

## A way to give that is right for you

By KRIS ADAMS

My family moved to Keizer in 1964. I was 5 years old and I vividly remember that it rained for months leading up to a flood that year.

I grew up going to Keizer schools and later moved back to the same Keizer house and worked retail until my retirement five years ago. Once I hit that point in my life, I knew I couldn't sit and watch TV all day. I needed stimulation. I needed to work with people and wanted to make a difference in some way.

With fond memories of visiting my mom and sister working at Salem Hospital, I became a volunteer. It was a perfect fit for me. I helped patients in the hospital get to and from group therapy. Sometimes they didn't have a support person, so I chatted with them and helped out. The nursing staff appreciated me and treated me well. I loved going and just felt invigorated being able to help people.

I now help in the volunteer office. I take calls and answer questions from potential volunteers. In the office two days a week for four to five hours each day, I feel like I accomplish something every time. It is pure joy to know that my time isn't wasted, maybe even a little selfish that I love feeling thanked, appreciated, and rewarded for giving back.

### Getting started

First, find a place that fits your skills and background. The Red Cross, the food bank, the hospital, the Humane Society—there are so many places that have a need. Are you a people person? A pet person? Someone who likes office work? A

guest column

driver? Make some calls and inquire.

Next, be sure you understand the commitment. You need to show up or you could leave the organization in an uncomfortable

position. Find a role that fits your schedule.

Finally, be patient and take your volunteering seriously. Sometimes you have to jump through a few hoops to be a volunteer. Then, the rewarding part begins.

### Limitless opportunities

I also joined the Salem Hospital Auxiliary and had a blast eating pizza and stuffing Awesome 3000 packets with a fantastic group. I am exploring how we can accept credit cards at the craft sale. The money we raise goes toward student scholarships. I also help out a few friends with errands and chores.

My latest endeavor is being part of the Keizer Points of Interest Committee working on a kiosk project that highlights the history of Keizer floods. Can you guess which one I'm working on? I love the research and even found a book my parents kept about the 1964 flood.

There is a part of everyone that can give in some way. Find a passion, hobby, skill or interest you can parlay in giving back to this wonderful community.

(Kris Adams averages about 25 hours a week volunteering. Friendly,

customer-oriented community volunteers are needed at Salem Hospital in the volunteer program. Please call 503-561-5277 to reserve a seat at the next information session or visit salemhealth.org/volunteers to learn more. Volunteers must be 14 years of age or older.)

(Kris Adams lives in Keizer.)



Submitted Photo

Kris Adams

## CERT thanks supporters

To the Editor:

Keizer Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) would like to thank V2 Dentistry, the McNary High School football team, and Keizer Young Life for helping us set up June 19 for our annual garage sale June 20-21. We couldn't have done it without them. They helped by putting up 20 x 20 tents, canopies, load and unload our storage units. They went above and beyond.

Bonnie Dunn  
Keizer

## Gun regulation debate continues

To the Editor:

(I'm) pretty sure that Don Vowell expected some push back from the right when he penned his piece (*Why is a gun different than a car?*, June 12) on gun regs. Vowell is perfectly capable of defending his position on his own, he's much more articulate than I.

