

# The Bulletin

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SPORTS PULLOUT, A5-8

## COVID-19

# DESCHUTES COUNTY RISK LEVEL DROPS

### Twelve counties will see restrictions loosened

BY GARY A. WARNER  
Oregon Capital Bureau

Twelve counties, including Deschutes County, will see fewer COVID-19 restrictions on businesses and activities beginning Friday after the state dropped risk level ratings for counties Tuesday due to a decline in new infections.

Ten counties moved out of the extreme risk category, some for the first time since November. That list includes Deschutes, Clatsop, Columbia, Lincoln and Linn, which all moved from extreme risk to high risk.

Morrow County made a two-tier drop from extreme to moderate risk. Baker County also fell two spots, moving from high to lower risk. Grant County went from moderate to lower risk.

The biggest news statewide was the move of the Portland tri-county metro area of Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington counties, also going from extreme to high risk.

"This is welcome news, as we'll start to see more businesses open up and Oregonians being able to get out a bit more," Gov. Kate Brown said Tuesday in announcing the updated risk levels.

See **Counties** / A13



Tim Casinelli, general manager of Deschutes Brewery & Public House, hustles to deliver orders to outdoor diners as sous chef Evan Manley prepares food. On Friday, patrons will be able to dine inside the establishment.

Dean Guernsey/The Bulletin

## Some restaurants prepare for indoor seating

BY SUZANNE ROIG • The Bulletin

Restaurants were busy Tuesday dusting off chairs and rearranging their seating to accommodate indoor dining after being shuttered for 12 weeks in an effort to curtail the spread of COVID-19.

Deschutes County was listed among 12 counties that improved in risk level on Tuesday, which allowed the county and its businesses and residents to emerge from the restrictions on gathering under the extreme risk category to just high risk. The changes in risk level go

into effect Friday. "Moving out of the extreme risk category will most certainly help restaurants," said Katy Brooks, Bend Chamber of Commerce CEO. "Restaurants have had experience with this level and can pivot quickly to physically prepare. There's a lot

of pent-up customer demand to eat out without your parka on."

Restaurants like Deschutes Brewery on NW Bond Street began recalling its employees and reconfiguring its space to adjust for a maximum of 50 people, including staff, inside its 12,000-square-foot building, said Michael LaLonde, Deschutes Brewery CEO in an interview.

Since Nov. 18, the brewery has been only doing limited outdoor dining, takeout and delivery service. Just two weeks ago it installed seven tables for an outdoor dining area out front of its restaurant.

See **Risk** / A13

## Storm could bring load of snow

Storm watch begins noon Thursday until 10 p.m. Friday

BY KYLE SPURR

The Bulletin

Winter is about to hit harder in Central Oregon.

From noon Thursday to 10 p.m. Friday, up to 20 inches of snow is expected to fall in Sunriver and La Pine, according to the National Weather Service office in Pendleton, which on Tuesday issued a winter storm watch for that period.

Four to 10 inches of snow could fall in Bend and Redmond.

"This is a pretty big winter event across Central and Eastern Oregon," said Mary Wister, a weather service meteorologist in Pendleton. "A lot of areas are going to be impacted by this."

Cold air from the north will collide with a rainy weather system from the Pacific Ocean, which will set the stage for the winter storm, Wister said. The result will be heavy snowfall and temperatures in the single digits Friday night.

More snow and freezing temperatures are in the forecast through the weekend, but the weather service is still determining how severe the weather will be after Friday.

Wister said late season winter storms are common, but it seems strange this winter since the weather has been mostly mild with sunshine and warm temperatures throughout the region. Just this week, the High Desert had blue skies and temperatures in the high 40s.

See **Storm** / A4

# Altered Black history statement by city council stuns author

Councilor who edited proclamation owns mistake, attributes issue to miscommunication

BY BRENN A VISSER

The Bulletin

A Black History Month proclamation made by the Bend City Council has upset some people of color in Central Oregon, including the author of the proclamation, who says the council changed it so much the original message of the document was lost.

Last week, the City Council read a proclamation for Black History Month that outlined racist practices in Oregon's history and called on the people of Bend to join the council in honoring Black History Month, learning about the his-

tory of Black people in Oregon, and combating racism and white supremacy."

But Josie Stanfield, the leader of the group Central Oregon Diversity Project and original author of the proclamation, was stunned to learn how the proclamation did not resemble what she submitted to the city months prior.

The original submission was a Black Lives Matter resolution, Stanfield said. It was written in a way to focus around Bend specifically, and to call on the Bend City Council to have a lifetime commitment to stand up for Black lives.

Stanfield was inspired to write the proclamation after Donald Trump supporters and racial justice activists clashed on Oct. 3 in Bend, an event that came on the heels of a summer full of local and nationwide protests against racial injustice after the killing of George Floyd, a Black man, by Minneapolis police. His death brought much higher visibility and awareness to the inequities Black, Indigenous and people of color face.

Shortly after the event, Bend Police Chief Mike Krantz gave what Stanfield considers an inadequate statement, so she decided to write something for the whole city to acknowledge Black lives matter.

See **Proclamation** / A4



Josie Stanfield is pictured at Bend City Hall. Stanfield wrote a Black Lives Matter resolution and submitted it to the Bend City Council in fall 2020. Through a miscommunication, Stanfield was left out of the editing process, after which the proclamation was released last week.

Dean Guernsey/The Bulletin

