

# Oregon flush with marijuana cash

MEDFORD (AP) — As legalized marijuana brings more business to Oregon, some communities are seeing a large amount of cash in the economy thanks to strict regulations keeping banks away from the businesses.

Banking officials say that after years of moving away from cash, financial institutions have seen a recent influx due to the marijuana industry, *The Mail Tribune* reported.

“We’re seeing much more cash,” says Jeri Reno, chief operating officer at Medford-based People’s Bank of Commerce. “It really is the unintended consequences of passing new state laws.”

Many banks will not offer lines of credit to marijuana businesses due to high federal penalties for holding pot-tainted money. As a result, the marijuana industry operates with cash. Dispensaries pay their employees, landlords, lawyers and most other people with cash that is then spent in grocery stores and on other daily tasks.

Reno said the supply chain best illustrates how far reaching cash in the marijuana industry can be.

“A marijuana grower is going to need irrigation, fencing, greenhouse supplies and soil,” Reno says. “So you can see how far-reaching it is in that it impacts so many businesses in the valley.”

As a result, building supply firms, for example, saw increased cash as growers acquired fencing and construction materials.

“We’ve had people come in and pay three, four or five thousand



In this Sept. 30, 2016, a marijuana harvester examines buds from a trimming machine near Corvallis.

dollars in cash for the materials they needed,” says Becky Hingle, office manager for Hughes Lumber Co. “We’ve seen a lot of cedar fencing go out of here.”

People’s Bank Vice President and Operations Manager Dawn DeVita said the southern Oregon-based institution does not work directly with marijuana businesses, but it has seen an increased volume of cash circulation.

“So indirectly, we have a cash society again,” DeVita said. “We kind of went back 10-plus years.”

The increase in cash came when recreational use became legal in July 2015, Reno said. Growers began obtaining licenses from the

state in May 2016.

Because the Bank Secrecy Act requires banks to monitor customer deposits for any Anti-Money Laundering law violations and file reports of suspicious activity to the U.S. Treasury, many banks now have to spend more time dealing with the influx of cash.

“It has evolved over the last five years,” DeVita says. “We have daily reports, weekly, monthly. We look for behaviors with algorithms for things outside of normal business patterns. Based on our size, we’ve seen a substantial increase in those. It’s nothing directly related to the marijuana industry, but to BSA regulations.”

# Mohawk High School drops Indians as name of teams

MARCOLA (AP) — Mohawk High School teams have been known as the Indians since the school was established in the late 1920s.

That’s about to change. A community survey and several town hall-style meetings prompted the district to decide to adopt a new nickname and symbol, Marcola School District Superintendent Bill Watkins told *The Register-Guard*.

Watkins said 52 percent of those who completed the survey wanted to drop the name Indians. Forty-eight percent wanted to keep it.

The district, located about 25 miles northeast of Eugene, hopes to choose a new mascot by next month.

The switch involves more than just picking a new name. A large image of an Indian on the floor of the school’s gym will have to be

removed. Watkins said that could cost as much as \$20,000.

“We’ll have to get all new uniforms, remove some of the symbols on the walls and in other places,” Watkins said. “We haven’t come up with total cost estimates just yet.”

The issue of Native American mascots has taken several turns since the state Board of Education voted in 2012 to prohibit them, giving school districts five years to comply.

A major revision allows school districts to keep their mascots if they obtain written approval from one of Oregon’s nine federally recognized Indian tribes.

Watkins said he contacted the Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde because of their affiliation with the Kalapuya Tribe, whose

members settled across the Willamette Valley and surrounding areas, according to the Oregon Historical Society.

“The tribe was amazing to work with,” Watkins said. “But at my last meeting with them I could see the hesitancy. They want to support us, but they’re getting a lot of grief over it.”

A tribe official was not immediately available Monday for comment to *The Associated Press*.

The school is named for the Mohawk River, a tributary of the McKenzie River.

The Mohawk River and the surrounding Mohawk Valley received their names in 1847, when an early settler said the valley reminded him of the Mohawk River in his home state of New York, according to the historical society.

