

Fourth

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Residents are especially eager to celebrate since the Fourth of July is the first holiday after the state on Wednesday lifted all COVID-19 restrictions.

“Everybody is really excited the parade is back,” said Khrisma Carter, events director for the Redmond Chamber of Commerce, which is organizing the parade. “We got a lot of last minute entries this week.”

So far, 60 groups have signed up for the Redmond parade, which will start at 10 a.m. Sunday and cruise down Sixth Street. Redmond is also hosting a second annual porch parade, where residents are welcomed to drive through neighborhoods and admire decorated homes. Redmond’s fireworks show will be held at about 10 p.m. Sunday at the Deschutes County fairgrounds.

Carter said the parade will extend a few more blocks than usual to allow people to social distance. The added space will also accommodate a larger crowd that is expected because Bend canceled this year’s Fourth of July Pet Parade.

“We’ve had a lot of calls from people asking if we are having a parade because they were bummed that Bend canceled its pet parade,” Carter said. “We are having it, so come on down.”

After the Redmond parade, people can drive north to Madras and enjoy a Fourth of July parade at 1 p.m. Sunday. The parade starts at D Street and SE 10th Street and ends at E Street and Seventh Street.

Horn, a Madras resident, plans to leave the Redmond Parade and enter his hometown’s parade. Two parades in one day will make up for a lost Fourth of July last year, he said.

Horn’s only worry will be the heat. Temperatures have dropped from the 100-plus-degree heat wave,

but are expected to be in the mid-90s on the Fourth of July.

“It does present a bit of a problem,” Horn said. “I’ve got to keep an eye on it.”

Joe Krenowicz, executive director of the Madras-Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce, said he trusts people will take care of themselves and stay cool in the heat and practice social distancing if necessary. For those uncomfortable with the heat or pandemic, the Madras parade will be livestreamed on the chamber’s Facebook page.

Either way, the community is enthusiastic about a large celebration this weekend, Krenowicz said.

“Our community definitely wants and needs to hit this hard for the Fourth of July,” he said.

Madras held its Fourth of July parade last year despite the pandemic, but had to cancel its celebration in Sahalee Park. This year, the park celebration has returned.

The celebration on Sunday will feature farmers market vendors from noon to 4 p.m., live music before and after the 1 p.m. parade and a flag ceremony at 2:30 p.m.

Krenowicz said it will be a good feeling to have an all-out Fourth of July.

“We certainly believe people are ready to let go of COVID-19,” he said, “and get back into as close as we can to normal activities.”

While Bend’s traditional pet parade and celebration were canceled, Bend residents can see professional fireworks shows following the Bend Elks baseball game on Saturday, and at 10 p.m. Sunday, when a show will launch from the top of Pilot Butte. You cannot, however, light off your own fireworks this year as the city and county have banned all fireworks through July 9 due to extreme fire danger.

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Vehicles drive down Bond Street in downtown Bend on Wednesday. Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

Parking

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These changes will allow people who really just need to go to downtown for a couple of hours to run an errand or eat a meal to do so, while people who need or want to stay downtown for longer have a safer, more reliable alternative to constantly needing to move their car around to avoid citations, Marx said.

Marx recognizes that not everyone will be happy about paying for parking, but pointed out that the previous way Bend managed parking was confusing. Previously, two hours of parking was free on lots downtown, but any additional time after that was not.

“We have received so much feedback on, ‘We don’t know what to do on your lots,’” Marx said.

Earlier this year, the city eliminated free parking from the parking garage, and the city has not seen a decrease in the number of cars.

“This garage has never been as busy as it is right now,” Marx said.

Other changes include parking limits in the Mirror Pond South and North parking lots being extended from four hours to six hours, and making

Downtown parking changes

People parking in downtown Bend will no longer be allowed to move to another free on-street parking spot 750 feet away when their two-hour limit is up. Instead, people will be encouraged to go to paid on-street parking if they want to stay downtown longer than two hours.



Source: City of Bend

Alan Kenaga/For The Bulletin

the Troy Field Lot a paid-parking lot with all-day parking available.

People can pay for parking on these lots or in the garage

with a parking payment app, or with cash and credit card, Marx said.

Paid parking will be removed from NW Irving Street,

and on-street parking will become two hours of free parking, according to Marx.

For people who work downtown, Marx said the city is hoping to promote a monthly parking permit that “costs less than Netflix.” The cost ranges between \$10 and \$30, depending on someone’s income, Marx said.

Mindy Aisling, executive director of the Downtown Bend Business Association, said while business owners have differing opinions, the association itself supports the changes.

One benefit is that money generated from parking fees stays within the downtown parking district, which can be used to improve downtown over time, she said.

“It helps put people in the right places,” Aisling said. “I think it will be easier for people to park downtown.”

People who have never used a parking app to pay for parking in Bend can go to Parkingapp.com and search for an app that can be used to pay for parking at the lot of their choosing, Marx said. Residents can use a digital coupon with the term “Bendite” and get two hours of free parking in lots through August, Marx said.

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Attack

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“The contact with the two groups started while floating on the Deschutes River and the group of suspects followed the victims in an attempt to engage in conversation after exiting the river at Drake Park near the Galveston Bridge,” the statement reads. “It is not believed the two groups knew each other prior to the confrontation.”

Responding officers interviewed several people but made no arrests.

The incident was described differently on social media by people claiming to know parties involved, as well as an unsigned statement circulating online.

“A small group of teenage friends were unprovokingly harassed and chased by a large group of adults between the ages of 20-30 from Tumalo Avenue to Riverside Boulevard, where they were caught and brutally attacked,” the statement reads.

Juhnke said he could not confirm or deny any information in the statement.

The statement echoes a GoFundMe page for recent Mountain View High School graduate Tristan Rosch West that had raised \$14,245 of

its \$10,000 goal by Thursday evening. The page states West suffered a fracture to his orbital socket and spine.

“While the spinal fracture will heal on its own, Tristan must undergo surgery to repair the significant damage to the eye and awaits scheduling with a Maxillofacial Surgeon,” the page reads.

The families of the alleged victims released a joint statement to The Bulletin through one of their mothers, Aubrey McGarry.

“We would like to first extend our heartfelt gratitude and thanks for the outpouring of love, support, prayers and concern for these young men and our families,” the statement reads. “We also want to let the community know that the Bend Police Department has been in contact with us, and we appreciate everything they are doing to protect the integrity of the investigation and eventually hold responsible those involved with this crime.”

Bend Police asks anyone who witnessed the incident to contact nonemergency dispatch at 541-693-6911 and reference case 2021-36261.

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