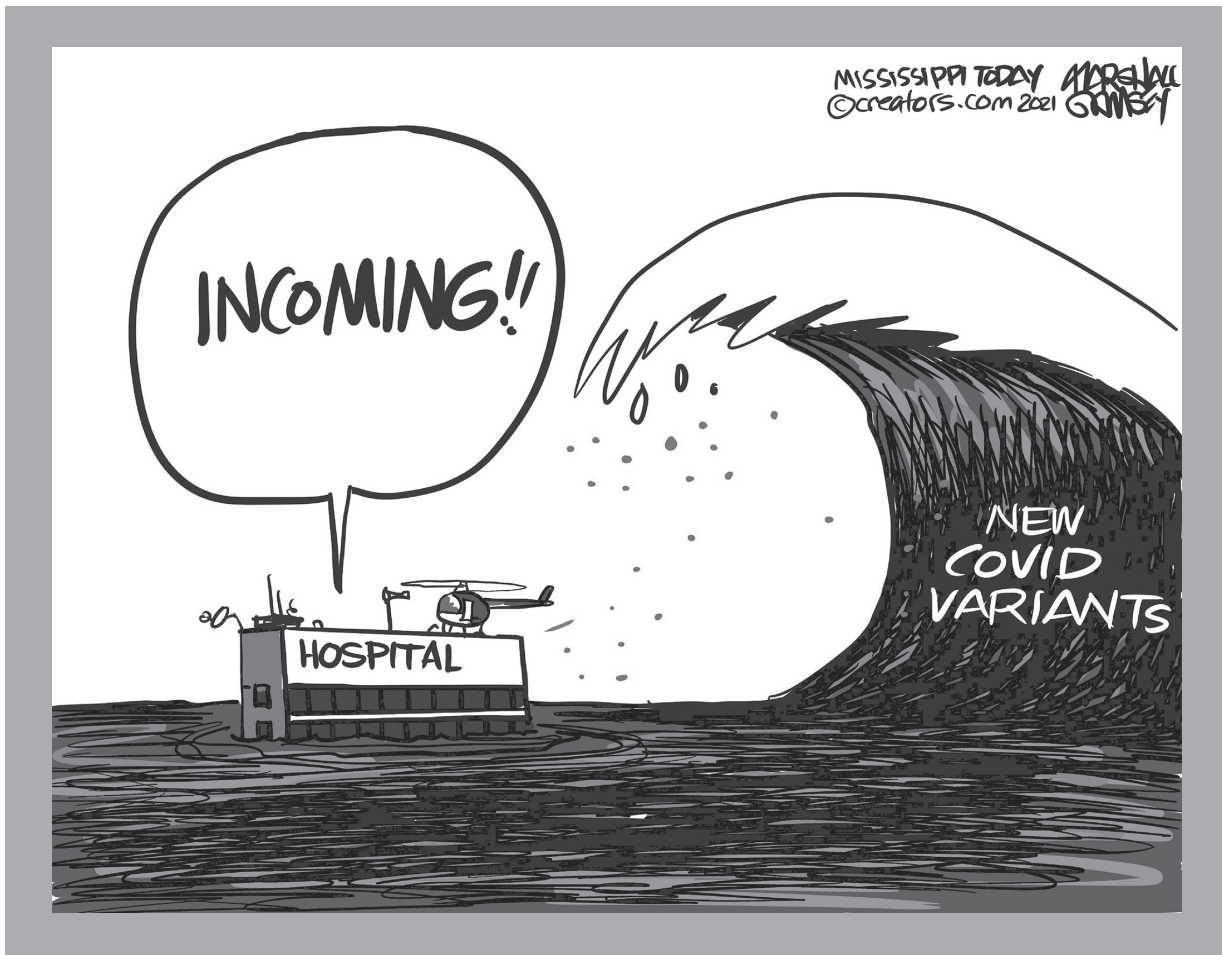


Public Square

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.



