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COVID-19: Redmond schools

Board adopts mask resolution

BY BRYCE DOLE The Bulletin

The Redmond School District adopted a resolution last Wednesday that takes pandemic mitigation from the district's control and hands it to the discretion of parents and guardians, a move that could place the district at risk of fines from state agencies

and legal retribution.

The resolution directs the district to create plans making masks optional for students

in Redmond School District buildings by March 2, nearly a month ahead of when the state planned to lift its indoor-mask mandate.

"It's not crazy, it's not lawless," said board member Michael Summers, who constructed the resolution with board Chairwoman Shawn Hartfield. "I refute that all day long."

The move, passed in a 4-1 vote in a special meeting announced the day before, came

at the end of a lengthy and, at times, tense discussion among board members over the resolution's legality and the ability of the district to implement the changes.

The resolution states that the board "recognizes the authority of the parent/guardian in the direction of the use/ non-use of masks, face shields pertaining to their student and their choices for their children."

The resolution directs the district to create a pandemic

plan "taking into account recommendations from state, federal and local authorities that affords parents/guardians the ability to direct the use or non-use of masks, face Shields for their student(s)." It states that the board "recognizes that COVID is a fluid and endemic virus and reserves the right to return to, adjust and modify this resolution if needed for the preservation of public confidence and trust."

ce and trust. See Masks / P3



The Redmond School Board during a special meeting Aug. 11, 2021, to discuss the Gov. Kate Brown's mask mandate.

Nicole Bales/

Redmond 'Museum of Art' is

THE CITY ITSELF



Bill Bartlett photos

Always open, always free, art dots the town in many public places

BY BILL BARTLETT • For The Spokesman

edmond residents do not have to go to Bend or Sisters to get their art fix. The Redmond Museum of Art is a short stroll or ride away and is full of paintings, sculptures, fabric, metal, enamel and photographic art. True, there is no building where the museum sits, but that does not make it any less real. The whole town is an art museum in a sense.

For proof, just walk around town where you will find not one or two or three, nor a dozen art examples. No, 64 pieces in all; some quite impressive in size and all colorful, enigmatic or thought provoking.

Roberts Field gives passengers a taste of public art in Redmond.

Many are patriotic in appearance or conjure up images of Americana or wildlife native to the area. Several are whimsical.

And that's just the ones municipally sponsored.

Several are created with recycled materials. Take Greg Congleton's piece Air Traffic Control at the corner of Highland Avenue and 12th Street.

It stands at 21 feet high and is 18 feet in length sculpted entirely of used "things" including fan blades, a pitchfork, plow, meat grinder and more than two dozen other discarded metal parts.

See Art / P4



A wood carving is housed at the Redmond airport.

DESCHUTES COUNTY COMMISSION

Adair to seek second term

BY BRENNA VISSER

The Bulletin

Patti Adair is seeking reelection to the Deschutes County Commission.

Adair, 70, was first elected to the commission in 2018, and so far is the only Republican who has filed for the race. She is being challenged by Morgan Schmidt, a Democrat and youth pastor.

A Sisters area resident, Adair said she wants to run again because there are still things she wants to accomplish as a commissioner.

"I feel like I've gotten a lot done, but I feel like there is more that needs to be done," Adair told The Bulletin.

If elected again, Adair said some of her priorities would include creating a psychiatric hospital in Central Oregon and developing more workforce housing.

Specifically, Adair said she is pushing for an unused portion of Deer Ridge Correctional Institution to be turned into a psychiatric hospital. The prison is located in Jefferson County.

At first, Adair said her goal was to build a new facility to increase more psychiatric bed capacity in Eastern Oregon, but saw potential in Deer Ridge after touring the facility in August.

See Adair/P3

CIRCULATION

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 2/23

Rural Living Basics — **Living with your Well & Septic:** Learn the basics about groundwater used for their drinking water and septic systems; 6-8:30 p.m.; free; OSU Extension Service, Online; extension.oregonstate.edu or 541-548-6088.

Thursday 2/24

Justin Lavik — **Range Music Series:** The local acoustic, rock 'n' roll musician will perform; 5:30-8:30 p.m.; free; Brasada Ranch, 16986 SW Brasada Ranch Road, Powell Butte; brasada. com or 855-318-4960.

The Ballybogs: The Irish traditional music band will perform;

6-8 p.m.; free; Porter Brewing Co., 611 NE Jackpine Ct. 2, Redmond; porterbrewingco.com or 541-504-7959.

Hoodoo's Wintervention: Table games, contests and grand prize giveaways all evening long; 6-8 p.m.; free; General Duffy's, 404 SW Forest Ave., Redmond; facebook.com/Generalduffys or 541-527-4345.

Comedy Night: Comedians Eric Oren, Cody Michael and Gina Marie Christopher will perform comedy acts; 7-8:30 p.m.; free; High Desert Music Hall, 818 SW Forest Ave., Redmond; high-desertmusichall.com or 541-527-1387.

Leftslide: The rock 'n' roll band will perform at the afterparty of See **Calendar** / P3



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