

KEIZERTIMES.COM

Van Cleave settling into retirement

By CRAIG MURPHY Of the Keizertimes

Duane Van Cleave isn't missing Keizer that much.

For decades, Van Cleave serviced cars at his shops in Keizer. Most notably, he opened Keizer Automotive at 6558 Wheatland Road North in 1986 and ran it until selling the shop to Doug and Sue Revis this spring. The business is now Revis Keizer Automotive.

Daughters Shelly (Duncan) and Shannon (Zielinski) put on a retirement party for their dad on June 27 at Keizer Elks.

"I didn't want one, but I'm glad I had it,"Van Cleave said from his home in Sisters. "It was fun to see a lot of people I hadn't seen for a while, a lot of people I've done business with. It was fun. I'm glad they did it."

The Revis family officially took over the shop on May 1. Much to Van Cleave's relief, familiar faces stayed.

"They have kept on the old employees," he said. "I wanted to make sure they had jobs. It's sometimes hard to get new jobs."

Having worked on cars in Keizer since 1969, the he was wary of a couple of

African exhibits are on dis-

play until Aug. 1 at the Keizer

Heritage Museum and Keizer

Community Library, both on

the ground floor of the Keizer

Heritage Center, 980 Chema-

wa Road NE.

68-year-old Van Cleave knew he needed to get out because his body was saying so.

"I had both of my knees replaced in the last year," he said. 'It's been a long, slow recovery. I had to get off that cement floor."

Van Cleave has quickly adjusted to life in Sisters.

"I don't miss the traffic of Keizer," he said. "Sisters can get congested, but only for big events like the quilt show coming this weekend. But I know the back roads. We don't have interstates here. It's a slower paced life. People in Keizer are in such a hurry these days. I'm tired of that fast paced life. It's time to kick back."

Van Cleave's time fixing cars started with his first Texaco station at 4210 River Road in 1969. He then moved to 6160 River Road in the mid 1970s until buying land from Don Largent in the mid 1980s. He opened Keizer Automotive on Memorial Day weekend 1986. He also owned Keizer Towing until selling to Affordable Towing five years ago.

A couple of years ago, Van Cleave was looking to sell but

missionary teachers in various

African countries for 40 years,

focus the Heritage Museum

display on the country of Ke-

nya. A collection of musical in-

struments, sisal and baobab fi-



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

Duane Van Cleave (second from right) celebrates his retirement with brothers (from left) Ken, Don and Sherman

offers he got, for fear of longtime employees like lead tech Bill Trussel suddenly being out of work.

"It's hard to find decent buyers," he said.

Then Van Cleave talked with Sue and Doug Revis.

"We've known them for years," he said. "We went to dinner and talked about it. Doug was coming to the end of his type of career. He wanted to own his own business. They've been thinking about it and we decided to do it."

Having extra time on his hands means Van Cleave finally has time to work on some projects. Not surprisingly, some of those projects are cars. "I've been busier than I've

ever been," he said. "I have 5.5 acres in Sisters to take care of, plus I have a couple of classic cars. I plan to get a travel trailer and do three- or four-week trips. I got my 1955 Chevy Bel Air hardtop done and now I'm working on a 1950 Ford pickup. The Bel Air was my high school car. I made a street rod out of it. It was the car I had on my sign. I started the complete restoration around 2003 and just finished it."



Keizer Heritage Foundation board president Lyndon Zaitz congratulates Ana Alfaro at the foundation's annual member meeting on winning one of three scholarships presented each year by the foundation. Alfaro will major in pre-medicine at Linfield College. Her scholarship was \$500. Her parents are Boris and Teresa Alfaro. Nizhoni Garcia, winner of the \$1,000 Pearl Langeland Scholarship, and Charlotte Braittain who also won a \$500 Keizer Heritage Foundation, were unable to attend the meeting June 23.

Sing out, act up at **McNary Area camps**

Keizer students interested in singing and acting can sign up for the annual McNary Area Choir and Drama Camps on the first day of camp Monday, July 13.

For students who will be attending Claggett Creek Middle School this fall, the camp will also be an opportunity to meet the school's new choir director, Sandra Krause.

Camps are open to students entering fourth through ninth grades and run July 13 through 17. The choir portion runs from 9 a.m. to noon and the drama camp runs from 12:30 to 3 p.m. Check-in begins at 8:45 a.m. for choir camp and 12:15 for drama camp. Cost is \$65 per camp which includes a camp Tshirt and all materials. Final performances are slated Friday, July 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

"We are in our sixth season of running the camps and each year the attendance just keeps growing," said Andy Thomas, Whiteaker choir director and one of the staff at the camps.

Camp participants and the community are also invited to a free concert by Male Ensemble North West, a professional singing group comprised of top educators. The concert is planned for Tuesday, July 14, from 11:30 a.m. to noon, but may change to 11:45 a.m.

Last year, the camps reached 150 participants and had 13 instructors and assistants between the two camps, the most yet.

Kids are welcome to participate in one camp or both, but one feeds into the other.

Participants will get to work with Jim Taylor, choir director at McNary High school, Thomas, three McNary choir graduates, Krause, and Angy Thomas, a middle school drama specialist

Drama camp exposes participants to teamwork, imagination, voice, pantomime and many other aspects of the theatre.

SKSB leases lit, transition site **By HERB SWETT**

Dr. and Mrs. LeRoy Judd, ber baskets, household objects,

Kitenge fabrics and paintings are included in the display. The Judds served with the Africa Inland Mission in Tanzania, Kenya and Namibia. Dr. Judd taught in theological col-

leges and seminaries and also conducted a church orchestra, working especially with the brass section. Mrs. Judd taught art in high school and the women's prison as well as private music lessons.

The Judds retired from work in Africa in 2014. Mrs. Judd now teaches private strings and piano lessons and plays cello for the Salem Pops Orchestra. Dr. Judd serves as a volunteer at Keizer Community Church and the Keizer Community Library, where his display features Namibia. He also plays horn for the Salem Pops and Salem Philharmonic Orchestras.



African works on display at Keizer museum



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A lease of property on Commercial Street for community transition and literacy center programs was approved June 25 at a special Salem-Keizer School Board meeting.

For the Keizertimes

The district has been seeking to find new space for the programs, which have been housed near McKay High School. McKay has been seeking more room now used by the literacy center.

Although the board expected to give final authorization at the special meeting for a lease for the Career Technical Education Center, the lease was found not to be ready, and a final vote is expected at the board's July 14 meeting.

Purchase of buses, already in the 2015-16 budget, was approved at the special meeting.

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