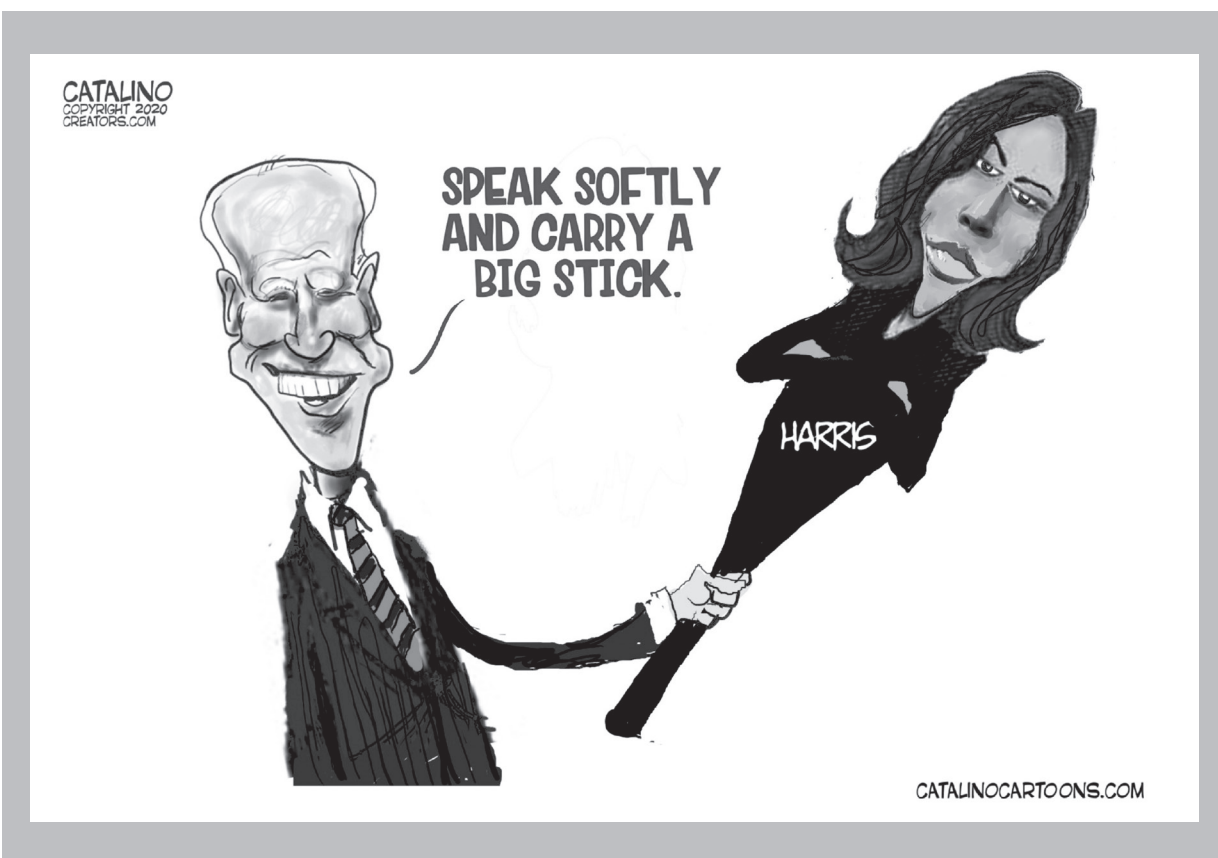


Public Square

Public Square welcomes all points of view. Published submissions do not necessarily reflect the views of the Keizertimes. Submit a guest opinion, column or letter to the editor to publisher@keizertimes.com.



Pass an inclusion resolution

The call for Keizer to declare itself a city of inclusion has been on the table for several years now—proposed by some city council members and segments of the public.

The twin movements of #MeToo and Black Lives Matter should have pushed this issue front and center for the city council. Passing a resolution declaring Keizer a city of inclusivity is an easy task. And yet no resolution is forthcoming.

