

# WKNA TODAY

West Keizer Neighborhood Association Newsletter

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## Planning Begins for Possible Event Pavillion at KRP

The idea of building a pavillion at Keizer Rapids Park to support community gatherings, festivals, events, sports activities and more has been in the wind for several years, according to City officials. But the concept began to get more serious consideration in the past year, despite not being included in the 10-year building plan in the Parks Master Plan.

City Manager Adam Brown, in a report to Council, said the idea generated more conversations of late because of the move to KRP by Keizer Fest. A pavillion could become a permanent replacement for the festival’s entertainment tent, which is a 50x150-foot space (This year’s Keizer Fest event will be May 15-18).

Planning took a step forward with a City application, approved by Council September 2024, to Marion County for a Community Prosperity Initiative grant proposal centered on an outdoor pavillion at KRP. The City has received a \$60,000 grant through this initiative, spread over three years, for master planning of the pavillion project.

Mr. Brown’s September report to Council noted that the project will require an amendment to the Parks Master Plan and that process requires public involvement. As part of outreach to the public, the City plans to survey people at Keizer Fest this year. As currently envisioned, the pavillion would be a 100x250 foot metal structure. Preliminary cost estimates range from \$775,000 to \$825,000.

WKNA plans to schedule City Manager Brown as speaker for the association’s May meeting. Please join us to find out more about this proposed project and ways to weigh in should you so desire.



## Holiday Swim Club

West Keizer Neighborhood is fortunate to have a neighborhood swimming pool at Holiday Swim Club, 3868 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. N. Details about its operation can be found on the website: [www.holidayswimclub.org](http://www.holidayswimclub.org) – although it hasn't been updated as yet with information specific to 2025.

Membership is limited to 90 families and there's currently a waiting list. Interested families can email the club to be put on the list. Current members have until May 1st to inform the club of their intent to renew their membership. The club will then reach out in order to the waiting-list families.

Swim Lesson Registration opens June 1st. Morning and evening sessions for all ages are offered, \$55 for members and \$70 for non-members (as of last year). Lessons are 30 mins long, Monday through Friday for two weeks. There are 5 sessions each summer.



Pool parties and swim team are for members only. We encourage non-members who are interested to reach out to Jan Ree at [Jan Swimming Pool](#)

Each summer, Holiday hosts the All City Swim meet the last Saturday in July, which brings 300+ swimmers and their families to the facility. The club thanks its neighbors for their understanding about the traffic and crowding that this exciting activity brings to West Keizer each year.

## Community Dinners at St. Edward Catholic Church

The 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month, St. Edward Catholic Church hosts the Keizer Community Dinner. This dinner is free to all comers, 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the community hall at the church, 5303 River Road N. Various sponsoring groups help put on the dinners, including Keizer City Council, Marion Polk Food Share, Keizer Chamber Men of Action, Keizer Rotary, Keizer Satellite Rotary, Keizer Community Library Board and Music Box Angels, Thrivent Financial, Keizer Times, Scouting America Troop 105, McNary Honor Society (who routinely help collect serving trays and scrape plates) and Keizer churches in addition to St. Ed's: Lake Pointe Church, Keizer Christian Church Disciples of Christ, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Dayspring Fellowship Men's Group, A dedicated volunteer crew helps plan and prepare the meals. It's a community effort to provide a welcoming place for friends, neighbors, new arrivals, young and old to come together, visit and share a meal.

Menus vary but there's always a summer barbecue with hamburgers and hot dogs and the highly anticipated Thanksgiving dinner, which has extended hours to accommodate a crowd of 300 or so. West Keizer Neighborhood Association Board members hope to help out with the Thanksgiving meal again, Wednesday, Nov. 26, this year. Mark your calendars and plan to attend one of these free community meals!

## Neighborhood Family Council Benefits Cummings

### Elementary Area - Adapted from Keizer Times

Built on the principle that “it takes a village” to raise our children, a Neighborhood Family Council organization to benefit Cummings Elementary School is the latest of five such Councils in Salem-Keizer.

The councils seek to build resilience among neighborhood families by connecting them with resources, providing cooperative efforts to relieve stressors faced by many families and working to help achieve school goals, including those at Cummings: reading proficiency and improved attendance.

The council concept was launched last fall by the Community Business and Education Leaders group, which provides funding for the Councils. Keizer Mayor Cathy Clark approached Cummings Principal Andrew Kronser last spring about the Council program.

The Cummings Council’s first event was a resource fair in February attended by 110 families. They enjoyed a free meal, games, music, raffle prizes and connection to resources like Community Emergency Response Team and Safe Routes to Schools. Cummings Council President Kris Adams, who’s also a WKNA Board member, said more such events are planned to focus on family resilience.



WKNA President Rhonda Rich and Cummings Council President and WKNA Board Member Kris Adams

## Growing to Serve Family, Friends and Neighbors

John Knox Community Garden (JKCG) on Cummings Lane has been growing fresh produce since 2009 when it was created by members of John Knox Presbyterian Church as an outreach mission. The church provides free garden spaces and any community member may request an available spot. The church provides the land and the water. Other expenses are covered by donations, charter community grants and on-going support from Marion Polk Food Share (MPFS). JKCG is a member of MPFS’s Community Garden Network which donates seeds, transplants, educational resources and community volunteers. In return, JKCG promotes organic gardening and 20% of the garden supports neighbors with food insecurity by providing garden space &/or donating produce to neighbors via an ‘Excess Produce’ box by the garden and through the Keizer Community Food Bank. Both novice and experienced gardeners are welcome. Tools and advice are available, all gardeners need provide is time and ability to weed and garden. Inquiries can be made via email or phone to Mary Jo Emmett, [mj.emmett@comcast.net](mailto:mj.emmett@comcast.net); or 503 930-0975.



## WKNA Recognizes Copper Creek Mercantile

At the March 13 neighborhood association meeting, held jointly with the other four Keizer NAs, West Keizer Neighborhood Association presented a plaque to Copper Creek Mercantile for their service as a site for a WKNA-sponsored food collection barrel. Since 2020, the barrel has collected 10,441 pounds of food and \$2,834 to benefit Keizer Community Food Bank. Receiving the award was store manager Steve Weadick. WKNA greatly appreciates this partnership in support of our neighbors in need.



Steve Weadick, Rhonda Rich, Dennis Phipps

## WKNA General Meetings

Thursday, April 10th at 7:00pm—Keizer Fire Chief Blanco

Thursday, May 8th at 7:00pm—Keizer City Manager Adam Brown

No scheduled meetings are planned in June, July or August. See you September 11th!

## Neighborhood Meetings Times and Places

Do you have questions about the happenings in our neighborhood, but don't know whom to ask? Perhaps you would like to know what Keizer has planned for the next fiscal year.

You will find the agenda leading up to each meeting, news of the neighborhood, past meeting minutes and reports, along with information regarding your West Keizer Neighborhood Association board posted at [www.westkeizerna.org](http://www.westkeizerna.org).

Please feel free to bring your questions, and insights, to the next WKNA meeting. Our regularly scheduled meetings occur each second Thursday of the month except December, June, July & August, at 7:00pm. The meetings are at Keizer Civic Center, 930 Chemawa Rd NE.

We are happy to meet you!



The West Keizer Neighborhood Association is supported by the following Sponsors:

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- Keizer Parks Foundation
- Men of Action in Keizer
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