

# KeizerOpinion

KEIZERTIMES.COM

## Having fun with lemons

Lemonade Day is the antidote to the “Mom, there’s nothing to do” lament. With a nudge, a parent, a guardian or a teacher can convince a Keizer youngster that the cure for the ‘nothing to do’ blues is starting a business.

Started in Texas, Lemonade Day has blossomed across the country—sales top \$50 million each year. The project teaches kids (target group: 5th to 8th graders) how to start a business and open a one-day lemonade store on May 1.

Lemonade Day was created to introduce kids to business—create, design, develop and market—in the guise of America’s favorite citrus drink. It is not too late to register a lemonade stand with the Salem-Keizer Education Foundation (overseers here in the region).

Kids get help from their parents with school science projects or building a Soapbox Derby car among many others. Lemonade Day is no different.

Every business has its start-up costs. The first step is for Lemonaders to find family members or friends to ‘invest’ in the business. Investing is not steep; costs include lemonade ingredients, materials to construct a stand, which can be ornate or modest.

Lemonade stands can be the business of one or a team effort. The kids involved learn about teamwork and cooperation along with marketing, research and customer

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service, elements of any successful adult life.

Having a stand on Lemonade Day is not a chore, it is a fun activity in which the whole family can be involved.

Money raised at a lemonade stand is divided into three piles: one-third to be saved for education, one-third donated to a charity of the Lemonaders’ choice and one-third is mad money that goes right into the pocket of the little businesspeople.

Part of the fun of planning for the day is locating a site: outside their house? At a high-traffic retail store (after getting store permission)? Then, deciding what the stand will look like: old fashioned? High tech? Multi-colored?

With help from a parent or a mentor the kitchen will get messy as the Lemonader experiments with various ingredients to achieve the best possible tasting product.

Some stands offer more than lemonade, many offer a little nosh, too, such as fresh-baked pastries. The lemonade serves double duty: slakes thirst and washes down delicious brownies.

Like mushrooms after a spring rain, it would be nice to see lemonade stands sprout up around Keizer on May 1. There’s yet time for our kids to create the Google or Facebook of lemonade.

(Register at salemkeizer.lemonadeday.org.)

—LAZ

## Choose talk over punishment

By RANDOM PENDRAGON

I just read *MHS overflow clogs street* by Craig Murphy.

What this neighborhood is doing is punishing a large amount of students because of the actions of a few. I personally know people who use this gate to not only drive, but walk to school in a timely and convenient matter. The people who are proposing the shutting of this gate have admitted in that very article that the closing of Sandy Drive has pushed the overflow to them.

How is taking the same course of action going to solve any problems? It will only create an equal amount or more of the same problems somewhere else, which brings me to my main point—this whole thing is a consequence of a town that is void of community.

The truth is, they don’t care what happens to the next ‘overflow area,’ because they’re happy as long as they don’t have to deal with it. The people that are going to be impacted by this are literally students trying to get to school. They are being pushed around and degraded for minor infractions. I am curious as to how many of these people attempted to speak to the students they believe are causing problems before taking it to both the mayor and the principal of the school. I am curious as to how many have actually witnessed students “smoke whatever they’re smoking,” and are not just speculating. This is something that needs to be addressed at a community level, but therein lies the earlier problem I stated. McNary’s community ends at the fence that surrounds it.

The students who attend McNary are just as much their neighbors as their friend Betty down the street. But, they wish to address this problem with a padlock. These points are apparent even in the language they use

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to describe students. The mayor, referring to Sandy Drive quite disparagingly targets “the behaviors of some of the youth.” The youth. I shouldn’t have to explain why this is belittling.

In addition, Charles Anderson says in the story, “They are characters, I’ll put it that way. They’re smoking something. They hide and smoke whatever they’re smoking. If they lock the gate, our problem is solved.”

It’s almost a form of fear-mongering akin to ‘those darn youth bringing drugs into my neighborhood.’ Surely, this country has enough “build-a-wall” mentality floating around, and I don’t want it at my school. If they “like where [they] live” so much, as Michael Catlow says, surely they understand that part of living there is seeing and interacting with students. This immediate jump to the mayor and creation of a petition in tandem with their apparent refusal to work as a community is only one example of a diseased and cold city. Pictures of students’ cars are posted publicly and are given no platform to defend themselves. This city (and apparently its journalism) goes from the top down. It’s taken to the mayor and the school, and then the students are only there to be subject to punishment and reform. This event is extremely polarizing and forces students and homeowners to take sides, rather than join forces. So great, put a lock on it and close the gate. Push us inside and make it so that you don’t have to see us, hear us, or think about us. Make it so that a student’s dedication to McNary never translates into a dedication for Keizer. Keep that going. All you’ll see is generations upon generations only being in Keizer by chance and finding success and prosperity in other towns. It’s sickening.

(Random Pendragon is a McNary High School student.)

