

# School district eyes changes to traffic around Whiteaker

By **HERB SWETT**  
For the *Keizertimes*

Easing traffic around Whiteaker Middle School was the purpose of a property transaction proposal approved by the Salem-Keizer School Board on Tuesday, March 12.

The project would be part of the city of Keizer's Transportation Systems Plan and would add a dedicated right turn lane for westbound traffic on Lockhaven Drive to turn north onto 14th Avenue.

An additional right-of-way along the front of the campus is needed for the project, which would not reduce parking space or access to Lockhaven Drive. The city would pay all project costs.

Also approved for first reading was the proposed purchase of Auburn Park from Marion County. The park area, about 4.37 acres, would support the expansion

of Auburn Elementary School. The appraised value is \$360,000 and the district is prepared to pay up to \$15,000 in additional appraisals that the county would need to find suitable replacement park lands.

In other business, the board accepted the overall positive evaluation of Superintendent Christy Perry's performance for the 2017-18 school year. The board also approved three-year contracts, effective July 1, for John Beight, executive director, human resources; and Michael Wolfe, chief operating officer. Director Paul Kylo was the only board member to vote against the contracts and declined to state his reasons.

The board accepted six grants, five of them through the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and four of the five involved federal programs. The largest

grant of the four, which is \$2,675,572, aims at helping students in schools with high percentages of poverty meet challenging state academic standards. The other three grants are \$27,005, \$459,076 and \$54,009 respectively for the three phases of the District Engagement involving studies for improving education.

Also from ODE is \$2,218 for support of students with disabilities. The grant not involving ODE is \$152,000 from the Community Resource Trust for innovations and practices to improve student achievement at McKay and North Salem high schools.

The board designated April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

It approved contracts for hundreds of teachers and administrators in the district.

## PARKS: 6-2 vote dissent arose over fund tracking

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then get reimbursed, youth projects could be funded directly through the fund.

Robert Johnson, Keizer's parks supervisor, said the idea had the support of staff, but suggested not limiting the program to \$2,000 from the outset. Instead, he suggested, roll it into ask for the existing matching grant program.

"Limiting yourself too much could prevent a fantastic project from being complet-

ed," Johnson said. "You still want to encourage a matching effort, but it's sometimes the reimbursement that holds some people up if an Eagle Scout's family doesn't have funds to get a project started."

While the underlying idea was one board members supported, the mechanics of how it would work became more heated.

"I like what we're doing here, but not the way we're doing it," said Clint Holland,

a board member. "If we're not matching [money], we'll use the [fund] twice as fast."

It should be noted that discussions such as these are rare for the municipal committees and boards in Keizer. The Parks Advisory Board is the only such entity with authority over how a portion of city budget (the \$10,000 matching grant fund) is spent.

"If we start pulling items from one line item in different directions there are going to be a lot of questions about where the money is, where it's coming from and where it's going," said Donna Bradley, a board member.

The board is also on a deadline. To get any increase in the existing matching grant program or establish a youth fund, it needs approval of the city's budget committee that begins meeting in April.

In the end, the board passed a recommendation to request a \$5,000 increase to the overall matching grant program to meet the budget deadline and plan to return to the issue at a future meeting to determine how youth funding will fit into the picture.

The recommendation passed with a 6-2 vote, Bradley and Holland voted against the motion.

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### Today in History

In an effort to raise funds to pay off debts and defend the vast new American territories won from the French in the Seven Years' War (1756-1763), the British government passes the Stamp Act on this day in 1765. The legislation levied a direct tax on all materials printed for commercial and legal use in the colonies, from newspapers and pamphlets to playing cards and dice. The colonists' raised the issue of taxation without representation, and formed societies throughout the colonies to rally against the British government and nobles who sought to exploit the colonies as a source of revenue and raw materials.

— March 15, 1965

### Food 4 Thought

"Don't just learn something from every experience, learn something positive."  
— Al Neuharth, founder of USA Today, born March 22, 1924

### The Month Ahead

#### Continuing through Friday, March 29

The Keizer Heritage Museum is featuring an exhibit of Tammy Wild's glass collection including uranium glass, vaseline glass and canary glass among other types. Museum hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays 2 to 4 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. keizerheritage.org.