That said, it seems to me that

letters

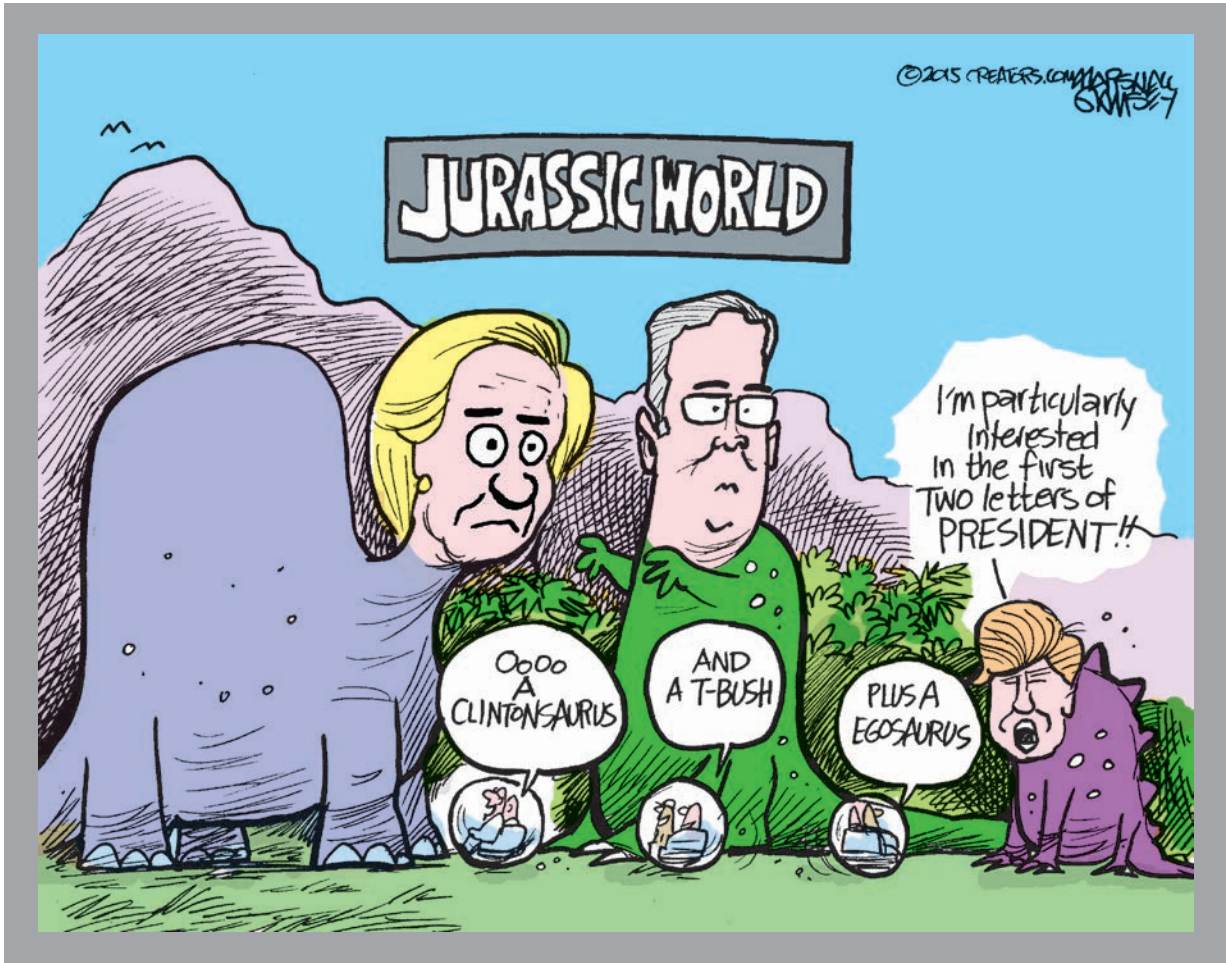
Wayne Moreland's snarky rebuttal (*Rights versus privileges*, June 19) deserves a reply.

He is correct

that rights and privileges are different, but here's the thing, both are subject to restrictions. Gun ownership—the right—has limitations. The debate is over the extent of those limitations, not whether they exist. Further, what Wayne should read slowly and carefully is the first part of the second amendment which reads: "A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state." How does free-for-all gun ownership square with that? Until the second amendment is considered in its entirety by reasonable people, guns in the hands of the fearful, the foolish and the fiendish will remain an American problem and I for one applaud the Oregon legislature for taking whatever very small steps are possible to make the problem less deadly.

