

Taylor highlights award winners at First Citizen Banquet



Jim Taylor (middle) surrounded by friends and family after receiving the honor of Keizer First Citizen. Photo by MATT RAWLINGS of Keizertimes

BY MATT RAWLINGS Of the Keizertimes

As a local resident for more than 50 years, Jim Taylor has spent much of his life serving the Keizer community. On Saturday, Jan. 22, the former city councilor received a small token of gratitude from the town that he loves.

At the Keizer Chamber's First Citizen Banquet, Taylor became the 61st member of the prestigious first

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— JIM TAYLOR

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citizens club, an honor he was humbled to receive.

"We are all a product of where we have been, what we have done and who

we know, and I have been very fortunate to have really good friends in down years and good years. I have been surrounded by some wonderful people. I owe a great debt of thanks to everyone," Taylor said.

Former Keizer First Citizen Hersch Sangster called Taylor "a role model" and a "Keizer hero."

It would be hard to find someone that has spent more time giving back to the community than Taylor, who spent 12 years as a Keizer city councilor and 16

years volunteering with Keizer Little League. He also has been a Keizer Rotarian for over 30 years, spent more than a decade on the Parks Advisory

board and had his hand in countless other projects.

"His whole life has been dedicated to making Keizer a better place and I think he has achieved that," said local attorney Richard Walsh.

"All he has done in all the time that he has lived here is seek ways he could make it better," added former Keizer Mayor Lore Christopher.

In addition to Taylor's award, Danielle Bethell was given the Service to Education honor, Darrell Fuller was presented with the President's Award, Dennis Blackman was tapped as Merchant of the Year and Logan Ready was honored as the first ever Future First Citizen.

Former state representative Bill Post was also honored during the ceremony.

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Details emerge about deadly crash, alleged drunk driver

By JOEY CAPPELLETTI Of the Keizertimes

An alleged drunk driver drove his pick-up truck through the side of a house in Keizer on Jan. 22, killing one woman and paralyzing a man.

The driver, who police identified as Andrew Modine, 41, of Keizer, has been convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol three times in the past. At the time of the crash, he was serving a

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Where Modine's car went through the home is now boarded up, but the damage remains.

Photo by JOEY CAPPELLETTI of Keizertimes