

WORKS,

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"We've seen the usage of open spaces in parks go up and we want people to be outside and enjoy the parks as much as they can during this time," Lawyer said.

It means staff members are spending as much time as they can making sure parks look nice and hauling away all the extra garbage that comes with the increased usage.

Unfortunately, some have taken advantage of the less trafficked hours and chosen to dump large amounts of debris and other household items in spaces of Keizer Rapids Park.

Other projects that were being planned ahead of the pandemic outbreak are moving ahead as contractors themselves take more precautions.

An asphalt pathway for pedestrians and riders is underway on Delight Street North. The long-desired project will connect Cummings Elementa-

ry School to the south and McNary High School to the north. Lawyer was just waiting on some final paperwork to continue ADA ramp upgrades on River Road north of Chemawa Road North. A reconstruction of tennis courts at Willamette Manor Park is waiting for an extended break in the weather as is a planned replacement of a swing set in Northview Park.

"We're doing our best to keep things as normal as possible and these unusually abnormal times," Lawyer said.

Rotary raffle winners drawn

The Rotary Club of Keizer's Go for the Gold Raffle drawing went on as scheduled on Saturday, April 3, though the raffle party had been cancelled.

Les Zaitz was the grand prize winner, the recipient of gold and silver valued at \$10,000. The second place winners of \$1,200 in cash were Janelle and Brian Lidtke.

The raffle drawing was livestreamed at 9 p.m. on Saturday, April 3, led by club president Jeff Davis and former club president Nathan Bauer. The 1,150 sold tickets were in a rotating drum. At the appointed hour Bauer drew the first ticket for the gold and silver. He placed it ceremoniously face down on the table. Bauer then drew a

second ticket for the \$1,200 in cash. That ticket was also laid face down.

Zaitz was announced as the winner first, followed by the Lidtke's win. Zaitz was surprised; his winning ticket had been gifted to him by his brother, Lyndon.

"I was at home on my ranch in eastern Oregon, practicing dramatic social distancing," said Les Zaitz. "The phone rang—at night, which doesn't happen often. At first, I didn't quite grasp the news. This was a total surprise - and a delight at a time life has a lot of challenges right now."

The grand prize winner said rather than gold and silver he will opt for the equivalent in cash, though he has no immediate plans for the windfall.

He said he would look for opportunities to help his family and the Keizer community.

Janelle and Brian Lidtke have buying tickets for the Rotary Club of Keizer's annual raffle for 17 years. They usually buy two tickets from Janelle's brother, Jeff Kuhns, but this year the Lidtkes bought three tickets.

Janelle was watching the livestream of the drawing while her husband was napping in another room. "I was very excited," she said. "My screams woke my husband; I scared him."

The couple will use their raffle winnings for small projects around the house and also make donations to their favorite causes including Fences for Fido.

Schools won't reopen until fall

Oregon students will not be returning to the classroom this academic year.

In light of the necessity to continue social distancing measures during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, particularly her Stay Home, Save Lives order, Gov. Kate Brown today announced she is extending Oregon's physical closures for the K-12 and post-secondary education systems through the end of the current academic term and school year.

She directed school districts, community colleges, and universities to complete the final weeks of the regular academic year by continuing distance learning and support to students.

"We have Oregon's students at the forefront of every decision we make about education," said Governor Brown. "Their

health, happiness, and safety is our priority. The best thing we can do for the health of our children, and for the thousands of educators across the state, is to give everyone certainty by announcing the decision today to close in-person classes for the remainder of the school year."

There is no change to the number of credits required to graduate. Salem-Keizer Public Schools now consider March 13 as the final day of coursework for students in the class of 2020 and will issue a .5 credit as "Pass," or "Incomplete" for the work completed to that date.

This guidance applies to students set to graduate in June of 2020. For those seniors who don't have enough credits as of

March 13, individualized distance learning schedules will be created to help them earn credits through the end of the school year to stay on track with the Class of 2020.

"Like you, we are hurting, but we know this latest guidance comes as another measure to keep us as safe and healthy as we can be," said Superintendent Christy Perry. "We will continue to honor distance learning for all of our students in grades K-8, and we will follow a plan to report on progress toward focused standards for Distance Learning. Distance learning begins on Monday, April 13, but we do not expect it to look like the school days we had only a handful of weeks ago."

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a member of Open Door Churches of Salem-Keizer
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Services are Sunday at 10 am (Nursery & Sunday School for Children)
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5303 River Rd. N., Keizer
Father Gary L. Zerr, Pastor
Saturday Vigil Liturgy: 5:30 p.m.
Sundays: 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
La Misa en Español: 12:30 p.m.

John Knox Presbyterian Church
452 Cummings Lane North • 393-0404
Rev. Dr. John Neal, Pastor
Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Education Hour - 9:15 a.m.
Nursery Care Available
www.JohnKnoxPresKeizer.org

Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA
4505 River Road N, Keizer • 503-393-4507
www.FLCKeizer.org
Pastor Linda Matz Easterling
Sunday School - 9:00 am
Worship Service - 10:00 am

Keizer Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
6945 Wheatland Rd. NE 393-6843
www.KeizerChristian.org
Worship and Children's Church • 10:00 a.m.
Office Hours 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Mon. - Fri.

COUNTRYSIDE Christian Church
9:30 am & 11:00 am Sunday Worship Services
countrysidechristianchurch.org
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9:30 am Sunday School (all ages)
11:00 am Worship Service
WEDNESDAY:
6:30 pm Awana: Youth Group, Adults