Martin Doerfler  
Keizer

The Keizertimes welcomes all points of view.  
E-mail a Letter to the Editor to: publisher@keizertimes.com  
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## Jeb is right about 4 percent growth

By LAWRENCE KUDLOW

"There is not a reason in the world why we cannot grow at a rate of 4 percent a year." That's what Jeb Bush said when he officially announced his presidential run in Miami last week. And right off the bat, most economists trashed the idea.

"It can't happen and it's never happened." "Productivity is too low." "The labor force is growing too slowly." "Secular stagnation."

They don't call it the gloomy science for nothing.

We have experienced relatively long periods of 4 percent or more economic growth. Following the Kennedy tax cuts, the economy averaged 5.2 percent yearly growth between 1963 and 1969. After the Reagan tax rates fully went into effect, alongside Paul Volcker's conquering of inflation, the economy grew at 4.5 percent annually between 1982 and 1989. These were the "seven fat years." And between 1994 and 1999, the Bill Clinton/Newt Gingrich economy increased 4.3 percent annually, after welfare reform, NAFTA trade and cap-gains tax relief.

So we've got six-year, seven-year and five-year periods—all in recent memory—when the American economy beat 4 percent. And for nearly all the post-World War II period, dating from 1947 to 2007 (before the meltdown), the U.S. economy actually grew at 3.4 percent annually.

So Jeb Bush's 4 percent target is both aspirational and doable. It sets an important policy marker for the coming election. The GOP should adopt the target. Let the skeptics scoff. Positive solutions are grounds for optimism. And Americans will respond favorably to this kind of optimistic leadership—which is sorely lacking today.

## Pope did the right thing on global warming

A joy in the life of my wife's and my own is our 4-year-old granddaughter. She, grandma and I play a lot of games that allow us to enter her world of fantasy where magical thinking and denial of reality are the places we go in the make-believe of a child's mind.

However, when adults in positions of trust and power play denial and refuse to see reality, things get dangerous instead of fun. America's leaders in Washington, D.C. should be aware and thinking serious thoughts of possible correction about the emptying reservoirs of California, the extreme rain and flooding in parts of Texas and Oklahoma, the winter that wouldn't end in the Northeast, the drought that's taking over all of Oregon and Washington, the news that last year was a global heat record for the planet and this year promises to equal or exceed it, that Alaska just passed through the hottest month of May ever and the prospects for our planet returning to normal patterns appear slim and none.

Meanwhile, behind the denial of reality, conservative forces and Big Energy (Psst. That's oil and gas interests) have invested fantastic amounts of money into a collection of think tanks and activist groups to promote climate change denial. Thereby, some of the most profitable and powerful self-interests on the planet are dead set to continue with every dollar they can throw at it to put a damper on any means or moves to save a planetary environment that has nurtured humanity into a present form that required millions of years to develop.

Backed by those who pay their campaign expenses and provide a lot of high-priced perks and retire-

other views

The story of the Jeb Bush 4 percent target starts in Dallas in 2010 at the George W. Bush Institute. Executive director James

Glassman was casting about for an economic agenda. One of his board members, Jeb Bush, tossed out a centerpiece goal of 4 percent growth. It stuck.

Columnist and author Amity Shlaes was brought in by the institute to oversee a book called, naturally, *The 4 Percent Solution: Unleashing the Economic Growth America Needs*. It was published in 2012.

"That term *unleash* is very important," Jim Glassman told me, "because it simply means unleash the economy from government constraints." Ironically, this past spring, a group of supply-siders—including Art Laffer, Steve Forbes, Steve Moore and myself—founded the Committee to Unleash Prosperity.

But the key theme here is our desperate need of a new batch of economic-growth policies. For nearly two decades we have grown at 2 percent yearly. That's unacceptable.

