

Keizertimes

SECTION A

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Law professor on SKSD mandatory reporting: New guidelines have 'extremely bad consequences'

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

Recently-expanded mandatory reporting guidelines in the Salem-Keizer School District (SKSD) – that require teachers to report instances of consensual sex between students – prompted some students to question whether their free speech rights were being squelched.

Keizertimes asked University of Oregon School of Law Professor Leslie Harris to review the training materials given to teachers and explanations provided by the district for the changes. In her opinion, trampling free speech isn't the primary concern.

"The advice (given to the district) is extreme protect-yourself-from-liability kind of advice that has extremely bad consequences for students



and teachers, and particularly for young people in difficult situations who need help," said Harris.

In addition to teaching, Harris is the author of widely-used textbooks on

family law and children and the law. She also directs the Oregon Child Advocacy Project, which provides education and assistance to attorneys advocating for the interests of children.

Harris said that while students may feel their free speech rights are being impeded, the bigger issue is the district's interpretation of Oregon's child abuse reporting statute.

Prior to the changes, teachers were required to report cases of suspected abuse or neglect, but the new guidelines pushed out by the district expand reporting to include students talking about consensual sex, students asking about options for birth control for themselves, student pregnancy, and even in cases where students have been kicked out of their home by parents after sexual relationships are discovered.

"Oregon defines sex abuse in relation to certain criminal statutes, which not all states do. You have to have reasonable cause to believe

that abuse as defined in one of those criminal statutes has occurred," Harris said. "I can't seriously imagine that either police or DHS (the Department of Human Services) upon receiving a report of a teenage consensual sex relationship are going to arrest them. That may be because I lack imagination, but you could do a lot of harm to a student by bringing charges and putting them through this process."

Moreover, Oregon law provides exceptions for students within three years of age, also known as Romeo and Juliet laws. In the training materials, teachers are told that while age differences might be considered by police, DHS, or the district attorney when conducting

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Football team Celts' last hope in playoffs

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China's 'Sword' strikes Keizer curbsides

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

A decision by Chinese officials earlier this year is hitting curbsides in Keizer and throughout the United States now.

In March, China enacted "National Sword 2017." The action imposes severe restrictions on the import of recyclable low-grade plastics and unsorted paper. Until this year, China was the primary market for getting rid of these specific materials picked up at curbsides nationwide and especially on the West Coast. However, contamination of the materials being sent to China has led to a crackdown in an effort to clean up the Chinese environment and to avoid being labeled as the world's landfill.

"Our sorting facilities don't clean to the specifications they

want, but there was still enough good material for them to take them in. Increases in Chinese wages and new environmental standards have led to the change," said David Lear, general manager of the Mid-Valley Garbage and Recycling Association. "Up until two years ago, China had 2,500 factories that melted plastics. Because of pollution, they are down to 200 clean-emission factories."

Contamination of the material generally happens at home when families throw away low-grade items like bibs, mattress covers, ice cream and yogurt containers, drinking straws, syrup bottles, meat trays, opaque spoons and cups, 3-5 gallon water containers, bottles and sippy cups without rinsing them first.

Contamination of the

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THE DON'Ts OF RECYCLING

TRAYS from microwave meals, deli products, other food containers that are not specifically tubs, including clamshell-type containers, boxes, bowls, etc.

ASEPTIC milk and juice cartons

Planting/nursery pots made of rigid plastic

BLUE CART DON'Ts

PLASTIC BAGS

ALL LIDS

CUPS, LIDS, STRAWS that are plastic or plastic-coated

LARGE BUCKETS

Plastic packaging that doesn't conform to the bottle, jar, bucket, or tub shapes

STYROFOAM or other foam products

FREEZER BOXES, take-out containers, butter boxes, ice cream containers

BOTTLES THAT HAVE CONTAINED pesticides, motor oil, herbicides or hazardous materials (cleaning product bottles are OK)

GREEN CART DON'Ts

Pet Waste, Dirt, Rocks, Stumps, Ashes, Treated Wood, Plastic, Metal, Garbage, Branches more than 4 inches thick

SMALL BASKET DON'Ts

Vases, Bakeware, Drinking Glasses, Eye Glasses, Window Glass, Mirrors, Dishes, Light Bulbs, Ceramics, Broken Glass

Going deep in Claggett Creek

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Alleged burglar nabbed

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City won't be stashing modest pot income

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The City of Keizer has received its first share of taxes on recreational marijuana sales, but it's not going to be the boon some people might have hoped for.

"This is not a game-changing event for us. It will help offset the increases in health insurance and PERS (Public Employees Retirement System) payments, but it's not going to solve any of those issues," said Tim Wood, Keizer's finance director.

In the second quarter of 2017, the city took in \$9,736.79 in local taxes. In

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Father, daughter die in duplex fire

By DEREK WILEY
Of the Keizertimes

A GoFundMe page has been created for a Keizer family, whose father and 6-year-old daughter passed away days after a fire engulfed their duplex on Thursday, Oct. 26.

Telese Hoerauf, a neighbor who started the GoFundMe, said she was having a normal Thursday night when she heard knocking next door and cries of "Daddy, daddy."

"I heard panic in one of the girl's voice and could hear that she was scared," Hoerauf said. "I was thinking maybe they got locked out of the house or something. I opened my front door and came outside and could see smoke coming out of the house."

The oldest of the five Ruvalcaba kids, a 7-year-old girl, had rescued her 2-year-old twin brother and sister and 4-year-old brother. However, her 6-year-old sister and father Miguel remained in the house.

Their mom wasn't home.

Hoerauf said she did everything she

could to help, including calling 911 and entering the house on her hands and knees. But there was too much smoke.

"I ran over there and grabbed the kids and ran them over to my house," Hoerauf said. "I got on my hands and knees and tried to go to the back bedroom where the little girl had said her sister was. My husband opened the sliding glass door and tried to get to where the dad was but it was way too smoky so we had to go back out and then went back in for a second time. Then there was even

"I got on my hands and knees and tried to go to the back bedroom where the little girl had said her sister was."

— Telese Hoerauf, Neighbor

more smoke."

Keizer Fire District was dispatched to the fire in the 1400 block of Rozilla Court Northeast at 11:40 p.m. Salem Fire also responded as Miguel and the young girl were pulled out of the fire unconscious at 11:52 p.m.

"When we arrived there was heavy, heavy fire and smoke," said deputy fire marshal Anne-Marie Storms, who added the cause of the fire is under investigation but the garage is the main focus.



Brixa Ruvalcaba Submitted

The couple on the other side of the duplex evacuated their home unharmed with their 7-month-old child but Storms said there was damage to one of the bedrooms, bathroom and smoke throughout.

Miguel and his daughter, Brixa, were taken to Salem Hospital in critical condition before being transferred to Legacy Emanuel and Randall Children's Hospital in Portland. Miguel died Saturday. Brixa then passed away Sunday.

Hoerauf and her husband have lived next to the Ruvalcaba's for about a year. Their children played in the cul-de-sac together. Miguel would share fruit and vegetables.

"They were very, very nice people," Hoerauf said.

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Wolverines at work

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NOV 3-5

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