

Teachers on Parade

The mood was buoyant in the parking lot of Gubser Elementary School as teachers prepared a parade for their students Tuesday, April 7. Along the route, students themselves were amped to see familiar faces from school.



A: Amy Doerfler gets a hand from Michele Nowlin before setting off. B: Gubser third grader Andre Dye chalked out the welcome mat for his teachers as they paraded by his house. C: Music teacher Stephanie Meeks writes on her windshield. D: Teacher Carol Proudfit waves to students. E: Kindergartener Morgan Kohler could barely contain her excitement. See Page A2 for more photos.

Softball star to miss senior season
PAGE A12

3 wars in 30 years
PAGE A3

Public works crews adapt, major projects on track

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

Like many other agencies in the pandemic era, Keizer Public Works modified its operations in response to the COVID-19 crisis.

Bill Lawyer, Keizer Public Works director, said the changes began on March 23.

"The first thing we did was divide the field staff into two groups that are now working 12-hour shifts a day," Lawyer said. "They work three days on and then three off and then four days on and four days off. That was done to reduce the opportunity for one person to be infected and take out the entire crew."

That is a model many public service agencies and first responders have switched to throughout the country to contain infections when they occur.

"Beyond that we've buckled down with good house-keeping and cleaning measures. When they're done with their



Contractors started clearing the way for a new asphalt pathway along Delight Street North this week.

week, they have a routine to go through to for cleaning before the next crew comes in," he said.

Public works staff plan to continue the rigorous schedules and cleaning until new guidance arrives from higher authorities.

At the outset, Lawyer put the focus on maintaining and

servicing the city's water supply and let lower-priority items like meter maintenance rest on the back burner. In the weeks since Oregonians were told to practice social distancing and stay at home, parks have become more of a priority.

"We've seen the usage of

Please see WORKS, Page A9

Police: Lock your car doors, thefts trending upward

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

Keizer Police Department officials are reminding residents to clear their cars of valuables and lock them up at night because thieves are targeting unlocked vehicles with increased frequency.

Outright motor vehicle theft has increased in the weeks since the COVID-19 pandemic began, said Chief John Teague at a Keizer City Council meeting Monday, April 6.

Cara Steele, the KPD

crime analyst, said thefts from vehicles, known as car clouts in police parlance, are not the stereotypical smash-and-grab.

"Ninety to 95 percent are the result of an unlocked door or open window," Steele said. "We might see a change if everyone starts locking their car door."

The problem with tracking car clouts – and apprehending offenders – is that by the time the crimes are reported and trends emerge,

Please see POLICE, Page A4

Library turned food pantry
PAGE A6

Governor urges use of homemade face masks

Gov. Kate Brown is urging all Oregonians to wear face masks – homemade ones are fine – when in public spaces.

"This is a rapidly-evolving situation, and each day we learn more about this virus," said Brown.

The CDC has updated its guidance regarding the use of homemade, cloth masks in public: wearing cloth masks in public places like grocery stores can help prevent those who are sick – particularly unknowingly infected, asymptomatic people – from spreading the virus further.

"That last point is a very important detail: wearing a cloth mask may not keep you from getting sick, but it can help you prevent spreading the virus to others," Brown said.

Following the strict social distancing guidelines put in place throughout Oregon earlier in the outbreak is still the best method for containing the spread and appears to be having a positive effect.

"Staying home is saving lives in Oregon. When you're in public for essential activities like grocery shopping, stay

six feet away from other people. Continue to wash your hands and properly cover your coughs and sneezes. I know this hasn't been easy, and I appreciate the sacrifices Oregonians have made. We must stay the course."

Brown also pleaded with the state's residents to not use medical-grade masks. Those are in short supply and "desperately" needed by frontline health care workers treating COVID-19 patients.

Additional guidance is available from the CDC and the Oregon Health Authority.

Easter joy



A resident of West Keizer made sure no passersby forgot that there's an actual holiday coming up this weekend, but even some of the plush bunnies were taking precautions with face masks.

OSAA still not calling off season
PAGE A12

STAY HOME STAY SAFE
Skyline comes to you!

- At home test drives
- At home deal transaction
- At home service pick up and delivery
- All vehicles are sanitized before and after service and test drives.

Shop online and click **AT HOME TEST DRIVE** or **AT HOME SERVICE**

BUILT TO LEND A HAND | BUILT Ford PROUD

NEW VEHICLE PURCHASES

3 MONTHS DEFERRED* | 3 MONTHS PAID | 6 MONTHS

FOR PEACE OF MIND
Qualified buyers financed with Ford Credit.

Donofrio's Skyline Keizer Ford

3555 River Road N, Keizer • (503) 463-4853
www.skylineforddirect.com

*Excludes leases. Available on select 2019/2020/2021 Ford vehicles. Excludes 2020 Super Duty, Raptor, Mustang Shelby GT 350/GT 350R/GT 500, Mustang Bullitt, Ford GT, and F-650/750. Customer can defer first payment up to 120 days. Maximum Bonus Cash amount is capped and varies by vehicle: \$1500-\$2250. Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit limited-term financing. Finance charges continue to accrue during deferral period. Payment deferral not available in Pennsylvania, unless 0% APR. Offer to make three (3) payments is claimed as Ford Credit Bonus Cash. Customer can apply Bonus Cash to first three (3) monthly payments. Customer is responsible for all payments. Bonus Cash requires Ford Credit financing. For all offers take new retail delivery from authorized Ford dealer stock by 4/30/20. See dealer for qualifications and complete details.

