

Opinion

To the Class of 2019

Whether you are graduating from college or high school, this time is yours.

You and your peers have grown up wanting for little. You've been told your whole life that you are special and a winner. Now is the time for you to prove those monikers to be rightly bestowed.

Life is like high school—it's filled with cliques and in many cases, it's who you know rather than what you know that will carry you the farthest.

Be aware that your learning days are not done, far from it. Ask any successful person and they'll tell you that they have learned much more from the people they've met and the places they've been than any book can tell them.

School teaches you up to a point. What school really should have done for you is to teach you how to find the answers you seek. With Google, and other search engines, information is at your fingertips. No web site can tell you what you want to be, what you should like, how you will fit into a world that is unlike the one that your parents stepped into as they graduated from school. It is only through interaction with people and places that you'll discover yourself.

You've spent the past 10 years or

so being a member of a team, be it Little League baseball, middle school soccer or high school band. You have learned the skills to work well with others, which will take on much more importance in your post-high school years. Teamwork is crucial in life, but it doesn't mean you can't spread your wings and show your individual colors. You will have many opportunities—most of you will have held three or four jobs by time you reach the age of 30. That doesn't mean you're a slacker, it means that you'll have the opportunity to try different fields, different companies, different avenues.

These days it is unusual to find someone under the age of 40 who hasn't held a number of jobs, sometimes in different industries. It is not written anywhere that you must pick a career and stay with it until your retirement.

In 2019 you have instant access to information and people. You text and message your friends to get the latest scoop in your social circles. Remember that technology not only keeps you in touch with family and friends, it keeps you in touch with the world. There is a lot of world history being made now and you ignore it at your own peril. Some say that ancient history is boring, but living history is

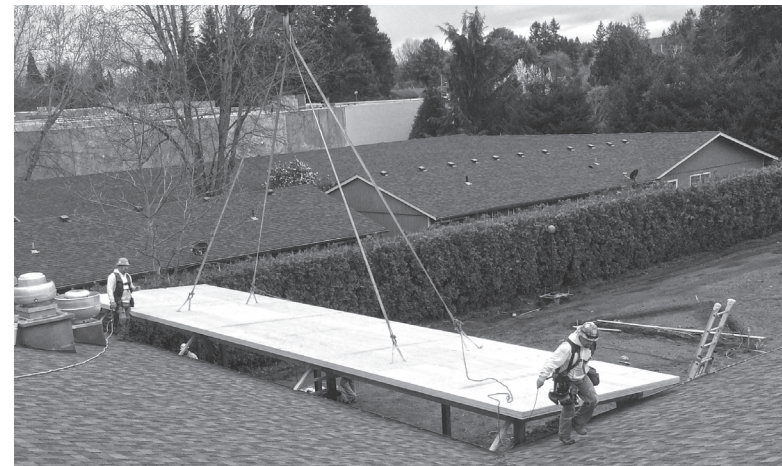
now and immediate. Your elders were right when they said that history repeats itself. Everything going on in places Venezuela, Syria and Iran is just a new version of what has gone on in centuries past. There is very little new under the sun, it's just packaged differently.

You should have learned from your early childhood days right through school to be nice to people. That's a lesson that will do you good to the end of your days. People respond to kindness with kindness; the most sour or angry personality can be soothed with a kind word or gesture. Being kind and polite and tolerant doesn't cost a dime, but the pay off will be huge. There is little moral victory in trodding on those who are different from you.

It's a new, independent life you're being invited into. What you feel as you leave the halls of your school is what your fellow students feel—scared and uncertain. You should help each other, encourage each other, root for each other. It'll make life easier and better for you and your friends, new and old.

Go out into the world, keep learning, do you what you love, move around the country and the world and for Pete's sake, learn how to do your own laundry.

—LAZ



Submitted
A 48-foot, single-panel roof donated by Freres Lumber is put in place over a new patio at Simonka Place earlier this year.

Simonka Place benefits from bevy of local giving

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

Simonka Place, a Union Gospel Mission shelter for women and children, has been on the receiving end of some sizable giving efforts in the past few months, but one of the biggest ones remains unused.

Earlier this spring, a large group of regional business banded together to construct a covered patio area fit for parties, barbecues, lounging and other activities. However, it hasn't been cleared for use because the organization needs about \$15,000 to install a fire suppression system.

"We need that because it is so close to the building," said Kathy Smith, director of Women's Ministries at UGM.

Once that is complete, Simonka Place residents will have a full-on outdoor sanctuary.

The construction project was headed up by CD Redding Construction who roped in Ty Freres of Freres Lumber Co. in Lyons.

"Scott Champion at CD Redding asked us to help Simonka Place as it was a project that they were working on. Scott felt it was a perfect application for our new product line and we did as well," Freres said.

Freres had to fill a tall order with the Simonka Place project, a single, solid-wood panel three feet thick, 12 feet wide and 48 feet long was called for.

