

BAILOUTS, continued from Page A1

recipients were a dentistry office (\$137,700), an optometry office (\$136,728.50) and a personnel services business (\$120,000). The average loan amount was \$31,600 per application and each loan helped retain an average of four jobs.

The list of businesses receiving the loans up to \$150,000 included seven non-profits, and limited liability corporations received the most loans (73 of the 235 applications).

JP Morgan Chase was the top loan processor for Keizer businesses. It handled 30 of the loans, US Bank processed 27 of the loans and MAPS Credit Union processed 26 loans.

In Oregon, nearly 53,000 businesses received loans of \$150,000 or less for a total of \$1.8 billion in economic support. The average loan amount was \$34,400.

Across the country, businesses have received roughly \$670 billion in bailout funds.

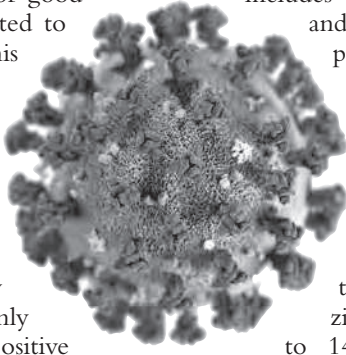
To find out more about how payroll protection loans were used throughout the country, visit propublica.org.

Disclosure: Wheatland Publishing Corp., the parent company of Keizertimes and its sister newspaper The Malheur Enterprise, was a recipient of a payroll protection loan that retained or restored pay for 15 employees between the two papers.

Virus numbers drop in 97303 zip code

Don't stop wearing masks and washing hands, but there is a bit of good local news related to COVID-19 this week.

After a two week period in which COVID-19 cases linked to the 97303 zip code grew by 57 cases, only eight new positive tests were recorded in the Oregon Health Authority's weekly report



released July 1. The 97303 zip code that includes all of Keizer and smaller portions of Salem.

On June 24, the number of positive COVID-19 tests linked to the 97303 zip code rose to 143 from 110 the week prior. In the past week the number of COVID-19 positive tests

only rose to 151, a dramatic drop off from the previous surging numbers.

To combat surging coronavirus numbers, Gov. Kate Brown mandated face covering throughout the state in all indoor public spaces. The mandate began July 1.

While Keizer does not have an identified outbreak of coronavirus linked to a single source, numerous large employers in neighboring areas with employees who live in Keizer could be affecting the area.

REMOVAL: Voters will have to approve changes

(Continued from Page A1)

We owe it to them and the next generation and I urge council to move forward with this, but take a proactive stance and articulate the need for the changes throughout the community why it is needed," said Fisher, who made it clear she was speaking only for herself and not the task force.

Fisher said it should be made clear in the run-up to a vote that there are multiple reasons that make the changes. For some, she said, there will be emotional reasons. For others, there will be concerns about future business that want to establish in Keizer. For still others, it will be a legal issue that Section 44 is outdated and

unenforceable.

"We need voters to feel comfortable voting 'yes' to approve the changes," Fisher said.

She implored the city council to take additional steps to promote inclusivity if the charter changes meet with voters' favor.

"If it is approved, the council should then take up the inclusivity and non-discrimination resolutions," Fisher said.

She added she would like to see the city council continue conversations on how councilors are elected when the city returns "to a normal public outreach process."

"We need voters to feel comfortable voting 'yes.'"

— Pat Fisher

BOARD, continued from Page A1

disarray, students and families are hurting. Fear and anger are present in all of us. Our school board is the ears and voice of our community. It is our responsibility as members to be present and aware of the needs of all our students. The diversity of our district is beyond amazing and we have not honored it since I have been a parent here."

Bethell additionally stated that over the last few weeks, she has come to realize that there is more work to be done than she first anticipated when she first ran for a seat on the school board, but that she promises that she will serve every student in the district to the best of her ability.

"I have watched, listened and learned more about my own opportunities for growth. Through reflection and processes of conversations with friends old and new I have come to the conclusion (that) the work that needs to be done is much greater than I thought when I wanted to

be a voice a year and a half ago for parents, teachers and students and to be an advocate for all of them on this board," Bethell said. "I am far from a perfect leader. I am passionate and committed; and I strive to always share my authentic self and I work hard. More than any of those descriptions, I am willing. I am willing to be here today. I am choosing to be here to sacrifice things that matter to me as a mother. We need to push together to be better. We owe it to our children. So, I promise to all of you to show up at every opportunity, to listen to you, and to work towards a partnership to make sure that we're serving each kid on our district."

MASKS: 'We are looking out for each other'

(Continued from Page A1)

in out of "wisdom and prudence."

Johnson responded that if the language was left in, then the council would have to take the additional step of defining other guidance.

In light of that, Councilor Elizabeth Smith felt that removing the strict mandate to follow OHA guidance should be removed.

"I am a big proponent of wearing a mask, but if we're removing them once we are sitting down and distanced, I'm okay with that," said Councilor Roland Herrera. "I think it makes good sense and it's worked for us so far."

Councilor Laura Reid, attempting to keep the peace in response to whatever ire the council decision could elicit from the public, had the final word on the matter.

"[Wearing masks] is part of the cost of living in civilization. It is not infringing on anyone's rights or government control. The science may or may not be clear, but we are looking out for each other. This is part of a public response to a public health crisis and we do [wear masks] as responsible citizens," Reid said.



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