

**TWIN LAKES** What to know before you go ... **EXPLORE » B1**

# The Bulletin

EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY bendbulletin.com

**SPORTS PULLOUT, B3-6**

**BI-MART**

**17.88**  
Havoline 5 qt Pro DS Synthetic Motor Oil 5W-20, 5W-30, & 0W-20. Everyday Bi-Mart 19.99

Find storewide deals in our online savings guides at [bimart.com](http://bimart.com) Prices Effective Through April 20, 2021

**SISTERS**

## RV permit program hopes to solve issues

*Current code allows parking for long periods*

BY **BRENNA VISSER**  
The Bulletin

A new permit system in Sisters aims to address illegal parking or camping in front of people's homes for extended periods of time.

The permit system, along with other code changes, come as a part of the city's effort to make the code clearer and enforceable. The Sisters City Council approved them at a meeting on Wednesday.

Cory Mисley, the city manager of Sisters, offered an example of a car that was registered to someone in Bend but had sat parked in Sisters for a very long time. There was nothing in the code that said that person couldn't leave the car there forever, he said.

"Where is that sweet spot of people being able to use the right of way or people parking a junk car for two years?" Mисley said.

The changes are in response to several complaints the city received from residents regarding the storage of vehicles, trailers, boats and RVs within the public rights-of-way, according to a city memo.

"It hasn't been huge, but there have been places where it's been significant," Councilor Andrea Blue said in the meeting.

See **Parking / A6**

## Sisters lawyer could lose license over conduct

BY **GARRETT ANDREWS**  
The Bulletin

A state disciplinary panel is recommending a Sisters attorney lose his law license for a year for his conduct representing a fired high school soccer coach.

Attorneys with the Oregon State Bar sought to suspend Marlin Ard for 60 to 90 days during a three-day video conference in February. But the bar's three-person disciplinary committee that oversaw the conference determined the sanction did not go far enough and recommended the 72-year-old Ard be suspended for a year, according to its opinion issued Wednesday.

See **Lawyer / A6**

**NASA in Madras**

# RESEARCH BALLOON TAKES FLIGHT



Dean Guernsey/The Bulletin

**A 150-foot tall helium-filled balloon rises over Madras on Thursday. Carrying scientific equipment 110,000 feet into the air, the balloon made of thin plastic, performs a high altitude drop test. Scientists will use data collected in the flight to determine how to return items from the International Space Station back to Earth.**

BY **KYLE SPURR**  
The Bulletin

**M**ADRAS — The 150-foot-tall balloon, made of plastic thinner than a sandwich bag, rose above the high desert at sunrise with the goal of helping future missions in space.

The helium-filled balloon shined in the early morning sunlight as it disappeared into the atmosphere, on its way to an altitude of 110,000 feet.

A NASA-sponsored research team launched the balloon at about 6 a.m. Thursday from the Madras Municipal Airport. The balloon carried a 100-pound cone-shaped device that later in the day was dropped with a parachute over the high desert east of Prineville.

See **Balloon / A4**



Submitted

**Near Space Corp. personnel prepare to launch a large helium-filled balloon from Madras Municipal Airport on Thursday. The crew originally scheduled the balloon flight on Wednesday but called it off because of high winds.**

**CENTRAL OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

# Board freezes tuition and fees

*COVID-19 relief funds, fiscal moves cited in decision for next year*

BY **JACKSON HOGAN**  
The Bulletin

For the first time since the Great Recession 13 years ago, tuition and fees won't be raised for any Central Oregon Community College student next school year.

The COCC board voted unanimously to not raise tuition and fees at its meeting Wednesday night, based on recommendations from college leadership.

The next day, board member Oliver Tatom told The Bulletin approving the tuition freeze was an easy decision.

"To me, everything we can do to manage passing the cost onto students, we should do," he said Thursday. "It's one of my happiest votes I've had so far as a COCC board director."

College President Laurie Chesley and Finance Director David Dona told the board Wednesday that there two main reasons why COCC could afford to not raise tuition: conservative fiscal moves when the pandemic began, and COVID-19 relief from the federal government.

See **COCC / A4**

**BEND-LA PINE, REDMOND DISTRICTS**

# Schools plan scaled-back standardized tests this year

BY **JACKSON HOGAN**  
The Bulletin

In a year when many students will only get a few months of in-person learning or less, some Oregon school districts have rebelled against standardized testing.

But Central Oregon's two largest school districts will stay the course. Bend-La Pine Schools and the Redmond School District will still offer standardized tests this year, and families will still have to ask to opt out if they don't want their students to take the tests.

"We're going to stick with it as is," said Chris Morton, Redmond's director of school improvement, who oversees standardized testing for the district.

See **Schools / A4**

**Correction**

In a story headlined "Bend prepares to establish a new homeless services center. But how?" which was published Thursday, April 16, on Page A1, the contribution of homeless service providers and nonprofits was misstated. Nonprofits will contribute their services to the navigation center. The Bulletin regrets the error.

**TODAY'S WEATHER** Plenty of sun High 67, Low 36 **Page B5**

**INDEX**

Business	A7-8	Dear Abby	A6	History	A8	Obituaries	A8
Classifieds	B5-6	Editorial	A5	Horoscope	A6	Puzzles	B8
Comics	B7-8	Explore	B1-2, 9-10	Local/State	A2	Sports	B3-5

The Bulletin  
An Independent Newspaper  
Vol. 117, No. 329, 18 pages, 2 sections

We use recycled newsprint 0 88267 02329 1

**Hit the road!** Prices effective through April 20, 2021

**11.99**  
**\$6.99** After \$5 Mail-in Rebate  
See store for details  
**Mobil Delvac 1 gal 15W-40 Diesel Engine Oil** Everyday Bi-Mart 13.99

**BI-MART**  
Employee Owned. Real Value. Every Day.  
You can find all our current ads at [bimart.com](http://bimart.com)