## Stores closing due to higher wage

To the Editor:

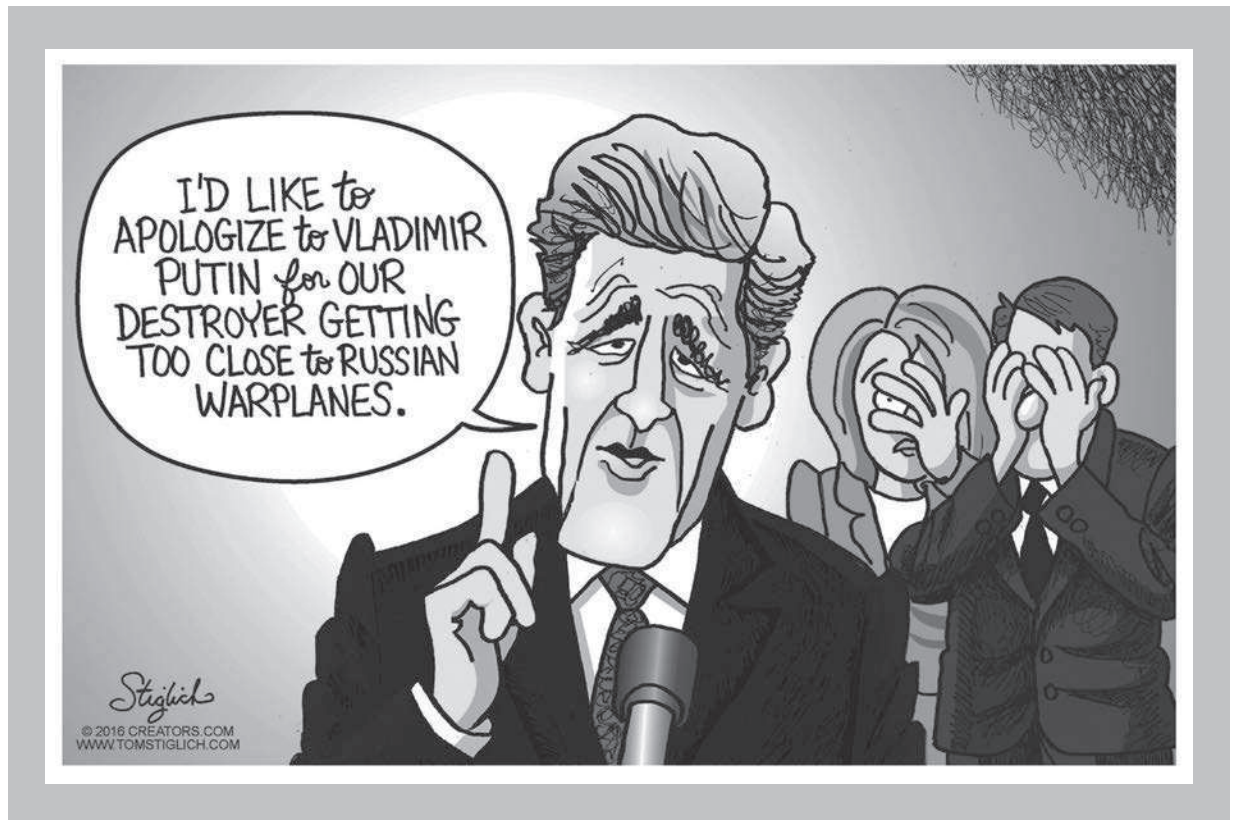
I am very disappointed in any business that uses the excuse that a higher minimum wage is the reason they are closing. I find it confusing that you wouldn’t want to pay a decent wage for people so they can even exist. No one can live on minimum wage as it is and without an increase, we will continue to see

letters

more people on assistance of some kind. I don’t own a business, but I understand the big picture. Part of that picture

are the employees who deserve a living wage.

**Kris Adams  
Keizer**



## What they owe the progressives

By E.J. DIONNE JR.

Compared with the ferocious fractiousness of the Republican campaign, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders are operating by rules inspired by St. Francis of Assisi, the gentle animal-loving holy man whom Pat Buchanan once derided as “the pacifist with the pigeons.”

But with the GOP setting a very high standard for political brutality, that’s not saying much.

Any doubt that Clinton and Sanders are fed up with each other was put to rest in last week’s debate. In big block type, the *New York Daily News* proclaimed them “Brooklyn Brawlers.” They went at each other as if there would be no tomorrow after New York votes. That’s pretty much true.

You sensed from Sanders’ aggressiveness that he knows he’s on the edge of effective elimination. If he does win on Tuesday, he’d throw the Democratic race into turmoil and make Clinton’s path to the nomination much rockier. A Clinton victory in New York, which polls suggest is more likely, would all but seal the deal for her.

So it’s time to ask: Will both candidates now acknowledge that the differences between them are minor compared with the philosophical chasm that separates them from any of their potential Republican foes?

The issue of particular contention between the two Democrats is, paradoxically, the one that shows how far both are from the GOP: what to do about the financial system.

