

## Food drive

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The two high schools help up to 20 families with elementary school students and deliver at least two dozen bags of food each week.

The food drive program is funded and supported by the Family Access Network, a non-profit organization that supports children's wellbeing in Central Oregon, and Jericho Road, a group that runs a food pantry in Redmond.

Each week, the students use gift cards from the Family Access Network to buy food at the Dollar Tree, Grocery Outlet and Fred Meyer. The students usually buy items such as peanut butter, crackers, soups, bread and bananas for the elementary school children.

Curtis and her Ridgeview High School classmates, Faye Davis, a 17-year-old junior, and Lucy Standliff, a 15-year-old freshman, delivered the food Thursday to M.A. Lynch Elementary School in Red-



Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

**Ridgeview High School student Faye Davis, front, carries bags of donated food to Tumalo Community School with her classmates Lucy Standliff, left, and Kenzie Curtis while out making deliveries on Thursday.**

mond and Tumalo Elementary School.

The Redmond High School students deliver their food to Terrebonne Elementary School and Sage Elementary School in Redmond.

Davis said she always enjoys delivering food to M.A. Lynch

because she went to school there and feels connected to the students. She doesn't get to meet with the elementary students in person because of the COVID-19 pandemic, but she likes seeing them walking between classrooms. She knows the food drive program is help-

ing them.

"I lived here my whole life and I went to Lynch so it's nice to know you are putting something back into the community that you used to be a part of," Davis said.

At Redmond High School, 18-year-old senior Daisy Altamirano is a part of the food-drive program.

Altamirano said it started as a good volunteer opportunity, but has grown into something she is passionate about.

"After getting involved and seeing how many bags we do each week, it's a pretty impactful thing," Altamirano said, "especially knowing you are helping out and giving back to the community. And making a positive impact."

Altamirano hopes the program continues for future school years.

"It's very helpful," Altamirano said. "I could see it going further and making more bags in the future."

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## TODAY

Today is Friday, April 30, the 120th day of 2021. There are 245 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On **April 30, 1975**, the Vietnam War ended as the South Vietnamese capital of Saigon fell to Communist forces.

In **1517**, Londoners began attacking foreign residents in rioting that carried over into the next day; no deaths were reported from what came to be known as "Evil May Day," but about a dozen rioters, ended up being executed.

In **1789**, George Washington took the oath of office in New York as the first president of the United States.

In **1803**, the United States purchased the Louisiana Territory from France for 60 million francs, the equivalent of about \$15 million.

In **1945**, as Soviet troops approached his Berlin bunker, Adolf Hitler took his own life along with that of his wife of one day, Eva Braun.

In **1968**, New York City police forcibly removed student demonstrators occupying five buildings at Columbia University.

In **1970**, President Richard M. Nixon announced the U.S. was sending troops into Cambodia, an action that sparked widespread protest.

In **1973**, President Richard Nixon announced the resignations of top aides H.R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman, Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst and White House counsel John Dean, who was actually fired.

In **1993**, top-ranked women's tennis player Monica Seles was stabbed in the back during a match in Hamburg, Germany, by a man who described himself as a fan of German player Steffi Graf.

In **2004**, Arabs expressed outrage at graphic photographs of naked Iraqi prisoners being humiliated by U.S. military police.

In **2010**, heavy winds and high tides complicated efforts to hold back oil from a blown-out BP-operated rig that threatened to coat bird and marine life in the Gulf of Mexico; President Barack Obama halted any new offshore projects pending safeguards to prevent more explosions like the one that unleashed the spill.

In **2019**, Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaidó took to the streets to call for a military uprising against Nicolas Maduro; street battles erupted in the Venezuelan capital.

**Ten years ago:** A Libyan official said Moammar Gadhafi had escaped a NATO missile strike in Tripoli that killed one of his sons and three young grandchildren.

**Five years ago:** Anti-government protesters tore down walls and poured into the Iraqi capital's heavily fortified Green Zone, where they stormed parliament in a major escalation of a political crisis that had simmered for months.

**One year ago:** The number of Americans filing for unemployment benefits soared past 30 million in the six weeks since the virus outbreak took hold.

**Today's Birthdays:** Singer Willie Nelson is 88. Actor Burt Young is 81. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden is 75. Movie director Allan Arkush is 73. Actor Perry King is 73. Singer-musician Wayne Kramer is 73. Singer Merrill Osmond is 68. Movie director Jane Campion is 67. Former Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper is 62. Actor Paul Gross is 62. Basketball Hall of Famer Isiah Thomas is 60. Actor Adrian Pasdar is 56. Rock singer J.R. Richards (Dishwalla) is 54. Rapper Turbo B (Snap) is 54. Rock musician Clark Vogeler is 52. R&B singer Chris "Choc" Dalyrimple (Soul For Real) is 50. Rock musician Chris Henderson (3 Doors Down) is 50. Actor Kirsten Dunst is 39. Actor Dianna Agron is 35. Rapper/producer Travis Scott is 30.

