

**2017 ANNUAL ASSOCIATION REPORT
for the
WEST KEIZER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

JANUARY 2017

WKNA General Meeting January 12 at the Keizer Civic Center

President Gary Blake presented certificates of thanks to retiring Board members Clint Holland, for three years of service, and to Sarah Head for two years of service.

Elections were held for WKNA officers and directors. Board members were approved unanimously and election results were as follows:

Gary Blake, President

Rhonda Rich, Vice President

Carolyn Homan, Secretary

Directors: Carol Doerfler, Art Mauer, Dennis Phipps

Bill Lawyer, City of Keizer's Director of Public Works, presented highlights of the department's five divisions – Water, Stormwater, Streets, Parks and Environmental/Technical. Parks has big developments ahead, including work at Keizer Rapids Park thanks to a state grant: building permanent bathrooms, installing a pour/play surface and building new pathways to the Big Toy. The Parks Board is also surveying the community about a possible fee to support parks maintenance and improvements. Clint Holland briefed the group on plans being made to accommodate campers (tent and RV) at Keizer Rapids Park for four days leading up to the Total Eclipse on Aug 21, 2017.

WKNA annual report – President Gary Blake delivered the association's annual report to City Council on Feb. 6.

FEBRUARY 2017

WKNA General Meeting February 11, 2016 at Keizer Civic Center

Eric Bandonis, Parole and Probation officer for Marion County presented his quarterly report with statistics on parole and probation and how their cognitive interventions influence recidivism. He introduced Kieran Colahan as an officer in training.

President Gary Blake urged anyone interested in Board service to step forward to fill the remaining opening on the WKNA Board. Matt Lawyer, Keizer Parks Advisory Board, discussed the survey and initiative under way to gauge public support for Keizer's parks. The current budget of about \$336,000 isn't sufficient to keep up with needed repairs, let alone contemplate any new projects. The survey asks about several support levels: The status quo and \$2, \$4, \$6 and \$8/month fees. The latter, netting \$1,372,800, would be "kind of a home run," providing enough funds to accomplish all the things under the first 4 options and complete the parks master plan. Carol Doerfler said she had contacted Robert Johnson about cracks in the newly resurfaced tennis courts at Willamette Manor Park. He said the problem was created by the harsh winter weather and he's in touch with the company that did the work to handle new repairs.

The Feb. 11 Adopt-A-Street cleanup was canceled because inmate work crews had been working on Chemawa in recent weeks.

MARCH 2017

WKNA General Meeting March 9 at Keizer Civic Center – Neighborhood resident Kris Adams stepped up to volunteer for service on the WKNA Board. Her appointment is to be voted on by the Board at its April meeting. Kris also serves on the Keizer Points of Interest Committee.

Presentations were made by **Keizer Police Chief John Teague** and **KPD's new Community Outreach Specialist Dorothy Diehl**. Chief Teague said Keizer's main crime is property theft, as it is throughout Oregon. Despite the expectations of many, they have not seen an increase in crime related to legalization of marijuana. Officers are trying to do more than just make arrests, he said, they are trying to help people. He also shared an "Investing in Police Services" informational sheet that shows what the department could do with 12 cents/day, or about \$44 a year, from each dwelling and commercial location: Two night shift patrol officers, one traffic safety officer, one burglary and property crimes detective and one community response unit officer. Five more officers should be sufficient for another 20 years, he said. He introduced Community Outreach Specialist Dorothy Diehl, who is focusing on crime prevention and other ways to be of service through public outreach. One target is facilitating Neighborhood Watch groups. She's also helping coordinate the department's Blast camps for kids entering grades 3-6, with the aim of connecting law enforcement with kids. She devotes a quarter of her time to monitoring the department's vehicle fleet.

Cummings Elementary School beautification, March 23 – Carol Doerfler once again collected pansies to plant (Egan Gardens has a pansy give-away each spring. Board members and others donated the plants to the Cummings project.) around the reader board at Cummings. Carol and her husband, Martin, along with Carolyn Homan and Rhonda Rich cleaned up the bed, spread bark dust and planted the pansies.

