

# Fire damages apartments in S.E. Keizer

BY MATT RAWLINGS  
Of the Keizertimes

On Wednesday, April 7, just before 10 a.m., Keizer Fire District (KFD) responded to call on the corner of Clearview Street and Clearview Court where visible smoke was in a structure. The call was made by an individual in a passing car who saw smoke coming from the building.

Upon arrival fire crews found smoke and flame coming from the roof of a two-story apartment.

According to KFD fire marshal Ann-Marie Storms, no one was home at the time of the fire. The occupant on the second floor had been in the building earlier in the day, but left approximately 30 minutes before the fire had started. The first floor occupant is in the process of moving and wasn't home.

Fire crews got to the scene and were able to get the fire under control quickly. However, neither apartment will be able to be occupied due to smoke, fire and water damage.

A dog and a cat were in the second floor apartment at the time of the fire. The dog was let out of the complex upon arrival of the fire crew, but the cat is still missing.

The fire was started due to the complex's property manager accidentally bumping a burner while leaving a styrofoam cooler and a Easter basket on the stovetop.

"This is a good reminder for people to not put anything on a stovetop that doesn't belong there," Storms said.

## Design the shirts for Humane Society's annual fundraiser

The Willamette Humane Society (WHS) launched a T-shirt design contest for the group's annual MillaMutt Strut, which will be virtual on June 6.

Between now and May 5, artists can create a design and submit it to the WHS team at [events@whs4pets.org](mailto:events@whs4pets.org) with the subject line "WillaMutt Strut T-shirt Contest Entry." The winner will be announced May 10.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the WillaMutt Strut, Willamette Humane Society's annual fun run and dog party. This event is also WHS's second-largest fundraising event of the year. The special black T-shirt will be provided to participants, and the winning design will be printed in silver on the front of the garment.

Artists should submit a high-res (300 dpi) PDF, JPEG, or Adobe Illustrator file. Hand-drawn entries will not be accepted. No compensation (aside from bragging rights and five T-shirts) will be provided.

In addition to a special T-shirt, WillaMutt Strut plans include My Dog will Eat That and My Cat will Eat That contests. Ticketed participants can also submit a snap of their mixed-breed pup for a chance to win the 2022 WillaMutt crown. And ticketed participants will have the opportunity to attend a virtual party also slated on June 6.

Tickets for the WillaMutt Strut are on sale at [humanehero.whs4pets.org](http://humanehero.whs4pets.org).

## Burn ban in effect

The Marion County Fire Defense Board has issued a backyard burn ban effective April 14 in all areas of Marion County.

Due to moderate winds, higher temperatures and low humidity backyard burning is not allowed through Sunday, April 18. Conditions will be reevaluated on Monday, April 19. Be aware of the potential of a rekindling on any piles that were previously lit. For piles lit within the last month take the time to ensure they are completely extinguished.

The burn ban includes yard debris and agricultural burning is strongly discouraged. Agricultural burning includes waste generated by an operation that uses, or intends to use, land primarily for the purpose of obtaining a profit by raising, harvesting, and selling crops.

Check with local fire departments/districts for more information. For the most current information, please call the Burn Information Line at (877) 982-0011.

Restrictions include: backyard burning (yard debris, etc.), agricultural burning is strongly discouraged and land clearing or slash burning. Contact local fire agencies for special situations.

Individuals found to be in violation of these requirements during the burn ban may be held liable for the cost of putting out a fire and for any property damage resulting from an illegal fire.

For more wildfire prevention information and restrictions, we encourage you to visit Keep Oregon Green at [www.keeporegongreen.org](http://www.keeporegongreen.org) and the Oregon Department of Forestry at [www.oregon.gov](http://www.oregon.gov).

## SKPS aims for 5 full days in 21-22

Local schools will be back to a more normal year in the fall, with five full days per week of in-person classes, the Salem-Keizer School District announced Monday.

The district said in doing so they would follow all guidelines in place from state health and education officials.

"We do not know what those guidelines will say, but they may include protocols like wearing a face covering, frequent hand-washing and some form of physical distancing," the district said in an announcement.

But students and families who want to remain online come fall will be able to do so. The district will keep its Enhanced Digital Guided Education (EDGE) program, an all-online academy created last summer for families who knew they did not want to return to school in-person this year.

Students in the online program will have two options: EDGE Connected, which will have live classes each day led by teacher, and EDGE Independent, which lets students do work at their own pace under the supervision of a teacher.

Families must register for EDGE by May 14 to be guaranteed a spot. More information is available on the district website.

## VOLUNTEER of the Week

presented by



### PATTI TISCHER

#### Where and how do you volunteer?


"My current volunteer activities include being the president of the Greater Gubser Neighborhood Association, A Budget Committee Member for The Keizer Fire District, A trustee board member for the Silverton High Alumni Association and The McNary Grad Party. I have also volunteered on projects with Keizer Network of Women (KNOW), The United Way and The Keizer Chamber of Commerce. I have previously volunteered with my son's Boy Scout and Cub Scout troops, McNary High School Athletic & Band Boosters, Gubser Elementary School, Whiteaker Band Boosters, Whiteaker Mom & Dad Squad, and The Willamette Valley Down Syndrome Association. I also was a board member for Creative Discoveries Co-op Preschool. One of my most memorable volunteer activities was volunteering for the Extreme Makeover project that came to our area in 2010."

#### Why do you volunteer?

"I volunteer because I feel it is important to give back and help others to build a strong community. Volunteering makes me happy and gives me the satisfaction of knowing that I have helped others in and around my community. It is a lot of fun and I have met some amazing people that have become great friends!"

#### How would you get others to volunteer in their community?


"I hope that my enthusiasm for volunteering encourages others to participate in the community."



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