— Associated Press

## Candidates

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### Zone 2 (northeast Bend)

Wendy Imel, 37, is an adjunct professor in Portland State University's business school and an administrator at the Bend Hernia Center.



Imel

She was prompted to run to support her two children — one a Buckingham Elementary School student and

the other a Pilot Butte Middle School student — and the teachers of Bend-La Pine Schools. Imel hopes to do that by increasing outreach to students who stopped attending school during distance learning, as well as closely analyzing test scores and attendance data to identify where help is needed.

"I believe strongly as a parent that we need to focus our support now more than ever to parents, students, and educators," Imel wrote in an email.

As a professor, Imel said she can sympathize with local teachers who have felt demoralized and burnt out from teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic. She believes extra communication and support for teachers could help.

"I know for me, as an educator, sometimes just having my department band together for Zoom meetings and emails to support each other through the harder weeks makes all the difference," Imel wrote.

Imel said she disapproved of Bend-La Pine's hesitancy to reopen schools in the fall. If Bend-La Pine opened schools to in-person learning in September, like Sisters and Crook County, the state would've allowed schools to stay open despite rising cases, but Su-

perintendent Lora Nordquist planned to wait until early October.

"That was a lost opportunity to put our children first, to make sure they knew they were a priority," Imel wrote.

Marcus LeGrand, 51, is the college and career success coach at Central Oregon



LeGrand

Community College, and a board member of The Father's Group — a Bend education non-profit primarily led by

Black fathers.

LeGrand is the father of two children at Tumalo Community School in the Redmond School District, but they will move to Sky View Middle School in Bend once they reach sixth grade, starting with his eldest daughter this September, he said.

One reason LeGrand chose to run for school board is to support students who don't feel represented in local education.

"I looked at the issues with marginalized students who are students of color, or poor white kids — they just weren't really being served," LeGrand said in a phone conversation. "Our students of color, there isn't many teachers that look like them, and that's kind of daunting."

In the 2019-20 school year, 82% of Bend-La Pine students were white, compared to 93% of teachers, according to state data.

LeGrand said his experience helping local college students find a career will translate well into helping younger students at Bend-La Pine. And he has a passionate work ethic, he noted.

"I'm someone students know they can come to," LeGrand said. "I fight for students every single day."

If elected, LeGrand hopes

to meet with teachers and gain insight on what worked and what didn't from the year of distance learning. And he agreed with Imel that helping emotionally struggling teachers is a priority.

"I'd give them the support they need," LeGrand said. "They need mental health breaks (and) access to counselors."

LeGrand was also supportive of Bend-La Pine's decision to not immediately restart in-person learning as soon as possible last fall.

"I'm glad they didn't rush back," he said. "I'm glad they used all the data they could, talked to people in higher positions to make sure everyone was safe and good to go."

### Zone 7 (at-large)

Janet Sarai Llerandi, 40, is the finance and administrative



Llerandi

coordinator for local education non-profits Better Together and the Early Learning Hub of Central Oregon, as well as the

executive director of Mecca Bend, a Latino-focused non-profit organization.

Llerandi is also a mother of a seventh grader at Cascade Middle School and an eighth grader in the Bend-La Pine Schools online program.

Llerandi decided to run because she felt she could provide a unique perspective missing in Bend-La Pine's leadership ranks, she said.

"As a family of color, as a single-parent household, as renters ... we face challenges others perhaps don't," said Llerandi in a phone conversation. "It prompted me to find out what changes I could bring as a parent with a somewhat not-so-positive experience."

If elected, Llerandi said she'll harness the multitude of connections she's established

in her nonprofit career, from health care providers to early childhood education groups, to benefit Bend-La Pine students and families. She'd also use her finance expertise to ensure federal COVID-19 funds are spent effectively, she said.

"I can work numbers like nobody else can," Llerandi said.

Llerandi also appreciated Bend-La Pine's recent equity push, but she wants the district to take things to the next level. That means going beyond gathering data and taking action on suggestions that underserved students are asking for.

"With this knowledge and understanding, now we have to act on it," Llerandi said. "It isn't just a book we can close and put away."

Llerandi's opponent is Jon Haffner, a financial analyst for St. Charles Bend who is also a founding member of the Open BendLa Pine schools page on Facebook. He has no elected experience.

Haffner did not respond to multiple requests for comment for this article.

Cab Burge will appear on the ballot for Zone 7, but dropped out of the race.

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