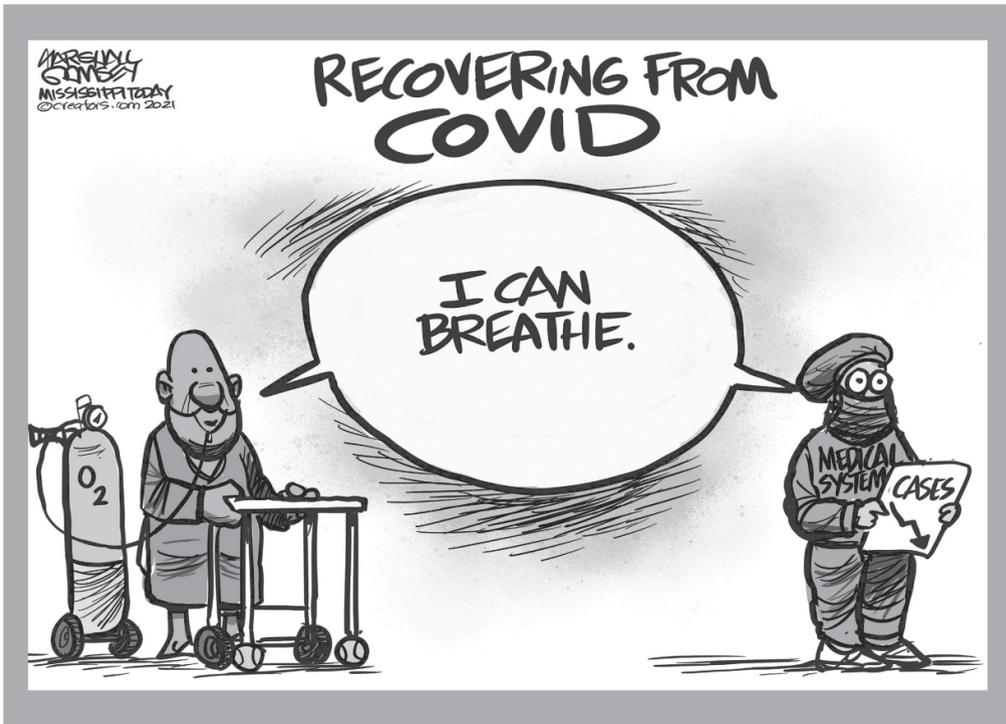


Public Square

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That's something to consider

By LYNDON ZAITZ

How wonderful it would be to hear someone say, "That's something to consider" during discussions of today's divisive topics. Unfortunately those words are hardly—if ever—heard.

Everyone has their opinion whether it is about face masks, vaccines, taxes or school resource officers. Anyone paying attention to media of any kind would be excused for thinking that no topic goes undebated. They are not debates so much as people disparaging their counterparts.

Free speech is one of the greatest gifts America has given itself, but it has not always been easy. Through the centuries of the United States people have died for expressing their beliefs—the January 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol is but the latest example.

We teach our young children that words and hands are not for

hurting yet that is a message that fades as we get older and revel in the fact we have the ability to express ourselves any time we wish.

Hands and weapons can hurt and kill; words harm. Is it possible for our society to lower the civic temperature? What will it take for disagreements to go from fierce discourse to patience and tolerance?

Beliefs are part of who humans are. Who wants to be characterized as weak if they should pause and ponder what someone on the opposite side of an issue is saying?

Rodney King asked in Los Angeles in 1992, "Can't we all just get along?" The same question is still viable almost 30 years later. People are generally good—we should remind ourselves of that. Everyday. People don't wake up in the morning and wonder how they can mess up somebody's day. We all respond to what we hear and experience during our day.

Social media has made it easy for us to react immediately to what we read. Many times we react without thinking what we want to say—we defend and reinforce our beliefs, which can cause grief for others.

The key to civility is listening. People want to be heard and not have their beliefs belittled. We are all products of our backgrounds and experience, we can't change that. We can change how we respond to what people say.

It is hard to envision a time in the near future when the vitriol lessens, but it must start somewhere. It should begin with each of us. Hard-rock beliefs will not be abandoned. If we can listen, ponder and consider ideas and beliefs different than our own, that will go a long way to a calmer more civil society.

