

## Restoration work begins at McNary Oaks

Owner pushes back on paper's reporting, offers no evidence contrary to facts

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
*Of the Keizertimes*

Five days after Keizertimes reported on deteriorating conditions at McNary Oaks MobileVilla, the manufactured home park was a swarm of activity ranging from sidewalk repairs, clubhouse renovations and tree maintenance.

Keizertimes originally reported on the problem at the park, owned by Irvine, Calif.-based Investment Property Group, LLC (IPG), in the Sept. 27 edition of the paper. That article detailed rampant safety concerns on sidewalks and in other common areas, disrepair in the clubhouse and trees that created a variety of hazards.

In a letter to residents, IPG lambasted the paper's coverage as one-sided and claims to have undertaken numerous repairs and upgrades since taking ownership of the park in 2007. Most of the completed renovation efforts are confined to common areas and replacing abandoned homes with ones that IPG could sell at a profit and lease the ground under them.

On the matter of the sidewalks, IPG President Amber Monte wrote, "These sidewalk repairs have been in motion for a couple of

months, as the scope of the work had to be determined and bids obtained."

Keizertimes sent a list of questions to Monte and asked her to provide copies of signed and dated bids and

contracts proving the work was scheduled prior to the paper drawing attention to the problem. Her response contained no answers to the questions sent.

"Those who saw the

community before we purchased it know that we have been a positive part of that change and will continue that investment in the future. This kind of change for the better does not happen overnight

and that's okay. We believe preserving manufactured housing communities like this is very important to the surrounding area," Monte wrote.

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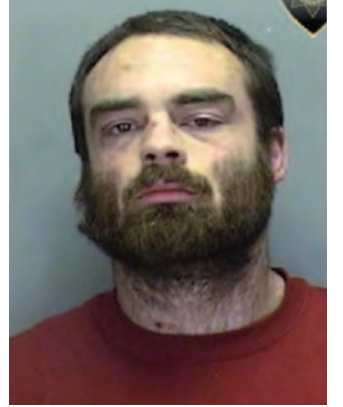
KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

After a Keizertimes report on deteriorating conditions at McNary Oaks, the owner is engaged in a full-court press to fix problems and show them off.



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**Record time for MHS runner**  
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## 10 QUESTIONS with Rep. Kurt Schrader



Rep. Kurt Schrader visited Keizer Thursday, Oct. 3. In addition to a speaking engagement at Rotary Club of Keizer and a stop by the Keizer Fire District, he took time to stop by the Keizertimes office and speak with us on a wide range of topics. These are the highlights.

**For at least the past two years, the youth in this country have watched their peers (Parkland survivors and Greta Thunberg as two examples) be belittled by members of Congress, the president and talking heads in the media. Are you at all worried about the corrosive effect of these messages and what would you tell them?**

**SCHRADER:** I hope it's not corrosive. I hope it is empowering. I hope they say I need to get more involved, not get less involved as a result of people that put you down and belittle you. They're doing that because they don't have a good argument against your argument. That'd be my message to young America. The reason they're using bad language, the reason they're belittling you, calling you names is because they cannot refute your argument. You are actually winning at the end of the day. Stay the course.

### You've come out in favor of the ongoing impeachment investigation of President Donald Trump. What pushed you over the edge?

**SCHRADER:** The president acknowledges that he did talk to the president of the Ukraine and he did say these things. You're not allowed, by federal law, to ask a foreign power to intervene in an election. Secondly, Mr. President, even lowly Congressman Kurt Schrader knows he can't sit in his congressional office and do campaign work on the official phone.

Over the next several months that we're going to have hopefully a lot of different people that were referenced in this whistleblower or report come forward or be requested to come

forward and corroborate what we heard. The whistleblower indicates some of the actual conversations had been transferred to a top security safe, that it's not supposed to be used for those types of conversations. That's only for top classified stuff.

I don't think it's good politics for the Democrats, but you can't ignore what's going on. And, at some point in time, I have to do what I'm supposed to do constitutionally and bring my constituents here in Keizer along that this is a pretty reasonable investigation.

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## Homegrown Theatre debuts pair of thrillers



KEIZERTIMES/Matt Rawlings

Dakota Saunders rehearses for KHT's dramatic reading of *The Hitchhiker*.

By MATT RAWLINGS  
*Of the Keizertimes*

For most of the 2019 season, Keizer Homegrown Theater (KHT) has put together lighthearted shows for their audiences, often featuring tales of comedy and romance.

But in honor of Halloween, director Jeff Minden has put together a pair of thrillers that will keep viewers on the edge of their seats.

KHT will be doing staged readings of both

*The Hitchhiker* and *Sorry, Wrong Number*, with 7 p.m. showings on Oct. 11, 12, 18 and 19, as well as 2 p.m. shows on Oct. 13 and Oct. 20.

"We were just trying to find something that would be a good fit for an October show. It's got a great *Twilight Zone* vibes and also some (Alfred) Hitchcock vibes. I've always liked the creepy and suspenseful shows and thought that it would be

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KEIZERTIMES/File photo

## Social gaming proposal goes bust

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
*Of the Keizertimes*

A proposal to relax Keizer's social gaming ordinance didn't find any support among Keizer city councilors Monday, Oct. 7.

Greig Olson asked the council to expand its social gaming ordinance to include social gaming clubs. A social gaming club differs from other types of gambling in that there is no rake, the portion of bets

taken by the house.

"The money is made through a one-day membership to participate. It's a rake-free environment. The only money the house makes is through the door fee," Olson said.

Memberships range from \$10 to \$15 per person in Eugene and Portland where such clubs are allowed.

Olson said many local

players travel north and south to participate in the games and expanding the ordinance would allow the city to take part in the mainstreaming of poker games.

"There's a lot of interest in it and a lot of people who play," Olson said.

Keizer's existing social gaming ordinance applies only to "non-profit, fraternal-type

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