Keizertines

SECTION A JULY 19, 2019

Attempts to quash newsletter fly in the face of Oregon laws

By ERIC A. HOWALD Of the Keizertimes

A property manager at Wildwood Villa, a manufactured home park in northwest Keizer, appears to have run afoul of Oregon law when attempting to quash one resident's efforts to organize with his neighbors.

In June, Wildwood resident Leon Search distributed a newsletter from the community's tenants committee with an article from the Keizertimes included. The newspaper article included information from an attorney who cautions against signing longterm leases in manufactured home parks.

Search put the newsletters in flyer boxes owned by Investment Property Group, an Irvine, Calif-based business. Soon after they were distributed, the manager at the park removed them.

"The letter you last produced was not must immediately stop."



brought to the attention of management before you put them out. We will therefore not return to the newsletter to flyer boxes as you requested," wrote Kaycee Edgerton, Wildwood property manager for IPG, in a letter to Search. "Furthermore, the creation and disbursement or your tenant committees' (sic) newsletter

Edgerton couches much of her argument on the premise that the Wildwood's tenants committee has not been lawfully established, and cites an Oregon law requiring formal registration of homeowners associations (HOAs). While the committee operates under the name Wildwood Homeowners Association, it is not an HOA, it is a tenant committee and is not bound to

the laws of establishing an HOA.

In addition to demanding a ceaseand-desist, Edgerton also warns against Search distributing newsletters door-

"Should you choose to post non-approved newsletters or announcements door-to-door, this can and may be considered an act of interference with management," Edgerton wrote.

That assertion flies in the face of Oregon law that preserves tenants' rights to assemble.

Oregon Revised Statute 90.750 reveals that owners cannot deny residents' rights to assemble or canvass in a facility. It reads: "No provision contained in any bylaw, rental agreement, regulation or rule pertaining to a facility shall: Infringe upon the right of persons who rent spaces in a

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Chainsaws fire up at story pole

By ERIC A. HOWALD Of the Keizertimes

Former Keizer mayor Lore Christopher expected to have the first of two story poles, located in front of the Keizer Civic Center, completed six months after the idea was presented to her.

It took six years.

"I stand by Jerry McGee who said a project will be executed when it is ripe. I was just unclear about the ripening timeline," Christopher said.

Christopher said the original idea for the story poles came from Public Works Director Bill Lawyer when the two trees reached their endof-life and had to be topped. Lawyer thought turning the remaining stumps into works of art would make a unique addition to the civic center

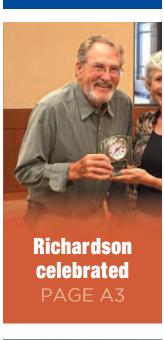
In the intervening six years, Christopher remained one of the true believers in the project fending off suggestions to cut down the stumps entirely as mayor and then as a member of the Keizer Public Arts Commission.

"It feels wonderful to show the public we were serious all along," Christopher said.

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ABOVE: Tyler Strauslin finishes off a an eagle near the top of the Keizer's first story pole in front of the Keizer Civic Center. INSET: A photograph of the same eagle just three hours prior.





KPD Foot Pursuit supports Olympians



Dorothy Diehl (right) pictured with Special Olympics athlete Jenny Hill at the Law Enforcement Torch Run in 2017.

BY MATT RAWLINGS

Of the Keizertimes

Ever since Dorothy Diehl took over as the Community Service Officer at the Keizer Police Department, she wanted to get the department involved in a Special Olympics event that took place in Keizer.

"It's been

extremely

rewarding

for me and

pretty eye-

- Dorothy Diehl

KPD Community

Service Officer

opening."

Two-and-a-half years later, that goal has become a reality.

On Saturday, July 27, the KPD will be hosting their first ever 5K foot pursuit, a community run/walk event in pursuit of funding and awareness for the Special Olympics of Marion County.

The event will take place at Keizer Rapids Park from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Diehl started planning this event last summer after having a conversation with Lt. Andrew Copeland.

"We wanted to find something that we could do here in Keizer and have our community participate with us and see their police officers supporting the Special Olympics in Keizer," Diehl said.

"We have a really strong community here that has a lot of support for the police department and we imagine, a lot of support for the Special Olympics too, if we can get people to learn more about it."

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Charter review group will grow by 2

By ERIC A. HOWALD Of the Keizertimes

A planned City Charter Review Committee will be expanded to nine people and any city resident will be eligible to serve, not just registered voters.

The Keizer City Council voted 6-1 to expand the committee and the requirements to serve on it at a meeting Monday, July 15.

Councilors considered two options: directly appointing a single member to the committee or adding two new positions for the Keizer Volunteer Coordinating Committee (VCC) to fill. The council didn't deliberate on the issue before casting their votes, but

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