APRIL 2017

WKNA General Meeting April 13 at Keizer Civic Center – Gary welcomed new WKNA Board member Kris Adams, who was approved by Board vote at its April 6 meeting.

The WKNA Board approved a \$500 budget request for 2017-18. President Gary Blake will represent WKNA May 2 before the City Council's budget session.

Gary introduced representatives from Keizer Chamber of Commerce to talk about plans for the 2017 Iris Festival in mid-May. **Festival chairman Dave Walery introduced Carlos Soto, the Festival Run chairman, and Bob Schackelford, a main assistant for the overall Festival.** Carlos described plans for the full and half marathons and 10k race on Sunday, May 21, with routes affecting West Keizer. Carlos also helped the Chris Dudley Foundation route its Diabuddies Dash (run/walk) planned Saturday, April 22. Carlos said the Dash will feature 10K, 5K and 3K events beginning at 7:30 a.m. at Keizer Rapids Park and proceeding south on Shoreline and on through West Keizer.

Zoe Bluffstone, representative for Kathleen Harder, candidate for Salem-Keizer School Board, shared information about Kathleen, a Zone 1 candidate. All voters can vote for all candidates for school board in the May 16 election.

Hersch Sangster, President of Salem Bicycle Club and Chair, Keizer Traffic Safety, Bikeways, Pedestrian Committee, reported on Salem Bicycle Club (SBC), which has existed since 1969 and puts on over 400 rides a year (seven to 10 a week) in the Salem/Keizer area. The group has several rides through the West Keizer neighborhood, including a regular Thursday family ride from Cummings Elementary out Windsor Island and back on Wheatland Road. The club's two main rides are the Monster Cookie Metric Century, coming up April 30, and the Peach of a Century, held in late summer. The Monster Cookie, which is a recreational bike ride, begins at Salem's Capitol Mall and traverses several West Keizer streets, including Shoreline, as it winds 62 miles from the Mall north to Champoege Park and back. The event will attract 2,000 or more riders and puts about \$35,000 into the local economy.

Safe Routes to Schools – Carol Doerfler attended the April 13 Traffic Safety, Bikeways, Pedestrian committee meeting to report on this and review the history of WKNA's concerns about the lack of sidewalks along Delight, where so many children have to walk to get to school. In 2014, WKNA met with Cummings PTC about this safety issue and has also talked with Bill Lawyer. WKNA understood that the improvements to Delight would be up for consideration on the city's street repair schedule next year. There is concern that may not be the case and that it's important to keep the issue on the front burner. The new principal at Cummings, Martina Mangan, is working with WKNA to keep the issue on the forefront.

MAY 2017

May 2, 2017 – President Gary Blake presented WKNA's \$500 budget request for 2017-18 to the city's Budget Committee. Councilor Kim Freeman said the request was forwarded to council for final approval.

May 8, 2017 at Keizer Civic Center – Rhonda Rich, Carol Doerfler and Carolyn Homan attended the city council's public forum for input on the Parks Board's proposal for a fee to support parks operations. Rhonda testified for the need to put the issue to a public vote, despite council concerns about the delay in instituting a fee that would result and the extra cost.

WKNA General Meeting May 11, 2017 at Keizer Civic Center – Mary Jo Emmett, coordinator of the *John Knox Community Gardens*, shared a pamphlet from Marion Polk Food Share (MPFS) that explains the Community Garden program they coordinate and another brochure from John Knox detailing their garden beside the church at 452 Cummings Lane N in Keizer that is a part of the MPFS network. The John Knox garden has 20 in-ground plots and seven raised beds. Gardeners can get advice, as well as access to tools, seeds, fertilizer, mulch and much more.