## BRIEFLY



### Dozens gather for vigil for teen shot by Portland police

PORTLAND (AP) — The mother of a 17-year-old who was shot and killed by a police officer during a robbery investigation says her son was family oriented and had a magnetic personality before his death.

*The Oregonian/OregonLive* reports that dozens of people gathered Sunday to hold a vigil for Quance Hayes, who was fatally shot by a Portland police officer Thursday.

At the vigil, Hayes’ mother, Venus Hayes, asked the public to remain from speculating about the circumstances around her son’s death. She has asked that anyone with information about the shooting called the American Civil Liberties Union.

Police say Hayes allegedly used a replica gun to rob a man sitting in a car near Portland Value Inn of his state food benefits card before fleeing from police.

### Community college security officers to stop illegal action

BEND (AP) — Public safety officers at a central Oregon community college who were criticized for investigating cases without having any authority to do so have stopped such action.

*The Bulletin* reported Thursday that following talks with the Deschutes County District Attorney’s Office, public safety officers at Central Oregon Community College will no longer attempt to undertake investigations.

District Attorney John Hummel says public safety officials do not have jurisdiction to investigate crimes the way campus police do at universities. Hummel said he was concerned with the frequency with which campus security had been undertaking investigations.

College spokesman Ron Paradis says the campus officers weren’t out of line that frequently, but the school has changed its policy and no longer investigates crimes or makes arrests.

### Missing snowboarder found near Mount Hood

GOVERNMENT CAMP (AP) — A 19-year-old snowboarder reported missing after riding out of bounds of the Timberline Ski Area on Mount Hood has been found safe.

Mountain Wave Search and Rescue said in a Tweet early Sunday that rescuers found the teen. He had been reported missing Saturday evening.

KGW-TV says that the Clackamas County Sheriff’s Office confirmed Sunday afternoon that the snowboarder had been found safe.

He had been riding with a group of people but had gone out in front of them and later couldn’t be found.

Sheriff’s Sgt. Nathan Thompson says the snowboarder’s tracks led into a canyon area where people commonly get lost.

### Charges refiled against pipeline protester after hung jury

MOUNT VERNON, Wash. (AP) — Charges have been refiled against an Oregon man who tried to shut off an oil pipeline north of Seattle last fall to make a statement about climate change.

*The Skagit Valley Herald* says the charges were refiled against 60-year-old Kenneth Ward, of Corbett, in Skagit County Superior Court Wednesday, after a jury failed to reach a verdict Feb. 1.

Ward faces felony burglary and sabotage charges for the Oct. 11 incident in which he broke through a fence and turned a safety valve along the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain pipeline near Burlington. That pipeline carries crude oil from Canada to refineries in Washington.

During his trial, Ward admitted to breaking into the facility and turning a valve on the pipeline. He said he hoped to inspire a transition off of fossil fuels.

## Corrections

The *East Oregonian* works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

# EAST OREGONIAN

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## AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Freezing fog this morning	Occasional afternoon rain	Cloudy, showers around; warmer	Chilly with some sun	Cloudy with a shower or two

PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
36°	23°	38°	37°	47°
		34°	44°	32°
41°	30°			

HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
35°	28°	35°	34°	51°
		32°	48°	33°
41°	31°			

## ALMANAC

### PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

### TEMPERATURE

HIGH LOW

Yesterday 33° 23°

Normals 46° 29°

Records 69° (1921) -21° (1933)

### PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"

Month to date 0.34"

Normal month to date 0.56"

Year to date 1.99"

Last year to date 2.14"

Normal year to date 1.94"

### HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

### TEMPERATURE

HIGH LOW

Yesterday 36° 16°

Normals 47° 29°

Records 69° (1977) -22° (1933)

### PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"

Month to date 0.22"

Normal month to date 0.46"

Year to date 1.91"

Last year to date 1.33"

Normal year to date 1.74"

### SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 6:59 a.m.

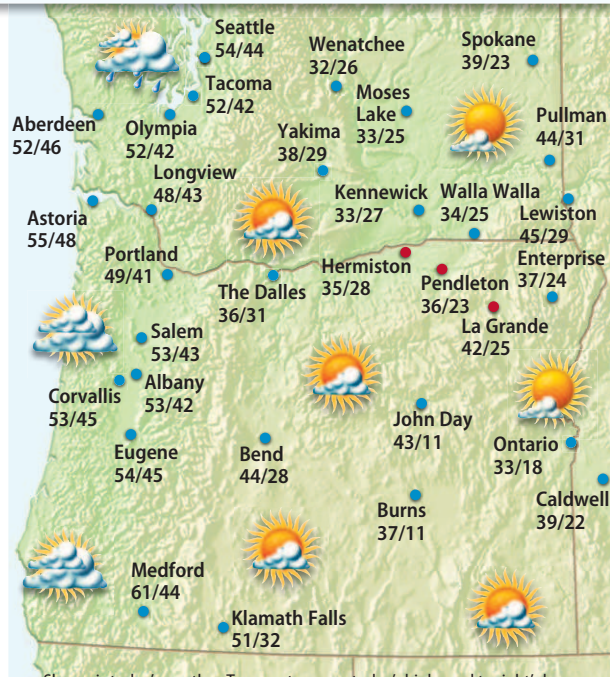
Sunset tonight 5:21 p.m.

Moonrise today 9:38 p.m.

Moonset today 8:54 a.m.

Last New First Full

Feb 18 Feb 26 Mar 5 Mar 12



## REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Mostly cloudy today; an afternoon shower in spots across the north.

Eastern Washington: Areas of freezing fog in the morning; periods of sun today.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Partly sunny today; freezing fog in the morning across the north and in the upper Treasure Valley.

Western Washington: Clouds and sun today; occasional rain and drizzle at the coast in the afternoon.

Cascades: Partly sunny today.

Northern California: Sun mixing with clouds today. A little rain tonight.

## REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	55	48	pc	55	46	r
Baker City	36	16	pc	37	32	pc
Bend	44	28	pc	44	35	r
Brookings	58	51	c	57	48	r
Burns	37	11	s	39	29	r
Enterprise	37	24	s	40	36	pc
Eugene	54	45	pc	57	48	r
Heppner	39	25	pc	41	36	i
Hermiston	35	28	pc	35	34	i
John Day	43	11	pc	44	31	r
Klamath Falls	51	32	pc	48	39	r
La Grande	42	25	pc	40	36	r
Meacham	43	26	pc	43	37	r
Medford	61	44	pc	61	44	r
Newport	57	50	pc	57	49	r
North Bend	62	52	pc	61	49	r
Ontario	33	18	s	37	30	pc
Pasco	35	25	pc	36	32	i
Pendleton	36	23	pc	38	37	r
Portland	49	41	pc	47	44	r
Redmond	46	31	pc	51	38	r
Salem	53	43	pc	55	48	r
Spokane	39	23	pc	41	37	r
Ukiah	42	25	pc	44	36	r
Vancouver	48	39	pc	49	44	r
Walla Walla	34	25	pc	40	38	r
Yakima	38	29	pc	37	34	i

## WORLD CITIES

	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	49	26	pc	55	35	pc
Hong Kong	69	60	s	69	61	s
Jerusalem	47	39	sh	46	36	sh
London	51	44	pc	52	41	sh
Mexico City	75	45	pc	74	46	pc
Moscow	38	26	sn	29	14	c
Paris	57	45	pc	60	43	pc
Rome	61	40	s	59	40	s
Seoul	39	21	s	44	28	s
Sydney	77	65	pc	80	69	s
Tokyo	49	37	pc	52	38	s

## WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Wednesday
Boardman	VAR 2-4	ENE 3-6
Pendleton	NNE 3-6	ESE 4-8

## UV INDEX TODAY

0 2 2 1 0 0  
8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.  
0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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## NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