Sanders wants to break up the big banks, seeing anything short of this as selling out. Clinton argues that breaking them up won’t solve the financial system’s problems and wouldn’t touch the many nonbank institutions that helped cause the

other views

crash that led to the Great Recession. Instead, she proposes much tougher regulation.

Their underlying argument is more than a century old, reprising an internecine progressive fight that goes back to the 1912 election. It was an American classic when the Republican Party split into two: the relatively conservative incumbent president, William Howard Taft, secured the party’s nomination; former President Theodore Roosevelt walked out and formed the Progressive Party. Two other progressive candidates, Democrat Woodrow Wilson and Socialist Eugene Debs, rounded out the most remarkable field of candidates American voters were ever offered.

Although Sanders reveres Debs and has a medallion commemorating him in his Senate office, his position on the banks is closer to Wilson’s approach to monopoly. Proclaiming his devotion to a “New Freedom,” Wilson wanted more aggressive anti-trust actions and warned, Sanders-like, that the country was nearing “the time when the combined power of high finance would be greater than the power of the government.”

Roosevelt, arguing for a “New Nationalism,” saw economic concentration as inevitable and believed Wilson’s approach was naive. He saw stronger government regulation of large entities as more likely to secure both justice and efficiency. When it comes to the world of finance, Clinton is the TR candidate this year.

I’ve always been sympathetic to Roosevelt’s side in that argument, but the larger point is that Sanders and Clinton (like Wilson and Roos-

velt before them) both see government as playing an important role in checking concentrated economic power and preventing abuses of the system.

And the Republicans? Donald Trump, Ted Cruz and John Kasich would all reduce government supervision of the financial system by repealing the Dodd-Frank reforms. Clinton and Sanders are arguing about what needs to be done. The Republicans want to do less altogether.

Or take health care. Clinton and Sanders have battled fiercely about how to move forward from Obamacare, but both want to build on its successes. Republicans would repeal it. The two Democrats have squabbled about how much the minimum wage should go up; the Republicans all oppose a federal minimum wage increase. Such party differences are multiplied across a broad field of issues.

At a time when ideological polarization between the parties is so high, such contrasts should be obvious. But the bad blood between many of Sanders’ supporters and Clinton obscures the stakes and presents Democrats with a special challenge.

Their victories depend on high participation among younger voters who are turned on to Sanders and, in many cases, turned off to Clinton. The pro-Sanders young are unlikely to vote Republican, but if too many stay home in November, much of what Sanders and Clinton believe in could be consigned to the dustbin.

That’s why the day after New York, the Brooklyn Brawlers would do well to sit down over a couple of Brooklyn Brewery ales and figure out a way forward.

(Washington Post Writers Group)

## The importance of wildlife refuges

gene h. mcintyre

plant resources and their habitat. The system maintains all for the benefit of current and future generations of

Americans.

Among the refuge sites are something like 700 bird species, 220 mammal species, 250 reptile and amphibian species and 1,000 fish species. These various species are a priority to NWRs in that 60 refuges have been established to conserve 280 threatened and endangered species.

More than 45 million people per year can visit and participate in a wide variety of NWR outdoor recreational activities that include hunting, fishing, photography, bird watching, environmental education among others. These visitors generate over \$1.7 billion and create around 27,000 jobs for local economies. Every state has at least one while our most famous (or infamous by way of armed militants) is located in Harney County.

The national wildlife refuge system is dealing with issues such as urban intrusion/development, habitat fragmentation, degradation of water quantity and quality, climate change, invasive species, increasing demands for recreation, and increasing demands for energy development as well as Americans who are determined to take them over by force of arms for personal gain and their exclusive use.

To protect and sustain these national treasures that have been tend-

ed to and improved for more than 100 years, the NWR system has created Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCPs) for each refuge, developed through consultation with private and public stakeholders. The CCPs design conservation goals for the next 15 years in each refuge. Each plan has planning and public meeting stages to determine goals and the drafting of a plan for all considerations within each refuge. All actions are in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. Everything’s available for public scrutiny at NWR system web sites.

We’re greatly endowed by the National Wildlife Refuge System in Oregon with 18 of them, most of which are actually within easy driving distance of Keizer. Who knows, but that you might become a dedicated protector of them by a visit to one or many of them. In the meantime, Rep. Earl Blumenauer and Senator Ron Wyden are presently working in the halls of our nation’s capitol to make access and use of the NWRs easier and less burdensome to use.

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

## Keizertimes

Wheatland Publishing Corp. • 142 Chemawa Road N. • Keizer, Oregon 97303  
phone: 503.390.1051 • web: www.keizertimes.com • email: kt@keizertimes.com

**Lyndon A. Zaitz, Editor & Publisher**

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

One year: \$25 in Marion County, \$33 outside Marion County, \$45 outside Oregon

### PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

Publication No: USPS 679-430

### POSTMASTER

Send address changes to:

Keizertimes Circulation  
142 Chemawa Road N.  
Keizer, OR 97303

Periodical postage paid at  
Salem, Oregon

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by noon Tuesday.

Email to: [publisher@keizertimes.com](mailto:publisher@keizertimes.com)