Eric Bandonis and Max Casquero, Marion County Parole and Probation Officers, also reported. Eric passed along an update from the Keizer Police Department about a large drug bust carried out this week on Delight Street. Officers reminded citizens to pass along information on abandoned and vacant houses, which can be targets for illicit activity and transients. He said Code Enforcement is working with Keizer Police to get these houses boarded up.

Max is one of three parole officers in the Sheriff's Office focusing on parolees with mental health issues. The priority is to get them help and on their medications so that they are stable.

State of the City, Mayor Cathy Clark – She started with information about the need for five more police officers in Keizer, which would cost \$4/month/household. A community town hall on the police proposal will be held June 12. She said the council's May 8 forum on the proposed parks fee brought a thoughtful discussion about what should be done. Council asked staff to draft a proposed ordinance to collect a \$4/month/household fee in support of parks maintenance and improvements. The proposed ordinance

directs the fee be collected through the Keizer services bill because that will not cost any extra. She sees the need for police and parks funding as an “and” situation, not “either/or.”

Delight Street – The WKNA Board has formed a committee to work with Cummings School Principal Martina Mangan and follow the issue of improvements to Delight Street with an eye to the safety of kids walking to school at Cummings. Carol Doerfler is committee chair and other members are Gary Blake and Art Mauer.

Pat Fisher, a member of the Traffic Safety/Bikeways/Pedestrian Committee and West Keizer resident, said Cummings seems like a good candidate for the Safe Routes to School process. Carol Doerfler is coordinating with Pat on ongoing efforts.

May 13 – Quarterly Adopt-A-Street cleanup.

Mid-May – WKNA board members distributed flyers to households along the Iris Festival Bike & Run routes. This was done in partnership with the Keizer Chamber of Commerce, which printed up approximately 150 flyers. Residents were encouraged to use off-street parking during the event and cheer on the runners.

JUNE 2017

June 12, Keizer Civic Center – Rhonda Rich and Carolyn Homan attended the council's public forum regarding a fee to support Keizer Police Department. Rhonda testified in favor of taking the matter to a public vote.

June, July and August - no general meeting

July 27 – Butch Dunn, who lives near Wallace House, organized a meeting of Wallace House Park neighbors July 27 in the wake of problems arising from transients once again inhabiting the lower area of Wallace House next to the river. The city hired a haz-mat team to clean up that area three years ago, but homeless camps are back and the thick brushy terrain in this section of the park keeps the violators hidden. Carol Doerfler and Gary Blake represented West Keizer Neighborhood Association.

Neighbors have even put up night-time security cameras and police have been patrolling the parking lot, but problems continue, including locked mail boxes being broken into and packages stolen. Rhonda urged Butch to attend the Parks Board meeting Sept. 12, and to encourage other Wallace House neighbors to attend as well.

Gary said long-term maintenance of parks is a security issue, citing Palma Ciega as well as Wallace House. Fire is also a concern for neighbors, given the dry conditions and buildup of brush and undergrowth in park areas next to the river. He said he believes WKNA can help residents come together with the Parks Board and police to make our parks safe. The Sept. 12 meeting is a great place to raise these issues.

Aug. 1 – National Nite Out events held in West Keizer neighborhood and throughout the city.

Aug. 5 – Carol Doerfler and Carolyn Homan, along with their spouses Martin and Tom, attended the John Knox Presbyterian Church and Community Garden Barbecue. It was a nice event, good turnout with a band and good food. It provides a nice opportunity to visit with neighbors.

Aug. 15 – Carol Doerfler, Carolyn Homan and Rhonda Rich attended a meeting called by the Tate Avenue Neighborhood Watch group to talk about fire and safety issues that may arise from camping allowed at Keizer Rapids Park leading up to the Solar Eclipse Aug 21. The meeting was attended by representatives from Keizer Police, Keizer Fire and Keizer CERT, as well as Tate Avenue neighbors. Residents were assured that CERT had organized dozens of volunteers to provide a 24-hour watch and Keizer Fire representative Ann Marie Storms said officials had held detailed planning to consider as many contingencies as possible.

