

RESTAURANTS DO THEIR PART

FOR HOSPITAL STAFFERS WORKING LONG SHIFTS DURING THE PANDEMIC, MEALS PROVIDE EMOTIONAL SUSTENANCE. • STATE, A2

The Bulletin

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CENTRAL OREGON

HEAVY SNOW FAILS TO FALL – FOR NOW



Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin photos

Gary Gowens, manager of Bend Sentry Storage in Bend, uses a skid-steer early Friday to clear several inches of snow from around the business.

National Weather Service predicts another storm Friday night

BY KYLE SPURR • The Bulletin

La Pine resident Wes Elliott woke up Friday expecting to see knee-deep snow on the ground. Instead, he saw a dusting. Weather forecasts showed the possibility of 10 to 20 inches of snow across Central Oregon by Friday, but that never materialized. Another storm is expected Friday night, but the region was mostly spared for now.

Elliott, who owns La Pine Tax Service, was relieved he didn't have to spend the day clearing snow from his own driveway and the parking lot of his business.

"I was dreading having to plow and snow blow all day," Elliott said Friday. "So that snow going away was a nice surprise this morning."

While La Pine and Sunriver saw about 2 inches of snow Friday, Bend had 3 to 4 inches, according to Marilyn Lohmann, a hydrologist with the National Weather Service in Pendleton.

"Overall, it hasn't been quite as much as we expected," Lohmann said.

See **Snow** / A7



Greg Johannsen, of Bend, takes advantage of the fresh snow Friday morning to cross-country ski around Drake Park.

Bend-La Pine | **In-person lunches**

Staff find creative solutions to stay safe

BY JACKSON HOGAN
 The Bulletin

At Silver Rail Elementary School, a specialist, nonclassroom teacher like Emily Gibson monitor unmasked students during lunch while teachers take a break.

Gibson and other school staff stand in a common space shared by three classrooms. From there, they're able to oversee three classes of students in their classrooms at once, from a distance, she said.

Gibson has some nerves about being around unmasked children, but it's as safe as it can be while the weather is frigid, she said.

"It's still very anxiety-producing, trying to ensure that everybody is safe in this situation, but we're in the best-case scenario," she said.

Since elementary students in Bend-La Pine Schools returned to in-person learning on Jan. 25, local school staffers and administrators have used a multitude of methods to keep students and educators safe during lunch.

See **Bend-La Pine** / A7

St. Charles sued for \$15M for wrongful death

Danae Risch, of Bend, suffered a heart attack during surgery

BY GARRETT ANDREWS
 The Bulletin

Bend resident Danae Corrine Risch died Dec. 14, 2018, at age 27, after suffering a heart attack during surgery to remove her gall bladder. The decision to put Risch under for the elective procedure, despite a known heart condition, was made by her legal guardians, her parents.

This week, Risch's mother and father, Ginger Caviness and Mark Risch, sued St. Charles Health System for \$15 million for what they say was information and inappropriate recommendations given to them by doctors.

See **St. Charles** / A7

4 Oregonians test positive for COVID-19 despite being vaccinated

BY ERIN ROSS

Oregon Public Broadcasting
 Four Oregonians have tested positive for COVID-19 after being vaccinated against the disease, Oregon health officials said Friday.

The Oregon Health Author-

ity said two of the cases were in Lane County and two were in Yamhill County.

Two of the cases were found during routine surveillance testing. The other two appear to be connected. OHA officials did not specify which two.

"This is a serious but not surprising development," OHA Director Patrick Allen said.

These reinfections, called "breakthrough infections," are infections that occur more than 14 days after receiving the second dose of vaccine.

Given the effectiveness rate of the two vaccines — 95% for Pfizer-BioNTech's and Moderna's — it's inevitable that some of the 177,000 vaccinated Oregonians would become reinfected.

It isn't yet known if these four known reinfection cases

involved newer variants of the coronavirus. The Oregon Health Authority is attempting to get samples from these patients to be tested, a process that could take over a week.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is

gathering data on COVID-19 breakthrough cases, but it has yet to make that data public. Oregon is one of the first states to participate in the center's genomics surveillance program.

See **Positive** / A7

TODAY'S WEATHER



Morning snow
 High 34, Low 21
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The Bulletin
 An Independent Newspaper

Vol. 119, No. 38, 16 pages, 2 sections

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