

CLACKAMAS SHOOTING: Gun owners shoot for control



Joshua Dillen The Clackamas Print

From left to right, Rick George, Robert Yuille and Paul Kemp get ready to speak to Marion County Democrats at the party's May meeting last Thursday evening. Yuille and Kemp both lost loved ones in the Clackamas Town Center Mall shooting. The three men are lifelong gun owners who advocate for gun control.

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Kemp, a registered Republican, wants to create a dialogue with government leaders and voters and come to an agreement that will keep people safe and hold gun owners accountable for who their guns kill. The ultimate goal is to see legislation that preserves gun owner's rights and keeps the public protected from guns in the wrong hands.

"My feeling is this is not a partisan issue and I read a lot about history and leadership. Some of the greatest things that have ever been done in this country are when folks cross the aisle and work together," Kemp said. "The overwhelming majority of Americans want to see some changes done."

George, who is from northeastern Oregon and currently resides near McMinnville, has been the Vice President of Policy and Indigenous Affairs for Ecotrust, Executive Director for Oregon Rivers Council and a 21-year program manager for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The lifelong gun owner has decided to make an impact and do something to keep families safe from killers with guns.

George hopes the trio can harness the power and passion of gun owners.

"I do believe in my heart that it will take gun owners to stand up and say 'enough is enough.' It's time for change and it's time

for respect for our rights and time for respect for the rights of people that should be able to walk through malls safely," George said. "And it's time for children to be able to go to school with as much safety in their school environment as we can give them. And that means change."

“

When she was murdered I really did not think about becoming involved in any kind of activism, whatsoever, but it just has pretty much presented itself to me.”

Robert Yuille
Gun Control Activist

George is hard at work spreading his message to as many people as he can. He is talking to Democrats, Republicans, Independents, young people, mature people and all gun owners to develop a dialogue about changing current gun regulation.

Kemp has connected with the

families and victims of several shootings across the country including the victims and families of the Gabby Giffords and Columbine shootings. The past several months have had him busy experiencing the dynamic of a country's heated dialogue.

Kemp, who spoke for about 10 minutes, outlined some ideas the group would like to present that would be palatable to government lawmakers. They included

convincing the leadership of the National Rifle Association to be more in line with its membership to garner support from that gun owning base. Kemp believes a majority of NRA members would support stricter laws mandating gun safes and trigger locks. The ultimate goal is to see legislation passed that will keep guns out of the hands of people like Jacob Tyler Roberts, the shooter in the Clackamas Mall tragedy, who used a stolen gun.

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ASG offers free food

ASG is planning a Campus Clean-Up and removing some invasive ivy from the property. There will also be food and beverages offered to those who help. The event will be held on Wednesday, May 29, from noon to 2 p.m. Everyone is meeting at the ASG office at noon and then heading over to the work area, but there will be signs directing students to the work site for those who show up late. If you have questions or are interested in helping out, stop by the office to sign up or email Kaylea Henderson at asgpa@clackamas.edu.

PRINT Staff

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CORRECTION: In Issue 22, the bold quote on page two should be attributed to Bill Briare, Dean of Arts and Sciences.

CLARIFICATION: In Issue 21 on page five, \$6 was the price for items at CCC Harmony Campus.

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