#### Continuing through Saturday, April 20

Romance is the theme of the 9th annual Heritage Invitation Exhibit at Willamette Heritage Center at Mission Mill. Nine museums from around the region each have displays including Keizer Heritage Museum's unique Keizer family wedding socks (on loan from the Oregon Historical Society). To learn more visit willametteheritage.org.

#### Friday, March 22

Enlightened Theatrics debuts the Tony-award winning musical *Avenue Q*. The show plays through April 14. Visit enlightenedtheatrics.org for showtimes and tickets.

#### Saturday, March 23

Keizer/Salem Area Seniors, Saturday Night Dance and Potluck featuring music by The Country Gents. 7-10 p.m., Admission \$5, 930 Plymouth Drive NE, Keizer, 97303.

#### Wednesday, March 27

All are welcome to Bingo from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Admission is \$5.50, there will be a chance to win monetary prizes, free game cards and daubers. 930 Plymouth Drive NE, Keizer 97303.

Come have a free meal at the St Edward Catholic Church at 5303 River Road N on Wednesday March 27. Dinner is served from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. and is hosted by a variety of local Keizer businesses and groups. This is a great opportunity to enjoy free food and meet new people.

#### Sunday, March 31

The Japanese Cultural Society will present a Spring Teatime Concert inside Tiga Sushi Bar and Asian Bistro 260 Liberty Street SE Salem. The concert will begin at 3 p.m. and present a collaboration of the traditional Japanese instruments, the koto and the shakuhachi. Tickets are \$25 at the door and \$20 in advance. For more information or to reserve your tickets go to oregon.jcs@gmail.com.

#### Sunday, April 7

A string quartet will perform Franz Josef Haydn's piece *Seven Last Words of Christ* for the seventh concert in the 2018-19 Evensong Concert Series. St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Salem.

#### Tuesday, April 9

A three-course high tea will be served at Deepwood Museum and Gardens in Salem. The first seating will begin at 11 a.m. and the second seating will begin at 2 p.m. During the tea time guests will explore what happened at Deepwood and in the world from the year 1900 through 1919. The tea is \$35 per guest and \$31.50 for Deepwood members. You can purchase tickets or get more information by visiting deepwoodmuseum.org or by calling (503) 363-1825.

#### Friday, April 26

The Mid Valley Literacy Center presents Spotlight on Literacy, an opportunity for supporters to come together and recognize the past year's accomplishments and recognize the progress made by students. The event will be held at Creekside Golf Club, 6250 Clubhouse Dr SE, Salem, OR 97306. The VIP event starts at 5 p.m. and the dinner program starts at 6 p.m. Dinner and program tickers are \$50/guest or \$500/table/ VIP reception and dinner program \$100/guest or 1,000/table.

Sangster, a committee member.

Committee Member David Dempster said during a recent trip to Munich, Germany, he encountered sidewalks with lanes painted down the middle that are used by both pedestrians and cyclists.

"It isn't great, but it works. The majority of people are able to maneuver," Dempster said.

The committee didn't propose striping the sidewalk, but its solution would work essentially the same way.

Without additional right-of-way, the space to expand the sidewalks would be recouped by narrowing the existing lanes of River Road from 12 feet to 10 feet. Narrowing the lanes of vehicle travel might also accomplish a long-standing goal of reducing crash related injuries and fatalities in Keizer. Narrower lanes of traffic, prevailing studies suggest, would reduce the tendency to speed.

"We're used to giving people more [space] than they need for cars. This might get them to slow down," Dempster said.

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## What is that purple truck?

By **HUNTER BOMAR**  
Of the *Keizertimes*

Oishi Express is a food truck at 392 Chemawa Road N that serves Japanese-American style food.

The truck arrived in Keizer in February and began serving their large-portion food combos which can include beef, chicken, or shrimp.

They are open everyday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. except on Fridays when they are open from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"Most people see food trucks as cheap, selling burgers and fries, but we are selling high-level restaurant quality food," said Edward Zant, the owner.