Aug. 21 – The Total Solar Eclipse! Events went off as planned at Keizer Rapids Park Amphitheater and Volcanoes Stadium. No major incidents reported, despite thousands of visitors.

Aug. 28, Delight Street sidewalks meeting – Carol Doerfler, Art Mauer and Gary Blake met with Public Works Bill Lawyer about the issue of improving walkways along Delight for children attending Cummings Elementary School. has pursued this issue for several years. Also attending was Cummings Principal Martina Mangan. A positive suggestion was installing a 10-foot path inside the fence that extends from Dearborn down to the school on the west side of Delight. Children could then access that path and be out of the way of traffic and cars that park on the street side of the fence. Bill said this piece is doable, but the city needs permission from the school district to proceed.

SEPTEMBER 2017

WKNA Board Meeting Sept. 7 – Butch Dunn, who lives next to Wallace House Park, reported on a meeting of Wallace House neighbors July 27 in the wake of problems arising from transients once again inhabiting the lower area of Wallace House next to the river. A haz-mat team cleared the area three years ago, but homeless camps are back, hidden by the brushy terrain. Rhonda urged Butch to attend the Parks Board meeting Sept. 12, and to encourage other Wallace House neighbors to attend as well. She also suggested he alert the Parks Board council liaison (Roland Herrera), who could take the matter to the full council. Gary said long-term maintenance of parks is a security issue, citing Palma Ciega as well as Wallace House. Fire is also a concern for neighbors, given the dry conditions and buildup of undergrowth in park areas next to the river.

Sept. 12 – Gary Blake, Rhonda Rich, Carol Doerfler and Carolyn Homan attended the Sept. 12 Parks Board meeting for input on use of the parks fee. Gary voiced support for maintenance items for parks to make them secure, safe and attractive, and urged that benches be included in the parks as well. Rhonda urged that the transient camping be resolved by removal of underbrush.

WKNA General Meeting Sept. 14 – **Mark Caillier, Keizer Rotary** president, reported on a challenge received from Rotary International to plant a tree for each member of the local club. The group decided to plant one of each variety (about 70) on the City of Keizer's list of trees recommended for urban planting. They will be planted on the east side of Keizer Rapids Park to create an "arboretum" that will in part replace the hazelnut orchard that will be removed. The trees will create a sort of sound barrier for the neighborhood. Planting will begin November 4.

Eric Bandonis presented the quarterly report from the Marion County Parole and Probation office. He passed on an alert from Keizer Police that car break-ins are ongoing in Keizer. Officers urge everyone to lock their cars and not leave any valuables visible in cars.

Matt Lawyer, Parks Board representative, reported on the new parks fee and need for citizen input. He gave background on the \$4/month parks support fee approved earlier by Council. The Parks Board public survey showed 80% of respondents in favor of a fee at some level and the highest-scoring use was maintenance and operations rather than starting any new projects. The Parks Board is seeks

community input on what they most want to see happen in the city's parks once sufficient funds are available to address priorities. The Parks Board's working group is holding a meeting at 6 p.m. Sept. 22 at City Hall to talk about goals for the fee and all are invited to attend.

Butch Dunn, who lives near Wallace House Park, raised safety issues that have arisen recently in that park, mainly due to transients, and maintenance is a part of that. He said people don't feel safe going into the lower, riverside area of Wallace House because so many transients are camping there. Butch and Gary Blake will attend the Sept. 22 feedback session.

Shirley DeShon re: Sunset Park incident – Shirley reported on a shooting incident Sept. 10 in Sunset Park. People in the park fled when shots were fired from a gravel pit shooting range across the river in Polk County. She said this isn't the first time shots have crossed the river and she cited this as a serious parks safety issue. Rhonda said the City Council is the best venue to address the issue. City Councilor Kim Freeman suggested alerting Police Chief Teague ahead of time in case he's not aware of the incident.

