

Retailers ride wave of upheaval

BY MATT RAWLINGS
Of the Keizertimes

COVID-19 has caused a substantial amount of uncertainty for people all over the globe for a number of reasons, and small business owners are a handful of the people at the forefront of that uncertainty.

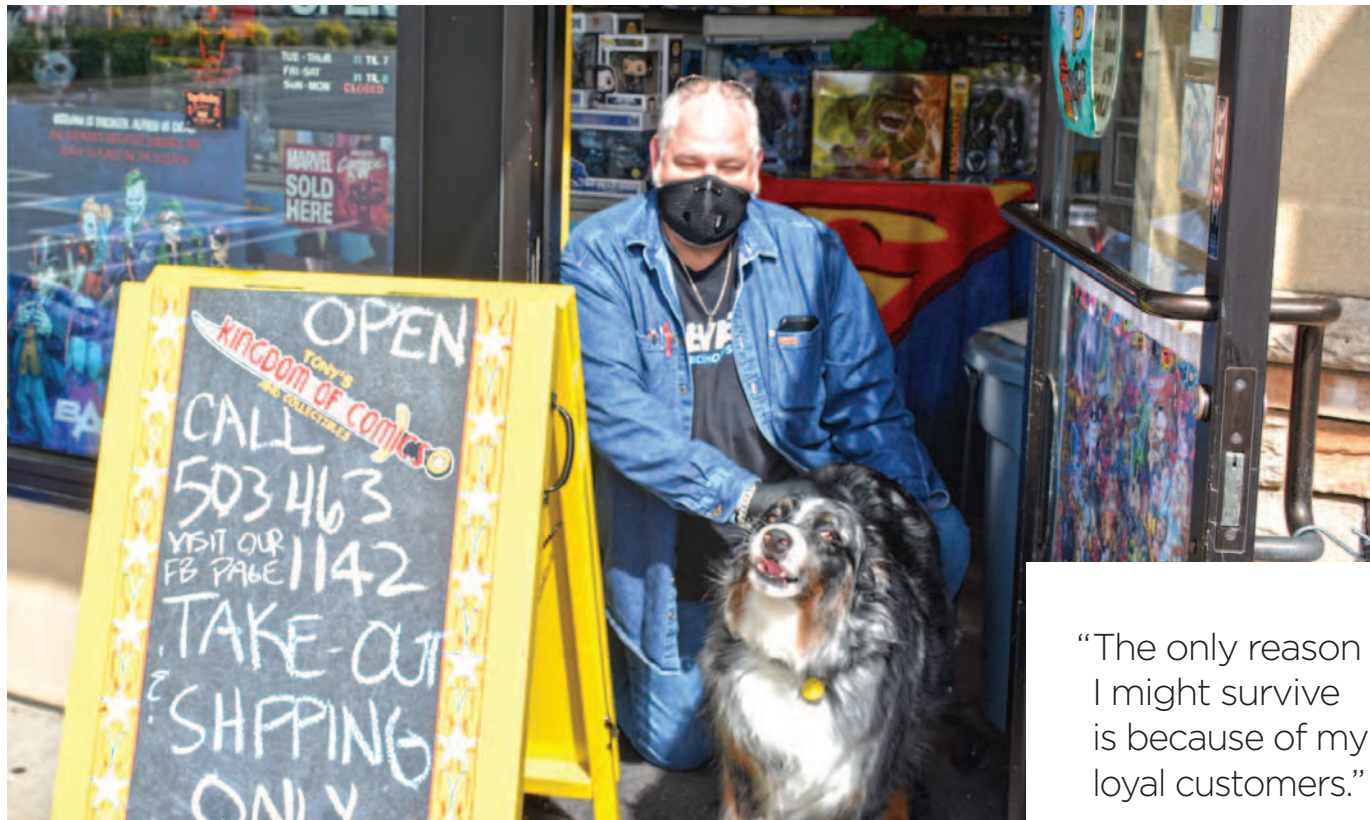
When Gov. Kate Brown ordered the shut down of all dine-in restaurants, Teresa Munoz, who has owned Los Dos Hermanos for more than two decades, was forced to layoff five of her employees and only able to provide takeout and delivery service.

"We're having a really hard time right now. We're just taking it day-by-day and hoping to break even," Munoz said.

Despite the restrictions, Los Dos Hermanos is still in operation from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., hoping to drum up more business until the social distancing orders are lifted.

"I can't wait until we open again, but we need the support. I don't want to close," Munoz said.

Jessie Hartwell, owner of Keizer Florist, also had to layoff two of her part-time employees. As a small operation, Hartwell is currently the only one working. But she admits that she is just glad that she has the ability to work.



KEIZERTIMES/Lauren Murphy
Tony Grove, owner of Tony's Kingdom of Comics, and pup Neddard wait for customers at the shop in Keizer Village on River Road North.

"It's been a little tough, but there are people that have it far worse than I do," Hartwell said. "I'm really just winging it right now, but I'm still getting some good business and still making a living."

Hartwell is still allowing foot traffic through the store and requires people to stay six

feet apart, but the majority of her customers come via deliveries, or customers picking up their orders at the drive-thru.

