

New tools sought in battle to clear up city's sidewalks

By CASEY CHAFFIN
Of the Keizertimes

Sidewalk obstructions were the topic of a Keizer City Council work session on Monday, June 10. Over the years, complaints about sidewalk obstructions, specifically basketball hoops, in residential neighborhoods are a regular complaint of many residents.

Councilors debated the merits of updating city code with enforcement mechanisms to remove obstructions, which don't currently exist in the city code.

"Putting a basketball standard on a sidewalk impedes mobility. We want to make sure they can use a sidewalk the way it is intended," said Keizer Mayor Cathy Clark.

The council began by discussing how Salem dealt with this issue in the past: passing a code that outlawed basketball hoops altogether. That policy wasn't successful.

"The city of Salem outlawed basketball standards and were completely overwhelmed with the number confiscated and had to lease a whole separate property for them," Community Development Director Nate Brown told the council. Salem then softened the policy by choosing to remove offending hoops on a case-by-case complaint basis.

Another problem with outright banning basketball hoops, Brown said, is that they add something to a community.

"It's also a livability issue in that it creates a sense of neighborhood," he said.

Because basketball hoops can be an outlet for family and neighborhood bonding, the council would like to include a provision in the new policy they draft to allow for hoops to be on the sidewalk as long as they are actively in use.

However, while basketball hoops were

the catalyst for this discussion, the council would like to address any kind of obstruction to sidewalks. Councilors discussed ways of creating a city code that could tactfully address the issue of obstruction when it arises. They would like to implement a complaint-based system similar to Salem's.

"If they are violating the ordinance, we would give them opportunity to comply. If it was a problem that obstructed somebody else's use then we might ask that that be put somewhere else when it's not in use," Brown said.

In the event the obstruction is not cleared, the city would like to have a citation and fine mechanism to enforce the policy. If the obstruction remains after issuance of a citation and fine, the city would consider confiscating the obstruction.

The city council said creating an enforcement mechanism to clear obstructions would lift the burden off of the city's code enforcement officer, Ben Crosby.

Senior City Planner Shane Witham added that as of right now, when someone makes a complaint about an obstruction in a residential area, Crosby must rely on the goodwill of those who own the offending obstruction.

"One of Ben's least favorite things to do is try to bluff his way through something without policy or rules to back him up. Having the ability to issue a citation and then confiscate after non-compliance is a tool," Witham said.

That aligned well with the council's goals.

"We already know our code enforcement officer is overwhelmed. I want to be able to give him another tool rather



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald
City officials are looking to make sidewalks throughout Keizer more accessible for their intended purpose and it might mean basketball hoops will need to be removed when not in use.

than another burden," said City Councilor Laura Reid.

The conversation ultimately looped back to a fairly basic point: do unto others as you would have done unto you. Ideally, people would be considerate of their neighbors and not block the sidewalk. But since that's not the case, the council is stepping in to draft enforceable policy.

"This should be a common-sense issue and I feel like we are legislating common sense. Part of this is just to urge citizens to be aware" of others' needs, Reid said.

KPD sergeants get another denial in quest for union membership

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The six sergeants of the Keizer Police Department (KPD) are supervisors and not eligible for inclusion in the Keizer Police Association, the group that represents non-supervisory officers in collective bargaining. Those are the findings of the state's Employment Relations Board (ERB) in response to an objection lodged by an attorney for the union after a hearing in January.

Since last year, KPD's sergeants have been seeking access to the union, which would have resulted in smaller contributions to healthcare coverage and larger contributions to their retirement accounts on the part of the city. However, an administrative law judge denied the claim that sergeants were not supervisors in October 2018 and that decision was upheld by the governing members of the ERB last week.

"We conclude that the sergeants are supervisory employees because they responsibly direct others, use independent

judgment in doing so, and hold that authority in the interests of city management," ERB board members wrote.

Attorneys for the union contended that sergeants do not act as supervisors and that administrative personnel undermine their attempts to do so.

"Although the units vary in the types of tasks directed by the sergeant running each particular team, the record as a whole demonstrates that all the sergeants direct their teams," board members wrote. They added that multiple sergeants testified during hearings that they had assumed control of crime scenes and other events

and directed other officers to tackle duties in line with perceived strengths.

Ultimately, sergeants are responsible for the actions of the others on their shifts even though none have been disciplined for the poor performance or conduct of those other officers in recent times.

"The standard is whether there is a prospect of adverse consequences for the putative supervisor if the supervisor does not take action to correct subordinates' work performance issues," board members wrote.

