



THE REDMOND Spokesman

A special good morning to subscriber Century 21 Real Estate

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REAWAKEN AMERICA TOUR

Event canceled in Redmond, moved to Salem

BY BRENN A VISSER
The Bulletin

A controversial conservative conference called the Reawaken America Tour scheduled for the beginning of April in Redmond has been canceled and moved to Salem.

The event features high-profile conservatives known for spreading election misinformation and COVID-19 misinformation.

Clay Clark, the organizer of the event and host of the conservative podcast ThriveTime show, confirmed on Tuesday that the conference is being moved to The River Church in Salem. It was originally scheduled to be held at the Deschutes County

Fair & Expo center.

Tickets to the Redmond event, which were \$250, will not be refunded, which is the event's usual policy, Clark said.

Clark said that statements about Deschutes County intending to enforce the state's mask mandate did not play a part in the decision to move it.

"I try to have all of (the Reawaken America Tour events) at churches," Clark said.

The decision comes days after the tour made headlines after emails showed a planner of the event claimed two Deschutes County commissioners assured the event organizers that the state's mask mandate wouldn't be

enforced. Deschutes County officials and Commissioner Tony DeBone denied making any kind of assurance, and Commissioner Patti Adair in a text assured that the mask mandate would be enforced, but did not elaborate on her communication with event organizers. Clark said he had no knowledge of conversations between event staff and the venue.

The majority of previous Reawaken America Tour events, which have happened all over the country since last year, have happened in churches because they are considered "revivals" rather than a traditional event, Clark said. He said The River Church reached out to him and offered to

host it there.

The pastor of the church, Lew Wooten, has vocally opposed vaccines, according to reporting from The Salem Reporter.

The event includes numerous high profile supporters of former President Donald Trump, including Gen. Michael Flynn, who was pardoned after his conviction lying about connections to a Russian diplomat, and Roger Stone, who was convicted of obstructing a congressional investigation and later pardoned by Trump. It also includes vaccine skeptics and others known for spreading election misinformation.

Reporter: 541-633-2160, bvissier@bendbulletin.com



Ryan Brennecke/Bulletin file

Geoff Hinds, director of the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center, works inside the expo center in October 2020.

Volunteers critical to Redmond, making it a more livable city



Bill Bartlett photos

Numerous certified volunteer therapy dogs such as Robbie visit hospitals, care facilities and hospice patients to spread joy.

BY BILL BARTLETT • For The Spokesman

REDMOND — If you are a passionate advocate for a cause or consider yourself just an every-day worker bee with a wish to give back to the community, then you have nearly unlimited opportunities in Redmond to get involved.

Apart from faith communities or civic clubs such as Kiwanis, Lions or Rotary, name a cause and there's a good chance that Redmond can fulfill your desire to lend a hand. Care about animals? Brightside Animal Center can use you in the shelter or their Thrift Store.

Or Hooves and Halos Animal Rescue could put your heart and talents to a good purpose. There are others, the Rawley Project, for example.

See [Volunteers](#) / P5



One Eyed Jack was rescued by volunteers in Prineville and now lives happily with Marvin in north Redmond.

Redmond man is charged in Thursday shooting

Facing attempted murder, Joshua Daniel LaForest, 45, appears in court

BY GARRETT ANDREWS
The Bulletin

A Redmond man has been charged with attempted murder and other crimes for an alleged shooting Thursday in Redmond that sent a man to the hospital.

The shooting was reported around 7:51 p.m. in the 2900 block of SW Canal Boulevard, according to Redmond Police.

Officers alleged Joshua Daniel LaForest used a handgun to shoot Joshua Fischer and fled before police arrived. Another victim is mentioned in court documents: Jacob Paul Ellis.

District Attorney John Hummel said the state alleges LaForest was in a dispute with a person and attempted to shoot the person but missed and struck Fischer.

Hummel would not confirm if the intended target was Ellis.

Following the shooting, Fischer was taken by ambulance St. Charles Bend and by Friday, police say he was in fair condition.

LaForest, 45, was picked up by police around 1:40 a.m. Friday at the Holiday Hotel.

He was arraigned in Deschutes County Circuit Court Friday afternoon. The Deschutes County District Attorney's Office is seeking eight charges against him: two counts of attempted second-degree murder, two of menacing, two of unlawful use of a weapon and one each of first-degree assault and attempted first-degree assault.

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Spokesman Calendar

Events in and around Redmond

The Redmond Spokesman welcomes event information for its community calendar. Submissions are limited to nonprofit, free and live entertainment events. Deadline is 5 p.m. Thursday for the following Wednesday's paper. Items are published on a space-available basis and may be edited. Contact us at news@redmondspokesman.com or fax 541-548-3203.

WEDNESDAY 1/19

Housing and Community Development Committee Meeting: A regular meeting will be held; 4-5:30 p.m.; free; Redmond City Hall, Online; redmondoregon.gov or 541-923-7710.

Know Origins — Psilocybin Therapy in Oregon: Learn about Oregon's pioneering law to make access to psilocybin legal. You can attend this program online or in person; 6-7 p.m.; free; Downtown Bend Public Library, 601 NW Wall St., Bend; deschuteslibrary.org or 541-312-1029.

Mystery Book Club: The book club will be discussing "The Man Who Died Twice" by Richard Osman; 6 p.m.; free; Roundabout Books, Online; roundaboutbookshop.com or 541-306-6564.

Trivia Night: Weekly trivia is open to all and hosted by Quizhead Games; 6:30 p.m.; free; The Vault Taphouse, 245 SW Sixth St., Bend;

koboldbrewing.com or 541-504-9373.

Blues and Brews: Get a chance to show off your guitar or vocal skills and join Casey Hurt and The Goodnights, The General Duffy's House Band, who will prepare a setlist of classic and modern blues songs; 7-10 p.m.; free; General Duffy's Watering Hole, 404 SW Forest Ave., Bend; facebook.com/Generalduffys or 541-527-4345.

THURSDAY 1/20

Thrive Central Oregon Walk-In Consultations: Connect and get help with housing, medical, mental health, veterans services, social security resources, and more; 1-4 p.m.; Redmond Public Library, 827 SW Deschutes Ave., Redmond; deschuteslibrary.org or 541-312-1050.

The Spokesman uses recycled newsprint

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