KEIZERTIMES/Hunter Bomar  
Oishi Express is serving up Japanese-American fusion cuisine at a food truck on Chemawa Road N.

Zant worked in many Japanese restaurants before opening Oishi Express and he hopes to one day open his

own restaurant. He wants to share his food with the Keizer community and let them know that the food is made with fresh ingredients, is high quality and is made to order.

If you are short on time, you can also place an order in advance by calling 971-621-1352.

## CITY: 'We are good at stretching a buck'

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"We are working with Rep. Bill Post and Sen. Kim Thatcher to establish recourse for people when they are irresponsible," Clark said.

Clark cited numerous new shops that have opened over the course of the past year, but reserved special attention for In-N-Out, the burger joint planned for Keizer Station. Clark said she had never handled as many media requests as the day after a representative from the company spoke with the city council in 2018. While the process is moving slowly, Clark said the city wanted other local businesses to see it as a chance to promote their services and wares.

"We all know that there is going to be a lot of activity and we want to make sure it is an opportunity for everyone," she said.

She also heralded the staff at the city - ranging from police officers to parks employees - for making good use of fees put in place to bolster both services.

"We are good at stretching a buck, but it takes more to get people out there ... and bring the city up to a level where you feel safe," Clark said.

The mayor started her speech highlighting the work that's being done to alleviate the issue of homelessness in the area. She said better data on the population in most dire need and a map of existing services are being put to use to develop better collaboration throughout Marion County.

"It's the strong collaboration with service providers that are making change. We're in a better place with services but we still have a long way to go," she said.

looking back in the KT

#### 5 YEARS AGO

The bard goes steampunk

Of all the things that could possibly create challenges for the McNary High School students working behind the scene to put on a steampunk-themed production of *The Tempest*, the biggest was on they weren't expecting: brown pants.

#### 10 YEARS AGO

Ex-chief will run for fire board

The ballot is set for local school, fire board and transits elections with a former Keizer fire chief deciding to seek a board position.

#### 15 YEARS AGO

World of science opens doors - windows, too - for McNary students

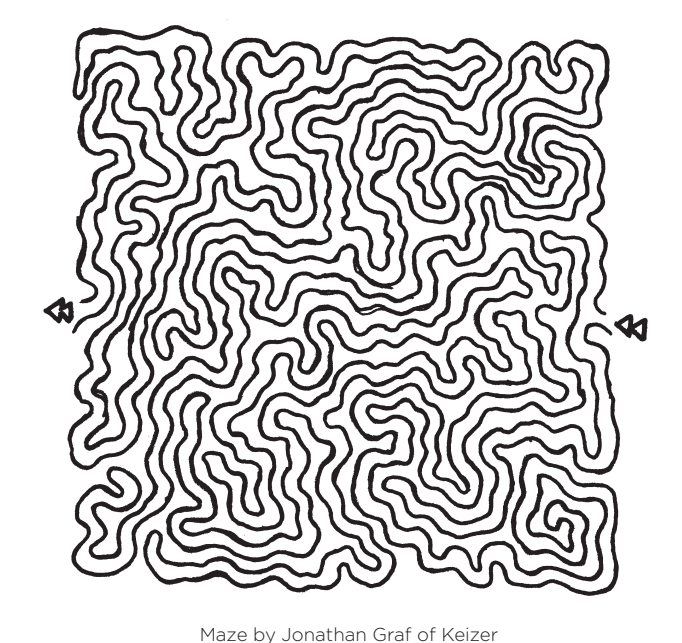
Windows and terrestrial arthropods aren't they typical passions for high school students today. Yet for two McNary High School sophomores, an obsession for such unusual topics brought accolades at a recent research competition.

#### 20 YEARS AGO

First Lady finds home at capitol

Keizer's First Lady doesn't have much time to bke cookies. Marion Newton - wife of Keizer's new mayor Bob Newton - had her hands full with her job at the Legislature.

maze



Maze by Jonathan Graf of Keizer

### sudoku

9		1		7		2		
	6	2	9					4
4				8		7	1	
3	4		1			5		
	1			2			4	
		9			6		3	8
	5	4		6				1
1					8	6	9	
		7		1		4		2

Enter digits from 1-9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.