Kudos to Bill Post and House Republicans

We offer kudos to state Representative Bill Post, and 22 other Republican House members, who released a statement last week in response to loony resolution from the Oregon Republican Party labeling the January 6 U.S. Capitol takeover a “false flag” operation. Conspiracy theories have flown fast and furious since the January 6 siege that resulted in the deaths of five people, including a Capitol police officer. First-hand reports, smartphone camera video and news footage tells the story of what happened on January 6 and by whom.

editorial

Yet, the Oregon Republican Party’s resolution said the “violence was a “false flag” operation designed to discredit President Trump, his supporters and all conservative Republicans.” It added (this provided) the sham motivation to impeach President Trump. Cooler and more sensible heads prevailed in the House of Representatives’ Republican caucus; the 23 members were having no part of what the Oregon Republican Party was pushing. That was a move that was both necessary and admirable.

A statement released by the House Republicans on Jan. 27, said “[E]lected House Republicans are focused on representing our constituents. Oregon is in crisis. Vaccines are not going to our most vulnerable, our students are still not in a safe classroom setting, main street businesses are in a tailspin, our health data is a mess and here we are, talking about a political resolution. There is no credible evidence to support false flag claims.”

That is a strong rebuke. It would be nice if the Republicans in the state Senate would take the same step.

—LAZ

If essential, schools should be open

By DEBRA J. SAUNDERS

“There are only two choices: Which one will it be?” the Chicago Teachers Union argued to its members. “Risk your life or your students’ lives by going into dangerous buildings,” or agree to strike if Chicago Public Schools go ahead with plans to reopen classrooms Monday. Obviously, teachers, students and staffers with compromised immune systems or co-morbidities that put their health at risk should work from home. Alas, the Windy City union makes no distinction between healthy and unhealthy educators, while ignoring the data on the low risk that COVID-19 poses for healthy working adults and school-age children.

other voices

Everyone knows that remote education is failing students, especially immigrant children and others whose parents can’t fill in the gaps that plague schooling by computer screen. Yet, somehow, education groups that ostensibly are committed to closing the achievement gap are willing to let this separate-but-equal education policy stand.

President Joe Biden likes to say that he’ll “listen to the scientists.” Apparently, there is an exemption to the science-first approach when teachers unions disagree.

Last year, governors, includ-

ing Nevada Gov. Steve Sisolak, and school boards closed schoolhouse doors with total disregard for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines that recommended schools close when an infected individual had been on campus or in hot spots, and then only for two to five days for sanitation purposes. Elected officials were in a panic, and panic trumped science.

Tuesday, the CDC released a study that found that with masking requirements and other mitigation efforts, Wood County, Wisconsin, public school transmission was lower than community spread. On Thursday, White House press secretary Jen Psaki poo-pooed that finding as particular to “rural” schools with different challenges than those in city districts.

Risk-averse Democrats can’t admit they were wrong to shut down schools. Biden won’t say it. His ostensible push to open most public schools within 100 days is a soft plan that puts off specific guidance and allows risk-aversion to rule the day. Because once you’ve convinced yourself that no-classroom instruction is safer, how do you open?

And you can see why. I mean, this is only about whether a generation of children is educated or stunted.

The 18 suicides of Clark County students since March? It’s unfortu-

nate, but not enough to move teachers unions in Chicago, Montclair, New Jersey, or Bellevue, Washington.

Americans are isolated right now. We don’t know what we don’t know about less visible changes wrought by the pandemic. When the return to normal begins, however, there will be no hiding the edge enjoyed by children who attended open public or private schools or whose educated parents were able to fill in virtual-learning gaps. Kids without those advantages will be more likely to fall behind for life.

Grocery store workers and nurses and hospital cleaning staff who did their jobs as essential workers will return their children to schools where teachers believed that classroom teaching was a bridge too far -- secure in the knowledge stay-at-home teachers would not lose a paycheck in the process.

I am sure that all those hospital workers and delivery truck drivers who did show up to work will be very understanding about their children getting a lesser education so that healthy pajama-clad teachers could be spared the risks which designated “essential workers” assumed.

