

The Gubser Miracle of Lights tradition continues in Keizer



BY MATT RAWLINGS
Of the Keizertimes

It wouldn't be Christmas in Keizer without the Gubser Miracle of Lights.

Even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the long-standing Keizer tradition still carried on in 2020. But this year, Bridgett Eisle, the coordinator of the event, shared her excitement about a return to normalcy for the Miracle of Lights.

"We are definitely looking forward to going back to business as usual," Eisle said. "I am proud to be able to offer this event. There is something to be said for things getting back to normal and continuing this fun and helpful tradition."

This year's display will begin on Friday, Dec. 3 and continue every night from 6-10 p.m. until Saturday, Dec. 26. The route is approximately 3.5 miles and runs through the Gubser neighborhood beginning at 14th Avenue NE and Lockhaven Drive.

The Miracle of Lights display serves

as a fundraiser for Marion Polk Food Share. While admission is free, people are strongly encouraged to donate to the food share program.

A tent will be set up on Mistwood Drive NE for people to donate canned and non-perishable foods, a feature that was not available at last year's event. People can also donate by scanning a QR code at the collection site or on social media. Cash donations are also welcome.

"The QR code was really successful last year, so we still wanted to provide it as an option," Eisle said.

Despite there being no in-person giving last year, Keizerites showed their generosity by donating 133,451 monetary meals, setting a new record by over 25,000. Even with 2020's record-setting numbers, Eisle hopes the events draws even more gifts this year.

"Every year, we are trying to surpass the total from the previous year. It's going

to be a large task this year," she said.

Eisle said that she is proud to be able to provide assistance to those in need and bring the community together in a fun way.

"I am really happy to be a part of a group that can help provide this for the community and help those that are struggling. It really brings the community together," Eisle said.

Drivers are led through the neighborhood by SnoCOP barriers. It is a residential neighborhood, so be aware and courteous to pedestrians and residents trying to get in and out of driveways.

Public restrooms aren't available and drivers should keep their headlights on at all times. However, attendees can walk the display if they choose.

Those who choose to walk should park at either Gubser Elementary (6610 14th Ave. NE) or Whiteaker Middle School (1605 Lockhaven Dr. NE).

People in attendance that want to take photos are encouraged to stay on sidewalks and out of yards

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