

Voters have until April 26 to register to vote or switch parties to vote in the primary election. It takes less than three minutes to register online, a point the Secretary of State's Office keeps making in TikTok videos with guest appearances from Fagan's dog, the Secreterrier of State.

The office also plans to release public service announcements about the post-mark law before the May election. The animated videos will direct people to the secretary of state's website through OregonVotes.gov, but they don't include references to the office or Fagan, which she described as a conscious choice. For some voters, a Democratic secretary of state isn't a trusted source.

"I have enough humility to recognize I'm not the best messenger for all of this,

and so I need to step back when appropriate and let other people take what we know is an accurate message," she said.

Oregon Capital Chronicle is part of States Newsroom, a network of news bureaus supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity. Oregon Capital Chronicle maintains editorial independence. Contact Editor Les Zaitz for questions: info@oregoncapitalchronicle.com. Follow Oregon Capital Chronicle on Facebook and Twitter.

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Hare's time as interim city manager ends

BY CHARLES GLENN
Of the Keizertimes

Salem resident and Keizer's Interim City Manager Wes Hare came out of retirement to help Keizer last year when the city lost its prior manager of 20 years, Chris Eppley. Finance Manager Tim Wood took over as City Manager Pro Temp shortly after Eppley resigned following an accidental discharge of a personal firearm in his office.

The city began searching for a temporary manager last April 5. By July 7 of last year, they had approved

Hare's application and he took over from Wood.

Hare said being a temporary city manager is not for the faint-of-heart - there is a lot of stress, particularly if you're coming in right after a turbulent period of time.

Hare had been a city manager - in one form or another - for 30 years prior to his retirement, including a prior stint as a temporary city manager for Toledo, Ore. after half of their city council resigned. Hare has served as permanent city manager in Oakridge, La Grande and Albany, as

well as multiple trips overseas as an international development consultant in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lank and Tanzania.

A lot of his overseas work was pro bono. He would go into a country as a representative of either the state department or one of several organizations doing relief work in areas stricken by war, famine, or just bad government.

"I used to joke I was the only person who takes vacation to go to Afghanistan," he said.

Technically, Hare says, he's still retired. The temporary job was challenging but he enjoyed his time in Keizer.

"I enjoyed working with the council and the city of Keizer - they are really good people and they want to do the right thing by the community," he said. "A lot of good participation - a lot of things going on. It was nice to be a part of that."

Don't expect Hare to move to Florida and buy a walker, though - he and his wife are planning a mission to help people struggling to survive in Eastern Europe.

"My wife and I would like to do some humanitarian relief work in Eastern Europe through our church, so we're in the process of applying for doing that," he said.



Wes Hare has served Keizer as interim city manager since last July. FILE PHOTO, Keizertimes

VOLUNTEER of the Week

presented by



KRIS ADAMS

Where and how do you volunteer?

Volunteering has been a passion of mine. Currently I am on the board of the West Keizer Neighborhood Association. We take on projects that are of importance to our neighbors. We will be having a cleanup at Palma Ciega Park that is located at the very end of Cummings Lane. We are also involved with the City of Keizer in finding solutions to the safety of cyclists, pedestrians, and auto traffic in our area. There are other projects in the mix as well.

I am also on the board of the Keizer Community Library. There are many projects that the board has planned for this year. Reaching out to our citizens to offer services that are of importance to our community. Please come see the Keizer Community Library and become a member (patron) and receive a free library card.

Why do you volunteer?

I have found it most rewarding to be able to help others in many different capacities. From the Red Cross to Salem Hospital to mentoring students who may have learning difficulties. By far the most rewarding was my experience with Willamette Valley Hospice. In honor of my dad who spent his last days there, I felt the urge to volunteer there. My very first patient was a gentleman named Rick. From the first day we met, it was meant that I was suppose to be there to assist with the transition in this part of his life.

I will always volunteer.

What does volunteering do for you?

The selfish reason I guess if that's what you call it, is that I feel that we all need to give back. And it makes me feel a part of the community in which I volunteer.

How would you get others to volunteer in their community?

I reach out to people I know, friends, or community leaders and share volunteer opportunities on projects I am involved with or volunteer opportunities in our Keizer community. It is important to get involved in something that you are passionate about, that is meaningful and has a purpose in helping others.

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