

Opinion

An evening of cheers and tears

It was an evening of cheers. It was an evening of tears. It was last Saturday evening as the Keizer Chamber Chamber of Commerce bestowed its annual First Citizen Award and other honors at a banquet at the Keizer Civic Center.

Though many in the public may not know what the Chamber of Commerce does on a daily basis, most people in Keizer are aware of the people it paid tribute to this year.

Keizer's 2019 First Citizen is Hersch Sangster. Described as "the guy you want to know and be around," Sangster's long list of community achievement and involvement ran multiple pages. Many may know him by his advocacy of cycling, but his resume goes much deeper than that.

He was one of the founders of the Monster Cookie Century Bike Ride in 1977, the 100 meter ride from the Capitol into the valley and back each spring has become one of the premier biking events in the northwest.

Besides riding he has been instrumental in establishing the bike repair stations found about the city. The stations allow cyclists to mend their bikes as needed. In a city becoming increasingly bi-pedal, those stations are a gift. Hersch has been involved with bike safety training and distribution of safety helmets for years. A former Keizer Rotarian, Hersch has served as boards as diverse as the Southeast Keizer Neighborhood Association,

Salem-Keizer Transit District, McNary High School Band and Athletic Boosters Clubs.

With a friendly demeanor and a ready smile, Hersch is a true Keizer doer who never says no. The very definition of a first citizen.

Dave Walery, a long-time resident and volunteer was named Merchant of the Year. He becomes the first former First Citizen to be so honored; he has also been a previous President's Award recipient. Twice.

Known as Mr. Christmas for his volunteer work with holiday street lights as well as the annual Christmas tree at—where else?—Walery Plaza. Aside from Christmas, Dave could also be called Mr. Festival for his many years of volunteering to make KeizerFest (nee Keizer Iris Festival) operate smoothly (along with festival co-chair Scott White). That includes overseeing the placement and erection of the KeizerFEST tent, festival operations and the parade.

Walery's Premium Pizza is a supporter and sponsor of many groups and activities in Keizer. In many ways, Dave Walery is the oil that keeps the Keizer community humming along.

The winners of the awards are not revealed until the night of the banquet. The previous year's honoree builds up to naming the winner. This year's winner of the Service to Education Award, Tammy Ready, was caught unawares as her

name was called. Evidenced by the cheers of the audience, Ready was a popular winner.

A tireless advocate of kids and a community volunteer, Ready has been an integral part of McNary Athletic Boosters, McNary Youth Football, Keizer Network of Women's Giving Basket program as well as with Liberty House and Family Building Blocks.

Kids, especially in Keizer, are better because Tammy Ready is always working on their behalf.

Each year the leader of the Chamber chooses a recipient of the President's Award. This year Jeremy Turner was tabbed by Jonathan Thompson, the president of the Keizer Chamber of Commerce.

Turner is a member of Men of Action in Keizer (MAK) a Chamber-based group of men who jump into action when they see a need in the community. Plants need to be pruned to improved driver sight lines? MAK is there. The Chamber needs to move to a new office? MAK is there. Help is needed at KeizerFEST? MAK is there. Jeremy Turner was there every step of the way.

There were cheers of celebration and recognition. There were tears of humility and sentimentality. Overall it was an evening when the community gathers and celebrates those who make Keizer a better place for everyone.

Thank you Hersch, Dave, Tammy and Jeremy for your involvement and being a model for others.

— LAZ

our opinion

Impeachment is now sacred?

By L. BRENT BOZELL III AND TIM GRAHAM

Just 10 months ago, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi proclaimed that an impeachment of President Donald Trump would not happen unless there was "something so compelling and overwhelming and bipartisan." The House vote to impeach Trump was the dictionary definition of partisan—not a single Republican voted yes. There is nothing compelling and overwhelming here.

But our pro-impeachment media are investing as much moral authority in Pelosi's putsch as they can muster. During live coverage of the vote on Dec. 18, MSNBC's Andrea Mitchell gushed over Pelosi's black outfit. "She's certainly always well-appointed, beautifully arrayed, if you will," she said. "She's wearing black today. And that is a symbolic expression of how somberly they are taking this." Chris Matthews added: "It's sacramental. ... It's sacramental."

Sacramental? Matthews returned to this ridiculous concept on Jan. 15 when the House Democrats made a dramatic show for the cameras by marching their articles of impeachment to the Sen-

ate. Matthews told Chuck Todd: "There's a sacramental quality to this. There's a ritual."

MSNBC reporter Garrett Haake affirmed this, adding: "I'm so glad Chris used the word 'ritual' because that's the word that has been stuck in my head about this all day today. It's beyond formality. ... There is something almost religious to it."

A few minutes later, Matthews suggested, "there's an excommunication aspect to this thing." Todd replied: "you are really taking this Catholic metaphor and going at it! Run, Chris, run!" Matthews then added, "the Lincoln Memorial is basically a church."

