

## First Citizen and other winners exemplify motto

Pride. Spirit. Volunteerism. Three powerful words. Three words that grace the fountain at Newton-McGee Plaza at the corner of River and Chemawa Roads in downtown Keizer. Three words that are, also, the motto of the city of Keizer.

Those three words also exemplify the winners of the annual awards presented by the Keizer Chamber of Commerce at the First Citizens and Awards Banquet held Saturday, Jan. 19.

The Chamber (and its predecessor, Keizer Merchants Association) have been honoring Keizerites since the 1960s. The list of Keizer Citizen recipients is a Who's Who of the city's leaders in business, community and philanthropy.

Vickie Jackson, who's community resume includes two terms as president of the Rotary Club of Keizer, volunteer bookkeeper for PTAs and the McNary High School graduation party as well as her work with Keizer's Distinguished Young Women program and her untold hours of volunteerism with various schools as her two sons made their way through elementary, middle and high school.

The announcement of Vickie Jackson as winner of the First Citizen award was met with a sustained standing ovation from the 200 attendees at Saturday's banquet.

Jackson thanked her husband, Randy Jackson, and sons Nick and Cody, for allowing her to spend time away to volunteer. She said that she received more than she gave through her volunteering.

Vickie Jackson is proud of the town she calls home, she does good work with enthusiasm and she volunteers just about anytime anyone asks.

Kyle Juran, owner of Remodeling by Classic Homes, was announced as merchant of the year for his work for the community and the Chamber itself.

Juran and his team contributed more than \$3,000 of the \$13,000 raised at 2018's Percy Presents event that funds Keizer Network of Women's Christmas Giving Basket program. That \$3,000 came when Juran raffled off a life-size playhouse. All the proceeds from the raffle benefit, in the end, families and children in need during the holidays. Juran used his expertise and talents to help the Chamber prepare and move into its new quarters on River Road. Like all good

Keizer volunteers, Kyle Juran never says no when asked to help his community.

Keizer native Brian Aicher was surprised when he was announced as the winner of the Service to Education Award. Like the past few education winners, the focus was on youth sports and its effect on the development of our kids. Aicher, a Salem Electric employee and a long-time mentor, has coached hundreds of Keizer kids. Whether his time was spent coaching, administering or lifting a hammer or shovel, Aicher has lived the city's pride, spirit and volunteerism motto to his core.

Each year the Chamber's leader chooses a recipient for the President's Award. Bob Shackelford named long-time KeizerFEST and Keizer Iris Festival volunteer Larry Schmidgall for the honor.

Anyone who visited the KeizerFEST tent has seen Larry Schmidgall, who, with his connections oversaw the beverage sales in the tent during the festival for years. He was pressed into service to do other chores during the festival, always with a smile.

Congratulations to all four honorees, who have given selflessly and with a smile. Models for all volunteers.

— LAZ

our opinion

other voices

## Parties must feel heat to end shutdown

By DEBRA J. SAUNDERS

The partial government shutdown will end when both sides think they are losing the political war that started it—and not before then.

Yes it can end if one side caves, or if President Donald Trump declares a national emergency to fund a border wall, but that is not likely to happen within the next pay period or two, if at all.

Partisan rancor has herded voters into two corners so that both the Republican and Democratic bases don't want their leaders to cut a deal.

Republicans support a shutdown that JP Morgan CEO Jamie Dimon warned could drive economic growth to zero if it continues. They only want to end it if they win funding for a wall.

Democrats also don't want to end a stalemate that is separating 800,000 federal workers from their paychecks. Having funded border barriers in the past, Democratic leaders now say funding for Trump's wall is a deal killer.

Party leaders' energy is going toward making the other side look bad, not ending the stalemate.

Trump has pulled back on what his own negotiators had thought were good faith offers; his unreliability inhibits Republicans and Democrats from sticking their necks out for a measure that easily could fail.

Already burned, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell says he won't bring a measure to a floor vote unless Trump commits to it.

No worries. Trump supporters say his behavior shows he is no creature of the swamp. Only insiders care if the president is short-sheeting his

own team. At least Trump is willing to stand by a campaign promise, the Trump voter argues.

As the sage Henry Olsen of the Ethics and Public Policy Council put it, Trump is "showing that he can resist political pressure." The shutdown has changed nothing.

"The people that are with him are with him," quoth Olsen. "The people that are against him are against him."

In a play to differentiate themselves, House Democrats engage in the charade of passing spending measures that have zero chance of being enacted to demonstrate that they at least are willing to do something. When they get tired of that ploy, they go to the Senate to demand McConnell put unpassable bills to a floor vote.

So yes, they are willing to do something—stunts.

Another stunt: Speaker Nancy Pelosi's letter effectively telling Trump not to bother delivering a State of the Union address in the Capitol on Jan. 29 because of security concerns for a "national special security event" during a government shutdown. It helps if you forget she invited Trump after the shutdown began.

The Democratic base approved Pelosi's move as fervently as Trump's voters cheered when he yanked the military plane that was supposed to take Pelosi and fellow Democrats to Brussels and Afghanistan.

Pelosi's claim that she always has been a supporter of "securing our border" defies credibility. Pelosi also has called a border wall "an immorality. It's not who we are as a nation."

*Fox News* anchor Bret Baier pressed House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer to say if he shared Pe-

lo's view on the wall's morality or the claim by former Congressman Beto O'Rourke of Texas, that a border wall is "racist."

Hoyer, the poor guy, hemmed and hawed about walls being immoral when they keep people prisoner when they shouldn't be prisoners.

The problem, as Trump put it when he addressed the Pentagon Thursday, is the Democratic Party "has been hijacked by the open-border fringe within the party."

What will it take to end the shutdown?

