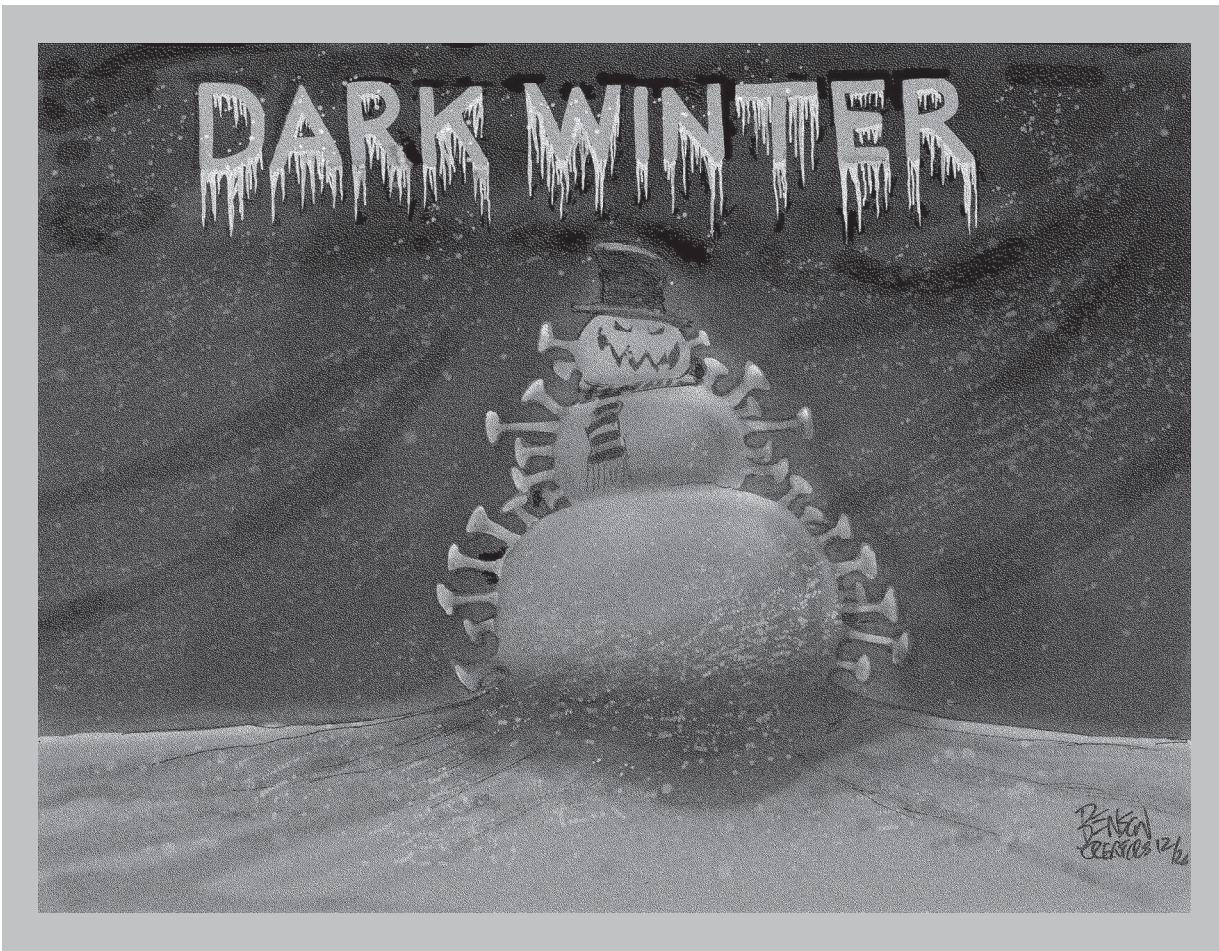


Public Square

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.



House Republicans splitting apart from President Trump

By DEBRA J. SAUNDERS

“So, we spent a whole election on my side of the fence talking about, ‘We got to fight socialism.’ And now you’re going to throw a half-trillion dollars” with “absolutely no targeting” for earners hurt economically by the coronavirus?

That’s Rep. Mark Amodei, R-Nev., talking about President Donald Trump’s call for Congress to increase COVID-19 relief checks for individuals from \$600 to \$2,000.

“I’m the guy who campaigned for the president, contributed to the president and voted for the president,” Amodei offered during a wide-ranging hour-long phone conversation last week. The only Republican in Nevada’s congressional delegation, Amodei stressed that he wanted Trump to serve four more years.

But that doesn’t mean Amodei has to vote in lockstep with Trump. As Amodei said in a statement released after he voted on Monday against \$2,000 “helicopter checks,” the Treasury doesn’t have the money. The measure didn’t target workers hurt economically by the pandemic; it instead targets those who earn up to \$75,000. He would prefer to see funds disbursed to help stressed-out health care providers.

For the past four years, House Republicans have groveled readily every time Trump engaged in an attention-grabbing stunt. In this case, the stunt was a demand for \$2,000 check—after Trump’s own team had negotiated a deal with \$600 stimulus checks and the COVID-19 bill had reached his desk. Indeed, Trump is demanding the larger haul even though he signed the bill.

