

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.

Freeman, Parsons head for the door

With a combined 16 years on the Keizer City Council, Kim Freeman and Marlene Parsons attended that last session on Monday, Dec. 21, before they turn their seats over to their successors on January 4.

Freeman was appointed to the council in June 2013 to succeed Ken LeDuc, who resigned. Her selection by councilors transformed the body into a female majority, the first time in the city's history.

A long-time community volunteer, Freeman brought her common sense approach to the council. Once she found her footing Freeman was not only a cheerleader for the city but an advocate for those who needed a voice in government. She always strived for fairness in any policy the council discussed. Businesses, schools and families knew they had a champion in Freeman.

Kim Freeman ends her tenure as president of the city council, a position she took seriously and per-

formed well. Her level-headed input will be missed on the council.

Marlene Parsons has been a straight-shooter during her time on the council. Her experience in the military and in business did her well on the issues that faced the council during her two terms.

The public was well-served by Parson's unapologetic need to know all the data on whatever issue that came up, be it parks, policing, infrastructure and especially the recently approved Statement of Values.

Every councilor receives some pushback from the public, depending on the issue. Parsons listened intently to the opinions of her constituents and made the decision she knew was right for Keizer.

The Keizer city council has always been comprised of our friends and neighbors; very few have been politicians in the traditional sense. Many politicians think about the

next rung, most Keizer city councilors do not—they serve their city and their fellow residents out of a desire to make their home better. Self-aggrandizement is not the name of the game.

Neither Freeman nor Parsons sought a seat on the council to round out their resumes, to see their names in the newspaper or have a street named after them. Like dozens of people who preceded them on the council, they saw a way to serve and they did.

After they step down at the first council meeting of 2021 in January, Kim Freeman and Marlene Parsons can be proud of their accomplishments and their leadership for the citizens of Keizer. There will be projects throughout the community in the coming years that can use their expertise. They may be stepping down but we encourage them not to step away.

Thank you for your service Kim Freeman and Marlene Parsons.

—LAZ

editorial

Can democracy hold us together?

By PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

If America were a company and not a country, we would have long ago dissolved the corporation, split the blanket, and gone our separate ways.

What still holds this disputatious and divided people together?

Consider. In announcing the \$900 billion stimulus bill to deal with the pandemic, Speaker Nancy Pelosi did not mention that the gifts for her distressed countrymen and women at Christmas would have been twice as large had she taken President Trump's offer of \$1.8 trillion in October.

Why did the speaker slap that offer away?

"The President only wants his name on a check to go out before Election Day and for the market to go up," she told House Democrats.

Rather than let Donald Trump take credit, Pelosi stifled millions of Americans.

Sunday, however, the speaker took time for a statement to hail the removal of Robert E. Lee's statue from Statuary Hall. "Welcome news," said the speaker. "Congress will continue our work to rid the Capitol of homages to hate."

Lee had stood in a place of honor in the Capitol for decades. When exactly did the statue of the general become a homage to hate?

Both episodes point up an unpleasant truth.

Our dysfunctional American family agrees upon less and less.

By mid-November, according to a Reuters/Ipsos poll, 52% of Republicans thought Donald Trump had "rightfully won." Sixty-eight percent of Republicans thought the election was "rigged." A third of independents, and even 10% of Democrats, agreed.

This month, a Fox poll found that a third of all registered voters believe the 2020 election was stolen from Trump, with 78% of those who voted for Trump expressing that view.

Moreover, the issues that divide us now go increasingly to the faith of what defines us as a nation and a people.

A slice of our intellectual elite emphatically agrees with the *New York Times' Project 1619*, which decrees that the real birth date of this nation was neither 1776 nor 1789, but the year

that the first slave ship arrived in Virginia.

To this influential cohort, enslavement of Black people brought from Africa and dispossession and destruction of the indigenous tribes that European settlers found here are the defining events of our history.

And all who participated in these crimes against humanity or refused to condemn them are undeserving of exaltation.

Not only Lee, but Columbus and Presidents Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Jackson, TR and Wilson are all racist white men whose disgraceful

and even criminal conduct disqualifies them from a place of honor in the American pantheon of 2020. All statues of such men need to come down to cleanse us of the stain of having honored them.

Pelosi says that such statues are "homages to hate."

Yet, there is another America that still cherishes the nation these men created. And, as did their fathers, grandfathers and ancestors, these Americans have shown a willingness to fight and die in her defense.

Thus do we Americans disagree on the most fundamental of issues.

Was America, is America, with all its sins and virtues and all its achievements, a country to be cherished, loved and defended? Or is America a country of whose history we should all be ashamed?

Part of America also believes that discovery in the Constitution of a woman's right to an abortion and a right of homosexuals to marry were major milestones of progress toward a more moral America.

Others see these as long strides away from the Christian country we used to be, a social and moral decline toward the same quiet death that has come to other civilizations and nations that went before us.

In short, we Americans disagree on whether our country is a good and great nation worth defending, or a place that needs a deep cultural cleansing of its sins.

And we have no common code of morality. One side is rooted in modernism and secularism and the other in the teachings of the Old and New Testament, Christian tradition and a natural law written on the human heart that is superior to man-made law.

