

Opinion

Don't make Keizer what it isn't

There is nothing wrong about being a bedroom community. That's what Keizer is—Keizer's civic and business leaders need to understand that fact and plan accordingly.

The constant drumbeat of calls for expanding the Urban Growth Boundary flies directly against what most Keizer residents want. Ask any resident and they will say they are happy with the city as it is; some call it a quaint small town (can a city of almost 40,000 people qualify as a small town?).

Many drivers are frustrated by traffic flow on River Road and other thoroughfares in the city. Pushing city limits out to the north and adding hundreds or thousands of new homes can only make traffic worse in the coming years.

The state declares that Keizer must prepare for a population approaching 50,000 within 25 years. If the city obeys that mandate there are only two solutions: grow out or grow up.

Growing out will be exceedingly expensive and add to valley sprawl Keizer has resisted for decades. Growing up means more density within the current city borders. Ei-

ther choice will mean more people, thus more traffic. In any case, growth will threaten the way of life many people moved to Keizer to enjoy.

Growth is inevitable but it should be well managed. Keizer has to maintain control of its own destiny. As a city, we have to decide if we want to grow by 10-15,000 more people in the coming decades. It is the city council that sets the policies that would allow for future growth. Until any expansion of the Urban Growth Boundary is attained, the city of Keizer is undergoing a project to revitalize River Road—another in a long history of improvements on the city's main commercial street.

As a concept, revitalizing River Road is a good step in improving what Keizer has now. But the plan, as approved, is another piecemeal plan that will make changes ever so slowly. New standards will be required only under certain conditions, such as a change of use of the property or a redevelopment.

The passage of the parks fee and the police fee in 2018 are certainly accomplishing what was promised.

Keizer parks will be maintained better and amenities added. Increased police patrols will result in better traffic control. That leads to making what Keizer has now better.

Again we call for a limited and focused expansion of the Urban Growth Boundary. Expand the UGB along Interstate 5 from the Volcanoes Stadium to Perkins Street, 1,000 feet wide and restrict it to light industrial, medical and office park use. Such developments can bring good paying jobs to Keizer. Creating employment opportunities in the city should be a primary focus; an added bonus would be increased tax revenues into the city's coffers.

Keizer is a bedroom community. That's why people and businesses move here. We shouldn't try to make it anything other than that. The city will be successful as a desired address as long as the city continues to lay the groundwork to make it easy for businesses to move to or build in Keizer.

Our city has always charted its own destiny. Those who move here buy into the Keizer way. In our mind, that's good enough.

—LAZ

our
opinion



What's your view?

Via social media, the *Keizertimes* asked readers: Should tuition be made free of charge at all public universities and colleges?

Here are selected responses:

To a degree, yes (pun intended). I feel at least tuition. It is money in the bank for those that will be our future. Do we want them in prison or on welfare or do we want them having good paying jobs taking care of their families? Scholarships are harder to come by especially when students have to work 30+ hours work weeks to pay outrageous rent prices.

It is a terrible burden to many to have to take out loans... our taxes already go to these schools and yet

prices keep hiking.

With books online schools save money and yet the prices go up.

—Stephanie Duncan

Should college be free? No. Should it be as outrageously priced as it is now? No. It wouldn't be free anyway. My taxes would pay for it because they would still need to pay the professors and the costs of running a school.

—Joni Hall

No, college is a privilege and not a right. Now trade schools are what needs to be free.

—Ann Mickelsen Bourne

There is no such thing as a free lunch. If the customer, or student doesn't pay the bill, then we the tax payers will be stuck with the bill. We are taxed enough already, we don't need that burden to get heavier.

—Chris Propeck

I feel like it should be and in all honesty I disagree with Ms. Bourne's view. Her opinion is of a generation that is of the past.

—Dakota Saunders

No it should not be. Somebody needs to pay for it, as I did mine. People don't seem to realize the money will come from taxpayers.

—Bil Criteser

Name-calling is no way to run a nation

The effort by a well-known HBO entertainer almost as well-liked as Donald J. Trump was nearly enough to gag me, followed by one of those gut-wrenching, guttural guffaws. He had the audacity to wax and wane for several minutes at the end of his Friday evening show where he promoted the idea that we Americans, regardless of our political intransigencies, should respect each other and work at getting along.

