

# KILLER BURGER COMING TO BEND

PORTLAND-BASED BURGER JOINT EXPECTED TO OPEN ITS FIRST BRANCH IN THE CITY IN AUGUST • BUSINESS, A7

# The Bulletin

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## COVID-19 | Vaccines

# Chaos possible with senior eligibility next week

BY GARY A. WARNER  
Oregon Capital Bureau

The gap between COVID-19 vaccine eligibility and availability will make for a chaotic start to age-based inoculations next week.

Beginning Monday, Oregon residents 80 and older are eli-

gible to receive their first dose of the two-shot Moderna or Pfizer vaccines. People over 80 have accounted for just over half of the 2,002 deaths from COVID-19 in Oregon.

But Gov. Kate Brown and Oregon Health Authority Director Pat Allen said demand

vastly outstrips current supply. Allen told a House panel earlier this week that there are an estimated 168,000 people 80 and older in Oregon, which is currently receiving about 40,000 first-shot doses of the vaccine per week. This includes doses for those in ear-

lier priority groups who haven't been inoculated yet. The required second doses are in a separate count.

It all translates to a building wave of frustration and disappointment among those who have waited for their time in line for the vaccine.

"If you watched the senior category roll out everywhere else in the country, it was really chaotic — it's going to be chaotic here too," Allen said.

The age limit will drop five years every week until those 65 and older can receive shots March 1. But with 800,000

people in Oregon over the age of 65, eligibility will overwhelm availability well into spring.

County health agencies will be the front lines for telling those eligible where and when they might be able to be vaccinated.

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## OSU-CASCADES

# Campus closet helps students dress for success

Switch to online service sparks interest in Benny's Closet, which gives free clothing to students



Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

OSU-Cascades students Melissa Swearingen, left, and Megan Bolt collect items of clothing for a fellow student while volunteering at Benny's Closet.

BY JACKSON HOGAN • The Bulletin

**M**elissa Swearingen needed some professional clothes. The Oregon State University-Cascades sophomore was applying for office jobs in January, and wanted a professional look suitable for an interview. So Swearingen signed up for Benny's Closet — an OSU-Cascades service that gives free professional clothes to students.

Swearingen was so pleased with the service, that she volunteers for it, helping fill orders.

"I really loved the pieces that I got," she said. "Benny's Closet was able to help me appear more professional."

Benny's Closet — originally founded by an OSU student in 2016 in Corvallis — started at the

Cascades campus as a little-used in-person service. In December, a student and university staffer revamped it into an online, first, survey-based service, similar to the popular online clothing subscription service Stitch Fix.

After students fill out a Benny's Closet survey, staff fill up a box of clothing based on that student's described style and needs, and place it in the student's campus mailbox.

See Closet / A6



Submitted photo

"I really loved the pieces that I got. Benny's Closet was able to help me appear more professional," said Melissa Swearingen, an OSU-Cascades student, wearing an outfit she received from the service.

## DESCHUTES COUNTY

# Administrator Tom Anderson plans to retire in September

BY BRENNIA VISSER  
The Bulletin

Tom Anderson, the county administrator for Deschutes County recognized by colleagues for steady and consistent leadership during dynamic times, will retire at the end of September.

Anderson, 59, put in his notice to retire to the Deschutes County Commission in January after serving roughly eight years as county administrator. Anderson's departure will prompt a county administrator search for the first time in nearly a decade.

The decision to retire boils down to timing, Anderson said. His wife recently retired, and he hopes to spend more time with her. Anderson also figured that with a new commission sworn in earlier this year, the timing would be good to leave and let them decide their own leadership.

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Dean Guernsey/The Bulletin

"It's something I've been thinking about for awhile," Tom Anderson said of his retirement.

# Jefferson County presses state for its vaccine doses

BY SUZANNE ROIG  
The Bulletin

The state's decision to divert COVID-19 vaccines from counties that were ahead of the vaccination schedule isn't sitting well with Jefferson County Commission.

In a letter sent Thursday to the Oregon Health Authority, the county said it wanted to remind the state that a uniform approach to vaccine distribution doesn't work for small counties.

See Doses / A6

# Super Bowl parties could lead to another spike in COVID-19 cases

BY SUZANNE ROIG  
The Bulletin

In a normal football season, the Hideaway Tavern would be standing room only on Super Bowl Sunday.

Eager football fans would stake a claim on their seats and settle in for

hours of football fun.

But this year is not normal by any stretch. In fact, health officials are warning football fans to stay home. Gather small. Avoid commingling germs.

Super Bowl Sunday has all the hall-

marks of a superspreader event. Since the pandemic came to Central Oregon nearly a year ago with the first positive case, typically two weeks after a holiday, cases surge.

"On Super Bowl Sunday, please skip the parties that could lead to in-

creased spread of COVID-19 and find ways to celebrate safely," said Dr. George Conway, Deschutes County Health Services director. "In the past few weeks, we've seen case counts declining."

On Thursday, Deschutes County

recorded 17 positive test results of COVID-19, down from a high of 129 cases on Dec. 4.

The Hideaway, a bar off Third Street is taking orders for takeout food.

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