

Many pandemic-prompted firsts

BY DAVID JASPER

The Bulletin

With Wednesday's inauguration of President Joe Biden, we at GO! headquarters decided to take a look at new beginnings and recent firsts. Subsequent to the arrival of COVID-19 in the U.S., there have been a lot of innovations as well as new twists on existing things in business, education, entertainment and more.

It's hard to believe it's been a year since the coronavirus disrupted life around the globe. The pandemic, and ensuing need to quarantine and social distance, forced the pivot heard 'round the world.

Here's a look at some of our culture's newer developments, a lot of which seem here to stay.

Language

As much as it pains some people to accept it, language is constantly evolving. We've recently ushered in a slew of new words and wrangled new meaning from existing ones. Below are but a few examples, some officially in dictionaries, others on their way.

Pivot — If people and the businesses they ran and worked for were going to make it through the pandemic, it was critical to make a shift in the way they did things —

such as speaking. Enter the word "pivot," which, when used in the context of the pandemic, means a quick redirection of the way one does things. A few examples from the local entertainment world: Bend Comedy pivoted to making masks. BEAT Children's Theatre pivoted to pre-recorded shows available digitally. And in October, Bend-Film Festival pivoted to outdoor and online screenings.

Social distancing — Had anyone heard this seemingly contradictory term before? Doesn't just saying "distancing" say it all?

An abundance of caution — Because plain ol' caution is like throwing caution to the wind. Don't get caught without an abundant quantity of caution.

Dining

Food delivery — Sure, it's been around a while: For instance, DoorDash was founded in 2013. According to Morgan Stanley, though, the pandemic accelerated the projected growth of food-delivery

Outdoor dining — Again, nothing new, but with COVID-19 in the air, it certainly seems safer than sequestering yourself indoors with strangers.

Curbside pickup — And you thought the drive-thru was the only way to get a meal without getting out of your car.

Takeout cocktails — Oh dear God, yes, please.

Work and education

Zoom meeting — Before 2020, many of us had never heard of Zoom. And during 2020, we never heard the end of it. The fun of changing backgrounds, the impressive immediacy of high-speed internet and the plus of not having to wear dress pants for meetings were soon offset but eyestrain, the general tedium of conversing with a screen and creeps not wearing pants during Zoom meetings.

Telecommuting — The term's existed for about two decades now, but not everyone felt empowered or brazen enough to actually try it. Now, as one former coworker put it to this reporter, the lie that one can't be productive from home has finally been put to rest. The ability to work remotely has tech workers and other professionals pouring out of cities — according to one study, remote-work policies have led to a projection of between 14 and 23 million expected to relocate to new regions and cities. For better or worse, those places seem to include a growing Central Oregon.

Entertainment

Livestreaming — Musicians, comedians

and theater companies turned to livestreaming and pre-recorded entertainment in order to assuage boredom — theirs and ours.

Bingeing — Again, not remotely new, this past year has found even the most disciplined consumers willing to play one more episode, and another, of their favorite show. Or any show.

First-time marijuana users — Business was a-booming for dispensaries in Oregon and elsewhere. With cannabis legal and the pandemic meaning we should quarantine, Dorothy was right: There really is no place like home — especially when you're stoned.

Outdoor recreation — With a great many people wanting to get outside, the pandemic reversed a downward trend in outdoor recreation, making it difficult to find gear from kayaks to snowboards. The New York Times wrote "Now there's a mad rush for outdoor gear. All of it."

Honorable mentions

We're running low on space, but don't sleep on these recent developments:

Twice-impeached presidents
Storming the Capitol
Being turned in by a relative for storming the Capitol
Stress-induced body aches

■ David Jasper: 541-383-0349, djasper@bendbulletin.com

things to go! do

Thursday 1/21

Yin and Flow Yoga: The weekly yoga class is limited to 5 students each week to maintain social distance. Proceeds go to the Chuush Water for Warm Springs Campaign. Email or text to RSVP your spot; 9-10:30 a.m.; \$15; Wine Down Ranch, 6500 NE McKay Creek Road, Prineville; go.evvnt.com/727219-0 or 541-362-1142.

Orangetheory Fitness Run Club: A guided 3- to 5-mile hike with body weight workouts mixed in will be held every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Free for members and nonmembers; 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Orangetheory Fitness, 320 SW Powerhouse Drive, Bend; go.evvnt.com/729405-0 or 541-904-5123.