The City Charter task force discussed adding language about inclusivity in its proposal to the city council. It was decided that adding it the city charter could invite legal action. Not an improbable move in

our litigious society.

A number of Keizer citizens spoke with passion about inclusivity at the Aug. 17 city council meeting. Some of those who appeared described their own encounters with racism on the streets of the city.

You know an issue is important when citizens comes to speak before the city council, always intimidating in the best of circumstances. It is heartbreaking to hear what some people in our community endure—racial slurs, derogatory remarks. A resolution won't change hearts and minds overnight. It does no harm for the city council to put Keizer on the right side of the issue.

An inclusivity resolution is a

statement declaring Keizer a safe space for everyone regardless of race, creed, national origin, gender identity, sexual identity, religion, income level, marital status or physical ability.

There is no impediment to moving an inclusivity resolution across the goal line. The city of Salem and the Salem-Keizer School District have adopted similar resolutions. A modern city should be at the front of the parade on this issue, not holding back to see which way the wind blows.

Keizer and its citizens deserve better than continue to wait for a simple resolution that recognizes their dignity and quality of life.

—LAZ

editorial

other voices

Harris: Progressive opportunist

By DEBRA J. SAUNDERS

When former Vice President Joe Biden announced that Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., would be his running mate, a *New York Times* tweet labeled Harris “a pragmatic moderate.”

As someone who covered her as a San Francisco prosecutor and California attorney general, I'd say a more apt description is “progressive opportunist.”

Two controversies define her career.

First, there's her support for San Francisco's sanctuary city policy, which began in the 1980s as a means to reassure undocumented immigrants that they could report crimes to the police without fear of deportation.

During a Democratic primary debate in June 2019, Harris explained her opposition to President Barack Obama's Secure Communities program, which required local law enforcement to share fingerprints with federal immigration authorities—which San Francisco and Sacramento actively resisted. “I know it as a prosecutor. I want a rape victim to be able to run in the middle of the street and wave down a police officer and report the crime against her,” Harris said.

Sounds reasonable. Who doesn't want a rape victim to be able to report a rape? But over time the City by the Bay and California pols interpreted and rewrote ordinances so that they protected violent and repeat offenders in the country illegally.

Harris was a leader in the stampede. Even when it was shown that the sanctuary laws protected dangerous individuals, City Hall would not fix its unsafe sanctuary city policy out of the apparent belief that people in the country illegally have a right to break a host of other laws.

Beneficiaries of the policy included Edwin Ramos, who was convicted for the 2008 fatal shooting of San Franciscan Tony Bologna, 48, and his two sons Michael, 20, and Matthew, 16.

In 2003, a teenage Ramos assaulted a man on a bus—for which he was convicted. San Francisco did not notify immigration authorities. City law enforcement also did not contact federal immigration officials after Ramos was convicted for trying to rob a pregnant woman and her brother, a felony. Harris did not prosecute Ramos, by then a twice-convicted felon, after he was stopped by police in a car without plates and illegally tinted windows and one of those fleeing tried to ditch a gun later tied to a double murder.

Is it Harris' fault that Ramos killed an innocent father and his two sons? Absolutely not, but she should be recognized as a civic leader who didn't think it was her job to do something about undocumented immigrants who threatened public safety.

When it was reported that she had an undocumented immigrant who pleaded guilty to a drug felony enrolled in her signature “Back on Track”

job training program—even though it wasn't legal for him to work—Harris told the *San Francisco Chronicle* it was a design flaw. But she didn't check to see if other undocumented immigrants, who could not work legally, were enrolled in the program.

Harris did not ask for the death penalty for Ramos, who was convicted for the three murders. She also refused to seek the death penalty against the shooter, who later was found guilty, in the shooting death of San Francisco police officer Isaac Espinoza. She explained that she had voiced her opposition to capital punishment as she ran to be San Francisco district attorney—so she was keeping faith with her beliefs.