We all want to same thing: peace, love and security.

(Lyndon Zaitz is publisher and editor of the Keizertimes.)

on my mind

other voices

It's the end of the ride

By DEBRA J. SAUNDERS

White House press briefings are no longer must-see TV. With former President Donald Trump gone, if you want to watch the daily briefings, you can't just turn on cable news networks that rely on ratings. In President Joe Biden's White House, C-SPAN is your safe bet.

Because of coronavirus social distancing protocols, there are no crammed rows of questioners from assorted media outlets shouting questions at press secretary Jen Psaki. The back and forth is civil.

Even without the COVID-19 rules, you know that the mood in the room is different simply because Trump, with his arsenal of grudges and suspicion of "fake news," is gone.

The hostility between Trump and the press was evident at his first press secretary's very first remarks in the James S. Brady briefing room. From the moment Sean Spicer wrongly called out the press corps for "deliberately false reporting" on the Trump inauguration crowd size, savvy broadcasters understood that Trump's briefings offered not only news but also entertainment.

The Biden press team doesn't want to compete with that. "Sleepy Joe" Biden, as the 45th president called him, won by offering America the opposite of Trump—civility, predictability, a willingness to govern off camera.

Friends have told me they are so glad Biden doesn't tweet. He does, I tell them, and they're shocked.

Why didn't they know? There's no news in Biden's tweets. There are no nasty nicknames. Biden doesn't make everything about himself. Rather than use Twitter to exact revenge against critics, Biden uses Twitter to promote his agenda.

When reporters ask Psaki about Trump's latest sound bite, Psaki makes it clear that she does not want to engage. More non-Trumpian behavior: walking away from a fight.

I am not saying that the Biden administration is staffed by cupcakes. They can play hardball with the best of them.

Biden deputy press secretary TJ Ducklo threatened a *Politico* reporter who was working on a story about his personal relationship with *Axios* reporter Alexi McCammond. "I will destroy you," Ducklo told Tara Palmeri according to *Vanity Fair*. Ducklo also told Palmieri she was "jealous" because a man she had been interested in preferred McCammond instead.

Ducklo's behavior was downright Trumpian, except in one important way—he intimidated Palmeri over the phone during what was supposed to be an off-the-record conversation.

After the *Vanity Fair* report, Ducklo, who has stage 4 lung cancer, apologized in a letter to Palmeri and was suspended for a week with-

out pay.

Reporters then questioned if Ducklo's continued employment undercut Biden's Inauguration Day promise to "fire on the spot" any staffer who treats colleagues with disrespect. Ducklo promptly resigned.

It was all very old school. Which brings me to the other perception readers have shared—because the Biden team does its heavy lifting off camera, they see this White House as a sleepy backwater that probably feels like a vacation after four years of Trump.

Not even close. If you look at the briefing room today, you'll see that a number of faces in the Trump press corps are gone. Some have been replaced by reporters who covered the Biden campaign, others have moved on to beats that don't keep them on a news treadmill that runs nonstop.

After 30-plus years writing for daily newspapers, four years covering Trump and five weeks covering Biden, I am out of gas. Covering Trump was like riding a roller coaster, and covering Biden looks like a running a marathon after a roller coaster ride. Thanks for joining me on the roller coaster. I'm getting off here.

In case you're wondering, I'm not sure what's next—a return to journalism or something different. But first, I plan a month or two to sleep, read and recharge. Then I can decide about the next ride.

(Creators Syndicate)

police scanner

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

6 a.m. - Physical harassment in the 600 block of Lockhaven Drive NE.
7:29 p.m. - Arrest for criminal trespassing in the 5000 block of Nordic Court N.
9:17 p.m. - Arrest for criminal trespassing in the 5000 block of River Road N.

MONDAY, MARCH 1

1:09 a.m. - Traffic accident at the intersection of River Road N and Manbrin Drive N.
9:25 a.m. - Theft in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.
10:40 a.m. - Burglary in the 3000 block of Jack Street N.
12 p.m. - Burglary in the 1000 block of Modoc Drive NE.
2:58 p.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 5000 block of Nordic Court N.
5 p.m. - Theft from motor vehicle in the 5000 block of McLeod Lane NE.
8 p.m. - Criminal mischief in the 5000 block of McLeod Lane NE.
10:30 p.m. - Physical harassment in the 4000 block of Tracy Street NE.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

6 p.m. - Assault in the 1000 block of Rushmore Avenue N.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

3:45 a.m. - Assault in the 4000 block of Toni Avenue N.
11:04 a.m. - Unlawful contact with a child in the 1000 block of Shady Lane NE.
5:50 p.m. - Failure to perform duties of driver when property was damaged in the 4000 block of River Road N.
11:29 p.m. - Fraud use of credit card in the 4000 block of River Road N.