But this time, Trump’s antics are not working so well. Sure, 44 House Republicans voted with House Dems for the bigger checks. But 130 GOP members voted no.

Amodei told me the White House didn’t lobby for his support on the bill, and GOP leaders didn’t whip support

for the measure. The cookie is crumbling.

Another reason I call it a stunt: It likely won’t go anywhere. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell put three Trump asks in one bill—\$2,000 checks, repealing protections for tech companies like Facebook or Twitter under Section 230 of a communications law and establishing an election integrity panel—that should ensure the package won’t make it to the president’s desk.

Stunt No. 2: Trump’s veto of the National Defense Authorization Act because it did not include a repeal of Section 230, which shields tech platforms from legal liability.

Amodei has a history of supporting Trump in general but still saying things your standard MAGA bootlicker would not say. So while it is not extraordinary that the Carson City Republican voted to override Trump’s veto of the defense spending bill, it is a big deal that 108 House Republicans joined him.

“The Section 230 stuff, I completely agree with the president,” Amodei said—but its repeal has no place in a defense bill.

Did Trump win the 2020 election?

“No, he lost Nevada,” Amodei responded. And the Trump legal team repeatedly has lost as it appealed states’ decisions in court.

Amodei feels for Vice President Mike Pence, who, on Jan. 6, did what then-Vice President Al Gore did in 2001 after George W. Bush won the White House, and what then-Vice President Joe Biden did in 2017 when progressive Democrats challenged Trump’s victory as the fruit of Russian interference.

Amodei resented Democrats whose “resist” movement tried to de-legitimize Trump’s 2016 victory for four years. So he offered, “I’m not going to turn around and become what I was so offended by.”

Smart and principled.
(Creators Syndicate)

other voices

Are ‘Never Trumpers’ the future of the GOP?

By PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

When Congress votes to declare Joe Biden the next president, Donald Trump is not going to go quietly.

The anti-Trumpers and “Never Trumpers” are assuring each other that Trumpism and Trump are dead and gone for good in two weeks.

The future of the GOP, they suggest, belongs to the Republicans who resisted and renounced Trump through the last five years of his candidacy and presidency.

As for those cowards and collaborators who stood by Trump and refused to repudiate him, they will, in turn, be repudiated by history and the American electorate alike.

The wish, here, is very much the father to the thought.

For if the past is any guide, not only are the reports of the death of Trumpism premature, the probability is that Trumpism has put down roots in our national politics that are not soon, if ever, going to be pulled up.

For those of us of a certain age, a comparable situation arose at Christmas 1964. Barry Goldwater had just been crushed in a 44-state landslide, winning the votes of only 27 million Americans. The senator had carried only five states of the Deep South and his home state of Arizona.

The establishment saw in the crushing of Goldwater the defeat and rout of the “extremist” movement that had produced him. *The Party That Lost Its Head* was the title of a widely hailed post-election book by two Ripon Society Republicans.

The establishment consensus was that Govs. Nelson Rockefeller of New York, William Scranton of Pennsylvania and George Romney of Michigan were the future of the party, if it was to

have a future.

What followed?

Richard Nixon, who had stood by Goldwater when the party’s liberal elite abandoned him, would lead the GOP to recapture 47 House seats in 1966, take the presidency in 1968, and run up a 49 state landslide in 1972.

Thus began a period of GOP presidential ascendancy, with Nixon, Reagan and Bush I winning five of six elections from 1968 to 1988, until the first baby boomer president, Bill Clinton, arrived on the scene.

And while there are differences between now and then, there are many similarities.

Do the anti-Trumpers or “Never Trumpers” represent the future of the GOP? If so, where is the postwar precedent for this? No Republican who turned his back on Goldwater was ever nominated for president or vice president following Goldwater’s defeat.

When President Gerald Ford put Rockefeller on his ticket after taking over from President Nixon, the Kansas City convention of 1976 demanded Rockefeller’s removal as the price of party unity.

Rockefeller was sacrificed, as the right had demanded.

Four years after Ford’s defeat, Mr. Conservative himself, Ronald Reagan, Goldwater’s most effective surrogate in 1964, was nominated and won successive landslides in 1980 and 1984.

Other factors and forces point to the probability that Trumpism has a major role in the party’s future.

Where Presidents Truman, Nixon, and George W. Bush left office with approval ratings in the 20s, Trump’s approval rating is still in the 40s, where it has been for the duration of his presi-

dency.

Second, the issues that propelled Trump to the nomination and the Oval Office still resonate with the American people.

Among them are mass migration, insecure borders and dependency upon foreign imports for the necessities of our national life.

Moreover, there is shrinking support for a foreign policy that has us tied down militarily in Europe, East Asia and the Middle East, to fight if need be, in the defense of scores of nations, few of which have a direct bearing on the national security of the United States.

Another issue Trump elevated and exploited that is more acute now than in 2016, is a distrust of the media, the “deep state” and the political, cultural and academic establishments that have alienated the 74 million who voted for Trump.