"At our facilities in Lyons, we produce the only veneer-based mass timber panel in the world. For the application at Simonka House we were able to produce a single panel that created the entire roof element for their outdoor structure. No roof joists, no 4-by-8 panels, just a single panel, and a single pick and place,"

Freres said.

The value of that single piece of lumber is more than \$5,000.

Green Acres Landscape, K&E Excavating, Knife River, Leisinger Designs, MCS Engineers, Northside Electric, Outdoor Fence, Ram Steelco Inc., Sequoia Pavers, Western Interlock and Windsor Rock all played roles in bringing it to fruition.

"The covered area will allow us to utilize the backyard throughout the year and provide a space for women to visit," said Smith. "The community has been extremely supportive and without so many people and organizations coming together, we wouldn't have this wonderful backyard designed for play, large group functions, barbecues, meetings, social activities, chapel and worship."

Freres said the project aligned with his company's charitable goals of supporting children.

Complementing that gift is a planned donation to by local realtor Bob Shackelford. Shackelford bought 20 tickets for a raffle to win a custom playhouse built by Remodeling by Classic Homes on River Road. The *Up*-themed house served as the business' KeizerFEST parade float and then put it up as a prize in a raffle to support another local group, Satellite Gaming.

Shackelford won the playhouse and plans to donate it to Simonka Place.

Smith said both the covered patio and playhouse are playing key roles in plans to eventually renovate the shelter's entire backyard.

To contribute to the effort, call UGM at 503-967-6388 or visit their website at ugmsalem.org.

Is it the 1890s all over again?

"Robber Barons" is a catchy label. At a time not so long ago it was used by Americans to describe powerful, wealthy captains of industry who monopolized the railroads, the steel industry, the tobacco industry, the oil industry and all industries in the U.S. They emerged during the Industrial Revolution of the 1800s and controlled everything. Ultimately their ways brought about totally unacceptable conditions that led to riots, strikes and the emergence of labor unions.

They were noted for their indifference to their workers, forcing workers into 18-hour days in unsafe conditions with wages at a minimum often reduced on whims. Many American families were reduced to begging for food while their children were also forced to work. Meanwhile, poverty and the most deplorable of living conditions destroyed the health and very lives of tens of thousands of American men, women and children.

Workers formed labor unions to protect themselves. The Robber Barons struck back by bribing police departments to beat them when they refused to work while they hired thugs to hurt and kill the workers when they would not do what the Robber Barons demanded of them. Nevertheless, there were writers and politicians like famous trust-buster Pres-

ident Theodore Roosevelt who used the "bully pulpit" to lead reforms for improved conditions.

As things evolved into the saner working conditions of the 1900s, an American middle class emerged through improvements such as the eight-hour work day, the 40-hour work week and overtime pay, living wages, safer working conditions, even health insurance and pensions. These work conditions commonly enabled the average worker to buy a home, have a family, appreciate a safer work environment, enjoy family vacations and retire in dignity.

Interesting it is how things can get reversed to what they were a century ago, a matter developing here for the last fifty years. At its prime now, the notorious "one percent" have established themselves. What's happened is that wealth has become concentrated once more in a few hands and a new Robber Baron class of Americans have risen to dominate everything again. These modern day barons, now CEOs, enjoy excessive salaries and benefits in the multi-millions of dollars while their workers are minimum-wage paid, realize no upward mobility, and are frequently laid off for no reason other than a CEO profit motive.

The Robber Barons of 2019 are

destructive to a democratic republic such as ours as they use and abuse U.S. citizens by exploiting them to a point where they are nothing other than servants to business executives who, when workers ask for better wages or benefits are shown the door. The one percenters work against their workers at every turn while acquiring Golden Parachute retirements for themselves and have done away with pensions outside the executive chambers. They have emasculated or eliminated labor unions. They are the epitome of greed and self-centeredness. They significantly contribute to societal demises, including drug addiction, homelessness, gun-related crimes, and a decline in our nation's ethics and morals.

Where they will spend big money is with duly-elected office holders in state houses and the national capital to make certain laws are passed so wages are kept low, benefits are non-existent, workplace safety measures are deregulated or removed, and no worker benefits or perks survive underhanded shenanigans by legislators. None of this buying of legislators is being dealt with effectively so it behooves every American to get involved and vote for those who prove themselves as working for the people not working for the Robber Barons.

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

An era ends, a legacy continues

By JONATHAN THOMPSON

The passing of State Senator Jackie Winters brought to a close a decades-long era in Oregon State politics. Her service in the Capitol started as staff to Governors Tom McCall and Vic Atiyeh and saw Aher elected to the House of Representatives and the Senate. In the Senate, she rose to the rank of Republican Leader and left her mark on our state in countless ways. She also operated a successful small business.

