

# SISTERS RUNNER STARTS STRONG

400-METER STATE CHAMPION EYES REPEAT • HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS, B1

# The Bulletin

EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY [bendbulletin.com](http://bendbulletin.com)

**\$150,000\***  
**CRUISIN'**  
**FOR CASH & PRIZES**  
EARN ENTRIES NOW!

**INDIAN HEAD CASINO**  
IndianHeadCasino.com

541-460-7777  
US-26, Warm Springs, OR, 97761

## COVID-19 | Redmond's mass vaccination center

# 'We love helping people get back to normal'



Dean Guernsey/Bulletin photos

People line up to get a COVID-19 vaccination April 8 at the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center in Redmond.

BY SUZANNE ROIG • The Bulletin

REDMOND —

**W**ind whipped jackets open and tugged papers attached to clipboards as a line of people snaked around the edge of a building at the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center. If it wasn't for the masks and the 6-foot distance between each person, it could have been a line to enter a rodeo or an exhibit. There was nothing that underscored the importance of the event: getting a vaccine.

"We get a lot of people who feel relieved," said Holle Galyon, a volunteer. "We love helping people get back to normal. I love the energy. It's like Disneyland for adults."

Since the mass vaccination clinic opened at the fairgrounds the week of Jan. 18, about 76,498 Central Oregon residents have been through to receive a vaccine, according to Deschutes County Health Services, which teamed up with St. Charles Health System to run the clinic.

Bashia McCarthy, a Bend resident and vaccination clinic volunteer, said she focuses on making people feel good about what they're doing.

See Center / A7



Sydni Williams administers a COVID-19 vaccine to Colin Brynn during a vaccination clinic at the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center in Redmond.

# Oregon works to shrink vaccine disparity

BY SUZANNE ROIG  
The Bulletin

The Oregon Health Authority will deploy vaccination vans to hard-to-reach communities as a way to eliminate the disparities created between those with easy access to COVID-19 vaccines and those facing barriers.

This comes at a time when daily case counts of COVID-19 have more than doubled in just over a month, Dr. Dean Sidelinger, Oregon Health Authority state epidemiologist, said Friday at a press conference.

As of Friday, Oregon had 173,626 COVID-19 cases, Sidelinger said. On March 6 the seven-day average number of cases was 249, but now the daily average is 595 cases.

COVID-19 cases have increased more than 20% for each of the past three weeks,



About 3,000 COVID-19 vaccines are administered per day at a vaccination clinic at the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center in Redmond.

Sidelinger said. With such high case counts, more counties have shifted from lower risk levels to more restrictive levels.

At the end of March, 28 counties were in the lower to moderate risk tiers. On Friday there were 22 counties listed as lower

or moderate risk.

"We're all tired of fighting COVID-19," Sidelinger said. "Tired of wearing our masks. Tired of missing our loved ones. And tired of keeping our distance. But we must all continue to fight."

See Disparity / A7

## OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

# Johnson named interim president

She will be the first woman to lead in the university's 150-plus year history

BY JACKSON HOGAN  
The Bulletin

In 1984, Becky Johnson began her tenure at Oregon State University as an assistant forestry professor.

Thirty-seven years and many career advancements later, Johnson — currently serving as the vice president of Oregon State University-Cascades in Bend — will become the first woman to lead OSU in the university's 156-year history.

The OSU board of trustees named Johnson, 65, the interim president of OSU during a Friday afternoon meeting.

This caps a long career at the university for Johnson, who has led OSU-Cascades since 2008. During those 13 years, she transformed a tiny branch school into Oregon's fastest-growing university, and the first four-year university in Central Oregon.

Johnson said after the meeting that her experience working with local legislators and business leaders, fundraising and leading research efforts at OSU-Cascades greatly prepared her for her new role in Corvallis.

"This campus has all the same research expectations as the larger Corvallis campus," Johnson told The Bulletin. "I'll be working with our faculty to make sure they have the resources they need to be able to be effective in their research, because that's important for solving really pressing problems."

See Johnson / A4



Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

*"My first job is to go out ... listen authentically and develop relationships with people across campus."*

**Becky Johnson,**  
vice president  
of Oregon State  
University-Cascades in  
Bend

## CAMPUS SECURITY

# Cop-like views persist at COCC, report states

BY GARRETT ANDREWS  
The Bulletin

A new independent review of the police force at Central Oregon Community College, where a student was raped and murdered by a campus officer in 2016, was prompted by complaints that a "cop-like" attitude persists on campus, according to COCC President Laurie Chesley.

While the review revealed some positives, much work remains in shifting the public safety culture at the Bend college, Chesley said Friday after announcing the review findings.

See COCC / A7

