EOU

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classes and said the quality of education often is higher when there is in-person interactions with her professors and peers.

"I think that students not getting tuition refunds is absolutely ridiculous," Bolton said. "As students, we need any little bit of money we can get, and by not refunding the overpaid tuition, it causes students to struggle to survive especially in a time like now when many places have shut down and many students aren't able to work."

All student financial aid and scholarships are secure, Seydel said, and the school is working to refund those who were living on campus but do not return. On-campus housing ranges from $4,000-$6,800 per year and a dining plan around $4,000 per year is required for freshmen living on campus. Some of this may be refunded as well, Seydel said.

Observer file photo

Eastern Oregon University students stroll through the campus in La Grande in November 2019. Students will take online classes for the remainder of the school year due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Hands-on from afar

For some classes, such as biology or art, a hands-on approach is the most effective way of learning, and EOU is working on ways to provide this from afar.

Professors will teach stagecraft theater courses using demonstrations and videos. Students then will work on small-scale illustrations or "tiny" building projects. Ceramic students will ditch the pottery wheel for clay they can purchase from local stores and build by hand. Cellphone cameras can be used for photography classes instead of college-provided digital cameras.

"In some instances there isn't a substitute for face-to-face interaction or lab work," Seydel said, "but technology has delivered amazing advancements in education, which may be hard to imagine for those who were in college 20 or even 10 years ago."

Elementary education major Madison Pilon, a junior, said while she is optimistic, with a major that depends on so much in-person interaction, she has some concerns.

"I believe it will be really hard to achieve that same quality of education," Pilon said. "It is definitely going to based off of what you do individually instead of relying on your educators to feed us information."

Pilon also said with all classes taken only online and with coffee shops closed to dine-in seating, she is concerned that it may be difficult for some students to get access to the internet, which would make completing coursework a problem.

The university will notify students if a class has been canceled due to inability to adapt instruction to distance learning before the start of the quarter.

Mid-term changes unlikely

Seydel said even if social distancing measures were to end, it is likely the school will remain online for the rest of the term in order to maintain consistency for the students and faculty.

"We do not want to disrupt the continuity of education," Seydel said. "By making the decision to deliver all classes via remote access, EOU is providing certainty to our students that they can continue their higher education endeavors regardless of the status of social distancing directives. It would be disruptive for students who are taking classes remotely to be expected to relocate back to campus for a portion of a term."

If the state eases up on social distancing measures, Seydel said the campus will open up more and decrease distancing requirements as well. However, the distance-learning will continue for spring term and students will not have to return to campus until the fall.

"We know this platform isn't the long-term solution for all students, but we feel confident we can keep our students enrolled, engaged and learning with the highest quality instruction remotely for this term so they can continue making progress toward degree completion," Seydel said.

FLU

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a doctor who was the chairman of the city's board of health, essentially shut down much of the community from late December until the later part of January.

Bootlegger sought

The shutdown all but silenced downtown La Grande.

"La Grande is a closed town. The business district is almost as lifeless as a marble slab.… We are all paying homage to the dreaded disease called Flu," The Observer reported in a Dec. 28, 1918, editorial.

To illustrate how vacant La Grande's downtown was, the editorial writer told of an elderly man who had forgotten to get tobacco for his pipe. He could not find any stores with tobacco to sell him.

"Is there not a tobacco bootlegger working today?" the man asked.

The city's schools were closed from late December through much of January. On the economic front, the city required all businesses in La Grande be closed from Dec. 26 through late January except laundry services, newspapers, banks, creameries and drugstores. Grocery stores could operate but only if residents had items delivered to them.

Idle clerks and store owners were said to be then playing tiddlywinks, then a popular children's game, according to the editorial.

"Delivery boys are the only active pieces of machinery of the city and they are working overtime for it is admitted that people must eat," the newspaper said.

The editorial was published a few days after La Grande experienced a Christmas filled with little cheer.

> *"Christmas in La Grande was a very, very sparse affair because of the ban on public gatherings."*
>
> **The Observer**, on Dec. 26, 1918.

"Christmas in La Grande was a very, very sparse affair because of the ban on public gatherings," The Observer reported on Dec. 26, 1918.

The appearance of 300 soldiers returning after serving in World War I boosted the Christmas atmosphere. They stopped at the Red Cross canteen for food and drink while on a train trip to their hometowns.

"About the only pep showed during the day to stir the public atmosphere was the arrival of several hundred soldiers at the Red Cross canteen," The Observer reported on Dec. 26.