Harris' supporters defended the decision as proof that the Democratic prosecutor would not turn her back on her principles.

Problem: She ditched that core value when she decided to run for attorney general in a pro-death penalty state. With her political career at stake, Harris assured voters that she would uphold capital punishment because it was the law.

Indeed, in 2014, Harris defended the death penalty in court after a federal judge ruled that the state's capital punishment law was unconstitutional because it was too arbitrary and riddled with delays.

But later, when families of murder victims went to court to make California a one-drug lethal injection protocol that could win approval in the U.S. Supreme Court and put San Quentin's death row back in business, Harris tried to block the suit on the grounds the families lacked “standing.” That's legalese for: Their beliefs didn't count.

It tells you something about Harris' legal skills that the aggrieved families, individuals so unenlightened as to want California to impose capital punishment, beat her in court, with an assist from Sacramento's Criminal Justice Legal Foundation.

Another black mark on Harris' career involved a cocaine-skimming scandal in the city's crime lab in 2010.

Superior Court Judge Anne-Christine Massullo wrote that the failure of Harris and her office “to produce information actually in its possession regarding” a retired technician's unreliability was “a violation of the defendants' constitutional rights.” And still, Harris ran for attorney general.

Harris wasn't a hard-core district attorney and she wasn't a tough-on-crime attorney general, but that didn't stop her from getting on the Democratic ticket.

(Creators Syndicate)

Keizer Community Library Book Sale August 22

The Keizer Community Library will hold a one-day book sale on Saturday, Aug. 22, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Jeff and Sheryl's On the Turn restaurant at McNary Golf Club.

Sale items will include hardcover and paperback books, audio books, CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, puzzles and games. A bag sale will be featured all day. Shoppers can fill a grocery bag for \$5 (all bags will be provided). Also, pre-filled bags of books featuring a single genre will be available for \$5.

Other prices are 50 cents for paperback books, \$1 for hardcover books, \$1 for CDs and puzzles, 50 cents for VHS tapes, plus special pricing on a few items. Payment may be made with cash, debit cards and credit cards only.

Donations of the above-mentioned items are always welcome. Information about donating books and other media, including no-contact “Porch Pick Up,” is available on the library's website, keizerlibrary.org.

McNary Golf Club is located at 155 McNary Estates Drive N. Face coverings will be required for everyone, including children age 5 and older, and social distancing will be observed according to state requirements. Book sale proceeds fund the library's operations.

police scanner

SUNDAY, JULY 26

6:16 a.m. - Vandalism in the 1000 block of Candlewood Drive NE.

6:20 p.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 5000 block of Ridge Drive NE.

7:21 p.m. - Fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer at the intersection of Alder Drive NE and Pleasant View Drive NE.

8:30 p.m. - Unlawful entry to vehicle in the 700 block of Faymar Drive NE.

MONDAY, JULY 27

1:42 a.m. - Fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer in the 2000 block of Cherry Avenue NE.

2:31 a.m. - Possession of heroin in the 2000 block of Broadway Street NE.

7:56 a.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 5000 block of Ridge Drive NE.

8:30 a.m. - Arrest for physical harassment in the 3000 block of Partridge Lane NE.

10 a.m. - Bicycle theft at the intersection of McNary Estates Drive N and River Road N.

10:58 a.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 2000 block of Latona Drive NE.

12:59 p.m. - Theft from building in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.

2:49 p.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the 4000 block of Four Winds Drive N.

3:15 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.

3:45 p.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 1000 block of Moneda Avenue N.

4:33 p.m. - Unlawful entry to vehicle at the intersection of 10th Place and Moneda Avenue N.

11:08 p.m. - Driving under the influence of intoxicants in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.

TUESDAY, JULY 28

4:27 a.m. - Shoplifting in the 1000 block of Alder Drive NE.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

8 a.m. - Fraudulent use of credit card in the 4000 block of Elizabeth Street N.