The biggest lesson America’s children can learn from the coronavirus pandemic is simple: Education is important, but not that important. Just ask your teacher.

(Creators Syndicate)

pating huge numbers of them by her decision to deny them COVID-19 protection until her personal favorites are served. This gubernatorial action came about in defiance of the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that recommended seniors before them due to staggeringly higher morbidity rates among the older folks. Such is political theatre in the state of Oregon during our death-wielding pandemic.

Gene H. McIntyre
Keizer

letters

chats with the wall-hung paintings of long-departed governors. Meanwhile, Oregon’s Governor Kate Brown, a record of her posturing suggests, just could be active in her search of obituaries among the state’s 65-years-and-older crowd, antic-

Political theater amid a pandemic

To the Editor:

What would readers guess goes on behind the locked-down Oregon capitol these days?

Well, some surmise that there could be legislators wandering the silenced halls in search of doors not locked so Proud Boys, neo-Nazis, and white supremacists can enter when needed. Others may seek solace by engaging in muted

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SUNDAY, JAN. 24

2:35 a.m. - Arrest for reckless driving at the intersection of Chemawa Road N and Four Winds Drive N.
4 a.m. - Burglary in the 800 block of Manbrin Drive NE.
4:45 a.m. - Arrest for assault in the 500 block of Rose Park Lane NE.
12:03 p.m. - Sudden death in the 5000 block of Joan Drive N.

MONDAY, JAN. 25

12 p.m. - Assault in the intersection of Chemawa Road NE and Ulali Drive NE.
1:24 p.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 5000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.
3:30 p.m. - Vandalism in the 4000 block of Crater Avenue N.
3:34 p.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 800 block of Manbrin Drive NE.
4:20 p.m. - Sudden death in the 5000 block of River Road N.
6:16 p.m. - Theft in the 3000 block of Cherry Avenue NE.
10 p.m. - Theft in the 5000 block of Wittenberg Lane NE.

TUESDAY, JAN. 26

4:02 a.m. - Arrest for driving under the influence of intoxicants in the 4000 block of Tiffany Place NE.
10:06 a.m. - Theft in the 1000 block of Harmony Drive NE.
1 p.m. - Physical harassment in the 4000 block of Shoreline Drive N.
4:39 p.m. - Sudden death in the 1000 block of McGee Court NE.
5:50 p.m. - Traffic accident at the intersection of River Road N and Manzanita Street NE.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 27

7 a.m. - Criminal mischief at the intersection of Oneil Road NE and Barnick Road NE.
12:46 p.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 4000 River Road N.

THURSDAY, JAN. 28

1:29 a.m. - Arrest for felon in possession of weapon at the intersection of Gobert Avenue NE and Dixon Street NE.
7:40 p.m. - Arrest for assault in the 5000 block of Dory Court N.
9:12 p.m. - Arrest for burglary in the 5000 block of McLeod Lane NE.

FRIDAY, JAN. 29

4 a.m. - Arrest for contempt of court in the 1000 block of Orchard Court N.
8 a.m. - Identity theft in the 1000 block of Garden Court NE.
11 a.m. - Burglary in the 1000 block of Marigold Street NE.
1 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.
4:40 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 3000 block of River Road N.
9 p.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the 6000 block of Hidden Creek Loop NE.

SATURDAY, JAN. 30

3:30 p.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the intersection of Cherry Avenue NE and Alder Drive NE.

SUNDAY, JAN. 31

12:31 a.m. - Vandalism in the 5000 block of River Road N.
8:54 a.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 4000 block of River Road N.

traffic court

NO INSURANCE

Amber Noel Reed, \$300; Isaiah Josiah Nelson, \$500; Aaron Matthew Poff, \$500; Valerie Rodriguez, \$300; Alberto Herrera Santos, \$245; Perla Crystal Rodriguez, \$265.

NO PROOF OF INSURANCE

Raven Anson Lindblom, \$342; Brandon Kyle McKelligett, \$500; Jayleen Ann Stewart, \$500; Marissa Esther Fredericks, \$235; Timothy S. Marchuk, \$75; Francisco Duarte Galvan, \$75; Elena Guerrero, \$235.

