

New homelessness effort gets SKPS approval

By **HERB SWETT**
Of the *Keizertimes*

An agreement with Marion and Polk counties for collaboration to receive federal aid for the homeless was approved Tuesday, Sept. 10 by the Salem-Keizer School Board.

The agreement is for creation of a development council to receive funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. It calls for a development council, which would recommend bylaws, committee structure and budget and funding strategy for providing homes.

The vote on the agreement was 6-1, with director Kathy Goss opposed. She saw it as "giving up local control."

In other business, the board proclaimed Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 as National Hispanic Heritage Month and Sept. 13-22 as Welcoming Week. The board accepted two grants totaling more than \$1.8 million.

Personnel actions approved by the board included the following in the Keizer attendance were:

- Temporary part-time contracts: Lawren Labo, Weddle Elementary School, and Patricia Parvin, Forest Ridge Elementary School.
- Temporary full-time: Emmy Arana, Claggett Creek Middle School; Christina Barron and Alea Soboloski, Gubser Elementary School; Scott Buchanan, Forest Ridge and Keizer elementary schools; Kimberly Pittley, Debra Radtke, and Brent Turner, McNary; and Sheryl Wetzal, Kennedy Elementary School.
- First-year probation part-time: Amy Morris, Weddle.
- First-year probation full-time: Anastasiya Watson, Weddle; Maribeth Allen and Ashley Stearns, Keizer Elementary; Thad Gould, Whiteaker Middle School; and Sheila Morales, Claggett Creek.
- Second-year probation full-time: Ruth Ochoa, Weddle.
- Administrator first-year probation full-time: Ruth Ochoa, Weddle.
- Resignation: Angela Hause, Keizer Elementary. Retirement: Kimberly Pittsley, McNary.

KT on vacation



Leah and Tony Stevens took their *Keizertimes* on a trip to Victoria, British Columbia, to celebrate their 30th anniversary. They are pictured here in front of Hatley Castle.

You too can have your photo in the *Keizertimes*. Simply take the paper to your destination, snap a picture with you and your group holding it, and send the photo along with everyone's first and last names to kt@keizertimes.com. Submitted photo

Nominate Keizer's best teachers for 2019 Crystal Apple

Do you know a teacher, administrator or classified staff person who goes above and beyond to create a positive learning environment and help kids achieve their dreams? Honor them by nominating them for a Crystal Apple Award. The annual event is set for Thursday, Nov. 14, at Salem's Historic Elsinore Theatre.

Salem-Keizer Education Foundation, along with Salem-Keizer Public Schools and the Salem and Keizer Chambers of Commerce, present the awards each year to deserving education professionals who go the extra mile in providing safe and positive learning opportunities for our students.

Nominations forms can be found at any school in the district or on the Salem-Keizer Education Foundation website (www.skeeducationfoundation.org).

District nominees must have been employed by Salem-Keizer Public Schools for at least three years prior to the current school year.

All nominations must be received by 5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 17.

The 2019 celebration will again feature a red-carpet entrance for nominees.

Police: Teach caution along school routes

In light of recent events in Salem, police officials and schools are reminding students and parents to be safe when walking to school and back home.

The Marion County Sheriff's Office has given some tips about how to stay safe. Parents should make sure to go over the route back home with their student so they know where to look for the child or teen if they don't come home at a normal time.

Parents should also let kids know where safe places are and that they should avoid shortcuts through alleys or secluded areas.

Some ways a person can avoid a suspicious

looking man or woman is to either call 911 until you are safe or stay on a call with a parent or friend and keep telling them exactly where you are in case of an emergency.

If the suspect is in a car, make sure to stay at least an adult's arm length away from the vehicle and if the car is following you, run in the opposite direction that the car is facing.

Strangers who are trying to lure children will most likely ask for them to get into the car for help with directions or claim to know their par-

ents. The child or teen should loudly shout no and run in the opposite direction.

Another safe way to make sure you aren't being stalked, is to not take the same route home every day. Normally, stalkers and other criminals plan their actions and record where the victim goes home every day. Talk with students about two or three routes they can take instead.

Kids and teens should also listen to their gut when it comes to being out in public. If something doesn't feel right, get out of the situation.



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