And if the past is prologue, the Republican Party will make a major comeback in 2022.

Consider. Two years after his smashing victory over Goldwater, LBJ and his party lost 47 House seats. Ronald Reagan, after his landslide in 1980, lost 26 House seats in 1982. After routing Bush I in 1992, Bill Clinton lost 54 House seats and the Senate. Two years after winning the presidency, Barack Obama lost both the House and Senate in 2014.

Is it likely Joe Biden will be celebrating his 80th birthday after making history by leading his party to control of Congress in 2022?

For Republicans, the nomination of 2024 is a prize to be sought.

However, if one has spent the last four years trashing Trump, it may be as out of reach as it was for Rocky.

(Creators Syndicate)

guest column

letters

The unselfishness of Keizer

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank some special community individuals who stepped up when I asked for some help.

The year 2020 has been specially difficult for families and the homeless who lost jobs and found themselves just “out there.” Several local agencies like the Salvation Army, Keizer Chamber of Commerce, Keizer Police and the Keizer Fire District helped many kids and families but some fell through

the cracks.

One former student reached out telling me the Salvation Army had canceled her appointment for toys for her 3-year-old.

Together, we helped five families with a total of 35 members and 20 women at a shelter with food and Christmas gifts. RJ Navarro and his volunteers helped an additional 65 families.

The following individuals answered my call to help: Jeanie G. White, Joy Baird, Karla Tibbits, Terri Fritz, Jessica Graham Gomez, Dawn Reichle Baylon, Linda Warner, Joanne Sandhu,

Jennifer Luth, Megan Kay, Keizer Family Dental, Maggie Paolucci, Kim Reyes and Roland Herrera.

I got a call from the director of the women’s shelter and I had tears in my eyes. The women have had a very difficult year and our presents to them brought tears to their eyes because someone cared enough to think of them. I don’t think they have gotten Christmas presents in a very long time.

My heart is full of gratitude for the generosity these individuals showed during this time of need.

Carrie Lee Brown
Keizer

Keizertimes

Wheatland Publishing Corp.
142 Chemawa Road N. • Keizer, Oregon 97303 • Phone: 503.390.1051
www.keizertimes.com

EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Lyndon Zaitz
publisher@keizertimes.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Eric A. Howald
editor@keizertimes.com

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Matt Rawlings
news@keizertimes.com

COMMUNITY REPORTER

Lauren Murphy
reporter@keizertimes.com

ADVERTISING

advertising@keizertimes.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Andrew Jackson
graphics@keizertimes.com

LEGAL NOTICES

legals@keizertimes.com

RECEPTION/SUBSCRIPTIONS

Lori Beyeler

facebook

facebook.com/keizertimes

twitter

twitter.com/keizertimes

SUBSCRIPTIONS

One year:
\$35 in Marion County,
\$43 outside Marion County,
\$55 outside Oregon

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

Publication No: USPS 679-430

POSTMASTER

Send address changes to:

Keizertimes Circulation
142 Chemawa Road N.
Keizer, OR 97303

Periodical postage paid at
Salem, Oregon

Share your opinion

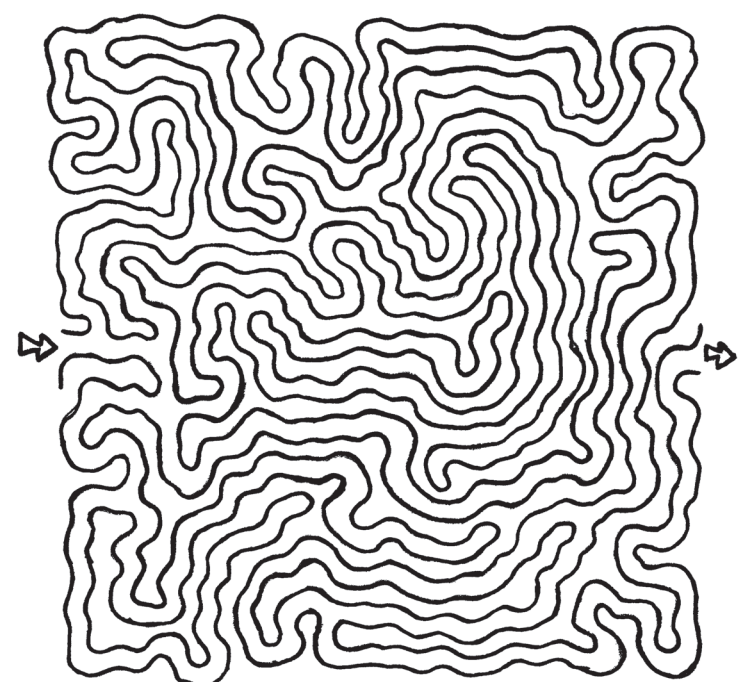
Submit a letter to the editor (300 words),
or a guest column (600 words) by noon Tuesday.
Email to: publisher@keizertimes.com

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.

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

maze



Maze by Jonathan Graf of Keizer