*Roll Call* taped a town hall given by Rep. Anthony Brown, D-Md., as he addressed a room that included furloughed federal workers understandably fearful about how they can survive without paychecks.

"What exactly do you want folks to do out here?" a young woman asked him. "Should we be pressuring Sen. McConnell? What do we need to be doing to get things resolved?"

She meant well, but when federal workers direct their ire at Republicans and not Democrats, they become unwitting enablers.

Fun fact: McConnell doesn't care if federal workers in Maryland send him nasty emails. He cares about the core values of his constituents in Kentucky, where 62.5 percent of voters supported Trump.

Likewise Pelosi listens to her San Francisco homies, not the "Make America Great Again" voter.

Voters who want to see an end to the shutdown have one recourse: They can turn the heat on their own party. When progressives lean on Pelosi and conservatives lean on Trump and GOP lawmakers, the shutdown will end.

(Creators Syndicate)

## Hopeful even while being in minority

The 80th legislative session has begun! After a week of orientation, training and opening ceremonies, we now begin the actual work of legislation. That means committees meet, bills are heard and debated, and House and Senate floor voting sessions begin.

First of all, I thought I would highlight some of the legislation I am working on. Always remember, you can find all bills, all committees and live/recorded video of everything we do in the Capitol on the OLIS site: <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2019R1/>. It's a tremendous tool for tracking all that goes on here. The bills I introduced are:

- HB 2297 which would be a referral to the voters to have Oregon join with other west coast states to go to permanent daylight savings time. There is real consensus to move forward with this and Sen. Kim Thatcher has a similar bill in the Senate, that



from the capitol

By BILL POST

way the idea is going out from both sides of the building. Both bills have broad bi-partisan support.

- HB 2302 would provide "guaranteed assistance" to those who are the most needy in Oregon. It would be a small investment in covering those things that current public assistance doesn't cover, i.e., diapers and other day-to-day necessities.

- HB 2299 addresses those who attempt to elude police and cause high speed chases endangering our law enforcement as well as anyone else on the road.

- HB 2300 addresses those who try to harass others by sending nude photos by text or social media.

- HB 2295 would look at youth in corrections who may have "earned" a review of their sentence.

- HB 2314 tackles a long time issue for motorcyclists called "lane splitting/sharing, allowing motorcycles to

"split" a lane in very specific traffic situations.

Finally, after so many people reached out to me after the 2017 session, telling me their stories of buying Sudafed products in the states around us, I am running HB 2303 the "Sudafed bill" again. This would not return us to the days of "over the counter" but have us join the vast majority of America in making these products behind the counter and the purchaser having to show a picture ID, sign a form, be logged into a system and then get a small amount of the product. Over 40 states use the system that is proposed in HB 2303. Oregon currently requires you to visit a doctor and have them prescribe the product at a much higher price than it would be behind the counter. I hope you'll come to visit your Capitol this session and participate in the political process. Please call my office with questions or concerns at 503-986-1425.

(Bill Post represents House District 25. He can be reached at 503-986-1425 or via email at rep. bilpost@oregonlegislature.gov.)



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## Web Poll Results

Will you be doing any volunteering on National Day of Service on Monday, Jan. 21, to mark Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday?

No: 84% Yes: 16%

Vote in a new poll every Thursday!

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## Seven things I've learned about education

By CHIP CONRAD

After my first year of teaching here are the things I have learned about public education:

- 1.) I didn't know teachers had so much freedom to customize their curriculum. Each course has five to 10 different theories that a student must learn by the end of the semester. How you get there and what else your students learn along the way is essentially left up to the educator.

- 2.) The students are not as addicted to their phones as you might think. I don't have issues with phones in my classroom yet I have no posted or known cell phone policy. I see it as a barometer for my level of engagement. The more I keep them engaged the less they are on their phones. If I start seeing phones come out I know I need to ramp up the *wow* of the lesson.

- 3.) As a teacher you don't talk to other teachers very much. Teaching can be a very solitary job if you let it. I got lucky and the teacher in the room next to me is a veteran in the education world and is very fun to be around. We chat often.

- 4.) Teaching seems like a repetitive job but it's not. As it turns out teaching is a very dynamic voyage. Yes, I get up every day at 5:30 a.m. and I get back from school every day around 4:30 p.m., but I found the hours in between are highly unpredictable. You never know what the day is going to hold, except that it will be different than the day before. In addition to its

unpredictability is the pace. The pace that a teacher must work to stay ahead of the tidal wave of responsibilities is incredible. Yes, I look at the clock a lot but it's never because I'm hoping it'll move faster; quite the opposite.

- 5.) There's a large focus on the teacher from the school administration. I've never seen an industry where administration is worried so much about the worker. I'm constantly being asked how I'm doing. I am almost inundated with personal development events and opportunities to rejuvenate.

- 6.) Teachers get very possessive of their students. I've become so possessive of my students that if by chance I need a sub for one of my absences the sub has specific instructions not to instruct. My classroom is set up that if I'm not there student leaders will lead their group through the curriculum. This is how I make sure they do not fall behind when I'm not there. But seriously... Don't instruct my students.

- 7.) As a teacher, teaching is not your

first priority. I went into this career with the mantra that "my goal is not to teach. It's to connect and then to teach." I thought this was a novel approach to education but it is most—if not all—educators' mantra. Connecting with the student requires you to actually care about the student and where they're at in life. You're constantly asking yourself "What was the student's morning like? What's going on with their relationships? How are they feeling? Where is this person's anxiety level? What are they going home to after school?" I think as adults we can forget how stressful the high school years are. Anytime you enter a new arena you are presented with the unexpected. Your hope is that these issues are mostly positive. In my case the good, by far, outlays the negative. Lucky me!

(Chip Conrad lives in Salem and is a substitute teacher with the Salem-Keizer School District.)