Although overall numbers are down, Hartwell said her Easter sales were above average and expects to have an increase in numbers around Mother's Day.

While Hartwell is counting on having an uptick sales on holidays, Garrett Jenks, a manager at Dan's Pawnshop, admitted that his business may be down a little bit, but that the store is selling a couple of their items at a particularly high rate.

"We have noticed much more of an interest in our

"The only reason I might survive is because of my loyal customers."

— Tony Grove, Owner, Tony's Kingdom of Comics

firearms and ammunition because people are concerned," Jenks said.

According to Jenks, 99 percent of the transactions at Dan's Pawnshop are in the store, which is why they adhere to strict social distancing regulations.

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City business loan plans revamped

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

At its meeting Monday, April 20, the Keizer City Council voted to dedicate \$45,000 in economic development money it was receiving to providing forgivable loans to support small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the time, there was discussion of only nine \$5,000 forgivable loans, but city

leaders have since decided to break up the money further and offer 18 forgivable loans.

The program will offer one-time \$2,500 forgivable loans designed to provide assistance to help small businesses with payroll expenses.

The eligible businesses must show that they have closed, or had a substantial change-in-service, as a direct

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Hold on to your caps, MHS graduation set

McNary High School's Class of 2020 may yet get a chance to make the graduation walk.

Salem-Keizer School District officials have marked Friday, Aug. 7, at the Oregon State Fairgrounds Pavilion as a potential date, but the plans are entirely dependent upon the easing of social distancing and other guidelines that are intended to keep the COVID-19 pandemic at bay.

"If social distancing

guidelines prevent priority one from being executed, priority two will be a smaller scale personal ceremony that will include just the graduate and their immediate family or just the graduates if that is all that is allowable at the time," said Lillian Govus, district spokesperson in a press release.

If even that is prevented to keep the coronavirus from spreading, a virtual

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Lucky ducks



An alert driver and two Keizer Public Works employees helped reunite a mother duck and her ducklings Wednesday, April 22.

Keizer Public Works was informed that a female mallard was seen flapping frantically near a storm drain on Keizer Station Boulevard shortly before 5 p.m.

Brad Beverly and Lyle Bell, both public works employees, responded

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Submitted photo

Man arrested after trying to torch his home

A Keizer man was arrested after allegedly menacing his wife, then blasting a washing machine and walls with various firearms and attempting to set fire to his own home.



R. Beck

About 1:20 p.m., on Thursday, April 23, Keizer police officers were summoned to a home in the 4700 block of Verda Lane N.E. A 9-1-1 caller reported that her husband was intoxicated, throwing items and punching the

walls of the home. The man was armed with a handgun, she said.

Responding officers were able to evacuate the man's wife, but determined that no crime had occurred and left the scene without contacting the man.

At approximately 10:45 p.m. the same day, officers received a call from the man saying he had unsuccessfully attempted to set fire to his home.

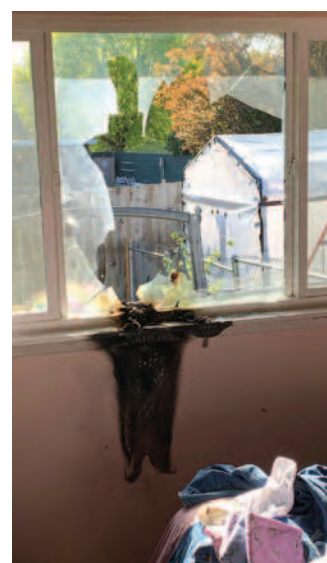
An investigation, after the man was in custody, discovered

RIGHT; Beck's rampage inside his home on Verda Lane included firing shots at a washing machine.

FAR RIGHT; Beck attempted to set fire to the home before calling police himself. Courtesy of Keizer Police Dept.

that he had poured several gallons of gasoline in the home in his attempt to set the fire. Officers also discovered the man had multiple rounds from different firearms into

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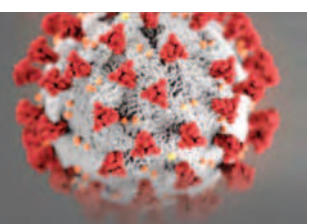
Still no decisions on Volcanoes future

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COVID-19 symptoms updated

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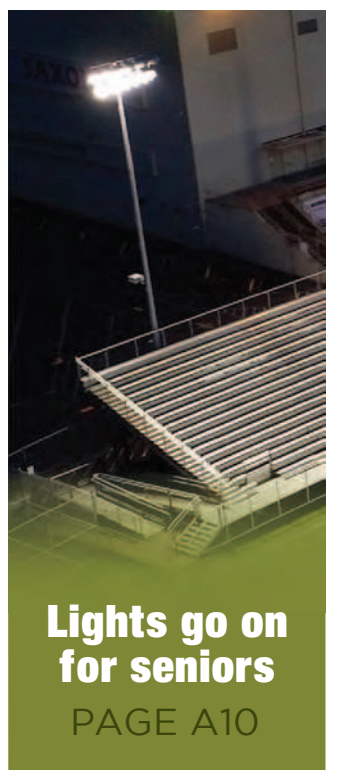
First responders get 'Thank you' meal

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Lights go on for seniors

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