City imposes quarantine

The city not only required the shutdown of public schools and businesses but also imposed a quarantine on everyone suspected of having the flu. Placards had to be placed outside the front and rear entrances of homes where people suspected of having the flu lived.

The signs stated that everybody must be excluded from the homes except those designated as attendants who were caring for the patients. Anyone else who entered a home of someone being quarantined was not allowed to leave.

"This is to be a quarantine which means something," Richardson told The Observer in early January 1919.

Quarantines of the sick were required but not face masks. The Observer recommended them in a Jan. 11, 1919, article, headlined "Wear Masks and Guard Homes Against Plague," which noted face masks were being required in San Francisco.

The Observer in late December published the addresses of at least 100 homes on a La Grande quarantine list. By early January the list was down to just 25 homes.

La Grande residents claimed by the Spanish Flu during this time included Robert Gale Sturdivant, who died Jan. 5, 1919, at Grande Ronde Hospital. Sturdivant and his wife, Edna, and their child had spent Christmas in Pendleton, and he began to feel ill shortly after returning. Robert Sturdivant died a week later.

Sturdivant was described in The Observer as "one of the most popular and best liked young men in the city."

It is not clear how authorizes were enforcing the quarantine in La Grande, but an article in the Jan. 11, 1919, Observer stated people were unfairly holding doctors responsible for enforcing the quarantine.

"This is an unjust accusation for every physician in the city is being worked to death. It is out of the question for doctors to work as policemen," The Observer stated.

The newspaper recommended the creation of a squadron of 15 law enforcement officers to handle the quarantine enforcement.

Silent films roar again

Ten days later, the number of Spanish Flu cases under quarantine had fallen to a handful and only one new case had been reported in the past few days. This prompted the city to lift the closure orders and restrictions for businesses, schools, churches and public and private gatherings.

"News of the lifting of the ban brings inexpressible relief to every person in the city and especially to the pastors of churches and their congregations and to the proprietors of moving picture theaters," The Observer reported on Jan. 26, 1919.

Businesses that advertised following the lifting of the ban included the Arcade theater.

"Back with a smile and picture hungry? Sure you are! You didn't realize how much you needed motion pictures until you were deprived of them," the Arcade ad said.

The first movie the Arcade — which later became the Liberty Theatre — showed after the ban was lifted was a silent comedy-drama starring Mary Pickford, "How Could You, Jean?"

The Spanish Flu pandemic peaked in late 1918 but continued into 1920.

Brigit Farley, a Washington State University professor who lives in Pendleton, stated in a recent column in the East Oregonian Pendleton in 2918 had 600 flu cases and 38 flu deaths.

In Central Oregon the Spanish Flu in 1918 and 1919 killed 58 people in Deschutes County, 10 in Crook County and three in Jefferson County, according to information from the St. Charles Health System.

NUMBERS

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a hand sanitizer that contains 60% alcohol. Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects daily using a regular household detergent and water.

•Notify your workplace as soon as possible if your regular work schedule changes.

Ask to work from home or take leave if you or someone in your household gets sick with COVID-19 symptoms, or if your child's school is dismissed temporarily.

•Stay in touch with others by phone or email. If you have a chronic medical condition and live alone, ask family, friends and health care providers to check on you.

Stay in touch with family and friends, especially those at increased risk of developing severe illness, such as older adults and people with severe chronic medical conditions.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

Reported illnesses have ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness and death for confirmed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases.

Fever, cough and shortness of breath may appear two to 14 days after exposure.

I HAVE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS, WHAT DO I DO?

If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as cough or difficulty breathing, call your health care provider for medical advice.

WHERE CAN I GET THE TEST?

If you develop symptoms such as fever, cough and/or difficulty breathing, and have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or have recently traveled from an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19, stay home and call your health care provider.

LAYOFFS

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produces tillers, trenchers, log splitters, trailers and more.

The company has plants at the La Grande Industrial Park and just east of Hot Lake.

Almost all of the employees who were laid off worked at these two plants.

He said government restrictions put in place to reduce the spread of COVID-19 by requiring people maintain a distance of 6 feet from each other have not affected the operation of his company. He explained the buildings at his plants are spacious enough to make it easy for employees to maintain the required distance.

The state representative also said the $2 trillion economic stimulus bill President Donald Trump signed Friday would not necessarily improve his firm's situation.

"It is all predicated on demand," he said.

This month's layoffs come on the heels of very successful period in Barreto Manufacturing's history, boosted by what had been a hot economy.

"Our business had doubled in the past four years," Barreto said.

Barreto and his wife, Chris, who live in Cove, founded Barreto Manufacturing in 1984. They moved the company to La Grande in 1986.