12:42 p.m. - Arrest for restraining order violation in the 600 block of Lockhaven Drive NE.

3:09 p.m. - Aggravated assault in the

3000 block of Cherry Avenue NE.

THURSDAY, JULY 30

8:02 p.m. - Arrest for criminal threats in the 6000 block of Shepherd Court N.

8:56 p.m. - Violation of release agreement in the 4000 block of 5th Place NE.

FRIDAY, JULY 31

7:20 a.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 1000 block of Angie Way NE.

4:47 p.m. - Theft by deception in the 7000 block of Kayla Shae Circle NE.

7:57 p.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 4000 block of River Road N.

9:59 p.m. - Reckless driving at the intersection of Manzanita Street NE and 13th Avenue NE.

10:18 p.m. - Driving under the influence of intoxicants at the intersection of Chemawa Road NE and Ulali Drive NE.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

10:10 a.m. - Theft in the 5000 block of Ridge Drive NE.

12:56 p.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 2000 block of Heather Stone Court NE.

1:26 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.

9:55 p.m. - Driving under the influence of intoxicants on Sir Lancelot Court NE.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

2:56 a.m. - Physical harassment in the 1000 block of Troy Street NE.

4 a.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the 1000 block of Susan Court NE.

4:01 a.m. - Theft of bicycle in the 900 block of Chemawa Road N.

9:10 a.m. - Driving under the influence of intoxicants at the intersection of River Road N and Apple Blossom Avenue N.

11:01 a.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the 600 block of Wayne Drive N.

1:04 a.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the 1000 block of Trent Avenue N.

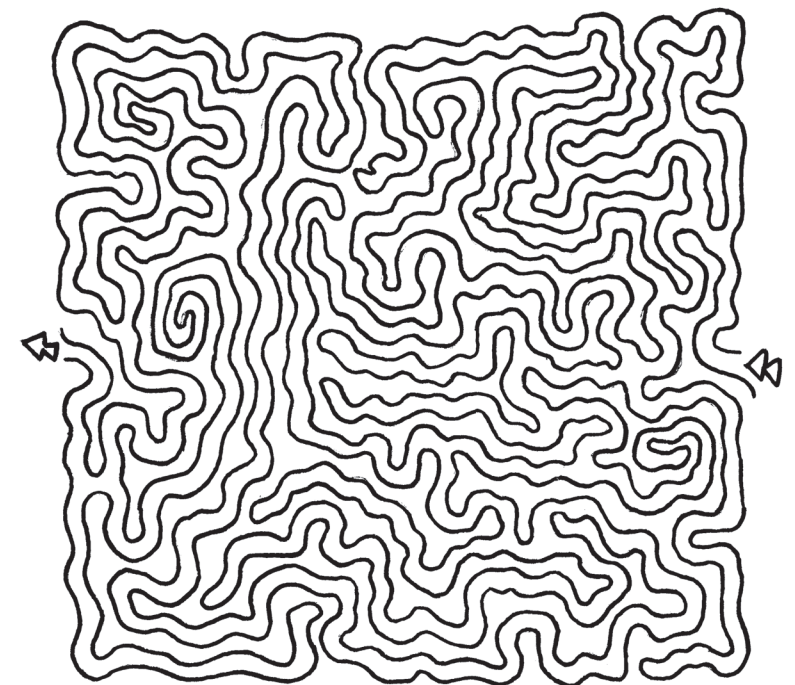
3:59 p.m. - Violation of release agreement in the 3000 block of River Road N.

sudoku

Enter digits from 1-9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.

		1	3	2		8		
	3	6			1	9	5	
4			7					3
	5			1		7		6
7			9		3			8
1		8		4			3	
6					4			1
	9	4	1			6	8	
		7		3	5	4		

maze



Maze by Jonathan Graf of Keizer

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