

# Keizertimes

SECTION A

FEBRUARY 23, 2018

\$1.00



## Nine Eight LIVES TO GO

### Cat finds new leash on life

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

Some animals and humans seem destined for each other.

Malibu gave Ryan Laudon two chances just in case he didn't get the message the first time around. The first time the pair met, Malibu was just a stray in Laudon's south Salem neighborhood.

"I heard him crying outside and I went out and he'd gotten tangled in my kids' soccer net. He'd gotten the net wrapped around his neck five times when he struggled, and one of his paws was wrapped up twice," Laudon said.

Laudon freed the then-kitten with a serrated knife, but Malibu knew he'd found a friend. He kept returning to Laudon's home for free meals and companionship.

Last week, Malibu turned up at the Laudon's home with a badly broken hind leg and in more pain than Laudon himself could bear. Laudon suspects he was hit by a passing car.

"He's such a cool cat, a beautiful cat, and you could

tell he was in pain, but I swear he was purring the whole time," Laudon said.

Laudon's rescuing instincts kicked into overdrive. Unfortunately, Laudon only had \$240 to his name and he knew the medical treatment Malibu needed could be wallet-draining.

A series of phone calls to friends and animal rescue organizations – the Willamette Humane Society was closed the day Malibu turned up injured – led Laudon to a Salem veterinarian who he heard worked with low-income families.

He visited the following day, but all he could get out of the vet on duty was a write-up of what would need to be done. The exam alone was going to cost all of what Laudon had on hand, and he would need to find someone to loan him \$50 to cover that.

"I was really upset at the time because I felt like I was going to have to bring him

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home and put him down," Laudon said. "I could have paid it, but I still would have had a broken cat."

In retrospect, he thinks that the staff at the clinic might have suspected he was the one to cause the injury and understands more their wariness.

Fortunately, Laudon had

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KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald  
Ryan Laudon with Malibu who lost a leg to amputation after being struck by a vehicle. The benevolence of a Willamette Valley Animal Hospital vet gave Malibu a shot at recovery.

## NEW VISIONS FOR RIVER ROAD



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald  
River Road and Churchdale Avenue.

### Keizer Chamber hosting community conversation

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

The Keizer Chamber of Commerce is hoping for a big turnout at its first-ever Community Conversation on Wednesday, Feb. 28.

The Chamber is inviting all Keizer residents and business owners to join in the talks that will help to create a vision for the future of River Road North. For Jonathan Thompson, chair of the Chamber's Government Affairs Committee, that means showing up even if you don't plan on saying anything.

"You might not have a specific idea you want to talk about, but somebody else might say something that triggers a response or your own idea for what we should do. We want to hear all of that as we decide what to do going forward," Thompson said.

The talks begin at 6 p.m. at the Keizer Civic Center.

The idea for this particular conversation sprouted from the city's attempt to

enact a 1 percent fee on new construction and redeveloped areas to be used for the creation of public amenities and/or public art.

They received a nuanced discussion at the Planning Commission, which approved the idea and forwarded it to the Keizer City Council, but the council balked after lengthy testimony from members of the Keizer Chamber and other parties. Aside from discontent over adding fees, some councilors took issue with the lack of specificity in what the fee would be used for.

In discussing the future of River Road and the possibility of a 1 percent fee during an interview with the Keizertimes two weeks ago, Mayor Cathy Clark said, "We had the how, but not the what."

Thompson said the fee proposal "snuck up" on members of the Keizer Chamber, but that members have made more concerted efforts in the intervening months to keep up with changes

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### City kicking off new River Road vision study

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

Over the next year or so, the City of Keizer is embarking on a revitalization study including large portions of River Road North and Cherry Avenue Northeast.

That means if residents and business owners want to have a say on what becomes of Keizer's "Main Street," it's time to get involved.

While the parameters of the study are still somewhat loosely defined, the specific areas included are likely to be from Weeks Drive to River Road North on Cherry Avenue Northeast; Weeks Drive to Greenwood Drive on River Road North; Linda Avenue to Rose Park Lane on River Road North; and Lockhaven

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### Victim sought in attempted carjacking

The Keizer Police Department is asking for assistance in finding the victim involved in an attempted carjacking in Salem Saturday, Feb. 14.

The vehicle is described as light colored, possibly white or silver medium sized 4-door sedan.

About 12:15 a.m., KPD officers were pursuing a stolen 1997 Ford Escort that ended when spike strips were deployed and punctured one of the vehicles tires causing it to spin out at the intersection of State and 17th streets in Salem. After the Escort came to a stop, the suspect fled on foot.

The man fled west on State Street Northeast and then south across traffic lanes with KPD K-9 officer Buster pursuing him. The pursuing officers witnessed the suspect attempting to gain entry into another vehicle that had stopped to yield to the chase.

The suspect tried to gain entry into the vehicle through the driver's door and the driver's side rear passenger door.

Buster intervened by biting him until the K-9 handler

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A. Raymond Nanez

Wentworth signs  
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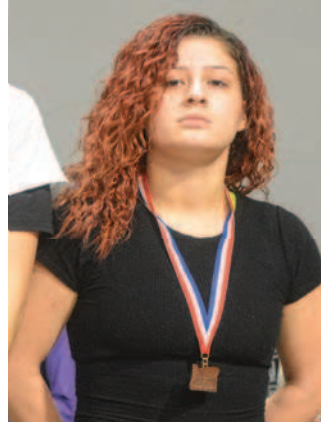
Playing the anthem  
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Lend Me a Tenor opens  
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Ebbs, Vincent, Parra place at state tournament  
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