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The Bulletin

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SPORTS PULLOUT, A5-8

Oregon Republicans prepare for debate, party conference

BY GARY A. WARNER
Oregon Capital Bureau

Oregon Republicans will gather in Clackamas County this weekend for three days of debate and détente in preparation for the 2022 elections.

The annual Dorchester Conference, held again this year at the Mt. Hood Oregon Resort in Welches, is the traditional gathering of loyal activists, party

leaders and conservative national stars in politics and the media.

Pushed to the margins of political power in Oregon in recent years, Republicans are hoping for a turnaround in 2022. No current or former governor is running for the state's top job for the first time since 2002. The newly drawn congressional and legislative

MAY 17 ELECTION



All coverage online at bendbulletin.com/elections

districts could yield surprises. President Joe Biden's popularity is slumping, and voters historically have taken out their

- MORE INSIDE
- More on the Republican governor's forum in Bend, **A2**
 - Tuesday is the deadline to register to vote for a major party, **A2**

frustrations during midterms on the party of the president in power.

See **Republicans** / A4

OREGON CONGRESSIONAL SEATS

Heavy primary spending marks start of races

BY GARY A. WARNER
Oregon Capital Bureau

President Joe Biden is visiting Portland on Thursday for his first election-year trip beyond the Washington, D.C., area.

Despite a lingering COVID-19 pandemic, the president is coming to Oregon, where one of the first primaries of 2022 is less than a month away on May 17.

See **Primary** / A4

WIND, SNOW AND SURFING?

MUST BE SPRING IN BEND.



Despite the cold and windy weather, surfers line up for their turns to carve the wave at the Bend Whitewater Park on Wednesday. The wet weather is forecast to continue Thursday with a chance of snow and rain in the morning and becoming partly cloudy with a high of 51 degrees in the afternoon.

Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

SUNRIVER

Residents to vote on \$7M public safety levy

BY BRENNIA VISSER
The Bulletin

The Sunriver Service District is asking voters to approve a \$7 million levy to fund construction of a new public safety building.

The buildings that house fire and police services in the destination resort have several issues, including roof problems, no suspect holding rooms, no decontamination space for first responders and insufficient accommodations for female firefighters, according to the service district.

See **Levy** / A13

Rural Oregonians overwhelmingly see 1850 Donation Land Act as unfair

The act granted free land to white settlers, at the expense of Native Americans

BY MICHAEL KOHN
The Bulletin

In 1850, Congress passed the Donation Land Act, which granted free land to white settlers in Oregon as a way to encourage Americans to go West. The act ushered in a wave of migrants and carved Oregon up into plots of land, largely at the expense of Native American tribes.

A February survey to gauge Oregonian's perceptions on the Donation Land Act revealed that rural people view the act as unfair in larger percentages than people living in urban areas.

According to the survey, 77% of people polled in rural areas said the Donation Land Act was not fair to people who were not white. For the same question, 70% of people in urban areas also responded that the act was not fair. The percentages were even higher in Oregon's suburbs, where 80% of people said the policy was unfair.

The online survey was conducted by the independent, nonpartisan Oregon Values and Beliefs Center. It polled 1,584 Oregonians and had a margin of error of 1.5% to 2.5%.

See **Land Act** / A13