People who disagree upon such basic beliefs naturally drift apart, as we Americans are doing today.

Political questions arise out of these fundamental differences, and they are not insignificant.

Can a republic as fractured and splintered as ours is—racially, ethnically, politically, culturally, morally—with a population who do not share the same belief about whether their nation is good and great or failed and evil, endure? And for how long?

What successful models from history do we see of nations that took the kind of risks we are taking with our republic?

(Creators Syndicate)

other voices

letters

A constant source of amusement

To the Editor:

Representative Bill Post is a constant source of amusement. Every now and then he makes sense. Like for instance when he suggested to the head case adolescents (aka Proud Boys) that intimidating state employee—in front of their homes—was bad form.

Ah, but then, Post (and state Sen. Kim Thatcher) signed on to a formal request to Oregon Attorney General Ellen Roseblum to support Texas' ridiculous and baseless challenge to the November election. Fool's errand in-

deed, but if you pledge allegiance to the lame duck loser and his bamboozled base, "Ya gotta do what ya gotta do."

Another example: Post promoted the Angela (7.9%) Roman/Three Percent "Maskless Santa" gathering at the gazebo at the (Keizer) Civic Center. An irresponsible (some would say stupid) holiday nod to the reality-challenged. Looks like Post is pretty chummy with "entertainer" Roman and her laugh-a-minute militia. Funny guy, Post. He should be on the radio.

Martin Doerfler
Keizer

Share your opinion

Submit a letter to the editor (300 words), or a guest column (600 words) by noon Tuesday. Email to: publisher@keizertimes.com

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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.

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public notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR MARION COUNTY Juvenile Department

Case No. 20JU04603
PUBLISHED SUMMONS
In the Matter of
ELIZABETH RAY PYATT
A Child.

TO: Jeremy Eldon Pyatt
IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON:

A petition has been filed asking the court to terminate your parental rights to the above-named child for the purpose of placing the child for adoption. YOU ARE REQUIRED TO PERSONALLY APPEAR BEFORE the Marion County Juvenile Court at 2970 Center Street NE, Salem, OR 97301, on the following hearings: Prelim / Initial Appearance Hearing, on the 25th day of January, 2021, at 9:45 a.m. to admit or deny the

allegations of the petition and to personally appear at any subsequent court-ordered hearing. YOU MUST APPEAR PERSONALLY IN THE COURTROOM ON THE DATE AND AT THE TIME LISTED ABOVE. AN ATTORNEY MAY NOT ATTEND THE HEARING IN YOUR PLACE. THEREFORE, YOU MUST APPEAR EVEN IF YOUR ATTORNEY ALSO APPEARS.

This summons is published pursuant to the order of the circuit court judge of the above-entitled court, dated December 21, 2020. The order directs that this summons be published once each week for three consecutive weeks, making three publications in all, in a published newspaper of general circulation in Marion County, Oregon and Deschutes County, Oregon.

Date of first publication: December 25, 2020

Date of last publication: January 8, 2021

NOTICE
READ THESE PAPERS
CAREFULLY

IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR PERSONALLY BEFORE THE COURT OR DO NOT APPEAR AT ANY SUBSEQUENT COURT-ORDERED HEARING, the court may proceed in your absence without further notice and TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS to the above-named child either ON THE DATE SPECIFIED IN THIS SUMMONS OR ON A FUTURE DATE, and may make such orders and take such action as authorized by law.

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

(1) YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO BE REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY IN THIS MATTER. If you are currently represented by an attorney,

CONTACT YOUR ATTORNEY IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTICE. Your previous attorney may not be representing you in this matter.

IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO HIRE AN ATTORNEY and you meet the state's financial guidelines, you are entitled to have an attorney appointed for you at state expense. TO REQUEST APPOINTMENT OF AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU AT STATE EXPENSE, YOU MUST IMMEDIATELY CONTACT the Marion Juvenile Department at 2970 Center Street NE, Salem, OR 97301, phone number (503) 588-5291, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. for further information.

IF YOU WANT TO HIRE AN ATTORNEY, please retain one as soon as possible and have the attorney present at the

above hearing. If you need help finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636.

IF YOU ARE REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH YOUR ATTORNEY AND TO KEEP YOUR ATTORNEY ADVISED OF YOUR WHEREABOUTS.

(2) If you contest the petition, the court will schedule a hearing on the allegations of the petition and order you to appear personally and may schedule other hearings related to the petition and order you to appear personally. IF YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR, YOU MUST APPEAR PERSONALLY IN THE COURTROOM, UNLESS THE

COURT HAS GRANTED YOU AN EXCEPTION IN ADVANCE UNDER ORS 419B.918 TO APPEAR BY OTHER MEANS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, TELEPHONIC OR OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS. AN ATTORNEY MAY NOT ATTEND THE HEARING(S) IN YOUR PLACE.

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY
Alisa Larson-Xu, #165935
Assistant Attorney General
Department of Justice
1162 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301-4096
Phone: (503) 934-4400

ISSUED this 22nd day of December, 2020.

s/ Alisa Larson-Xu
Alisa Larson-Xu, #165935
Assistant Attorney General
Of Attorneys for Petitioner

12/25, 1/1, 1/8

