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SPORTS PULLOUT, B3-6

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Coronavirus in Central Oregon

Outbreak shutteres Summit High School

Extracurricular activities, including sports, will be canceled through weekend

BY JACKSON HOGAN
The Bulletin

In the middle of their first week back to in-person learning since March 2020, students at Bend's Summit High School suddenly re-

turned to distance learning Thursday, after 12 positive COVID-19 cases were identified in the school.

The move to online distance learning, and the presence of multiple COVID-19 cases in the school

community, was confirmed by an email sent Wednesday night to Summit High families by Principal Michael McDonald. The identities of the people who tested positive — including whether they were

students or staff members — were not revealed due to health privacy laws.

All extracurricular activities, including sports, will be canceled through the weekend, so contact tracing and case investigation can be conducted, said Julianne Repman, Bend-La Pine Schools' direc-

tor of safety and communications.

All Summit students will take part in distance learning Friday as well. However, that was pre-planned as a time for school staffers to receive their second vaccine doses, according to the high school's website.

See **Summit High / A6**

After yearlong delay

Wilderness trail permit system to begin May 28

Pandemic stalled rollout for Deschutes and Willamette national forests

BY MICHAEL KOHN
The Bulletin

A plan to require permits for certain trailheads in the Central Oregon Cascades, which was delayed last year due to COVID-19, will be implemented for this summer's hiking season.

Day-use permits will be required for 19 out of 79 trailheads between May 28 and Sept. 24 in the Mount Jefferson, Mount

Washington and Three Sisters wilderness areas, according to Jean Nelson-Dean, a spokesperson for the Deschutes National Forest.

During the same period, overnight-use permits will be required for all trails in the three wilderness areas. Hikers who already hold a Pacific Crest Trail long-distance permit are exempt. There are also exceptions for hunters with certain types of permits and

volunteers with the Forest Service.

The Forest Service adopted the limited entry permit system in the Central Oregon Cascades as a way to curb the degradation of trails due to the ever-increasing numbers of trail users. Trail widening, litter and human waste had become noticeable problems, and the Forest Service adopted the permit system to limit the number of users on the trails.

See **Permits / A4**



Hikers check out the view from the top of Tam McArthur Rim. Little Three Creek Lake is on the left. The Bulletin file

BEND

Local social justice leader announces mayoral bid

BY BRENNNA VISSER
The Bulletin

Luke Richter, the leader of the social justice organization Central Oregon Peacekeepers, announced he will run for mayor of Bend in 2022.

Richter, 29, officially announced on Wednesday his bid to un-

seat incumbent Mayor Sally Russell, who was elected in 2018.

Russell said in a text message that she will not make a decision about whether she will run again any time in the near future.

The main reason Richter wants to run is because he feels Bend is lacking strong leadership, calling it "wishy washy," he said.

Richter said Russell's limited presence at the protests sparked by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents detaining two Bend men in August was an example of a time Bend needed strong leadership.

See **Richter / A6**

JEFFERSON COUNTY

School district to put \$24M bond on ballot

BY JACKSON HOGAN
The Bulletin

Residents in Madras, Warm Springs and Metolius will vote on a \$24 million school bond from Jefferson County School District later this year.

Although a list of projects has not been set, the bond, which won't raise property taxes, could pay for new roofs, better lighting and additional classrooms at the Warm Springs K-8 Academy.

The Jefferson County School Board unanimously approved putting this bond on the Nov. 2 ballot at a meeting Monday night.

See **Bond / A6**

Lawsuit: Lieutenant was source of bullying campaign

BY GARRETT ANDREWS
The Bulletin

A third person in two years has now sued the Redmond Police Department alleging a toxic workplace that punishes officers who speak up.

In a lawsuit filed Thursday, Lt. Eric Beckwith, 13-year veteran of Red-

mond Police, is accused of sexist, racist and unprofessional behavior, including referring to an Asian officer as his "pocket ninja" and bragging about saran-wrapping a disabled student to a bed once in college.

"Plaintiff personally witnessed Beckwith bully and haze new recruits,

reserve officers and even private citizens, especially those suffering from drug addiction," reads the lawsuit by officer Hannah Copeland, filed Thursday in Deschutes County Circuit Court. "This behavior was open and overt and the department and the city did nothing to curb Beckwith's

abusive behavior."

Copeland, a 20-year Redmond officer currently employed with the department, alleges that since 2016, she's been subjected to retaliatory discipline and bullying by Beckwith and others.

See **Lawsuit / A4**

TODAY'S WEATHER



Colder with snow
High 23, Low 9
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