

Keizer's pandemic loans topped \$18 M

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

Businesses in Keizer received a whopping \$18.01 million in pandemic relief throughout the past nine months.

New data released by the Small Business Administration (SBA) on Dec. 1 provided the most complete accounting yet of more than \$700 billion in forgivable loans made available for small businesses across.

When *Keizertimes* reported on initial data, released in July, Keizer-registered businesses accounted for \$12.5 million in relief from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

While the new data lists specific amounts each business received, it lacks other pertinent information, such as the number of jobs preserved, that was included in the data released five months prior. (*The full list of loans to Keizer businesses is located on Page A6*)

The two largest recipients of COVID relief remained Willamette Farm Labor Contracting, \$1.62 million, and Avamere Court at Keizer, \$1.09 million. In the July data, Willamette Farm reported retaining 100 jobs and Avamere reported retaining 172 jobs. The smallest loan, provided to

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Ronning to play for WOU Wolves
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Volcanoes lose ties to SF Giants

According to Baseball America, Major League Baseball has sent invitations to 119 of the 120 teams it is inviting to be part of its MLB-developed minor league system.

The Salem-Keizer Volcanoes were one of only two Northwest League teams that did not receive an invitation — the Boise Hawks also did not receive an invitation.

The Volcanoes were affiliated with the San Francisco Giants since their inception in 1997.

HOW KEIZER VOTED

Neighborhood-by-neighborhood

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Keizer's history of supporting Republican presidential candidates held firm in the 2020 election, but the margin was much smaller than in recent elections.

President Donald Trump won 51.7% percent of the vote to President-elect Joe Biden's 48.7%. By contrast, in 2012, then-President Barack Obama (44.67%) lost to challenger Mitt Romney (52.42%).

The Marion County Clerk's Office released voting results by precinct in late November. The numbers provide insight into how Keizerites voted on a neighborhood-by-neighborhood level.

Keizer overwhelmingly supported its homegrown candidates even if they didn't win their individual elections.

Amy Ryan Courser lost her bid to unseat Rep. Kurt Schrader in Congress, but Courser won the Keizer vote 53.8% to Schrader's 46.2%. In the race for secretary of state, State Sen. Kim Thatcher took

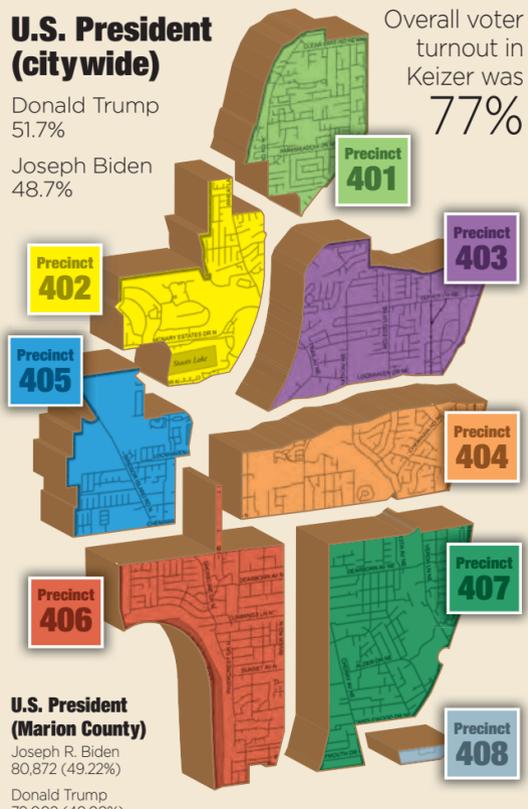
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U.S. President (citywide)

Donald Trump 51.7%

Joseph Biden 48.7%

Overall voter turnout in Keizer was 77%



U.S. President (Marion County)

Joseph R. Biden 80,872 (49.22%)

Donald Trump 79,002 (48.08%)

Graphic by KEIZERTIMES/Andrew Jackson

Precinct	Voter Turnout	U.S. PRESIDENT	Favored city councilors
Precinct 401	86.72%	Trump 1,648 Biden 1,516	Reid, Day, K. Juran
Precinct 402	85.73%	Trump 1,164 Biden 1,109	Reid, Day, K. Juran
Precinct 403	83.73%	Trump 1,701 Biden 1,512	Reid, Day, K. Juran
Precinct 404	77.05%	Trump 1,385 Biden 1,315	Reid, Day, Roland-Schwartz
Precinct 405	78.24%	Trump 1,011 Biden 936	Reid, Day, K. Juran
Precinct 406	79.6%	Trump 1,703 Biden 1,545	Reid, Day, Roland-Schwartz
Precinct 407	69.62%	Trump 1,549 Biden 1,638	Reid, Day, Roland-Schwartz
Precinct 408	59.35%	Trump 61 Biden 81	Reid, Day, Roland-Schwartz

Values statement now official

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

After enormous build-up, it was a let-down that the final vote had to happen via teleconferencing.

Still, as of Monday, Dec. 7, the City of Keizer has an official statement of values touching on many aspects of justice, equity, diversity and inclusion. Members of the council voted unanimously to adopt the statement.

"Thanks for the work, I know it got tense. But I am proud of everybody and the work we've done," said Councilor Roland Herrera.

The statement of values is the result of months of resident testimony and a lot of conceded ground on the part of Keizer city council members.

The statement includes,

among other elements: a definition of white supremacy as well as a condemnation of it; recognition of historical laws and policies that maintained discrimination and disparity; recognition of all gender identities and sexual orientations; a nod to the Tribal Nations that once inhabited the land; and a "commitment to ensure that all members of the community are free from acts that are rooted in racism, discrimination, intolerance, bigotry and hostility."

The totality of the statement likely places Keizer near the forefront in the state as far as the breadth to which it goes to be inclusive. Herrera questioned why it was not called an "inclusivity resolution" instead of a statement of values, but was willing

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"Thanks for the work, I know it got tense."

— Councilor Roland Herrera

Show must go on for Celtic choir club



By MATT RAWLINGS
Of the Keizertimes

Comprehensive distance learning has made it increasingly difficult for teachers to connect with their students. But despite limited class offerings due to the COVID-19 pandemic, McNary High choir teacher Josh Rist has found a creative way to provide a new choir club to his students.

Under normal circumstances, choir is a year-long, performance-based class.

Josh Rist leads a music class in a song earlier this year.

File photo

However, under comprehensive distance learning, choir only lasts for a semester and students are placed in a class based on their grade.

"We needed to find a way to meet together that was voluntary," Rist said.

In October, Rist formed a choir club that involved students making their own Soundtrap projects online and sharing them with their classmates — Soundtrap is an online cross-platform digital

audio workstation that allows users to create music.

Even though the communal experience of a normal choir class is lost, McNary students are still able to create their own musical projects, edit them and share them with other members of the club.

"It's really not a choir. It's studio singing. But it's good practice for them. They get to

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OSAA updates playing timelines

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