This admonition coming at the end of a day when a U.S. ambassador with 33 years of experience, having stood her ground at

the most dangerous assignments in the world, and while being interviewed in the national capitol, while President Donald J. Trump chose to deliver a tweet where he insulted her work as an ambassador and threatened her life. This act by our president was likely cheered by Trump's base of supporters, several million in number, while abhorred by those who have found him to be a bully.

His history of disgusting comments began in earnest before the presidency by referring to Mexicans as rapists, murders and un-

desirables. These name-calling, derogatory remarks were not exclusively directed at our neighbors to the immediate south but were frequently used by him after the 2016 campaign was underway to condescendingly describe all Republicans who ran against him. Thereafter, while everyone who finds his behavior unacceptable, he labels all those who criticize his way, his "enemies," including most journalists and newspaper people except his supporters and those who appear on FOX News.

There are also the lies and exaggerations used hourly by this guy in the Oval Office, the number of which now count in the thousands. He cannot, he's informed us by excessive examples, tell the truth and displays this shortcoming whenever he appears in public or writes a tweet. Yet, there are those citizens among us who stand with him no matter what he says or does even though he daily undermines the U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights and rule by law, hallmarks of the U.S.A. since its founding in 1787 to establish a republic, not another monarchy like those of Old Europe.

One of the most powerful and consequential voices in America is the president of the United States. After all, President Trump is recognized for using his voice to promote incivility, hate and violence among the U.S. population, given Turkey's Erdogan rule over U.S. allies, and provided Russia's Putin with U.S. foreign policy secrets and the Ukraine: All of these just to be re-elected. He has proven himself impervious to reform.

(Gene H. McIntyre lives in Keizer. He shares his opinion frequently in the *Keizertimes*.)

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Charles "Greg" Frank

July 18, 1957-November 15, 2019

Greg, 62, passed into the arms of Jesus at home with his family, on November 15, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was born in Fort Worth, Texas, to Charles D. (Chuck) and Janette L. Frank. His parents had wanderlust, and Greg started his education in Los Alamos, New Mexico and attended schools in Florida and California. Greg received his business management degree from San Jose State in 1979.

After graduation, he moved with his parents to Oregon, after they purchased the Coast to Coast store in Keizer. Greg was active in the Keizer Fire District for 30 years, most notably as Fire Chief for 17 of them. Upon retirement from the fire district, he took over the family hardware stores from his parents; one in Keizer and one in West Salem.

Greg married Jan Miller, and their family includes three daughters: Heidi, Jenny, and Becky. Greg and Jan recently celebrated 32 years of marriage.

Greg's father first became a volunteer firefighter with the Keizer Fire District and Greg followed his footsteps in May 1981. Moving through the ranks, his proven leadership skills were obvious. In February 1990, he was hired as the district's fire chief, serving in that position until his retirement in July 2007. During his time as fire chief, he led the district in establishing many innovations, including establishing ambulance service and the hiring of paramedic staff, replacement of an aging maintenance facility and the construction of the district's current fire station, as well as being instrumental in establishing the district's Explorer Scout program. Always the patriot, Greg along with the support of the Keizer Rotary Club, established the displaying of U.S. flags at major intersections in Keizer on national holidays by the Explorer Post. Following his retirement as fire chief, he returned

to the district as an elected official, serving a 4-year term as a member of the Keizer Fire District's Board of Directors from 2009-2013.

Greg's caring nature and love for the Lord led him to a life of service in his community. As well as being active in children's ministries with Jan, he served on several boards and committees. As an avid Keizer Rotarian for 24 years, Greg was a past president. Greg was honored as Keizer's First Citizen in 2007.

Greg's passions were traveling with his loved ones. He had a particular fondness for Hawaii and spent as much time as he could there with his family, watching the sun set over migrating whales from his favorite seat on the back patio.

When he could get away from work, he'd take his mother to the casino where they could test their luck. Looking back, some might say few were luckier than those two. Greg was also a avid football fan, and in his eyes, there was no team better than the Dallas Cowboys. Perhaps the only thing better than the Cowboys might be Dolly Parton, his favorite singer and arguably his first crush.