As Speaker Pelosi was shown on screen about to sign the impeachment articles, Matthews returned to churchy metaphors, and things were getting truly wacky. He said: "Well, there's a sacramental statement for life—like a priest for life. It's a perfect statement of what she is. I think she is very reverential. I mean, she's one tough politician, but she's got another part of her, which is very respectful of hierarchy, in terms of who—true moral authority. The Democratic elected

officials have true moral authority to run the country."

All of these mangled metaphors ignore Pelosi's crusades for abortion on demand and punitive LGBT "anti-discrimination" measures to crush religious liberty, all of which are in direct conflict with Catholic teaching. Her political career has been a war with her alleged religious affiliation.

This praise is goofball stuff, and at least one celebrated liberal Catholic was having fun with all the Pelosi parades. On CBS' *Late Show*, Stephen Colbert put on dramatic lighting and joked: "First, each member of Congress steps forward to seal the text with a single drop of blood. Then, the sacred runes are drawn from beneath Jerrold Nadler's jowls, and lo, a snow-white ram is brought forth to pluck the maidenhead of Adam Schiff."

(Then, as expected, he mocked Sen. Mitch McConnell as a hideous demon to keep it acceptable to his fans.)

Impeachment is in no way a sacred act, and it carries no moral authority. But our pro-impeachment media are employing every sappy metaphor to achieve their fervent desire: dragging President Trump out of the White House and throwing him into the pyre.

(Creators Syndicate)

other opinions

Vote like your future depends on it

To the Editor:

How do we get corruption out of Washington, D.C.? Start locally.

Money in politics is what got us where we are—unsure of our futures. Both parties take money from their donors and vote in favor of corporate greed. This is unacceptable. Let us remember, these elected officials (on both sides) get their paychecks from our hard-earned money. We are their bosses. They have to answer to us and the people are going to have the chance to be heard on Oregon's primary day, May 19, 2020. Democratic incumbent, Kurt Schrader, is being challenged by a real progressive, Mark Gamba. Kurt Schrader takes money from corporate PACs

letters

and lobbyists. Schrader has been the U.S. Representative for Oregon's 5th Congressional District since 2009 and has voted against his own party more than 63 percent of the time. Schrader is a proud moderate who belongs to the Blue Dog Coalition (a group of Democrats that are so conservative, they had to make their own club instead of switching parties).

Schrader takes money from big Pharma, the NRA, the oil and gas industry, the corporate forestry industry, and voted against the \$15 per hour minimum because he'd rather make money for big corporations than the average worker. In fact, according to OpenSecrets.org, in 2018, Schrader brought in \$1,463,906 from PAC contributions, but only \$59,700 from small individual donors.

Schrader's own website quotes

him as saying, "everyone agrees that there are needed fixes to the ACA." Let us also remember, Obamacare was originally Romneycare. Schrader also voted in favor of Trump's military budget.

Mark Gamba is running a grassroots campaign, by the people, for the people. He is currently the mayor of Milwaukie and has transformed that city. Milwaukie is now one of the most climate-friendly cities in the state. During his time as mayor, Gamba has spent time focusing on housing affordability and the climate crisis. Thanks to Gamba, Milwaukie will run on 100 percent renewable electricity by 2035. Gamba is also very aware of the problem of money in politics, "We know there are solutions to these problems and we need people in the U.S. Congress with the political will to get these issues fixed without being beholden to the corporations that fund our current elected officials. That's why I'm running for Congress."

The time for change is now. We must hold the rich and powerful accountable. Vote like your future depends on it, because it does.

Niki Falardeau
Salem

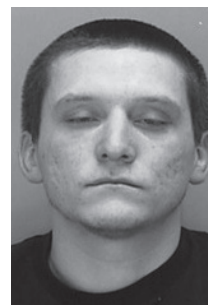
SHARE your opinion

Submit a letter to the editor, or a guest column by noon Tuesday. Email to: publisher@keizertimes.com

cuffed in Keizer



Jesse Joe Brandner
Arrested Jan. 12 for: Trespassing
Previous convictions: Assault, strangulation



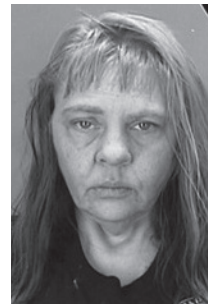
Ramiro Emilio Lopez
Arrested Jan. 15 for: Strangulation, assault
Previous convictions: Stalking, theft, robbery



Leilani Nobel
Arrested Jan. 14 for: Reckless endangering
Pending charges: Assault, menacing



Michael Kenneth Stineford
Arrested Jan. 15 for: Felon in possession of a weapon
Previous convictions: Assault, fleeing police, delivery and possession of controlled substances.