While administrators have overridden some decisions or

recommendations by sergeants, those incidents do not outweigh the preponderance of the incidents when sergeants act as supervisors in other areas.

In regard to the final question of whether sergeant's act in interests of city management, the board found ample evidence that they do.

"One sergeant's reprimand of an officer describes the officer as 'disrespectful' and 'in-subordinate' — two terms that reflect an awareness of a hierarchical structure and a management expectation that officers respect the authority of the sergeants to responsibly direct them," the board wrote.

The dispute over the union inclusion has cost the city \$53,606.44.

"Sergeants are supervisory employees"

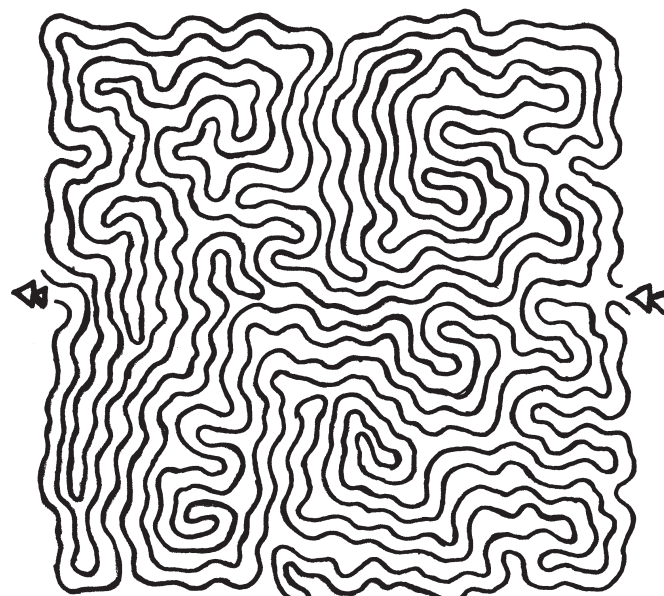
— Employment Review Board

sudoku

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.

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

maze



Maze by Jonathan Graf of Keizer

looking back in the KT

5 YEARS AGO

Having a cow? Nah, saving them
A proposal has been submitted to the city for 120 new apartments. Not everyone is thrilled about the plans — in no small part because of where they would go. The apartments would go in the area affectionately long referred to as the cow park.

10 YEARS AGO

Champions: Unranked Celts beat No. 1 team
Jackson Wilde bristles at suggestions that terms such as "Cinderella" are apt description for the state champion McNary baseball team.

15 YEARS AGO

Protests flow as council eyes water rate hike
A water rate hike trickled to a halt Monday after the Keizer City Council, facing protests from homeowners, opts to further review its proposed three-tiered rate system.

20 YEARS AGO

Governor to speak at McNary graduation
It's graduation time again. McNary High School will graduate 307 beginning at 7 p.m. Friday in Volcanoes Stadium, unless it rains.

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LIVE STAND UP COMEDY
Lights, Comedy, Laughs!
Saturday, June 15
DUANE GOAD & JEREMIAH COUGHLAN will perform at 7pm and 9pm. Admission is only \$10. Ages 21 & over only. Reserved seating for this show. Purchase tickets at box office or at our website.

11:00 AM
TICKETS ARE JUST \$4
SPECIAL SHOWING FOR KIDS AND ADULTS WITH AUTISM OR OTHER SENSORY SENSITIVITIES.

Today in History

A flash flood in Heppner, Oregon kills 324 people. The sudden onslaught of water caused millions of dollars in damage to the central Oregon town. Before the flood, extremely hard rain and hail came down in the Blue Mountains, which rise above Heppner. Reports say that the storm may have lasted only an hour, but it overwhelmed the small streams of the area and caused a 20-foot wave of water to thunder through the town with little warning.
— June 14, 1903

Food 4 Thought

"Honesty is something you can't wear out."
— Waylon Jennings, country singer, born June 15, 1937

The Month Ahead

Friday, June 14-Sunday, June 16
Wings of Freedom vintage aircraft tour. Visit, explore and learn about a variety of WWII-era plans including a B-17, B0-24 and more. McNary Field (Salem Airport). \$5-15. collingsfoundation.org.

Friday, June 14
Salem-Keizer Volcanoes season opener vs Boise Hawks. Volcanoes Stadium. Tickets range from \$8 to \$30. Purchase tickets at volcanoesbaseball.com.

Straw Hat Dance at Keizer/Salem Area Seniors, 930 Plymouth Drive NE, starting at 9 a.m. and followed by a lunch at 11:15 a.m.

