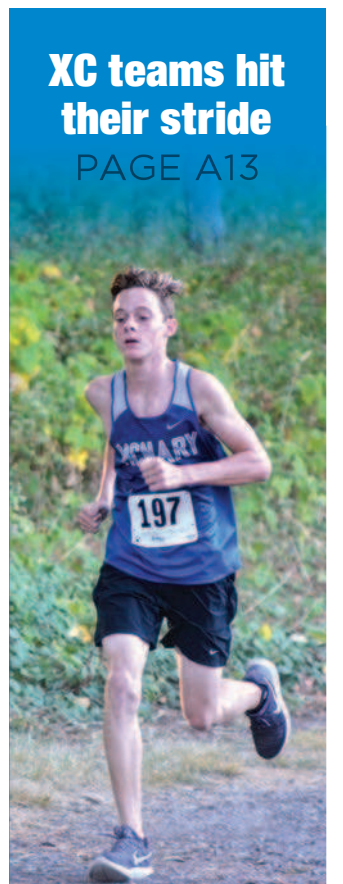
caused his vehicle to leave the roadway and flip as it traveled up an embankment.

After the crash, Vazquez left the scene, but he was later found at his residence where he was taken into custody for reckless driving and six counts of recklessly endangering another person.

The 17-year-old was taken to the Salem Hospital for evaluation and treatment of minor injuries that were caused by the crash. He will be referred to the Marion County Juvenile Department for the same charges. He was the only one of the Bronco's four occupants that was injured.



Off to see the Wizard
PAGE A4



XC teams hit their stride
PAGE A13



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