



J. Myers

1 man, 3 teen victims, 14 MONTHS IN PRISON

By **ERIC A. HOWALD**
Of the Keizertimes

On Dec. 23, Joseph Myers, a former Keizer resident, was sentenced to 14 months for raping three teens at a home he lived in on Gary Street Northeast, but the events that led to his guilty pleas began with a phone call in February 2018.

A CONCERNED FATHER

On Feb. 1, 2018, Myers' father called 9-1-1 to report

that his son was having sex with "half a dozen underage girls."

The father told dispatchers that he had warned his son to stop, but Myers continued despite admonishments. The man had reached a breaking point when he caught Myers on the phone with a 12-year-old. Myers was 20 years old at the time.

The phone call launched a months-long investigation by the Keizer Police Department that led to an indictment on 12 counts of rape, one count of sodomy and three counts of unlawful delivery of marijuana.

"All of these victims had difficulties at home, all of them were runaways. The defendant preyed on their vulnerability."

— Alexandra Overton, Deputy District Attorney

THE VICTIMS

Myers first victim was 15 when the two began a sexual relationship. He was 19.

The first time she was interviewed by police, the victim said the two had met

about a year and a half before. She said they had grown close and described the relationship as being "best friends."

Four months later, she admitted to having a sexual

relationship with Myers that began after he had given her a ride home. She also told investigators that Myers regularly supplied her and her friends with marijuana.

She supplied police with text messages stating she had "covered" for him after the investigation had started.

Myers' second victim also initially denied a sexual relationship, but disclosed the truth later to her probation officer. She was 14 when the sexual relationship began. Myers was 20.

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Tree recycling
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A year of great loss — In Memoriam

By **ERIC A. HOWALD**
Of the Keizertimes

Among other things, 2019 was a year of tremendous loss for Keizer. Pioneers and boosters from every corner of the city passed away in 2019. Here are just a few of the most notable offered in memorial:

Jerry McGee

For nearly four decades, it was virtually impossible to have any involvement in the city of Keizer without running into Dr. Jerry McGee.

McGee, a former Keizer city councilor among other roles too numerous to list, passed away after a battle with cancer in January. McGee's legacy as a statesman in city hall is still brought up routinely during city meetings. Others will remember him as one of the foremost local historians of Pacific Northwest.

Among his somewhat-lesser-known accomplishments were stints as a champion for disability rights, special education and even time as the director of the Oregon State Mental Hospital.

Ted Anagnos

Whether it was the football field, baseball diamond or basketball court, the booming rasp of Ted Anagnos's voice

advised, died in April after a brief and intense battle with cancer. Anagnos focused on high school students, but his impact was felt throughout

through school and who wouldn't be the people they are today without him," said longtime friend Craig Nicholas.

declining health.

As an attorney, Koho often worked pro bono for Keizer-based organizations seeking a firmer legal footing. As a local politician, he led the charge to bring the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes to the city.

"Dennis chose to give himself to the betterment of our city and community both through his determined leadership and profound friendships," said Mayor Cathy Clark.

Dr. Vern Casterline

Vern Casterline was Keizer's first doctor and the first team doctor for a generation of McNary High School athletes. He passed away in October at the age of 103.

He started his career in medicine as an orderly at a hospital near where he grew up. He shared an office with dentist Dr. Jerry Bowerly on River Road for years before retiring in 1986. He, along with several others, founded the Keizer Merchants Association, the precursor

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From left to right: Jerry McGee, Ted Anagnos, Dennis Koho, Dr. Vern Casterline



Ray and Louise Boucher, Dr. Jerry Bowerly, Greg Frank

was as unmissable as it was a fixture of Celtic sports for more than two decades.

Anagnos, a lifelong coach with a side gig as an investment

the community as a Keizer Rotarian and financial backer of efforts of large and small. "There were dozens of kids got into school or got

Dennis Koho

Dennis Koho, a former Keizer mayor and city councilor, died suddenly in June after a long period of

Modern scooter gives local man new independence

By **ERIC A. HOWALD**
Of the Keizertimes

As he's entered his golden years, Keizerite Leon Search tried his best to maintain an active lifestyle. It includes daily trips to Courthouse Fitness Club from his home in west Keizer.

At one time, he used a Segway to make the trip, but a car exiting a subdivision collided with him as he crossed the sidewalk destroying his mode of transport and making it harder to maneuver even if the Segway was still around.

"I couldn't stand very long because my knee and my hip were giving me problems,"

Search said. "I had to find another option."

His search led him to the Q Pod, a four-wheeled, enclosed, all-electric mobility scooter. Search's particular model is sky blue.

"It's not a car even though it looks a little like one, but I get a lot of looks and double-takes when I'm out in it," Search said.

His model doesn't have any climate controls, but there are models with those luxuries. The trade-off is in the battery life. A model like Search's will travel up to 30 miles on a single charge depending on

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KEIZERTIMES/ERIC A. HOWALD

Leon Search in his Q Pod, an enclosed, four-wheeled scooter, that helps him maintain independence and keeps him moving in more ways than one.

KHT's 2020 season
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Jordan Reid reviews The Witcher
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