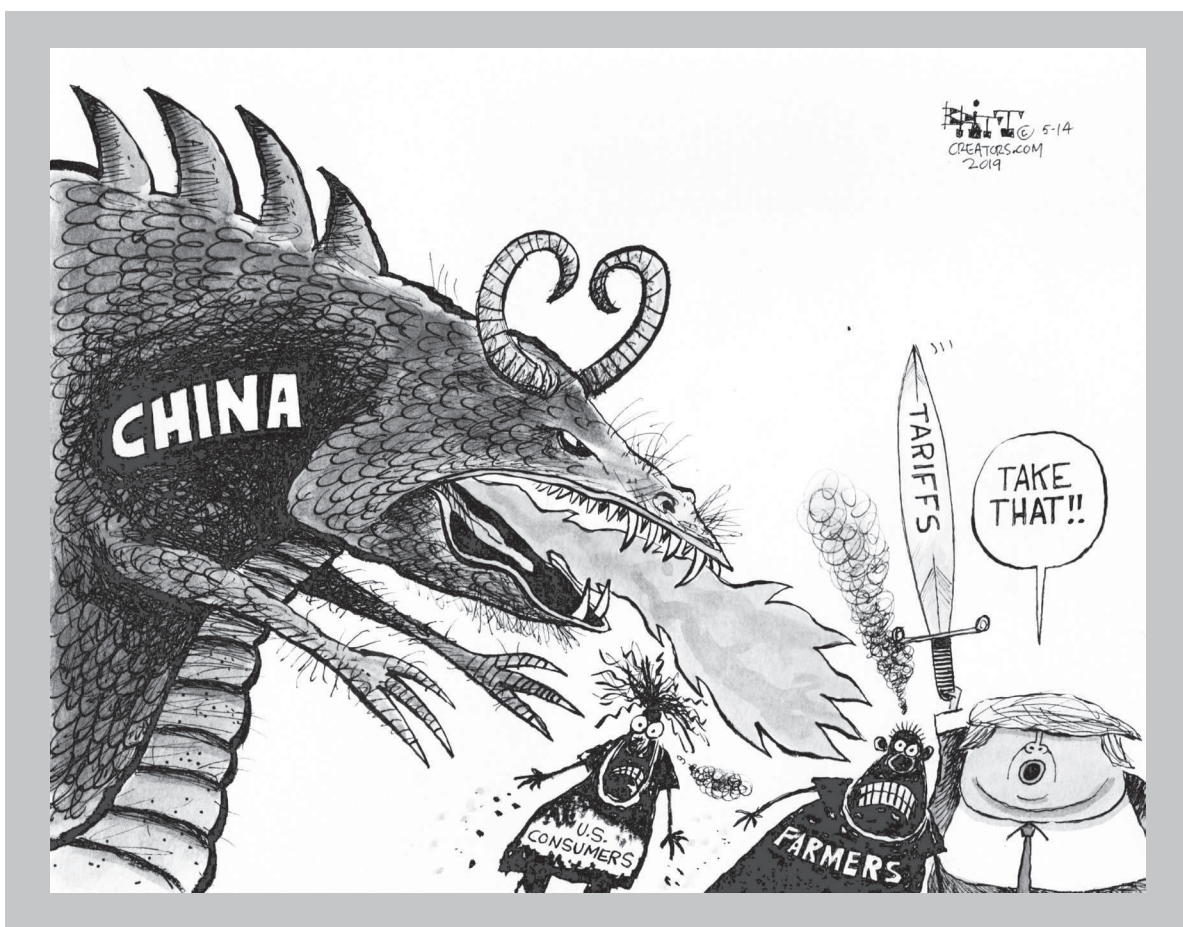


# Opinion



## Nothing lasts forever

By LYNDON ZAITZ

It is shock when we realize that something we hold dear is coming to an end. Think *Game of Thrones*, typewriters and landlines. “How can this be?” we ask ourselves. You may have loved whatever it is, but time marches on and waits for no man—nothing lasts forever.

They say that change is the only constant in life. Of course that’s a problem for those who don’t like change. Historians, marketers and pollsters all say that people, in general, don’t like change. The status quo is just fine; no change means no effort, no work, no problem. The universe doesn’t care about that.

Parents and older people may lament that kids aren’t the way they used to be. Let’s hope not. Kids are people and they change with the times and surroundings. Some people of a certain age and older refuse to join the technical age, viewing email, texts and computers with suspicion and wariness. Man of their brethren have embraced the changes that technology affords. Just think: a proud grandmother can send a photo of their precious grandbaby around the globe before that baby gets out of its crib.

Imagine the joy of sharing that non-computer using grandparents are missing out on.

People change, kind of, from generation to generation. But what teens of the 1950s cared about and what teens of today care about is similar: dating, music, adventure.

Nothing changes quicker or more profoundly than culture. Music and television retain their basic structure from the past, but the content is always being updated. It does not use to lament how movies and TV shows ain’t what they used to be. With streaming services and DVDs, one can choose to watch the golden oldies. Other people want to move with the times.