I first met Senator Winters when I joined the Senate Republican Office in 2004. For most of the next decade I would have the honor of watching and learning from her example. I will always remember driving her to events around the state

and listening to the history she lived. On the recent anniversary of the Vanport flood, her experiences with that event take on special meaning. I also remember discussing with her the latest plan we had to trip up the other side. She rarely approved of antics from either side of the political aisle.

During my time with Senator Winters I learned two things which I still carry today. First, it is alright and even expected to work productively with people with whom you sometimes disagree. And second, when you disagree with someone, do not do lasting damage to a relationship in order to score political points.

Senator Winters was masterful

at working to pass legislation she believed in with coalitions of lawmakers no matter their political party registration. From health care to public safety, few have left such a legacy in the Oregon State Capitol. Her effectiveness was due to her ability and willingness to put aside party and work for what she believed in. It is a good example for all of us. If we refuse to work with those with whom we disagree, we wall ourselves off and limit our own ability to succeed.

Rarely did Senator Winters engage in any political battles which would cause lasting damage to relationships. The person you disagree with today may be the person you need to get the next bill passed tomorrow. By rushing to score political points you could hamper your chances on the next issue. Applied today, is a single tweet now worth the loss of something you care deeply about in the future?

Senator Winters touched countless lives during her time in the Oregon Capitol. I was blessed to be just one of them. As my wife and I work in our own small business, I try to remember the lessons she so expertly taught.

As Senator Jackie Winters' era ends in the Capitol it is my hope that members on both sides of the aisle will work to carry on her legacy and remember her lessons.

(Jonathan Thompson, the incoming president of the Keizer Chamber of Commerce, served as staff in the Senate Republican Office from 2004 to 2013. The last six years as the Caucus Administrator. He currently runs a local small business with his wife.)

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guest
column

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MONDAY, MAY 27

11:36 a.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 5000 block of McLeod Lane NE.
2 p.m. - Theft in the 5000 block of Wittenberg Lane NE.
7:13 p.m. - Arrest for reckless driving and driving under the influence of intoxicants in the 1000 block of Alder Drive NE.
8 p.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 400 block of Evans Avenue N.
8:27 p.m. - Arrest on warrant at the intersection of Garwood Way N and Nordic Court N.
8:30 p.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 200 block of Dearborn Avenue N.

TUESDAY, MAY 28

2:36 a.m. - Arrest on warrant at the intersection of River Road N and Dearborn Avenue N.
4:24 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 4000 block of River Road N.
7:59 p.m. - Arrest for parole violation at the intersection of Chemawa Road N and Delight Street N.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

11:14 a.m. - Arrest for driving under the influence of intoxicants and reckless driving in the 3000 block of Rivercrest Drive N.
12:53 p.m. - Arrest for traffic accident, driving under the influence, reckless driving and unlawful possession of cocaine in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Boulevard NE.
4:52 p.m. - Traffic accident in the 900 block of Chemawa Road NE.
10:30 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 1000 block of Susan Court NE.
11:52 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 3000 block of Cherry Avenue NE.
7 p.m. - Burglary from a residence and theft from a building in the 1000 block of Bent Grass Court NE.

THURSDAY, MAY 30

7 p.m. - Robbery and aggravated assault

in the 1000 block of Chemawa Road N.

FRIDAY, MAY 31

12 a.m. - Criminal mischief and vandalism in the 900 block of Orchard Street N.
9:39 p.m. - Traffic accident in the 4000 block of River Road N.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

1:15 a.m. - Driving under the influence of intoxicants at the intersection of Front Street NE and Tryon Avenue NE.
8:45 a.m. - Theft in the 4000 block of River Road N.
11 a.m. - Theft of motor vehicle parts or accessories in the 6000 block of Ulali Drive NE.
12:45 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 3000 block of River Road N.
7:42 p.m. - Arrest for driving under the influence of intoxicants in the 500 block of Chemawa Road N.
11:45 p.m. - Fleeing a police officer unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, reckless driving, possession of a stolen vehicle and failure to perform duties of a driver when property is damaged in the 3000 block of River Road N.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

3:40 a.m. - Arrest for simple assault in the 100 block of Troy Street NE.
11:34 a.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 4000 block of River Road N.
3 p.m. - Failure to perform duties of a driver when property is damaged in the 500 block of Chemawa Road N.
7:15 p.m. - Arrest for physical harassment in the 5000 block of Briarwood Circle N.
10:08 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 4000 block of River Road N.
10:50 p.m. - Arrest for the unlawful possession of methamphetamine and unlawful possession of heroine and unlawful controlled substance.

Car show at Powerland June 15

Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum will present its eighth annual All Comers Rendezvous starting at 8 a.m. on Saturday, June 15 at Powerland Heritage Park, 3995 Brooklake Road NE.

Visitors can view vintage cars and motorcycles displayed in the museum and on the grassy grounds.

The displays this year will the biggest to date and will include the grand opening of the recently completed 6,000 square foot addition to the museum.

The theme for this year is Car and Motorcycle Clubs of the Willamette Valley, and all clubs are invited and admission is free.