DRIVING WHILE SUSPENDED

Osman Keam, \$1,042; Earl Dean McNabb, \$1,042; John Monohan Jr, \$245; David Alexander Peyree, \$1,042; Amber Noel Reed, \$642; Harold Elmer Hansen, \$842; Brandon Kyle McKelligett, \$1,042; Isaiah Josiah Nelson, \$1,042; Aaron Matthew Poff, \$1,042; Valerie Rodriguez, \$642; Jayleen Ann Stewart, \$1,042.

USE OF MOBILE DEVICE

Isaac Nicholas Alvarez, \$342; Gaby Paola Gonzalez Chavez, \$342; Krystal Mae Kamback, \$392; David Alexander Peyree, \$500; Lizbeth Salazar Barragan, \$342; Madison Lynne Combe, \$235; Christopher Scott Curths, \$235; Weisha Robin Mize, \$235.

SPEEDING

Joshua Anthony Harris, \$292; Alexys Elaine Horton, \$292; Ivan Lemeza, \$207; Brandon Lee Nguyen, \$307; Joshua Barger Fox, \$242; Joseph Kent Faville, \$135; Alec Jordan Lueb, \$367; Christopher Alan Michael Smith, \$267; Amanda Marie Sandoval, \$145; Robert William Johnston, \$135; Baldemar Ortega, \$165.

FAILURE TO OBEY TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE

Celeste Genean Obrien, \$235.

OTHER

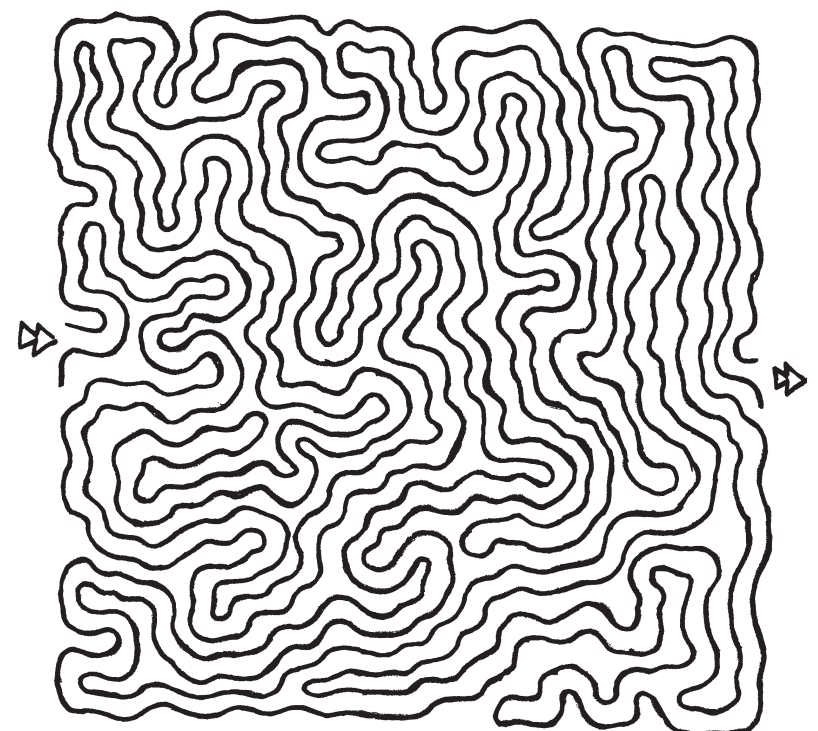
Richard Elmer Cramer, \$157, improper positioning of vehicle; Isaiah Josiah Nelson, \$500, fail to yield to emergency vehicle; Brandon Lee Nguyen, \$115, fail to use safety belts; Timothy S. Marchuk, \$40, fail to register vehicle; Nicholas Patrick Neff, \$245, careless driving.

sudoku

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				5	8		4	

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.

maze



Maze by Jonathan Graf of Keizer