Daryl Richardson re: RVP park at Keizer Rapids – Daryl asked Matt about creating an RV park at Keizer Rapids as a way to help fund city parks. Matt said it was on the survey and came in with the lowest support among new ideas floated.

Sept. 18 – Gary Blake, Rhonda Rich, Carol Doerfler and Carolyn Homan attended the Sept. 18 Council meeting and listened to about 18 neighbors of Sunset Park report on gunshots that came from a gravel pit shooting range in Polk County across the Willamette River from the park. Gary and Rhonda added their comments about the importance of neighborhood safety and the need for an official response. This is not the first incidence of stray bullets from this location, according to neighbors. The city agreed to work on a letter to be sent to the property owner.

Sept. 22 – Gary Blake attended the special Parks Board meeting regarding Wallace House Park. He said it was a rehash of issues already discussed regarding safety and recent transient activity that has concerned park neighbors. Parks Board members Matt Lawyer and Dave Loudon were both there, along with Parks supervisor Robert Johnson. The recent gunshots originating at the gravel pit across the Willamette River from Sunset Park came up. Darrell Richardson, who lives adjacent to Sunset, was at the meeting. WKNA Board needs to evaluate the priorities for use of the new parks fee when the list comes out.

OCTOBER 2017

WKNA Board meeting Oct. 5 – The Board discussed the Adopt-a-Street project, which has been canceled the last couple of quarters because inmate crews working on Chemawa made the cleanups unnecessary. Kris Adams volunteered to take over the duty of arranging meeting speakers.

WKNA General Meeting Oct. 12 – **Shirley DeShon** updated the group on followup to her presentation and that of others at the Sept. 18 City Council meeting. They testified on the incident involving gunfire originating in a gravel pit gun range on the west side of the river across from Sunset Park. There was talk at the council meeting of the city sending a letter to Polk County officials about the matter. Instead, it was decided to post a sign at the gravel pit advising shooters not to shoot in the direction of the park. In discussion, it was noted that the WKNA Board has decided to write a letter to City Council, with copies to Marion and Polk commissioners, expressing concern over the incident and

the public safety issues involved.

Speaker Bill Lawyer, Keizer Public Works Director, gave a run-down of the divisions within Public Works: Water, Streets, Parks, Stormwater, Environmental/Technical. The **Streets Division** has some big projects in the works: Replacing the bridge on Dearborn over Claggett Creek will begin in May and continue to October 2018, closing Dearborn from 13th to Verda for the duration. Next summer, River Road from Chemawa to the south city limits will be resurfaced. Work will be done at night to keep traffic disruptions to a minimum. Keizer is partnering with the Transit Center on installation of a traffic signal at the Transit Station on Keizer Station Boulevard. The timing is unclear, but access to Keizer Station will be maintained throughout. A project of particular interest to WKNA is the desire and need for sidewalks or walking paths along Delight Street for the safety of children walking to Cummings Elementary and McNary High School. A solution is to put the path inside the school's chain-link fence on the west side of Delight but it requires an easement from Salem-Keizer School District. He's waiting for a response. The next step is a solution for the Dearborn to Chemawa section of Delight.

Another topic of interest to WKNA is the rain gardens along Chemawa Road, which have gotten overgrown in some areas and cause problems for people backing out of driveways. He said the city has been using Marion County inmate crews to maintain the plantings and also plans to put a landscape contract out for bid soon for monthly maintenance on the rain gardens. He's asked staff to come up with a replant plan.

The **Parks Division** has exciting prospects thanks to the new \$4/month parks fee approved by City Council. The Parks Board plans another public forum at 6 p.m. Oct. 24 to get citizen input on priorities for use of the extra funding. The new funding also will support brush removal and even mowing in the lower area of Wallace House Park to encourage visitors to access the river and inhibit unwanted camping by transients. Brush clearing can also be planned at Palma Ciega.