Saturday, June 15
Keizer/Salem Area Seniors Saturday Night Dance and Potluck featuring music by Crossfire, admission \$5. 7-10 p.m. at 930 Plymouth Drive N.E., Keizer

The Historic Elsinore Theatre will stage *Paquita* performed by ballet dancers at 4 p.m. in Salem. Tickets range from \$18 to \$33 and can be purchased at elsinoretheatre.com.

All Comers Rendezvous Car Show at Powerland Heritage Park, 3995 Brooklake Rd. This free event features vintage cars and motorcycles. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sunday, June 16
Father's Day Volcanoes Stadium tickets are 50 percent off.

Tuesday, June 18
Free admission all day at Hallie Ford Museum of Art, 700 State Street. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Free to attend job fair starting at 10 a.m. and running to 1:30 p.m. at The Salvation Army Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center in Salem, 1865 Bill Frey Drive. There will be about 20 to 30 different employers at the fair. To register go to jobsnow.org.

Wednesday, June 19
Keizer/Salem Area Seniors bingo, 12:30- 3:30 p.m., admission is \$5.50. There will be a chance to win cash prizes, free game cards and Daubers. 930 Plymouth Drive NE.

Friday, June 21
Three Dog Night will take the stage at the Historic Elsinore Theatre starting at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$34.50 to \$99.50 and can be purchased at elsinoretheatre.com.

Saturday, June 22
Keizer/Salem Area Seniors Saturday Night Dance and Potluck featuring music by The Jefferson Parks Band, admission \$5. 7-10 p.m. 930 Plymouth Drive N.E., Keizer.

Tuesday, June 25
Free admission all day at Hallie Ford Museum of Art, 700 State Street. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesday, June 26
Wealth Building and Risk Management, 6-8 p.m., presented by Rick Day and Focus Consulting, The Grand Theater, 187 High St. NE in Salem. Advance tickets required. 503-999-1736 or email rick@focusconsultingllc.org.

Keizer/Salem Area Seniors bingo, 12:30- 3:30 p.m., admission is \$5.50. There will be a chance to win monetary prizes, free game cards and Daubers at 930 Plymouth Drive NE.

Friday, June 28
Timbers u23 vs Victoria Highlanders at McCulloch Stadium (Willamette University) starting at 7 p.m. Adult tickets are \$9 and children ages four to twelve are \$5. To purchase tickets visit timbersu23.com/tickets/

Abbey Road Live at Keizer Rotary Amphitheatre at Keizer Rapids Park. Benefit for the Keizer Fire Foundation. Concert starts at 6:30 p.m. No outside food or beverage. No pets allowed in amphitheatre.

Saturday, June 29
Keizer Salem Area Seniors closed for bridge tournament.

The Fam Jam, a concert celebration of music of the 1960s and '70s. Keizer Rotary Amphitheatre at Keizer Rapids Park. Concert starts at 6:30 p.m. No outside food or beverage. No pets allowed in amphitheatre.

Monday, July 1
Salem-Keizer Public Schools job fair will be hosted from 4 to 6 p.m. at Lancaster Professional Center, 2450 Lancaster Drive NE. Full time, part time and summer positions will be present. For more information visit salkeiz.k12.or.us.

Tuesday, July 2
Free admission all day at Hallie Ford Museum of Art, 700 State Street. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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THIS WEEK'S MOVIE TIMES

Long Shot (R)
Fri 8:55, Sat 9:15, Sun 6:10

Curse of Lallyorna (R)
Fri 8:05, Sat 7:25, Sun 8:30

A Dog's Journey (PG)
Fri 1:50, 4:00, Sat 4:10, Sun 12:20, 4:15

Shazam (PG-13)
Fri 6:10, 8:40, Sat 8:30, Sun 2:50, 7:30, 8:45

Dumbo (PG)
Fri 1:50, 4:00, Sat 11:00, 11:45, 2:00, Sun 12:40, 5:20

Captain Marvel (PG-13)
Fri 6:30, Sat 1:45, 5:00, Sun 6:25

Missing Link (PG)
Fri 1:50, Sat 1:10, Sun 2:10

How to Train Dragon (PG)
Sat 3:00

Breakthrough (PG)
Sat 6:15, Sun 12:00, 4:00

Ugly Dolls (PG)
Fri 4:00, 5:50, Sun 12:00, Sun 2:25

FOR ALL SHOWTIMES GO TO NORTHERNLIGHTSTHEATREPUB.COM