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

12:23 a.m. - Physical harassment in the 800 block of Foothill Court NE.
12:45 p.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.
1:50 p.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 6000 block of Ulali Drive.
6:13 p.m. - Failure to perform duties of driver when property was damaged at the intersection of Manbrin Drive N and River Road N.
7:54 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 3000 block of River Road N.
8:04 p.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 2000 block of Jorie Lane NE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

11:59 a.m. - Theft in the 800 block of Lockhaven Drive N.
1:24 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 3000 block of River Road N.
2:10 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 6000 block of Ulali Drive.
2:15 p.m. - Unlawful possession of methamphetamine in the 3000 block of River Road N.
2:51 p.m. - Theft in the 3000 block of River Road N.
2:57 p.m. - Theft in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Blvd.
3:18 p.m. - Theft in the 4000 block of Cherry Avenue NE.
9:29 p.m. - Criminal trespassing in the 2000 block of Jorie Lane NE.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

7:48 a.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the 2000 block of Kennedy Circle NE.
4:19 p.m. - Shoplifting in the 6000 block of Ulali Drive.

traffic court

NO LICENSE

Jose Ramon Calderon, \$265; Jessica Guadalupe Dircio Ramirez, \$100; Phillip Rousseau, \$325.

NO INSURANCE

Timothy Gregory Schera, \$265; Tyler Brice Cook, \$500; John Clarence West, \$300.

NO PROOF OF INSURANCE

Rylee Drake Wild, \$367.

DRIVING WHILE SUSPENDED

Timothy Gregory Schera, \$492; Tyler Brice Cook, \$1,042; Maria Elena Coria, \$1,042; Lauren Louree Fields, \$1,042;

Clement Kaion, \$642; Jeremiah Zachary Kouches, \$1,042; Krystal Dawn Rojas Santoyo, \$1,042; John Clarence West, \$642.

USE OF MOBILE DEVICE

Erin Sanfordd Fitzgerald, \$235.

SPEEDING

Robert Neo Clark, \$367; Aerial Fitzgerald Cortez, \$135; Darrell Craig Collingham, \$135.

FAILURE TO OBEY TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE

Phillip Rousseau, \$367; Logan Carlton Richardson, \$367.

Share your opinion

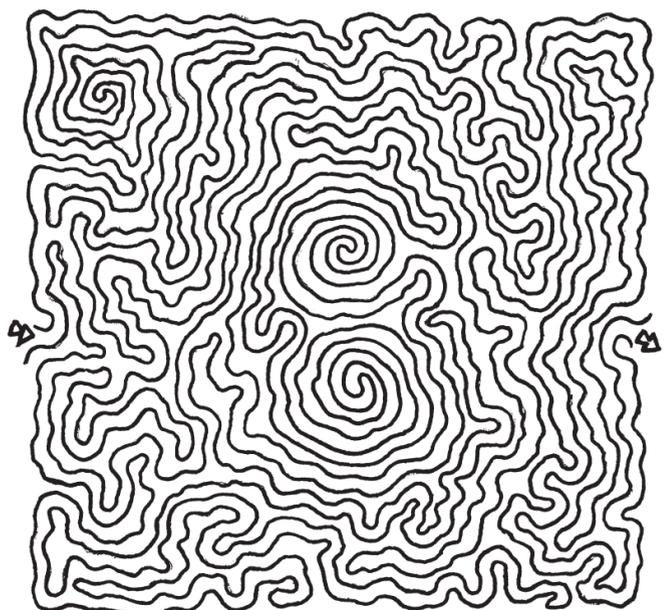
Submit a letter to the editor (300 words), or a guest column (600 words) by noon Tuesday.
Email to: publisher@keizertimes.com

sudoku

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

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

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