Stacey L. Thoming
Arrested Jan. 19 for: Assault
Other pending charges: Failure to provide duties of a driver when persons and property are damaged

police scanner

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

1:33 a.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd. NE.
12:15 p.m. - Theft by extortion in the 100 block of Homewood Court N.
3:33 p.m. - Traffic accident in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd. NE.
4:39 p.m. - Forgery and identity theft in the 5000 block of Inland Shores Way N.
8:16 p.m. - Assault, menacing use of weapons and reckless endangering in the 6000 block of Hogan Drive N.
10:30 p.m. - Sudden death in the 3000 block of Partridge Lane NE.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

2:45 a.m. - Arrested for criminal trespassing, felon in possession of weapon, parole violation and unlawful use of weapon in the 2000 block of Kinglet Way NE.
9 a.m. - Disorderly conduct in the 1000 block of Alder Drive NE.
9:15 a.m. - Forgery and theft in the 6000 block of River Road N.
10 a.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the 1000 block of Candlewood Drive NE.
11:03 p.m. - Arrest for strangulation in the 1000 block of Clearview Avenue NE.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

6:45 a.m. - Traffic accident at the intersection of River Road N. and Manzanita Street NE.
7:28 a.m. - Traffic accident in the 600 block of Chemawa Road NE.
6:04 a.m. - Theft of motor vehicle parts in the 200 block of Dorcas Drive N.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

12:41 p.m. - Business robbery and shoplifting in the 100 block of Chemawa

Road N.
5 p.m. - Motor vehicle theft at the intersection of 15th Avenue N. and Chemawa Road N.
8:13 p.m. - Failure to perform duties of driver when property was damaged at the intersection of River Road N. and Manzanita Street NE.
9:20 p.m. - Robbery in the 3000 block of Jack Street N.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

6:50 a.m. - Theft from motor vehicle and unlawful entry to vehicle in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd. NE.
10:31 a.m. - Criminal trespassing and shoplifting in the 5000 block of River Road N.
3:30 p.m. - Theft by deception in the 1000 block of Barnick Road NE.
7:38 p.m. - Traffic accident in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd. NE.
9:23 p.m. - Disorderly conduct in the 1000 block of Susan Court NE.
11:30 p.m. - Traffic accident in the 5000 block of McLeod Lane NE.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

1:15 a.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the 700 block of Apple Blossom Avenue NE.
2:31 a.m. - Driving under the influence of intoxicants at the intersection of River Road N. and Menlo Drive N.
5:46 a.m. - Burglary in the 4000 block of Cherry Avenue NE.
9:30 a.m. - Theft in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Boulevard.
10 a.m. - Assault in the 1000 block of Willow Lake Road N.
2:30 p.m. - Criminal mischief in the 1000 block of Candlewood Drive NE.

obituaries

Donna M. Strobel, 67, of Bethlehem, Penn., passed away peacefully on Sunday, January 12, 2020, surrounded by her loving family, while in the care of St. Luke's Hospice House. She was the loving wife of Greg Strobel with whom she shared over 45 years of wonderful marriage. Born in Portland, Ore., she was the daughter of the late Leo and Barbara (Graham) Chandler. Donna was a graduate of Marshall High School in Portland, OR, class of 1970. She went on to attend Oregon State University. She attended Grace Church in Bethlehem.

Donna was the owner of the Calico Cupboard in Roseburg, OR, featuring handsewn fabric and specialty gift shop items where she also offered sewing classes. She later worked for the USA Wrestling Officials Association where she was the "life and success" of the USWOA. She was a trusted advisor, always cheerful, and passionately sincere to all that she interacted with during her tenure. She had a very good sense of reading people and her smile could be seen through the phone.

Donna was the consummate entertainer and enjoyed every detail of planning family gatherings, celebrations and wrestling team dinners. She traveled the globe with Greg, including as a volunteer for the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. She was an avid scrapbooker, compiling countless memories of her travels to one of her favorite places on Earth, Cape Cod, and beyond. She loved spending time

with her husband on the front porch "whittling," playing her favorite (and only) card game Rummy, spending quality time with her daughters and cherishing every moment with her grandkids. She will forever be adored, loved, admired, and missed.

Survivors in addition to her loving husband, Greg, include daughters Jennifer Baldwin and her husband Robert of West Chester and Christine Napoli and her husband Joe of Drexel Hill, Penn.; sister Linda Hirneise and her husband Dave of Scottsdale, Ariz; brother Donald Chandler and his wife Sherry of Keizer, Ore.; loving grandchildren Mason, Isabel, Evelyn and Hayden and her loving nephews and niece, Donnie Chandler, Grant Hirneise and Heather Chandler.

Services: A Celebration of Donna's life will be held at 1 p.m. at Packer Memorial Chapel on the campus of Lehigh University, 18 University Drive, Bethlehem, Penn., on Thursday, Feb. 6, 2020. The family will receive relatives and friends from 11 a.m. until time of the service. Donna's arrangements have been entrusted to the Cantelmi Long Funeral Home, Bethlehem. A memory tribute may be placed at www.cantelmifuneralhome.com.

Contributions: In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Donna's loving memory to The Sandye Caruso Memorial Endowment Nursing Scholarship Fund. Address: St. Luke's Hospital c/o Development Office, 801 Ostrum Street, Bethlehem, PA 18015.



D. Strobel

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