



Bong stigma is long gone



SPORTS PULLOUT, A5-8

Serena Williams' return
High Desert Storm's opener

Consumers drop \$800 on wares as businesses join in on cannabis culture
BUSINESS, A11

The Bulletin

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COVID-19 | FDA authorizes Pfizer vaccine for adolescents 12 to 15, A2

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

Redmond candidates discuss equity, mental health, community

Editor's Note: This is part one of a two-part series of mini profiles of Redmond School Board candidates in the May 18 election. Part two will publish Wednesday.

BY JACKSON HOGAN
The Bulletin

The Redmond School Board races are the most competitive in Central Oregon this year.

Eleven candidates are vying for four seats in the May 18 election, and only one — board Chair Shawn Hartfield — is an incumbent. This is a sharp turnaround from the 2019 board elections, where one incumbent ran unopposed and the other incumbent only had one challenger.

The Bulletin asked the Redmond School Board candidates the same questions about guns in schools, COVID-19, the district's new equity task force, and more.

Position 1

With the school board guaranteed to have at least three new members next school year, Hartfield said her nearly six years of experience would serve Redmond schools well.

"Whether I get elected or not, we're going to have a very new board," Hartfield, 50, said. "It's important to have somebody there with the knowledge and experience that I have."

Besides serving on the board, Hartfield works in human resources for Buckstop Truckware, a Prineville auto bumper manufacturer, and teaches business classes at Central Oregon Community College. She has three children in Redmond schools: one each at Sage Elementary and Obsidian and Elton Gregory middle schools.

Once the COVID-19 pandemic subsides, Hartfield wants to push for more extracurricular activities for elementary students, she said.

"In our elementary schools, we have not done a great job in developing extracurricular activities," she said.

See **School board** / A13

Police chief's first budget: 8 new posts



Police Chief Mike Krantz

Bend department's \$69 million proposal goes before City Council

BY GARRETT ANDREWS
The Bulletin

To help meet his and the Bend City Council's goals, Bend Police Chief Mike Krantz is asking for eight more staff members in his first pro-

posed budget.

The \$69 million proposal for 2021-23 features funding for an officer focused on homeless outreach, a communications staff member to "increase transparency and community engagement, a detective to support child abuse investigations and a technician to support new body-worn cameras coming to the agency.

The department is also asking for two new

school resource officers, one at Central Oregon Community College and one for Bend-La Pine Schools. Under the proposal, about 40% of the cost to staff the resource officers would be funded by the schools.

Krantz, who was hired in July from the Portland Police Bureau, will address the City Council as part of budget presentations Wednesday.

See **Police** / A13

Toss your yard debris, for free



Gary Dyr Dahl, from left, and Rich Feldman offload yard debris at Knott Landfill during a FireFree yard waste recycling event, which runs through Sunday at Knott Landfill.

Dean Guemsey/
The Bulletin

Several sites around Deschutes County are offering free yard waste recycling this spring as a means to reduce risk of wildfire.

The collection sites, listed at right, are coordinated by FireFree, a year-round educational effort to encourage home and property owners to keep defensible spaces around their homes by removing flammable materials that could allow the spread of wildfire.

Grass clippings, brush, plant prunings, pine needles, pine cones, weeds, trimmings and branches, stumps or trees no larger than 12 inches diameter are accepted. Sod, dirt, rocks, lumber, metal, trash or plastics of any kind, including plastic bags, and stumps or trees larger than 12 inches in diameter are not accepted.

The collection locations and times are listed at right.

— Bulletin staff report

Knott Landfill

61050 SE 27th St., Bend
7 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through Sunday

Westside Collection Site

Off Skyliners Road west of Miller Elementary School
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Negus Transfer Station

2400 NE Maple Way, Redmond
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday May 22-June 5th

Northwest Transfer Station

68200 Fryrear Road, Cloverdale
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday May 22-June 5

Southwest Transfer Station

54580 U.S. Highway 97, La Pine
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday May 22-June 5

FireFree events since 1999 have collected 444,605 cubic yards of material, or enough yard debris to fill almost 44,500 dump trucks.

COVID stubborn in region as cases dip statewide

BY GARY A. WARNER
Oregon Capital Bureau

The latest rise in COVID-19 infections in Oregon has peaked and is heading down, though Central Oregon continues to have some of the top case numbers and infection rates in the state.

The Oregon Health Authority released the weekly COVID-19 risk level numbers late Monday morning. The official announcement on any changes in risk levels — and restrictions in each county — will not be announced by Gov. Kate Brown until Tuesday.

But some of the numbers showed

clear indicators of what to expect.

Overall, they show a slight decline COVID-19 cases over the past two weeks, compared to last week's report.

The state reported 10,755 new cases over the two-week period, which equals 252 cases per 100,000 residents. Both are slight declines over the previous period.

The rate of positive cases remains at 6.4% — state officials say anything above 5% has the potential to lead to a rebound of cases.

Several counties had case rates that would in the past have pushed

6.4%

The rate of positive cases in Oregon. New cases are on a downward trend, but the state says anything above 5% has the potential to lead to a rebound.

Daily numbers on A2

them into the extreme risk category. For large counties, an infection rate of more than 200 per 100,000 people would place them in the most restrictive of the state's four tiers of risk levels.

But Brown introduced a new metric last month that keeps counties from

the harshest limits, including a ban on indoor dining.

Counties will not be put in the extreme risk level regardless of their own COVID-19 numbers if the state overall has under 300 hospitalizations for COVID-19. After that threshold is crossed, an increase of 15% has to be met to hit the extreme risk level.

As of Monday, the Oregon Health Authority reported 324 confirmed COVID-19 cases hospitalized in the state, a slight reduction over the last period.

See **COVID-19** / A4

Corrections

A story headlined "The importance of family becomes more meaningful," which was published Sunday, May 9, on Page A1, misstated what bills a family received assistance to pay. The family received assistance for electric bills.

In an article headlined "School board race sees unusual division," which appeared Saturday, May 8, on Page A1, the total amount of campaign contributions that Bend-La Pine School Board candidate Carrie McPherson Douglass received in 2021 was misstated. In this campaign cycle, McPherson Douglass has received \$13,784.80 in contributions. The Bulletin regrets the errors.