

Pvt. Ryan J. Hill

Soldier may be honored with stretch of highway

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

A Keizer soldier killed in Iraq in 2007 might soon have a stretch of Oregon highway named after him.

House Concurrent Resolution 13, which is set to be considered during the current legislative session, would result in Hill's family working with Oregon Department of Transportation officials to designate a stretch of highway in Pvt. Ryan J. Hill's honor, said Abby Weekly, legislative director for state Rep. Bill Post.

Post is co-sponsoring the resolution with Rep. Julie Fahney of West Eugene/Junction City. The 2015 Legislature created the process through which individuals can be recognized, Weekly said.

Hill served with Charlie Company in Adhamiya, Iraq. At the time, the area was heavy with insurgents, and the locals were paying a steep price. Caught in the middle of warring factions, some 10 to 20 villagers a day were reportedly being killed as Sunni and Shiite waged war against each other.

Hill, 20, was driving a Humvee on Jan. 20, 2007, when an improvised explosive device detonated (IED) near the vehicle. Hill was killed and the vehicle's gunner ended up in critically injured. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division based in Schweinfurt, Germany. He was serving his first tour in Iraq at the time of his death.

Hill's sense of duty took him to Iraq after graduating from the Oregon National Guard Youth Challenge program in



File Twelve years ago, Ryan Hill was killed when an IED exploded near a Humvee he was driving in the area around Adhamiya, Iraq. If the Oregon legislators approve a recent resolution, Hill might have a stretch of highway added to his legacy.

2006. He had attended McNary High School and worked at the Keizer Albertsons prior to enrolling the Bend-based

ChallNge program.

Prior to his death, Hill told his mother Shawna Fenison, "I've made my peace with

God and I'm not afraid of something happening to me. My fear is that something will Please see HILL, Page A9

Burglar heads to prison for 2 years

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

A man involved in numerous local business burglaries is heading to prison for two years as part of a guilty plea in Marion County Circuit Court.

John Albert Herriges, 41, pleaded guilty to four counts of second-degree burglary and three counts of second-degree criminal mischief. Judge Donald Abar issued a 48-month sentence, which is more than the recommended sentence for such crimes.

The only Keizer crime among the guilty pleas was for a December 2017 incident at Sonic Drive-In, 3775 River Road North. But, Herriges was charged with several other additional crimes in Keizer.

Charges for criminal mischief at Bentley's, Dutch Bros., Sonic Drive-In, Love Love Teriyaki and Good Times Grill, as well as burglary charges at Sonic and Good Please see BURGLAR, Page A9

Chamber members preview 2019 legislative pipeline

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

Details are still hazy on potential legislation that could have a major impact on business during the 2019 Oregon legislative session, but Jenny Dresler, director of grassroots with Public Affairs Counsel, tried to read the tea leaves during a Keizer Chamber of Commerce luncheon Tuesday, Jan. 29.

With a Democratic wave sweeping through the Legislature in November 2018, "legislators feel they've been given a mandate to push an agenda," Dresler said. "One can look at the election results and understand that, but businesses will get steamrolled if they do not speak up." Dresler said Public Affairs Counsel, a lob-

bying firm, and Oregon State Chamber of Commerce are monitoring developments on several issues.

Some of the legislative movements sparking heightened interest include:

- Tax proposals involving hospitals and insurance providers to cover the costs of Medicaid.

- Cap-and-trade discussions that revolve around how the state will manage harmful emissions.

- A proposed \$2 billion revenue package to support reforms throughout public schools.

- A paid family and medical leave tax that might affect businesses as small as one employee.

- Proposals that could create increased liability concern for small business.

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KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald Jenny Dresler, director of grassroots with Public Affairs Counsel, briefs members of the Keizer Chamber of Commerce on upcoming legislative efforts.

McGee memorial slated Saturday

A memorial for Jerry McGee, a longtime volunteer, former city councilor and man of many hats, will take place at the Keizer Civic Center Saturday, Feb. 2.

McGee passed Jan. 11, at age 85, after a battle with cancer.

The memorial is open to the public from 1 to 5 p.m. Programming will begin at 2 p.m. and last about an hour.



J. McGee

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations in McGee's name to the Keizer Fire Foundation, P.O. Box 20183, Keizer, OR 97307.

The memorial will include bagpipe performances by Jennifer Campbell and remembrances by son Marty McGee, Bill Quinn, Cathy Monroe, Hank Tarter, grandson Ian Hunt, Marc Adams, grandson Wes Jordan, daughter Cathy Jordan, former Keizer mayor Lore Christopher and current Keizer Mayor Cathy Clark.

Light refreshments will be provided by K's Catering.

Additionally, McGee is survived by son Marty McGee, daughters Tammy McGee, Cathy Jordan and Wendy Hunt; grandchildren Wes Jordan, Brianna Hunt and Ian Hunt; longtime friend Diane Monroe; brother Dennis McGee; and sisters Doris Clark and Norma Benson.

Lee draws challenger in bid for board seat

Chuck Lee, a longtime Keizer resident and former city councilor recently announced he will seek a fourth term on the Salem-Keizer School Board.

"I am committed to the success of every student in our state's second largest school district," said Lee of the re-election bid.

The election for the Zone 6 seat will be held in May. Danielle Bethell, another Keizer resident and executive director of the Keizer Chamber of Commerce announced last week she will be running against Lee.

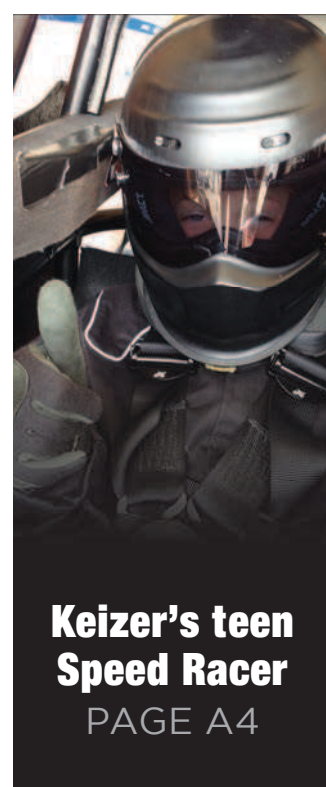
Lee is the president of Career and Technical Education Center, and president emeritus of Blanchet Catholic School. He served on the Keizer City Council for seven years prior to being elected to the school board in 2013. In 2016, he was appointed to the Government Ethics Commission by the Gov. Kate Brown.

Lee's time as a member of the school board has included: implementing all-day kindergarten, passage a \$620

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C. Lee



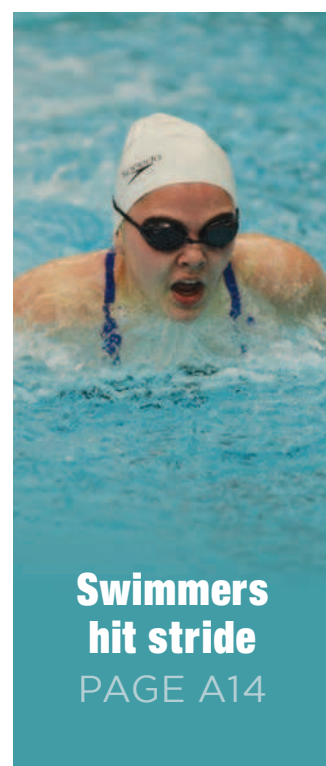
Keizer's teen Speed Racer
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8-year-old volunteer shines
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Lady Celts lead league
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Swimmers hit stride
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