Ask An HOA Attorney — Kickoff Event: Join CORC CAI via Zoom while we learn from HOA attorneys; 4:30-5:30 p.m.; \$5 nonmember, free for members; online; go.evvnt.com/727000-1 or 541-719-8224.

Thursday Trivia Night: The weekly trivia game will be held outdoors by fire pits and heaters. Subject to postponement due to weather; 6-8 p.m.; Bridge 99 Brewery, 63063 Layton Ave., Bend; go.evvnt.com/724898-0

Americana Song Share: A song share virtual gathering for high school students on Thursday evenings; 6:30-8 p.m. through Feb. 11; \$50; online; eventbrite.com

Trivia on the Moon: The weekly trivia game will be held on the brewery's patio. Teams of up to eight are welcome

to reserve a table for a \$20 deposit (returned when the team is there) otherwise, first come, first served; 7-9 p.m.; Silver Moon Brewing, 24 NW Greenwood Ave., Bend; go.evvnt.com/727220-0 or 541-388-8331.

SATURDAY 1/23

Private Book Sales: Supporters of Literacy in Deschutes County has opened its 30,000 volume used book collection for private, individual sales upon request. Call or email literacyindeschutes@gmail.com to reserve a time; 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; registration required; Ponderosa Elementary School, 3790 NE Purcell Blvd., Bend; go.evvnt.com/725005-0 or 541-977-5341.

Aquatic Entomology Class: This class introduces students to the river insects upon which our local trout focus and how to stock your fly box with the most productive patterns to imitate them. Call or stop by to register; 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; \$40; Confluence Fly Shop, 375 SW Powerhouse Drive, Bend; go.evvnt.com/729414-0 or 541-678-5633.

Ultimate Scavenger Bend Cleanup: Volunteers can join in cleaning up trash and other debris from the plaza area in the monthly cleanup event. Drop in for an hour or two, bags and gloves provided; 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; Brookwood Meadow Plaza, 19570 Amber Meadow Drive, Bend; go.evvnt.com/729433-0

Know Place — 'PLACED' An Encyclopedia of Central Oregon: Editors Irene Cooper and Ellen Santasiero discuss

'PLACED' composition of writings based on place and phenomena unique to Central Oregon; 2-3 p.m.; online; go.evvnt.com/729136-0 or 541-312-1063.

Numa Breath Experience: Come taste the depth and potency of the practices Numa Breathwork. It provides the space and time to dive more deeply into your own personal journey, helping to resolve old burdens and foster clarity; 3-5 p.m.; \$50; Namaspa Yoga & Massage, 974 SW Veterans Way, Redmond; go.evvnt.com/729430-1 or 541-550-8550.

SUNDAY 1/24

'The Nutcracker, A Child's Tale': Students from the Academie de Ballet Classique will perform the ballet virtually. The Theatre will be closed to all outside audiences; 6-8 p.m.; \$34; online; go.evvnt.com/721817-0 or 541-382-4055.

MONDAY 1/25

Know Place — Oregon's African American History: Delve into the history of African Americans in Oregon, with a special emphasis on historic places, with Kim Moreland of Oregon Black Pioneers; 5-6 p.m.; online; go.evvnt.com/729138-0 or 541-312-1029.

Fundamentals of Bluegrass Guitar: An online six-week virtual class via Zoom on Mondays; 6:30-8 p.m. through March 1; \$150; online; eventbrite.com

TUESDAY 1/26

Equitable, Safe & Green Transportation Webinar:

Come have a discussion with 350Deschutes, transportation planners and community leaders about public transit in central Oregon and how we can make it more equitable, safe and eco-friendly; 3-4:30 p.m.; online; go.evvnt.com/726810-0 or 561-329-7873.

Beginning Fly Tying Class: Novice anglers can learn the basics of tying flies in this 2-hour class. Register at the fly shop; 6-8 p.m.; \$80; Confluence Fly Shop, 375 SW Powerhouse Drive, Bend; go.evvnt.com/723287-0 or 541-678-5633.

Writing the Songs Only You Can Write: An online six-week songwriting class via Zoom held on Tuesdays; 7-8:30 p.m. through March 2; \$150; online; eventbrite.com

WEDNESDAY 1/27

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