



Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin
The driveway of a recently completed home in a new development by Hiatus Homes in Bend.

New small homes in Bend pack a sustainable punch

By SUZANNE ROIG
The Bulletin

When Mary Ostafi and her husband, Joe Ostafi, drove up to the model home of Hiatus Roanoke in northwest Bend, she knew she had found her place.

Everything about the 1,200 -square -foot home hit all her must-have buttons. Sustainable building products: check.

Small footprint: check. Energy efficient: check.

She found the right home in a community of other sustainable, energy efficient homes being built by tiny home builder Hiatus Homes, a small home development company founded by Jesse Russell of Bend.

“I’m a huge proponent of small living and sustainability,” Mary Ostafi said. “To me, this was living my value. I was excited to see a small, stylish, nicely designed, efficient home in the neighborhood I wanted to live in.”

Living tiny has been a trend for the past decade as more millennials and aging baby boomers decide to lessen their carbon footprint on the world by scaling back. Tiny home communities have become popular, particularly in urban areas like Portland.

Tiny home building is at the heart of what Hiatus Homes offers: It first built a 22-home development in southeast Bend called Hiatus Benham, a collection of 598-square-foot cottages that initially sold for about \$230,000.

Sometimes, small homes can address the affordable housing crisis, said Damon Runberg, Oregon Employment Department regional economist. From that perspective, smaller, energy-efficient homes are important to adding to the housing mix.

“Smaller homes mean more dwellings can fit on the limited developable land we have in Bend,” Runberg

said. “More energy-efficient homes result in significant savings on natural gas and electric bills. Bend’s housing affordability is rooted in lack of housing supply.”

While Hiatus Roanoke is not considered affordable, the city does allow for small home and lot development as a way to increase affordable housing stock. Prices are about \$770,000 for Hiatus Roanoke homes, Russell said.

“I’m excited that people want them,” said Russell. “This is the direction of where our society is going: Reduce your carbon footprint.”

‘THIS IS THE DIRECTION OF WHERE OUR SOCIETY IS GOING: REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT.’

Jesse Russell | founder of Hiatus Homes

The company’s latest foray is the 1,200 Hiatus Roanoke, a small subdivision of 10 homes, each 1,200 square feet, that include a garage, two bedrooms and two bathrooms. The homes can be purchased with a solar panel package to make them net-zero.

“The small footprint is the innovation with this trend,” Russell said. “It bums me out that we can’t find a silver bullet for affordable housing. People are moving to more smaller, efficient homes.”

With the addition of solar panels, these homes will offset their individual energy usage, said Ryan Bukstein, Hiatus Homes communications director.

By shrinking the footprint and using advanced

insulation, airflow control and design techniques, these homes will keep people more comfortable while helping in the global fight against climate change through reduced energy consumption, Bukstein said.

The inspiration for Russell, who made his mark as a reality TV producer, came when he returned to his hometown in 2014. A childhood friend helped him build a tiny house in Deschutes River Woods, and that launched Hiatus Homes. A year later, Russell worked with the city to draft the 2015 cottage code that allows for small homes.

Pauline Hardie, Bend Community Development Department senior planner, said that developers are interested in building small homes. There are several under construction now, including one on Newport Avenue in Bend behind the Ace Hardware, Hardie said.

“It’s not for every developer,” Hardie said. “Going forward, we’ll keep the cottage code and encourage cluster developments. We’re drafting language on a new code that will help make the infill lots more developable.”

Another feature of Hiatus Homes that is attracting buyer attention, Bukstein said, is sourcing renewable products like plantation-grown eucalyptus and sourcing locally, like Bend’s Morelock Wood products. Homeowners can add solar panels to the homes, that are all south-facing to capture as much sunlight as possible.

When Ostafi walked into the model, she realized that this was the home she wanted to live and work in. She saw the design touches and finishes that made the small space flow.

“They really made the most of every inch of space,” Ostafi said. Plus, “The views from the large balcony were breathtaking.”

Biden orders travel restrictions over virus

By AAMER MADHANI and ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden on Monday reinstated COVID-19 travel restrictions on most non-U.S. travelers from Brazil, Ireland, the United Kingdom and 26 other European countries that allow travel across open borders. He also added South Africa to the list.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki said South Africa was added to the restricted list because of concerns about a variant of the virus that has spread beyond that nation.

“This isn’t the time to be lifting restrictions on international travel,” Psaki said.

The prohibition Biden is reinstating suspends entry to nearly all foreign nationals who have been in any of the countries on the restricted list at any point during the 14 days before their scheduled travel to the U.S.

The new requirements go into effect on Tuesday.

Top U.S. infectious disease expert Dr. Anthony Fauci called Biden’s decision to reinstate the travel restrictions — and add South Africa to the list — “prudent” in a round of television interviews Monday.

“We have concern about the mutation that’s in South Africa,” Fauci told “CBS This Morning.” “We’re looking at it very actively. It is clearly a different and more ominous than the one in the U.K., and I think it’s very prudent to restrict travel of noncitizens.”