He said the city would continue to pursue a resolution to repairs to the tennis courts at Willamette Manor Park. Repairs made were compromised by harsh winter weather and the contractor has been unavailable to correct the matter so far.

Ideas for 2018 general meeting speakers and topics – Kris Adams shared copies of possible topics and asked for suggestions. Anyone with ideas can contact any Board member or bring them to the next WKNA general meeting.

Oct. 13 – The annual Salem Audubon Society/West Keizer Neighborhood Association tour of Keizer Rapids was held with about 10 people joining the walk.

NOVEMBER 2017

WKNA Board meeting, Nov. 2 – WKNA efforts to create a Nextdoor.com are at a standstill. Kris Adams has found out we cannot create a new neighborhood if the boundaries conflict with another neighborhood, which is the case because of the existing West Keizer Nextdoor account. It was decided to stay with the West Keizer group and advertise our meetings and events through that.

Rhonda invited West Keizer neighbor Bob DeVore to report on the Oct. 24 Parks Board public forum on use of the new parks fee. Bob shared a handout, which covered the two-phase process used by the Parks Advisory Board to glean community input on priorities for use of the fee. The handout also listed the proposed 18- to 36-month work plan developed by staff to identify priority actions and items, starting with hiring two full-time employees in order to get them trained before spring. Other top actions: Replacement of aging equipment and vehicle inventory and system-wide tree maintenance,

removal of invasive species, trail assessments and ADA transition plan. The list of Increased Services included mowing and lawn care. By specific park, the top-rated projects were replacing the playground at Meadows Park and repairing the sports courts at Northview and Bob Newton parks. Bob has asked for a drinking fountain at Keizer Rapids Park and has been told it's "on the list" of future projects being considered,

Willamette Manor tennis courts – Carol Doerfler has followed up with Robert Johnson. He said the city may have to reach out to other vendors because of issues with the installing vendor. City staff can't handle the repair job themselves.

Smoking in the parks – Rhonda said Darrell Richardson testified against this at the Oct. 10 Parks Advisory Board meeting. The board voted to ban smoking except in parking lots. The recommendation goes to Council. Rhonda said she may testify at that time in opposition to allowing smoking in parks.

Adopt-a-Street – Since inmate crews continue regular cleanups along Chemawa the question is whether WKNA adopts another street or an alternative project. Rhonda is pursuing a Volunteer of the Quarter award for Richard Boyes, who lives on Chemawa and does litter patrols a couple of times a week. As an Adopt-A-Street alternative, the Board discussed other possibilities, such as a spring cleanup at Cummings school or helping with the John Knox Community Garden.

Topics for Upcoming General Meetings – Kris reported on meeting topics gathered at the October meeting. Of this list of topics she passed out, Fire Chief Cowan, Police Chief Teague and Keizer Chamber director got the most votes. Also getting votes were Kathy Lincoln with Cherriots, a UGB update from Nate Brown and "River Road businesses." Carol has suggested a repeat of disaster preparedness.

Letter to Council re: shooting incident – Carolyn prepared a letter to council, city officials, Marion and Polk commissioners regarding the September incident involving gunfire from a gravel pit shooting range in Polk County across the river from Sunset Park. Gary is to present the letter at the Nov. 6 council meeting and other Board members, including Rhonda, Carol and Carolyn, said they also would attend. It was agreed to have the letter read into the record at that meeting. Rhonda will get a copy to Barb for posting on WKNA's website and she also will ask Barb about getting a copy to Shirley DeShon, who is away for the winter.

WKNA General Meeting Nov. 9 – Eric Bandonis, Marion County parole/probation officer, presented the end-of-the-year report for parole/probation cases. He passed along some alerts from the KPD. As the weather gets colder, police advise residents to stay with their car as they are warming it up. Car thieves watch for idling, unattended cars.

Speaker Dr. Jerry McGee, Keizer historian and self-described "story teller," detailed the two donation land claims of the Keizer family that created the city; laid out the history of the Keizer family's journey to the Oregon Territory; and recounted the story of Keizer's incorporation.

