

GRASSROOTS GOVERNMENT



Keizer Parks Supervisor Robert Johnson said contractors were expected to pour a new full-size basketball court surface at Claggett Creek Park this week. KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

The Keizer Parks and Recreation Advisory Board held its most recent meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 16. Here is what was discussed.

- When the Keizer City Council instituted a parks services fee, one of the cuts made to parks services was doing away with a caretaker position at Keizer Rapids Park. A current city employee resides at a home on the property and received a discount on rent in exchange for 20 weekly hours of park duties ranging from emptying trash cans to keeping an eye on spaces not as visible to the average user.

Keizer Parks Supervisor Robert Johnson said, even with additional parks employees, keeping up with the amount of garbage being generated is difficult.

“One birthday party at The

Big Toy can leave a trashcan overflowing after a couple of pizza boxes,” Johnson said.

After new staff was hired the decision was made to end the rent-discount arrangement.

“Now that we’ve had to take on that work, we are putting the hours in at Keizer Rapids that could be used at other parks,” Johnson said.

Parks board members requested a report on the possibility of reinstating the agreement, in some new form, that was amenable to both the city and caretaker.

“Know someone is checking, it’s a deterrent,” said Jim Taylor, a parks board member.

- Several parks projects that are occurring as a result of the parks fee are still underway. Paths in several parks are either being reconstructed

or resurfaced. A new full-size basketball court was expected to be poured at Claggett Creek Park this week. A multi-sport court at Bob Newton Park was also expected to be resurfaced before winter arrives.

Johnson said he wasn’t certain whether new lines would be added to the courts before next spring. The new surfaces will need time to set and striping them is weather-dependent.

The court surface at Newton Park will be striped to include pickleball courts in addition to the tennis court that is a longtime part of the space.

- The board plans to discuss renaming the Rickman Community Garden after Peggy and Jerry Moore, the garden’s directors, at its November meeting.

police scanner

SUNDAY, OCT. 7

11 p.m. - Arrest for unlawful entry into a vehicle and criminal mischief at the intersection of Alendale Way NE and Keizer Road NE.

MONDAY, OCT. 8

8:15 a.m. - Arrest for criminal trespass in the 5000 block of River Road N.
 12:28 a.m. - Arrest on warrant at the intersection of River Road N and Promenade Way N.
 6:30 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 5000 block of River Road N.
 10 p.m. - Unlawful entry into a vehicle and theft in the 500 block of Dennis Lane N.
 10:35 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 4000 block of River Road N.

TUESDAY, OCT. 9

1:02 a.m. - Motor Vehicle Theft in the 5000 block of River Road N.
 11:40 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 3000 block of Cherry Avenue NE.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 10

10 p.m. - Arrest on warrant for disorderly conduct in the 3000 block of partridge Lane NE.

THURSDAY, OCT. 11

6 a.m. - Arrest for criminal trespassing in the 5000 block of Wittenberg Lane NE.
 10:43 a.m. - Arrest on warrant for the unlawful possession of methamphetamine in the 4000 block of River Road N.

10:30 p.m. - Arrest for driving under the influence and illegal possession of methamphetamine and heroin at the intersection of Stadium Drive NE and Chemawa Road NE.
 10:54 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 6000 block of Ulali Drive NE.

FRIDAY, OCT. 12

12:25 a.m. - Minor in possession of marijuana in the 1000 block of Chemawa Road N.
 6:33 p.m. - Arrest for driving under the influence and traffic accident in the 3000 block of River Road N.
 7:20 p.m. - Arrest for stalking and burglary in the 4000 block of Verda Lane NE.
 10:38 p.m. - Arrest on warrant at

the intersection of River Road N and Menlo Drive N.

11 p.m. - Arrest for the interfering with a police officer at the intersection of River Road N and Menlo Drive N.

SATURDAY, OCT. 13

1:10 a.m. - Arrest on warrant at the intersection of Cherry Avenue NE and Alder Drive NE.
 2:05 a.m. - Arrest for assault in the 700 block of Plymouth Drive NE.
 4:00 a.m. - Arrest for criminal mischief in the 1000 block of Clearview Avenue NE.
 12:37 p.m. - Arrest for the unlawful possession of methamphetamine in the 5000 block of River Road N.

Renewed KPD traffic team may curb traffic fatalities, history shows

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

With the swearing in of five new police officers, the Keizer Police Department (KPD) will be able to fully staff its traffic team. While that will mean more warnings and tickets for drivers, it could also have a life-saving effect.

The last time Keizer had a fully staffed traffic team, there were no fatalities in its final five years. In the past five years, when Keizer’s traffic team consisted of one sergeant and one patrol officer, there were six fatalities.

Sgt. Trevor Wenning, who is taking on a different role within the department and turning over the traffic unit to Sgt. David LeDay, shared citation data for the past year with the Keizer Traffic Safety, Bikeways and Pedestrian Committee at its meeting Thursday, Oct. 11.

Wenning’s final message was there is a cost in terms of safety and lives when the traffic team isn’t around.

“Keizer streets are dangerous because we haven’t had a traffic team in quite some time,” Wenning said. “We’ve been hearing a lot of chatter about [vehicles traveling] 50-60 mph on River Road. It will

be interesting, in a year’s time, to see if we are hearing the same thing.”

Aside from two-officer traffic team in the past year, KPD’s efforts bolstered by three grants that cover overtime pay for traffic enforcement. A grant for targeted DUI enforcement led to an additional 55 hours of enforcement that resulted in 119 citations or warnings, seven DUI arrests and the serving of six felony warrants.

A grant targeting speed limit enforcement, covered 68 hours of overtime that resulted in 367 citations or warnings, an average of 3.8 stops per hour. The grant requires a “match” of traditional traffic enforcement covered by KPD. The hours used to match the

grant generated 113 citations or warnings, an average of 4.1 per hour.

“With the speed grant, the goal was stopping anyone 10 mph over the limit and issuing a warning, and citations kicked in at a level slightly higher than that. It was not stopping anybody and everything,” Wenning said.

A safety grant for targeting drivers not using seat belts generated 44 hours of overtime and 158 citations or warnings, an average of 3.6 per hour.

KPD has applied for the same grants in the coming year. If the grants are awarded, Keizerites can expect additional enforcement over and above the newly-reinstated traffic team.

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FRI, OCT. 26, 2018, 7:30 PM

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- Jeffrey Kahane, piano

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Three Dance Episodes

- Andrew Norman: Split

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 4



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