

# REDMOND

A special good morning to subscriber **Barbara Knight**

# SP KESMAN

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## FDA warns Wild Harvest with letter

Redmond company says government claims are misleading

BY NICK ROSENBERGER  
Redmond Spokesman

The FDA on August 8 warned Redmond-based herbal supplement company Oregon's Wild Harvest about quality control failures that could allow contaminants into their raw materials.

Oregon's Wild Harvest, however, claims the Food and Drug Administration's letter is misleading and leaves out critical information — that all contaminants were found and dealt with.

During an inspection Sept. 20-24, 2021, the FDA found raw materials at the company's facility that included rodent feces, glass, hard plastic and a AA battery. Some of the allergens found included wheat, tree nut shells, peanut shells, corn, seeds and walnuts.

But Oregon's Wild Harvest founder Pam Buresh, CEO Mark Vieceli, quality control manager Jacob Sausville and other quality control personnel said those contaminants were found and removed and none were ever sold to customers.

Mark Blumenthal, the founder and executive director of an independent nonprofit focused on research and education surrounding herbal medicine called the American Botanical Council, said it's not uncommon to find and remove contaminants like this.

There can be all manner of contaminants from agricultural products that come straight from the field, he said. Some might include pesticides, heavy metals and insects or larger objects like nails, cigarette butts and plastic.

"It's almost impossible to have agricultural products that are 100 percent (pure)," Blumenthal said.

Vieceli said removing contaminants is inherent in agricultural production and that other companies should be scared with the misleading nature of the FDA's letter.

"It sounds like it got in the end product," he said. "It never sold."

The FDA said they'd received a response from the company and planned to re-inspect the facility in the future, but would not comment on the case as it remains under investigation.

See **Wild Harvest** / A6



### SPORTS

## High Note

Ridgeview volleyball ends nonleague play with a win, **A8**

## Swap in **STYLE**

The High Desert Swap Meet and Car Show came back to the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center.

» **A5**



A classic Ford Thunderbird sits at the High Desert Swap Meet and Car Show at the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center on Sept. 10 in Redmond.

Nick Rosenberger

## Redmond to alert the public before safe parking expansion

BY TIM TRAINOR  
Redmond Spokesman

Redmond city council agreed Sept. 6 that expansion of a church-run safe parking program to any city property would first have extensive outreach to the surrounding neighborhood.

Such outreach was missing from a scrapped plan to locate a safe parking site for homeless residents off Pershall Way in north Redmond. Neighbors complained about the plan at a heated council meeting Aug. 23. Many commenters said they were not informed about the site and opposed it in their neighborhood. City manager Keith Witcosky said public works crews would stop progress at the site until council discussed it further, then a week later announced that the city had scrapped the Pershall location entirely.

On Sept. 6, city staff and councilors walked through what happened



Dean Guernsey/Bulletin file

**FILE-** The previously-proposed location for the safe parking program in north Redmond. City officials said Aug. 29 that the Pershall Way location was no longer under consideration.

at Pershall, and how it hoped to avoid surprising neighbors in the future. Council voted unanimously to commit to "incorporate public participation and awareness in the

event that any city-owned property is considered for inclusion in the safe parking program."

Mayor George Endicott said the resolution was created after council

and city staff "listened to what citizens had to say."

No one from the public commented at the Sept. 6 meeting, though council went back and forth about how to move forward.

Witcosky noted that \$16,000 of city funds were spent on the scrapped project, mostly on labor costs, which came out of \$50,000 the council earmarked for homelessness programs. Councilor Ed Fitch recommended reimbursing \$10,000 of those funds from the council's travel budget, though no other councilor seconded the motion.

Councilor Krisanna Clark-Endicott said she would never support using city funds to help the homeless. Clark-Endicott said any program that targets a group of people in Redmond amounts to "waste, fraud, and abuse of city funds."

See **Parking** / A6

### WEATHER FORECAST

THIS WEEK'S FORECAST SPONSORED BY

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**TUESDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
83/45

**WEDNESDAY**  
Cloudy  
81/48

**THURSDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
79/43

**FRIDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
78/40

**SATURDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
74/39

**SUNDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
75/40

**MONDAY**  
Sunny  
73/41

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