

## Mayor renounces gov's freeze tactics, Post calls for defiance

At a Keizer City Council meeting Monday, Nov. 16, Mayor Cathy Clark played up fears she had heard about police showing up at the door and either citing or arresting members of the household.

"I am extremely concerned about families in this community that are larger than six people," said Clark.



C. Clark



B. Post

She then directed a more pointed question at City

Manager Chris Eppley, "Will the police come to a door for a family that is larger than six, city manager?"

"As per my direction, no," Eppley replied.

"We will not be doing anything except being welcoming and caring for one another," Clark said. "I am deeply disturbed that there

are children who are fearful, that is borderline harassment."

State Rep. Bill Post urged the city and its residents to defy the freeze orders.

"To ask people not to get together for the sake of getting together is something I cannot believe I am hearing and I am reading," Post said.

Post cited low-wage

workers losing jobs and the lack of input from the Oregon Legislature as further reason to defy the order. Post specifically accused the Oregon governor of "weaponizing the Oregon Health Authority."

"I am asking that we, as a

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## Faith-based film shot in Keizer



BY MATT RAWLINGS

Of the Keizertimes

COVID-19 has caused the movie industry to nearly come to a standstill over the last nine months. However, small-budget studios have been able to continue production in the midst of a pandemic, and one independent, low-budget film used Keizer as one of its primary filming locations.

*The 211 Home*, a new movie from New Shepherd Films, used locations such as Volcanoes Stadium and Keizer City Hall to film their production earlier this fall.

Jim Huggins, the president and CEO of New Shepherd Films, and the director of *The 211 Home*, expressed his appreciation to the city of Keizer for their support.

"This has been a difficult process during COVID-19 but we have had phenomenal support from Mayor (Cathy) Clark and others in the community," Huggins said. "We are

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Submitted photos

TOP: Tate Andersen, a 13-year old from Keizer, plays the lead role of Daniel O'Malley in New Shepherd Films production of *The 211 Home*. BOTTOM: Jim Huggins (left) and Jeff Schneider prepare to shoot a scene.

## Courthouse defies Governor's orders



BY MATT RAWLINGS

Of the Keizertimes

Due to the mandated two-week freeze ordered by Oregon Gov. Kate Brown to stop the spread of COVID-19, the vast majority of restaurants and gyms will be temporarily closed to the public.

However, one company has

elected to defy Brown's orders.

On Monday, Nov. 16, Courthouse Club Fitness, which has one location in Keizer and four others in Salem, shared on its Facebook page that they will be remaining open during the two-week freeze, which went into effect on Wednesday, Nov. 18.

"As a result of the harm done to our business from the first shutdown, we will not survive another closure. This is a horrible position I find myself in, and it leaves me with only one choice. Courthouse Club Fitness will remain open on Wednesday and the days to follow," Courthouse owner and Keizer resident John Miller said in a statement.

Miller shared that, since contact tracing began in May, the Marion County Health Department confirmed that there has been no transmission of COVID-19 traced to the Courthouse — even though Oregon Health officials have only been able to trace approximately 58% of COVID-19 cases from Oct. 1 to Nov. 10, not a single outbreak has been linked to

an Oregon gym during that timespan.

The Courthouse will continue to enforce mask wearing and social distancing guidelines, as well as diligent sanitation protocols. There will also be a 50% capacity limit.

Miller also noted that physical therapy, youth sports and massage are allowed under Brown's order due to the impact on mental and emotional health, noting that gyms provide those same outlets for people.

"This is not a decision I take lightly, and I understand some may not agree. At the end of the day, I am convinced staying open is the best and most responsible for our members, our staff, and

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## 'Freeze' ordered as COVID surges

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

As the COVID-19 curve in Oregon continues to head in the wrong direction, Gov. Kate Brown has moved the entire state back to modified lockdown mode.

Brown previously announced mandates for reduced activity, but raised the restrictions to a "freeze" that will halt activity at indoor recreational spaces until Dec. 2.

"The virus is spreading in the community and, every day, it is infecting more and more Oregonians. This situation is dangerous and our hospitals have been sounding the

Elected officials trade barbs in wake of election, inclusion talks

By ERICA. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

The mudslinging started when Oregon State Rep. Bill Post appeared to target a Keizer city councilor in a since-deleted Facebook post.

"The leader of this gang ... a current councilor will be ousted in two years ... mark my words. This 'gang' will be tossed from Keizer. I've had enough of their hostile takeover attempts," Post wrote around Nov. 5.

Post did not mention who he was writing about by name, but Councilor Roland Herrera thinks he was

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alarms. If we want to give Oregon a fighting chance, we must take further measures to flatten the curve and save lives. I know this is hard, and we are weary. But, we are trying to stop this ferocious virus from quickly spreading far and wide," said Brown in a press release Friday, Nov. 13.

Brown said there will be strict enforcement of the new measure to control spread of the novel coronavirus. Violations are misdemeanors punishable by citation or arrest, Brown said. She planned to work with state police and local law enforcement to encourage Oregonians to comply with her directive.

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No end in sight for rent burdened

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Fear and thrills

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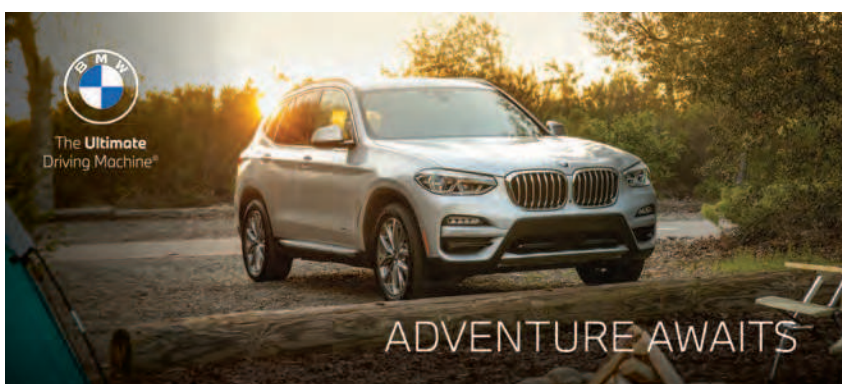
Volunteer of the quarter

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Ebbs makes it official

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