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The Bulletin

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COVID-19

Oregon must open vaccine eligibility to all by May 1

BY GARY A. WARNER
Oregon Capital Bureau
All adults in Oregon will be eligible for COVID-19 vaccinations as of May 1 under a binding order from the Biden administration.
Appearing before the House Subcommittee on COVID-19, Oregon Health Authority Director Pat Allen said the policy U-turn was tied to future supplies of the federally controlled vaccine.
"So it's first come, first serve,

as of May 1?" asked Rep. Cedric Hayden, R-Roseburg, vice chair of the committee.
"Yep, yep," Allen said.
Allen first discussed Oregon's new direction under the Biden order during an interview Wednesday on Oregon Public Broadcasting's "Think Out Loud" radio program.
Biden had first announced his intention to give eligibility to all adults during a national television address March 11.
See Vaccines / A14

FACEBOOK | EXPANSION PLANS ANNOUNCED

Prineville site soon to be largest data center in U.S.

BY SUZANNE ROIG
The Bulletin
Social media giant Facebook announced Thursday that it will add two new buildings to its campus in Prineville that will make it the largest data center in the United States.
The two new buildings will add 900,000-square-feet to the campus, expanding the 11-building campus to 4.6-million-square-feet or the equivalent to nearly 80 football fields. Construction is poised to

begin next month and should be complete by 2024. Two other buildings that were announced in June, will be completed in 2023.
Its investment in the Prineville center is about \$2 billion, the company said.
Facebook opened the first data center in 2011 and employs as many as 1,000 people. The campus is located in a city with a population of 10,000.
Prineville Mayor Jason Beebe called the expansion "great news" and said he be-

lieves it will help attract other businesses to the community.
"This latest investment into their site in Prineville is a continuation of the great partner they are for the City and the community," Beebe told The Bulletin. "The technical jobs that come with expansions like these are great, but there is not as much focus on the jobs that are created from the trade industries."
See Facebook / A4

SNEAK PEEK: LARKSPUR COMMUNITY CENTER



The newly expanded Larkspur Community Center, featuring a state-of-the-art fitness center and indoor swimming pool, will open April 5 after a year and a half of construction. We got a look inside.

Photos by RYAN BRENNER • The Bulletin

AT TOP: The indoor track and workout area on Wednesday. LEFT: The reception area. **SEE MORE PHOTOS ON A13**

REDMOND Marijuana suspected in deadly hit-and-run

BY GARRETT ANDREWS
The Bulletin
A Redmond man is facing a homicide charge for allegedly being high on marijuana when police say he struck and killed a 90-year-old pedestrian last year.
Witnesses say Anthony Rubaldino Vasquez, 20, stopped his GMC Yukon after hitting Leroy Eugene Hall while traveling about 35 mph through Redmond, then shouted a few panicked statements and drove away, according to court documents. Vasquez was pulled over and arrested about 25 minutes later. A marijuana dab oil pen was allegedly found in his pocket and seized as evidence.
He was scheduled to enter a plea to a charge of criminally negligent homicide Thursday in Deschutes County Circuit Court, but a continuance was granted by the judge.
The incident took place at 6:50 p.m. Nov. 20 in the 1200 block of NW Sixth Street in Redmond. A 911 caller reported a red SUV had struck a pedestrian and driven away.
The first officer on scene, Zach Moore of the Redmond Police Department, saw Hall laying motionless in the middle lane and checked for a pulse but found none.
A witness reported that Hall had been attempting to cross traffic with a heavy limp, court records state.
See Hit-and-run / A4

Correction

In a story about cars crashing through a fence of a southwest Bend homeowner that appeared Wednesday, March 17, on Page A1, the name of Murphy Road was misspelled in a headline.
The Bulletin regrets the error.

Survey: Nearly half of Oregon pessimistic about future

BY ZANE SPARLING
Oregon Capital Bureau
A growing share of Oregonians think the state is headed down the wrong track, if not at risk of derailing completely, according to polling data from the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center.
Some 44% of Beaver State residents are pessimistic about Oregon's future, while

only 35% are optimistic and the remaining 21% are unsure. Those results show a flip-flop from summer 2020, when 43% believed the state was headed in the right direction.
"As a whole, the government is infuriating," Melissa Aspell, one of the poll's respondents, said in a phone interview. "There's a lot of frustration

with how Gov. (Kate) Brown runs things. And then clean up Portland, for God's sake!"
Aspell, a 39-year-old Bend resident, said she was concerned about the overgrowth of "cookie-cutter homes" in her neighborhood and the misallocation of government resources, but noted that local parks are well maintained and she has

been able to receive a COVID-19 vaccination.
"(Some people) are pretty sure it's full of nanobots or something, but conspiracy theories aside, I had a considerably bad reaction to the second one," she said. "But I feel that was something my body needed to go through."
See Survey / A4