Greg was predeceased by his father, Chuck. He is survived by his wife Jan, daughters, Heidi (Jeremy), Jenny (Thomas) and Becky, brother Monty, mother, Janette. "Grandpa Bee" also is survived by two grandchildren, Kison and Teia Mackay.

Greg's family would like to thank the following for all the care he received: Dr. Bud Pierce, Kelly and their team at Oregon Oncology, Salem Hospital Oncology floor, the team of responders at Keizer Fire District and his care teams with First Call Home Health and Willamette Valley Hospice.

Contributions in his name can be made to your favorite charity.

Service will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, December 1, at Dayspring Fellowship in Keizer.



Charles "Greg" Frank

Thomas Edward Hogan

March 27, 1942 - November 12, 2019

Thomas Edward Hogan, 77, passed away peacefully November 12 after a struggle with vascular dementia.

Born March 27, 1942 in Columbia Heights, Minn., Tom was the sixth of eight children born to Joseph and Irene Hogan.

Tom graduated from Columbia Heights High School in 1960 and went on to earn a Bachelor's degree in Vocational Education and Master's in Guidance and Counseling from Stout State University.

He married Bonnie Tatro in 1966 and had three children. The family moved from Wisconsin to Oregon in 1977, and then to Dhahran, Saudi Arabia where Tom worked in Training and Development for Aramco from 1981 to 1987.

After returning to Salem, Tom worked at Siltec Silicon Corporation until 2003.

He married Deborah Sambuce to in 2003, and the couple returned to Saudi Arabia where they worked from 2004 to 2008.

Tom had a love for music—starting with humorous tales of playing the accordion as a child, to playing guitar

at family camping trips and teaching his daughter piano. He instilled in his children the value of family, laughter, hard work, the outdoors and travel. He was a proud Irishman, avid bowler, golfer and keen storyteller.

Preceding him in death were his parents, two brothers, one sister, and beloved daughter-in-law, Leanne Hogan.

Survivors include wife Deborah, sons Scott (Coleen) and Kevin, and daughter Meghan (Mike). Also, stepson Jason (Barbara) Sambuce to and six beloved grandchildren: grandsons Kyle, Connor, Ryan, Jacob and Aidan; and granddaughter Katie. He is also survived by three brothers, one sister and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be held Friday, November 22 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Edward Catholic Church in Keizer, Oregon. Private burial to follow at Restlawn Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Alzheimer's Association.



Thomas Edward Hogan

Bonaventure sets Stuff the Bus Toy Drive in Dec.

Bonaventure at Keizer Station, a senior living community, will be holding a Stuff the Bus Toy Drive event, along with a toy and food drive for the first half of December.

The senior living community is inviting the public to help spread the Christmas cheer this December. Bonaventure at Keizer Station will be holding a food drive and a toy drive in their community from Sunday, Dec. 1, to Sunday, Dec. 15. Residents of the Keizer community are encouraged to help out those in need by bringing in donations of unwrapped, unopened toys, as well as non-perishable food items.

The public can stop by Bonaventure, at 5525 McLeod Lane N.E. in Keizer, any time between 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. to drop off their donations. The toys will be donated to Doernbechers, via Spirit Mountain Casino and non-perishable food will be donated to St. Edward Church, each of which to distribute the items to area families in need.

Bonaventure at Keizer Station is

also holding a special "Stuff the Bus" event on Friday, Dec. 6 between noon and 2 p.m. at the Safeway on 4990 River Rd N. This event is also open to the public and will feature the senior living community's bus, which will be loaded with donations that will be ready to help families. This event will help their efforts to bring Christmas cheer to those in need in the Keizer community.

"Our toy and food drive, along with our Stuff the Bus event, is really going to help out a lot of area families this Christmas season," said Bonaventure at Keizer Station's executive director, Luis Callazo. "We're excited to give back to the community that has supported us so strongly. It's a pleasure to be able to bring cheer to kids through the gift of toys, as well as providing much needed food. We hope that you'll join us in giving back."

Bring any donations (unwrapped and unopened toys, non-perishable food) to the community's reception desk at the front entrance.