Put supply-side tax reform at the center of a new growth agenda. Start with slashing the corporate tax, which falls most heavily on middle-class wage earners. Go to full cash expensing and a territorial system that would repatriate overseas profits. On the personal side, flatten the rates, broaden the base and simplify the code. Make sure it pays more after-tax to work, invest and take risks. Instead of raising taxes on capital, reduce or abolish invest-

ment pluses for them, they are the Republican Party that now rules the U.S. House and Senate. A full

72 percent of the Republican U.S. Senate caucus are climate deniers. This means that since three of them are candidates for the presidency in the 2016 election, that they will repeat time and again that they are not scientists but have doubts about any negative planetary changes. In the meantime, the years to come promise a speed up of greenhouse-inducing gases and more fierce and destructive killer weather aberrations.

Are we mere citizens victims of the plutocrats running our Congress, doomed to a frightening future that in many places and almost everywhere is already here? Well maybe, except for the power of influence by one world leader, and a religious one at that, Pope Francis. He pretty much says he's mad as hell and will not take it any more. So, he's demanding swift action to save the planet from environmental ruin, urging world leaders to hear "the cry of the earth."

In his encyclical, *On the Care of our Common Home*, Francis advocates for a change of lifestyle in rich countries that practice a "throwaway" consumer culture. Then, too, he seeks an end to an "obstructionist attitude" that too often puts profit before the common good. Further, he dismisses the argument that technology will solve all environmental problems and that global hunger and poverty can be solved simply by market growth.

Time is running out to save our

ment taxes (which would contribute to a rebound in the soft productivity numbers).

But tax reform is not enough. We need pro-growth immigration reform to boost the lagging growth of the labor force. We need entitlement reform for welfare, food stamps and disability, so that instead of paying people not to work, we incentivize people to rejoin the labor force.

Trade tariff reduction, now front and center in Washington, would also be important to a pro-growth agenda. Tariff cuts are tax cuts. They make businesses more competitive and provide more export markets. Meanwhile, consumers get the best-quality goods at the lowest prices anywhere.

Improving education with choice, charters and vouchers is another much-needed pro-growth reform. So is ending Obamacare and replacing it with a privately driven, free-choice health-care system.

Finally, a better, more consistent and more transparent monetary policy from the Fed that creates a reliable dollar would be a huge pro-growth reform.

Is 4 percent growth really possible? Sure it is. And it would help solve a lot of problems, including poverty, middle-class take-home pay, jobs, budget deficits and on and on.

I'm not endorsing Mr. Bush at this point. But I am endorsing his 4 percent solution. If decisive policies can unleash innovation and entrepreneurship, get the economy out from under the government's shackles and provide a spirit of optimism, then all things are possible.

The whole history of America tells me so. Don't tell me it can't be done. (Creators Syndicate)

planet, says he, one that's "beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth." Polluting the planet's ecosystems to make money is taking place at an unprecedented rate. In his 200-page encyclical, he says that doomsday predictions "can no longer be met with irony or disdain." At the rate we're going, this generation will leave the planet to a future overcome with "debris, desolation and filth."

Unlike U.S. leaders, Francis does not depend upon the billionaires like Sheldon Adelson and the Koch brothers to keep his job. In several passages of the six-chapter encyclical, he butts heads with the climate change doubters and those who say the changes are not man-made. A chemist himself by early education and training, Francis says there's "very solid scientific consensus" that the planet is warming and that we must combat this warming by drastically reducing polluting gases generated by fossil fuels that must be replaced without delay by renewable energy sources.

While Francis and I share our Christian faith, he a Catholic and I a Protestant, I have been one over the years and until now to view with objection many of the Vatican's pronouncements. Even though Francis could reform the Catholic Church in many policy matters, he's made several moves so far in his role as pope that have encouraged me to look with favor toward Rome. In fact, this latest encyclical has me mentally jumping up and down with joy through newborn hope that we may yet provide a livable world for my granddaughter.

(Gene H. McIntyre's column appears weekly in the *Keizertimes*.)

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