

It's high time for a pot edition » From films to food, GO! has you covered for all things reefer-related as 4/20 nears



The Bulletin

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SPORTS PULLOUT, A5-8

Bend prepares to establish a new homeless services center. But how?

BY **BRENNA VISSER**
The Bulletin

Bend is set to receive \$2.5 million from the Legislature to create something called a navigation center, which is a centralized location for homeless people to receive services.

Several questions now follow: Where will it be? Who will run it? What kind of services will be provided, and when?

The answer to those questions remain mostly undeter-

mined for now, said Lynne McConnell, the city's affordable housing manager.

"We intend to get moving as quickly as possible," she said.

Bend is one of seven cities to receive money for navigation centers as a part of a larger bill that gives millions of dollars toward educational programs and wildfire recovery. A similar bill was floated last year in the Legislature, but it died in the wake of the Republican walkout.

\$2.5 million

Amount given by the Oregon Legislature to Bend for a homeless navigation center, one of seven cities to receive funds

INSIDE

Updates on two homelessness bills in the current session, **A14**

"We are so excited," Mayor Sally Russell said in a text message. "We have this need in

Bend (to) connect people experiencing homelessness with the right services."

The idea is that Bend would have one central location that could be part shelter, part resource center, McConnell said.

It would be a place where someone could go to find housing options, work resources, to get assistance with federal and state benefits and other services, she said.

See **Homeless / A4**

CROOK COUNTY SCHOOLS

Permanent changes: Later start time, trimester schedule

BY **JACKSON HOGAN**
The Bulletin

When Crook County High School returned to in-person learning in September, students saw two major changes to their schedules.

First, classes started later in the day, so students could sleep in. And, instead of having seven short periods, students only took four, longer classes each day.

Because a majority of stu-

dents, staff and families in Crook County liked these changes, the Crook County School Board decided to make them permanent.

Starting next school year, all students in the district will operate on a trimester, rather than a semester schedule. And Crook County High School's first bell will ring at 9 a.m., rather than the pre-pandemic 8 a.m. start time.

See **Schools / A4**



THEY'RE BACK

THE STUDENTS ... AND THE ROCKCHUCKS

The critters return to infest Redmond school grounds

BY **KYLE SPURR** • The Bulletin
Rockchucks have continued to infest some school grounds in Redmond. Last year, the Redmond School

District was alarmed by a horde of rockchucks, also known as yellow-bellied marmots, at Hugh Hartman Elementary School.

The district declared a pest emergency after staff found feces and holes near the elementary school's playground. But by the

time the school district decided it needed to exterminate the rockchucks, it was too late in the spring season, said Sheila Miller, spokesperson for the school district.

"Last year we had the same issues at Hugh Hartman, but our extermination attempts came too

late in the season, so they weren't very effective," Miller said.

As students return to in-person learning this spring during the COVID-19 pandemic, they are encountering rockchucks that are waking up from hibernation.

See **Rockchucks / A13**

BACKGROUND: A rockchuck, also known as a yellow-bellied marmot, sits near its burrow at Hugh Hartman Elementary School in Redmond on Wednesday. Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

FEATURE PHOTO | ICY MORNING NEAR CULVER



Ice forms on an irrigation wheel line and young alfalfa plants while Daniel Garcia walks across a field as the sun rises near Culver on Wednesday. See new feature photos each week on our website and in our e-editions at bendbulletin.com.

Dean Guernsey/The Bulletin

POLL

Many pandemic changes to linger, Oregonians say

BY **ZANE SPARLING** • Oregon Capital Bureau

The novel coronavirus has upended nearly every facet of modern life over the past year — but will those changes stick?

Many Oregonians predict that online shopping and working from home are here to stay; virtual schooling and high unemployment, on the other hand, are expected to linger temporarily. And the permanence of other virus-spurred alterations in society, such as the rise of telemedicine, leave Oregon divided.

That's all according to a new polling by the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center.

The center, in partnership with DHM Research, conducted the survey of 900 Oregon residents — selected to be demographically representative of the state — in late February and early March. The margin of error ranges from 2% to 3.3% per question.

Here's how the pollsters drilled down into the details:

Online shopping

Some 60% of Oregonians believe elevated levels of online shopping will become permanent. Suburbanites (67%) and liberals (68%) are more likely to foresee an enduring shift to purchasing goods by click, compared with conservatives (52%) and city dwellers (53%).

84

New daily coronavirus cases reported in Deschutes County, the most since mid-January

Full chart on **A2**

See **Poll / A4**

TODAY'S WEATHER



Sunny, colder
High 60, Low 34
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