Every generation brings their own sensibilities to the things the previous generation considers priceless. The shopping mall of the 1970s and ‘80s is dying and making way for a new kind of shopping? Good. Things to get stale. It is why a homeowner will opt to paint the kitchen or living a different color—to shake it up a bit.

Communities, towns and cities are always changing, much to the chagrin of long-time residents.

Change is what keeps things alive and moving forward. We don’t live in communities encased in amber, forever looking the same, never growing, never shrinking.

Our town of Keizer is currently on the cusp of some major changes due to demographics and economics. Many people moved to Keizer due to its small town vibe and its quaintness. Perhaps we can maintain that atmosphere, but that’s unlikely as time marches on. History and tradition give way to other ways of thinking and living.

Keizer has been a popular address for more than 20 years. The city welcomes new residents not only from the local area but also people who have moved from other states, bringing their own values to mix with our native values.

If America is hailed as a great melting pot of people, as a part of America, Keizer is its own melting pot. A delicious stew is made of many ingredients. Keizer is made better and stronger when we all embrace the different views brought here every year by people who choose to make Keizer their home.

Nothing lasts forever. The only constant is change and that, in the end, is the human condition. (Lyndon Zaitz is editor and publisher of the *Keizertimes*.)

zaitz writes

## PSU fiasco shows we need college czar

News out of Portland State University has aroused anger and disgust over the outrageously generous severance PSU’s Board of Trustees granted its former president, Rahmat Shoureshi, who can just sit wherever he resides for the next year and yuck it up while floating around on a golden parachute worth \$850,000, including his base salary, two years of health insurance, and \$35,000 to cover his legal fees. This development came at the same time the PSU Board of Trustees voted to raise tuition for resident undergraduates by more than 11 percent.

These decisions by the Board of Trustees took place after nearly two tumultuous years at PSU under Shoureshi’s leadership where many complaints were brought to the attention of all

who should care regarding his dismissive management practices, his demoralizing treatment of employees and his ubiquitous lack of credibility. Oregonians should be demanding answers from PSU’s Board of Trustees as to how they could have so poorly vetted Shoureshi that it was not recognized from his past that he would destructively impact, by awful, bleak behaviors, the state’s largest and most urban public university.

Much of the effort by the Board of Trustees must have been sketchy and superfluous in choosing this guy from far-away New York and its strongly encouraged that they should be replaced in their positions accordingly. Meanwhile, anyone looking at the ranks of PSU’s Board of Trustees will immediately see that about a third of its members

are directly associated with PSU while most of the other ten members come from superhigh-remuneration, benefit-rich private employment where they, among the country’s “one percent,” are often recognized as persons having little to no empathy with the students and their families that must pay the extraordinarily high price of college today and the extent to which it leads too often to staggering debt and chronic unemployment.

The PSU Board of Trustees also has had the arrogance to “make it clear” to the Oregon Legislative when they approved the 11 percent tuition increase for resident undergraduates that the Board will reduce the high tuition increase if those folks in Salem will simply allocate more money for higher education.

At least one state agency now protests even though the Legislature and Governor remain silent. The Higher Education Coordinating Commission, led by Executive Director Ben Cannon, has expressed the Commission’s unhappiness with PSU’s Board of Trustees for agreeing to grant the now former PSU president a luxurious ride from infamy into fantasyland. Most certainly the students at PSU must not be punished for Board of Trustees mistakes.

Oregon has tried local university Board of Trustee governance and it failed miserably at PSU. Since they blew it so badly, now is the time to consider a serious return to oversight by a state higher education authority to avoid the pitfalls of locals who stand in as elite figureheads and political neophytes while our public universities go to blazes by gross ineptitude and possible malfeasance. Quick action in this matter by the Legislature and Governor Brown is needed.

(Gene H. McIntyre shares his opinion regularly in the *Keizertimes*.)

gene h. mcintyre

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## 2 men rob, carjack woman at gunpoint

A woman was robbed at gunpoint and her car stolen shortly before 8 a.m. Friday, May 17.

The incident occurred in the 1600 block of Chemawa Road Northeast.

The victim, a 41-year old female told police she parked and exited her vehicle when she was approached by two men who stole an undisclosed amount of cash and her 2000 Toyota Solara.

She described both suspects as Caucasian males in their 30s. One of the suspects was reported to have been armed with a handgun at the time the robbery occurred.

Later that evening, at about 9:38 p.m. the Keizer police officer who had taken the original robbery report, Officer Andrew McCowan, observed the stolen vehicle driving east on Chemawa Road Northeast near Portland Road Northeast in Salem.

After waiting for a covering officer to catch up to him, McCowan followed the vehicle and initiated a traffic stop on Copper Creek Loop Northeast near Crystal Avenue Northeast.

The driver pulled over and it initially appeared he and the other individual inside the stolen automobile were going to comply, but that only lasted a few seconds after which the driver accelerated and fled from the stopped police vehicles at a high rate of speed.

The stolen vehicle traveled east on Cooper Creek Loop until the same road turns a corner and begins to travel to the south. After the suspect vehicle turned the corner the pursuing officer lost sight of it for a few seconds until the officer rounded the same corner in the roadway only to find the suspect vehicle had stopped and both of its occupants had fled on foot.

