

To UGB, or not to UGB?



KEIZERTIMES/File photo

Planning commission says infill now, prep to expand

By **ERIC A. HOWALD**
Of the Keizertimes

The Keizer Planning Commission is recommending the city absorb its projected growth for the next 20 years within the existing city limits, but asked for a more detailed plan that moves the Keizer toward expanding its Urban Growth Boundary (UGB).

The commission spent its entire October 9 meeting discussing one recommendation

from a recent report on housing needs and available land in Keizer. Commissioners discussed the rest of the report in September, but set aside the question of how to grow for a dedicated meeting.

A committee that oversaw the study recommended the city grow within its limits, but city staff wanted the planning commission to weigh in as well. Three options were presented: expand the UGB, ab-

sorb growth through infill or a combination of the two.

The biggest obstacle to expanding the UGB is cost, both in dollars and staff time as the city attempts to establish its own UGB separate from Salem.

"If we get a divorce, be prepared for some major expenses," said Nate Brown, Keizer community development director.

"Even in the most amica-

ble divorces there will be collateral damage," added Shane Witham, Keizer senior planner.

The collateral impacts could present themselves in the need to add more staff to process permit requests, maintaining public infrastructure like streets and sewers or interrupt the flow of transportation in the city.

Commissioner Mark Caillier said he has touted the

idea of Keizer having its own UGB, but the costs associated with it give him pause and the possibility of having to add an additional high school looms large over the discussion.

"I feel like if you go from one high school to two, you split the community in half. That already happened to a degree when we added Claggett Creek [Middle School],"

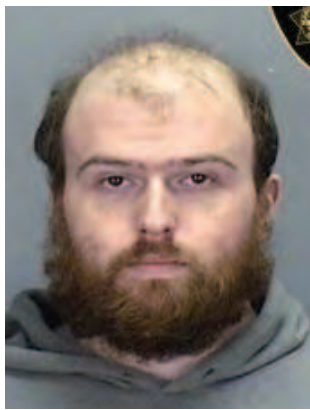
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Keizer man's bail \$955K for identity theft crimes

A Keizer man was arrested Thursday, Oct. 10, on multiple charges relating to identity theft.

In April, Keizer police were contacted by Homeside Financial, LLC, reporting the company was the victim of a data compromise. Homeside received notification from two employees that accounts were being opened in their names and money was being fraudulently routed to other accounts.

Looking into it further, the company learned that a laptop belonging to an employee was used to obtain unauthorized files from Homeside's file server. They also learned that numerous fraudulent connections were made that originated from the router registered to the employee's Keizer home.



Jackson Hansen

While investigating, detectives learned that the employee's son, Jackson Hansen, 28, had cloned a copy of his parent's work laptop and is allegedly responsible for the various crimes that included at least 80 fraudulent credit card applications as well as issuance of a loan secured

against a victim's 401(k) account. Detectives identified 11 victims.

On Thursday, detectives served a search warrant in the 800 block of Manbrin Drive Northeast, Hansen's home.

Among other items, detectives located a fraudulently created checkbook in a victim's name, but with Hansen's address printed on the checks. They also located a small amount of methamphetamine.

Hansen was transported to the Marion County jail where he was charged with nine counts of identity theft, two counts of computer crime, one count of theft, one count of attempted theft, one count of forgery and unlawful possession of methamphetamine. His bail was set at \$955,000.

Second annual music festival coming to MHS



By **MATT RAWLINGS**
Of the Keizertimes

The Salem-Keizer area is known for having exceptional music programs.

For the last 33 years, students from the Salem-Keizer School District have been awarded more championships at the OSAA State Music Championships than all other

6A school districts combined. However, this upcoming Keizer music event is truly one-of-a-kind.

On Saturday, Oct. 26, McNary High School, in partnership with Valor Mentoring, will be hosting the second annual Xperience Music Festival, an event that is designed for 7th-12th grade students who have a passion for contemporary music and are looking to improve their skills in their specific area of interest.

"I'm over-the-top excited for this year's festival. I'm really glad we can give our kids this experience," said Andy Thomas, who is in charge of the contemporary music

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City is SHARP on safety

By **ERIC A. HOWALD**
Of the Keizertimes

When Keizer's director of human resources, Machell DePina, called OSHA - the Occupational Safety and Health Administration - to find out if the city might qualify as a Safety Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) honoree, OSHA administrators were skeptical.

No city had ever managed to pull off such a feat, some didn't even get past signing off on an attempt. DePina said ... bring it on.

"OSHA had certified departments of some cities, but never a whole municipality. As soon as they understood that we were already under the averages for workplace



Submitted

City employees were honored with SHARP recognition, given for excelling in safety, at the Keizer City Council meeting October 7.

injuries, OSHA started taking us more seriously," DePina said.

At the Keizer City Council meeting Monday, Oct. 7, the city received its official certification as a SHARP organization. In addition, city staff

received a League of Oregon Cities award recognizing that no Keizer employee had lost work as the result of a workplace injury in the previous year.

Keizer had a couple of other things working in its favor. Some of the jobs

considered to be the most potentially hazardous, like sewer maintenance and firefighting, are not part of the city's services. The Keizer Fire District is a separate entity and Keizer pays Salem to maintain sewers.

Those unique aspects of the city helped, but qualifying for the SHARP designation required throwing open the doors of the city to OSHA inspectors looking at everything health- and safety-related. That included all property owned by the city from the Keizer Civic Center to the Keizer Police Station to water pump houses and parks located throughout the city.

"We had to be okay with them to come and look at everything, and also to talk to anybody they want to talk to as they're walking around," DePina said.

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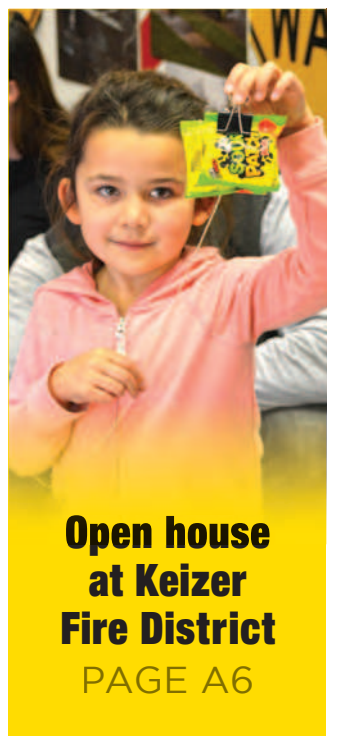
McNary wins conference opener

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Jogging for dollars

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Open house at Keizer Fire District

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Countryside welcomes new pastor

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