Biden reversed an order from President Donald Trump in his final days in office that called for the relaxation of the travel



Evan Vucci/AP Photo
White House press secretary Jen Psaki speaks during a press briefing at the White House on Monday.

restrictions as of Tuesday. Trump’s move was made in conjunction with a new requirement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that all international travelers to the U.S. obtain a negative test for COVID-19 within three days of boarding their flight.

Last week, Biden expanded on the CDC requirement and directed that federal agencies require international travelers to quarantine upon arrival in the U.S. and obtain another negative test to slow the spread of the virus. Those requirements also go into effect Tuesday.

The 26 European countries impacted by reinstatement of the ban are part of the border-free Schengen zone. They include Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland.

Biden’s team had announced that he would

reimpose the travel restrictions, but the addition of South Africa to the restricted travel list highlights the new administration’s concern about mutations in the virus.

The South Africa variant has not been discovered in the United States, but another variant — originating in the United Kingdom — has been detected in several states.

Fauci said there is “a very slight, modest diminution” of the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines against those variants but “there’s enough cushion with the vaccines that we have that we still consider them to be effective against both the UK strain and the South Africa strain.”

But he warned that more mutations are possible and said scientists are preparing to adapt the vaccines if necessary.

“We really need to make sure that we begin, and we already have, to prepare if it’s necessary to upgrade the vaccines,” Fauci said. “We’re already taking steps in that direction despite the fact that the vaccines we have now do work.”

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MORE THAN YOU IMAGINED

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
40 33	47 35	45 35	47 39	46 39	47 38	46 37
A little p.m. rain	A shower in the a.m.	A couple of showers	A stray shower	Cloudy, rain possible	Cloudy, rain possible	A chance of rain

ALMANAC

Astoria through Sunday

Temperatures	
High/low	42/38
Normal high/low	50/38
Record high	64 in 2006
Record low	17 in 1949

Precipitation

Sunday	0.76"
Month to date	13.54"
Normal month to date	8.12"
Year to date	13.54"
Normal year to date	8.12"

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2021

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: After sunset, Mercury reaches highest point in southwest.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	7:45 a.m.
Sunset tonight	5:12 p.m.
Moonrise today	3:01 p.m.
Moonset today	6:32 a.m.

	Full	Last	New	First
Jan 28				
Feb 4				
Feb 11				
Feb 19				

TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
12:11 a.m.	6.9	5:18 a.m.	4.0	
10:59 a.m.	8.6	6:27 p.m.	-0.2	

Cape Disappointment

10:39 a.m.	8.7	4:33 a.m.	4.4	
none		5:36 p.m.	-0.1	

Hammond

12:04 a.m.	6.8	4:52 a.m.	4.1	
10:49 a.m.	8.9	5:54 p.m.	-0.4	

Warrenton

12:06 a.m.	7.3	5:02 a.m.	4.1	
10:54 a.m.	9.0	6:11 p.m.	-0.1	

Knapapa

12:48 a.m.	7.2	6:19 a.m.	3.5	
11:36 a.m.	8.9	7:28 p.m.	-0.1	

Depoe Bay

9:54 a.m.	8.9	4:00 a.m.	4.5	
11:51 p.m.	7.1	5:07 p.m.	-0.2	

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Wed.
Atlanta	71/53/sh	60/36/r
Boston	34/31/pc	37/32/sn
Chicago	33/23/pc	28/9/sf
Dallas	59/40/s	51/30/s
Denver	27/13/sn	45/26/s
Honolulu	81/72/sh	82/71/r
Houston	74/52/pc	68/41/s
Los Angeles	58/48/s	61/50/c
Miami	83/70/pc	83/67/pc
New York City	34/33/sn	38/30/c
Phoenix	53/38/c	58/42/s
San Francisco	53/49/sh	57/50/r
Wash., DC	47/40/r	50/32/c

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

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REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

City	Today	Wed.
Seattle	44/35	
Tacoma	43/31	
Wenatchee	32/28	
Moses Lake	39/30	
Spokane	32/26	
Pullman	35/30	
Aberdeen	42/35	
Olympia	42/31	
Longview	40/35	
Kennewick	42/31	
Walla Walla	40/34	
Lewiston	40/32	
Enterprise	34/28	
Astoria	40/33	
Portland	42/35	
The Dalles	39/32	
Hermiston	41/31	
Pendleton	40/32	
La Grande	35/30	
Salem	42/34	
Albany	40/34	
Corvallis	39/33	
Eugene	41/34	
Bend	36/27	
John Day	35/30	
Ontario	40/34	
Caldwell	41/36	
Medford	39/32	
Klamath Falls	30/28	
Burns	32/26	

City	Today	Wed.
Baker City	36/31/pc	40/33/sn
Brookings	44/40/r	48/44/sh
Ilwaco	41/34/r	45/36/c
Newberg	41/34/r	45/37/sh
Newport	40/34/r	47/39/c

City	Today	Wed.
North Bend	46/37/r	50/39/c
Roseburg	42/34/r	48/37/c
Seaside	41/34/r	45/35/c
Springfield	41/35/r	45/35/c
Vancouver	41/35/r	44/35/pc