A perimeter was set and the surrounding neighborhood was searched for well over an hour by a Salem police officer and his K-9 partner, but neither individual who fled was located. The stolen vehicle was seized for further processing for evidence. The investigation into the incident is still ongoing.

**MONDAY, MAY 13**

7:15 a.m. - Burglary of a residence in the 4000 block of Rivercrest Drive NE.

5:50 p.m. - Traffic accident in the 6000 block of River Road NE.

**TUESDAY, MAY 14**

12:41 a.m. - Arrest for unlawful possession of methamphetamine at the intersection of Inland Shores Way N and Lockhaven Drive N.

9:17 a.m. - Theft in the 5000 block of 8th Avenue NE.

2:44 p.m. - Telephonic harassment in the 5000 block of McLeod Lane NE.

5:55 p.m. - Identity theft in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Boulevard NE.

6:37 p.m. - Sudden death in the 600

block of Parkmeadow Drive NE.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 15**

5:41 a.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 7000 block of June Reid Place NE.

5:57 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 6000 block of Craftsman Loop N.

7:20 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Boulevard NE.

11 p.m. - Burglary from a business and theft from a building in the 2000 block of Jorie Lane NE.

**THURSDAY, MAY 16**

3:18 a.m. - Arrest on warrant at the intersection of Chemawa Road N and Interstate 5.

3:55 a.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 6000 block of Ulali Drive NE.

10:43 a.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 4000 block of River Road N.

7:35 p.m. - Arrest for unlawful possession of methamphetamine in the 5000 block of River Road N.

11:25 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 4000 block of River Road N.

**FRIDAY, MAY 17**

12:23 a.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 5000 block of River Road N.

2:50 a.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 3000 block of River Road N.

4:56 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 4000 block of River Road N.

7 p.m. - Crime damage in the 100 block of McNary Estates Drive N.

7:16 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 800 block of Manbrin Drive NE.

11:45 p.m. - Arrest on warrant for probation violation at the intersection of River Road N and Apple Blossom Avenue N.

**SATURDAY, MAY 18**

4:30 a.m. - Arrest on warrant for unlawful possession of methamphetamine and possession of burglary tools at the intersection of Verda Lane NE and May Street NE.

2:30 p.m. - Unlawful possession of inhalants in the 5000 block of River Road N.

9:36 p.m. - Arrest on warrant at the intersection of Verda Lane NE and Alder Drive NE.

10:32 p.m. - Arrest for driving under the influence of intoxicants in the 4000 block of Carter Avenue N.

**SUNDAY, MAY 19**

1:53 a.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 5000 block of River Road N.

10:40 a.m. - Unlawful attempt of purchase of marijuana in the 1000 block of Lockhaven Drive NE.

11:30 a.m. - Arrest for physical harassment in the 5000 block of Allendale Way NE.

6:45 p.m. - Burglary from a business and theft from a building in the 1000 block of Lockhaven Drive NE.

6:54 p.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 1000 block of Chemawa Road NE.

9:28 p.m. - Fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer, motor vehicle theft, reckless driving and possession of a stolen vehicle in the 5000 block of Copper Creek Loop NE.

## School board approves \$1.2 billion budget

On Monday, May 20, the Salem-Keizer Public Schools (SKPS) District Budget Committee approved a \$1.2 billion budget for 2019-20.

The budget is based on Governor Kate Brown’s recommended K-12 budget of \$9 billion for the 2019-2021 biennium — which does not include the \$35 million allocated to SKPS through the Student Success Act, which isn’t expected to be allocated until 2020-2021.

“We’ve seen and we’ve heard the need for improved mental health and behavioral resources in our schools, and this budget reflects that,” said Superintendent Christy Perry. “By growing our behavior cadre and building counseling supports in our schools, our students and staff will be able to focus more on learning and turning the dial on educational outcomes.”

The priorities for developing the budget were:

- Maintaining current service level, including our previous investments in behavioral learning.

- Investing in full-time equivalent (FTE) for enrollment growth, specifically addressing caseloads for special education.

- Converting limited-term positions of special education instructional assistants to permanent staff.

- Providing additional resources for transportation to adequately support boundary adjustments.

More than \$2 million is included in the budget for staffing additions in behavior, counseling and social work. The budget also moves native language specialists and translators to 12-month employees to support programmatic work over the summer.

The 2018 voter-approved bond measure will take up \$435 million of the budget as construction is already underway at McNary High, North Salem High and Gubser Elementary — construction will begin this summer at Judson Middle and Waldo Middle.

The SKPS Board of Directors will vote on the budget adoption on Tuesday, June 11 at 6 p.m.

## France Dance to perform at NSHS, support Keizer food bank

The mother-daughter owned and operated France School of Dance will stage its spring performance at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 28 at the North Salem High School Auditorium.

Attendees will witness all of the dance studio’s students perform various dances including ballet, tap and modern dance.

Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$3 per person and per dancer. All proceeds will benefit the Keizer Community Food Bank.