

WANTED: Keizer's pandemic stories

The Keizer Heritage Museum and the *Keizertimes* are teaming up to create an oral history of how the COVID-19 pandemic affected Keizer residents, but we need stories of local impacts to make it happen.

Between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., on July 11, Robert Becker, curator of the Keizer Heritage Museum, and Eric



Howald, managing editor of the *Keizertimes*, will be conducting interviews in the Keizer Homegrown Theater space at the

Keizer Cultural Center, 980 Chemawa Road N.

Proper social distancing will be maintained at all times and equipment that needs to be sanitized between uses will be.

Appointments can be scheduled by calling 503-390-1051 or emailing editor@keizertimes.com before 5 p.m. on Friday, July 10. Walk-in storytellers will be welcome, but may need to wait for scheduled appointments to conclude.

To make the project as well-rounded as possible, the organizers

are seeking stories from all sectors of the community: first responders, front-line workers in grocery stores, business owners, families and individuals that fired up sewing machines to make masks, artists that found new inspiration in the pandemic, those that battled COVID-19 personally and survivors of those who lost a battle to the infection.

"If residents were impacted in positive or negative ways, we would love to hear what they have to say,"

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Cupboards are getting bare Food bank struggles with disruption of supply chain



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

Volunteers at Keizer Community Food Bank prepare to serve the area's hungry the afternoon of Monday, June 29.

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

If it weren't for a federal program making certain fresh produce and dairy products were getting to those in need, Jim Johnson is fairly certain the Keizer Community Food Bank (KCFB) would have been overwhelmed weeks ago.

"The whole supply chain has been disrupted and most of what is on our shelves right now is food we purchased at Grocery Outlet," said Johnson, KCFB manager. "It's very frustrating."

In less straining times, the Oregon Food Bank would send a weekly list of available items to community food banks like KCFB, it would include staples like peanut butter, pasta, canned meats and vegetables, frozen meats and other items. Johnson would decide which items were needed and a purchase would be arranged through Marion Polk Food Share, the regional partner to the Oregon Food

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One more chance to chime in on city charter changes

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The Keizer City Council will hold its final public hearing on changes to the city charter before developing a ballot measure at its meeting Monday, July 6.

The meeting will be held at the Keizer Civic Center beginning at 7 p.m.

The changes under consideration for the charter, the city's founding document, were recommended by a task force that spent the past six months scrutinizing every word and comma. The council convened the task force with an eye toward removing a section that marginalizes LGBTQ+ residents.

The removal of the offending section, Section 44, is the major change recommended by the task

force, but its members also found other ways to make the document more inclusive, such as using less gendered language throughout the document.

The first portion of the public hearing was held June 15. At that meeting Michelle Roland-Schwartz, executive director of the Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force, testified in support of the action.

"One of the things we know about the LGBTQ+ community is that they experience disproportionate rates of all forms of violence, as well as harassment in school settings and their workplaces," said Roland-Schwartz. "One of the things we look for is where we can have protective factors

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Delight Street improvements draw committee complaints



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

Jane Mulholland and Kevin Hohnbaum view the fighting a stand for their neighborhood.

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

Improvements to Delight Street North, intended to make it safer for students to walk and ride to school, drew fire from members of the Keizer Traffic Safety, Bikeways and Pedestrian Committee.

"People who know I serve on this committee have come to me and said this looks like an accident waiting to happen, it looks

that way to me so far," said Pat Fisher, a committee member at a June 11 meeting.

The multiuse path is delineated by an expanded road-to walk and new striping, it isn't a full sidewalk and there isn't a protective curb for much of the stretch of road between Dearborn Avenue and Chemawa Road.

Fisher directed her frustration to this looks like an accident waiting to happen, it looks

"I feel bad for the neighborhood and that they have not received something that we said was coming."

— Pat Fisher, Traffic Safety, Bikeways and Pedestrian Committee

"There's not a lot of room to walk there and there's not a whole lot of room to bike there without being hit by a car door," Fisher said.

Fisher's discontent was echoed by another member of the committee, Wayne Frey.

"When we were looking at this through Safe Routes to Schools, we saw it as a multi-use path and not to allow parking there. I'm shocked to see cars there and I don't think cars should be there," Frey said.

Keizer Public Works Director Bill Lawyer addressed the parking issue at an earlier city council meeting. He said

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An apology...

In the June 5, 2020 issue of the *Keizertimes*, an editorial cartoon ran on the Opinion page that was insensitive. The issue was the call for defunding of police department that are sweeping the nation in light of the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis. I am solely responsible for that cartoon running. I choose the cartoon to illustrate an accompanying editorial against defunding police departments. I apologize to the community and any segment that felt slighted by their local newspaper.

Lyndon Zaitz, publisher
Keizertimes

Laziz



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