West Keizer neighbor Bob DeVore attended the **Oct. 24 Parks Board forum** and reported on plans discussed for use of the new parks fee. Rhonda encouraged anyone interested to attend the next Parks Advisory Board meeting Nov. 14 to provide input on priorities.

Rhonda shared copies of the letter on Sunset Park safety sent to City Council, with copies to the Marion and Polk County commissions. The letter was read into the record at the Nov. 6 Council meeting.

DECEMBER 2017

Dec. 6, Stakeholder meeting with Nate Brown re: Keizer UBG – Carol Doerfler and Gary Blake attended. Carol said Colleen Busch represented Southeast Keizer Neighborhood Association and Suzanne McConnell represented Gubser. Councilors Kim Freeman and Laura Reid were there along with other citizens to meet with representatives (architects, engineers, etc.) of an organization that provides guidance to cities on UGB issues. They asked about how Keizer had grown. The main issue raised by citizens was traffic, especially River Road, Lockhaven and now Cherry Avenue. Colleen, Transit District Board member, offered some input on the planned Cherriots expansion, with new routes coming in 2018 to improve service. Consultants also asked if citizens want Keizer to grow; if so, how do they want it to grown and where. It was emphasized that more housing can't just be multi-family, because that's discriminatory. They said projections of the need for more housing are based on estimates produced from research done by Portland State University. Consultants met with groups all day long (fire/police, businesses, the Chamber of Commerce, builders and developers, the school district, real estate representatives, etc.), ending with a Planning Commission meeting. Information will be compiled and the city plans public forums to discuss further. WKNA will plan to help get the word out re: the public forums in order to get the most feedback possible.

No WKNA Board or General meeting in December

JANUARY 2018

WKNA Board meeting, Jan. 4, 2018 – Carol Doerfler reported on the Dec. 6 stakeholder meeting re: the Keizer UGB. WKNA will plan to help advertise the public forums to be held to gather citizen input.

Rhonda Rich shared the email WKNA received from Marion County Commission regarding the Sunset Park shooting letter WKNA sent. The county said that it lacked jurisdiction in the matter. The Board is uncertain if warning signs have been posted at the gravel pit shooting range. Dennis offered to find out.

Parks Advisory Board meeting Jan. 9 – Carol will attend to pursue repairs to the Willamette Manor tennis courts. Rhonda and Carolyn will attend to address a possible ban on smoking at Keizer Rapids due to fire danger there.

WKNA General meeting Jan. 11, 2018 – Speaker, Jill Bonney-Hill, president of Keizer Points of Interest Committee, presented information on various points of interest throughout the community that the committee has recognized through informational kiosks or other means. These include the statue of Keizer's namesake, Thomas Keizur; informational plaques at Keizer Rapids Parks recognizing major flood events affecting Keizer through the years; the 45th parallel sign on River Road; and a donation land claim sign marking the northeast corner of the first land claim(John Brooks Keizur) – filed in 1850 under the Donation Land Act.

Election of the new Board and directors was held. The following slate was installed:

President – Carol Doerfler

Vice President – Kris Adams

Secretary – Carolyn Homan

Directors: Art Mauer, Dennis Phipps, Gary Blake, Rhonda Rich

Reports given included **Urban Growth Boundary forums** being planned by the city in a few months to gather more feedback on what kind of growth Keizer residents want to see, or not, and how to handle attendant issues such as schools, transportation, safety, etc. Everyone was encouraged to get involved.

No Smoking in Parks – The WKNA Board passed a motion backing no smoking in Keizer Rapids Park because of the potential fire hazard. The Parks Advisory Board is discussing a potential ban. **Dylan Juran, Parks Board member**, said the parks board plans a public forum on the issue at its next meeting, 6 p.m. Feb. 13. Residents were urged to attend.

Respectfully submitted by:

Gary Blake
2017 President of the West Keizer Neighborhood Association