

Yumm-y



The Keizer Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for Cafe Yumm! in Keizer Station Tuesday, May 8. The restaurant is now open daily.



Jerry Howard (right) of the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes accepts a \$1,200 donation from The Confederated Tribe of the Siletz Indians of Oregon.

Submitted

Volcanoes' salute to vets earns tribal support

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The Salem-Keizer Volcanoes were on the receiving end of a donation supporting veterans last week.

The Confederated Tribe of the Siletz Indians of Oregon awarded the baseball club \$1,200 out of more than \$200,000 in donations to the ball club to purchase tickets for its annual Veterans Appreciation game on July 4.

"We look at applications that focus on a number of areas like education, housing, health and veterans," said Dee Pigsley, chairperson of the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz.

The donation will be used to purchase tickets for veteran's family members who want to attend the game and cannot afford the admission, Pigsley said. Veterans taking part in the ceremonial aspects of the game will be admitted for free.

"We have several veterans in our tribe and more that I can think of who have passed away in recent years," Pigsley said.

The request from the Volcanoes was one of 48 to make the cut this year. More than 80 applications were received. The charitable arm of the tribe is funded through casino revenues at Chinook Winds in Lincoln City.

Since 2000, the organization has distributed more than \$11.3 million.

Teachers ask for better communication, refocused curriculum

By HERB SWETT
For the Keizertimes

The budget proposal for the Salem-Keizer School District took up most of the time of the school board as well as the budget committee meeting Tuesday.

Mindy Merritt, president of the Salem-Keizer Education Association, told the board a "breakdown of communication" was causing good teachers to resign. She said there was too much stress on reading and mathematics at the expense of science and social studies and called for more balance.

Other teachers, speaking from the audience, said that administration decisions had created work for teachers that cut into their focus on teaching and that academic coaching positions should be restored to their previous level.

The board approved a policy of property tax exemption concurrence with local governments for certain low-income family housing providers.

Also approved by the board were six grants, the largest of which was \$194,435 from the Oregon Department of Education for strategic initiatives. Also from ODE were grants of \$108,499 for dyslexia training and \$17,600 to continue the mentor program for teachers and administrators.

The remaining grants were \$4,637 from Oregon State University to cover Head Start costs, \$8,000 from Early Learning Hub for parenting education and curriculum, and \$1,500 from the Northwest Health Foundation to encourage students to participate in physical activity.

Of the personnel actions

approved by the board, the following involved the McNary High School attendance area:

- Temporary full-time status for Corie McPursifull at McNary.
- First-year probation status for Connor Astley, Elizabeth Gibson, and Heather Zehr at McNary; and Kyle Moeller at Whiteaker Middle School.
- Retirement of Melanie Austria from Clear Lake Elementary School.
- Resignations of Kristen Dysinger from Cummings Elementary School and Brittany Reuther and Shannon Wellbaum from Keizer Elementary School.

The budget committee meeting followed that of the board and included a hearing. Several people, some speaking through an interpreter,

Yaira Canchola of Keizer, said the budget should have more room for Latino children to qualify for the bilingual program. Others said that school nurses were spread too thin to provide enough service and that more attention should be given to behavioral issues.

Also at the budget committee meeting, Kelly Carlisle, assistant superintendent, discussed the involvement of the district with AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination). He said that 90 per-

cent of AVID students have economically disadvantaged backgrounds and that AVID has helped their performance.

Linda Myers, director of strategic initiatives, spoke on the progress of the Office of Student Equity, Access, and Advancement. She noted that equity committees were focusing on students who were disadvantaged in specific ways.

The committee will hold another hearing at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday.



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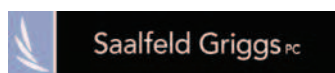
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