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BEND

## Protecting pollinators



Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

A honeybee collects nectar from a cluster of blooming flowers Friday in an east Bend neighborhood.

*Resident creates Pollinator Pathway, which seeks to add plants that will help bees, butterflies*

BY KYLE SPURR • The Bulletin

After years of planting a home garden to attract endangered pollinators like bees and butterflies, Bend resident Basey Klopp had a vision to create more spaces for the threatened species. Klopp, a 48-year-old mother of two boys who worked for a native plant nursery, launched Bend Pollinator Pathway, a volunteer-led initiative that will start this month.

The project is working with the city of Bend, Bend Park & Recreation District and local residents and businesses to plant pollinator gardens across the region. The goal is to rebuild habitats for the hundreds of bee, butterfly, moth and hummingbird species throughout Bend and Central Oregon, Klopp said. Worldwide, more than 40% of insect species are facing extinction due to pesticides and habitat loss, according

to international studies. “The great news is that we know exactly what we need to do,” Klopp said. “We need to plant native plants.” As residents start planning spring gardens, Klopp hopes they consider adding native plants such as milkweed, buckwheat and western wallflower. Milkweed is especially important for monarch butterflies, which lay their eggs on the native plant. The monarch butterfly

population is in crisis. A count in 2017 showed the population fell to fewer than 29,000 in North America, down from 1.2 million counted in 1997, according to the Center for Biological Diversity. Klopp uses the distressing statistics as motivation. “This is a critical point that we have reached, and I am fueled and I am not getting bummed out,” Klopp said. “It’s past time for action.”

See **Pollinators** / A4



*“The great news is that we know exactly what we need to do. We need to plant native plants.”*

**Basey Klopp, Bend Pollinator Pathway creator**

REDMOND AIRPORT

## Low-cost flights to Burbank to take off

BY JACKSON HOGAN

The Bulletin

For \$19, you could buy two six-packs of craft brew in Bend. Once Central Oregon theaters reopen, that would also get you in to see a movie and get a small popcorn, too. But starting May 13, \$19 will get you all the way to Burbank, California.

Avelo Airlines — the first new major U.S. airline in about 15 years — introduced itself to the public Thursday with 11 new routes, including one from Redmond Airport to Hollywood Burbank Airport. Avelo says the ticket price is part of a temporary, introductory offer.

Local tourism and business leaders see this new option as a win for Central Oregon.

“There’s just more options, which both visitors and locals appreciate,” said Julia Theisen, president and CEO of Sunriver-based tourism nonprofit Central Oregon Visitors Association. “It’s both convenient, and expanding the (Los Angeles) market for us, which is already strong.”

Avelo flights from Redmond to Burbank will fly on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, according to Zachary Bass, director of Redmond Airport.

See **Flights** / A4

## Justices: Oregon lawmakers can have first crack at redistricting

BY PETER WONG

Oregon Capital Bureau

A decision by the Oregon Supreme Court will enable lawmakers, not Secretary of State Shemia Fagan, to get first crack at redrawing legislative district boundaries despite a pandemic-caused delay in federal census data.

The court, in an opinion issued Friday, gives legislators until Sept. 27 to come up with a plan — even though the Oregon Constitution sets a deadline of July 1.

See **Redistricting** / A7

## Former Sen. Gordon Smith stepping down as head of broadcaster group

BY GARY A. WARNER

Oregon Capital Bureau

Former U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith, R-Oregon, announced this week that he will step down two years early as head of the National Association of Broadcasters. Smith, 68, made the announcement in a video to the more than 8,300 radio

and television stations in the group.

“It has been my great honor to give the lion’s roar for broadcasters — those who run into the storm, those who stand firm in chaos to hear the voice of the people, those who hold to account the powerful,” Smith said in the video.

See **Smith** / A7

## COCC’s business development center accepts GI Bill benefits

BY JACKSON HOGAN

The Bulletin

Since 2014, Shawn Hawkins has attended occasional business classes at Central Oregon Community College’s noncredit business program,

the Small Business Development Center. He believes these courses helped him get his company, Tiger Town Brewing Co. in Mitchell, off the ground in 2017.

But when Hawkins signed up for a Quickbooks Online class at the Small Business Development Center, he noticed something odd: It was free.

See **GI Bill** / A7

TODAY’S WEATHER



Cooler  
 High 46, Low 24  
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