

‘HE GOT CAUGHT’

Sangster named First Citizen



Hersch Sangster (right) was accompanied on stage by his family after being presented with the Keizer First Citizen award during a banquet held Saturday, Jan. 17 at Keizer Civic Center.

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

In introducing Keizer’s newest First Citizen, Vickie Jackson, who was honored with the award last year, said, “this award is for a person in our community working to make it a better place. They aren’t doing it because they want recognition, they don’t want this award and, when they get it, they feel like they’ve been caught ... He got caught.”

The community pillar ensnared this year was Hersch Sangster.

Sangster’s contributions to the Keizer community include leadership in school-based parent groups, the McNary Athletic Booster Club, a tireless advocacy for rights of cyclists and cycling safety, and traffic safety in general among much more.

“It’s an overwhelming honor, but don’t catch me again, please,” said Sangster in accepting the award.

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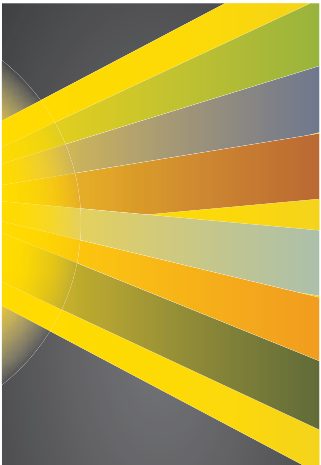


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LEFT: Dave Walery of Walery’s Pizza accepted Merchant of the Year honors. MIDDLE: Jeremy Turner was given the President’s Award. RIGHT: Tammy Ready was honored with the Service to Education award.



**Celt boys
win another
thriller**
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**Beacons
shine a light**
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Memorial mystery sparks parks policy questions



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald
A memorial to Rose Sovereign in Claggett Creek Park launched an investigation and numerous questions.

By **ERIC A. HOWALD**
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Sometime in early 1993, Carroll Sovereign and step-son Hollis Jackson installed a lattice trellis with climbing roses in the west end of Claggett Creek Park. A plaque set in stone next to the memorial reads: “Donated in memory of Rose Sovereign by family and friends, 1911-1992.”

The only mention of the memorial in city records is a paragraph in minutes from a Parks Advisory Board Meeting on May 11, 1993 (dug up from the archives by Matt Lawyer, a current member of the board). It reads:

Mr. (Kevin) Wickman reported a lattice archway with climbing roses on both sides has been planted in Claggett park in memory of a Keizer woman by her husband and son.

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Little League Park’s future still muddled

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

The Keizer Little League Park Long-Range Planning Task Force is recommending that the city seek to secure a long-term lease with an outside group to continue operating the park and complex.

However, the way forward is far from clear and even some task force members seemed poised to oppose the recommendation when it hits the dais of the Keizer City Council. There is a stipulation in the recommendation stating that the city would take over management if no suitable lessor is found. The task force passed the recommendation in a 6-3 vote in its final meeting Wednesday, Jan. 15.

Task force members have met for more than a year trying to plan a future for the park that provides maintenance and improvements. In that time, several of the faces at the table have changed as the two youth baseball leagues and city officials grappled with an uncertain future. The task force considered four options at the meeting: continuing with short-term contracts for the



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operation and management of the park; pursuing a long-term lease of 10 to 25 years; having the city take over the

management of the park; or selling it outright.

Task force members quickly eliminated the options of continuing with short-term contracts and selling the park, but

it left the two others and no clear winner.

Shane Diarmit, one of two Keizer Little League (KLL) reps on the task force, seemed to be the only one fully in favor of a long-term lease de-

“What I hear is we have a lack of revenue and that ball has been dropped completely.”

— Shane Diarmit

spite concerns that it stands the potential of taking the focus off Keizer ball players.

“I think it’s something viable and I believe it’s something we can do,” Diarmit said. “You can write into the lease that it is for Keizer youth and that has to be your focus. What I hear is we have a lack of revenue and that ball has been dropped completely.”

At one point, Diarmit even clashed with his fellow KLL rep, Ryan Siegel, who appeared to support the city taking over the park operations before supporting the motion for a long-term lease. That moment gave task force member Matt Lawyer pause when casting his vote against the recommendation.

“One of the themes I heard throughout this process

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**Wildcats
celebrate
science**
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**Mat men take
down David
Douglas**
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