

AccuWeather Forecast

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TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Sunny, hot; breezy in the p.m.	Abundant sunshine	Sunshine	Mostly sunny and pleasant	Mostly sunny and beautiful
95° 61°	93° 57°	93° 57°	89° 57°	89° 58°
98° 64°	96° 59°	94° 57°	93° 59°	94° 60°

PENDELTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST
HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

ALMANAC

PENDELTON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

HIGH	LOW
Yesterday 99°	65°
Normals 89°	59°
Records 110° (1918)	43° (1913)

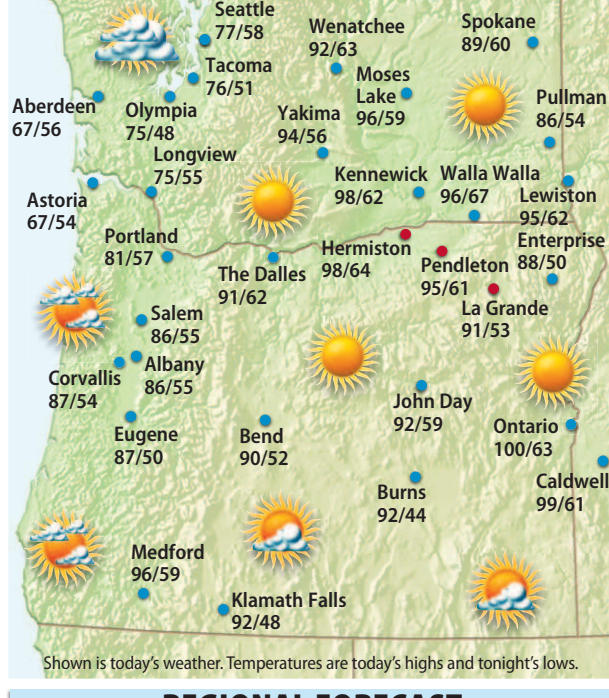
PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.00"
Normal month to date 0.17"
Year to date 6.49"
Last year to date 11.30"
Normal year to date 7.74"

HERMISTON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

HIGH	LOW
Yesterday 105°	73°
Normals 108°	59°
Records 108° (1941)	45° (1939)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.00"
Normal month to date 0.12"
Year to date 5.10"
Last year to date 6.59"
Normal year to date 5.82"



SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:23 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:39 p.m.
Moonrise today	12:10 p.m.
Moonset today	none

First Full Last New
 July 19 July 27 Aug 4 Aug 11

REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Low clouds giving way to sunshine today; windy in central parts in the afternoon.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Plenty of sunshine today; breezy during the afternoon. Hot. Mainly clear tonight.

Western Washington: Clouds breaking for some sun today. Some clouds tonight.

Eastern Washington: Sunshine today. Mainly clear tonight. Sunny tomorrow.

Cascades: Brilliant sunshine today; pleasant across the north. Mainly clear tonight.

Northern California: Partly sunny at the coast today; hot in central parts. Mostly sunny elsewhere.

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today		Thu.	
	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
Astoria	67	54	67	54
Baker City	91	49	92	50
Bend	90	52	91	49
Brookings	74	56	74	57
Burns	92	44	92	50
Enterprise	88	50	89	51
Eugene	87	50	84	47
Heppner	93	60	91	55
Hermiston	98	64	96	59
John Day	92	59	94	59
Klamath Falls	92	48	92	48
La Grande	91	53	91	49
Meacham	87	49	88	46
Medford	96	59	96	57
Newport	65	49	63	47
North Bend	68	54	66	53
Ontario	100	63	98	62
Pasco	98	58	95	53
Pendleton	95	61	93	57
Portland	81	57	79	54
Redmond	93	50	93	46
Salem	86	55	83	51
Spokane	89	60	87	57
Ukiah	87	47	88	46
Vancouver	80	56	78	52
Walla Walla	96	67	93	62
Yakima	94	56	93	56

WORLD CITIES

City	Today		Thu.	
	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
Beijing	89	76	92	79
Hong Kong	90	82	89	80
Jerusalem	88	68	87	67
London	79	58	83	60
Mexico City	75	52	76	52
Moscow	77	66	74	65
Paris	84	64	88	66
Rome	87	68	87	68
Seoul	88	72	89	73
Sydney	67	46	71	54
Tokyo	92	80	91	82

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Thursday
Boardman	WSW 10-20	WSW 7-14
Pendleton	W 8-16	W 7-14

UV INDEX TODAY

2 5 8 8 5 2

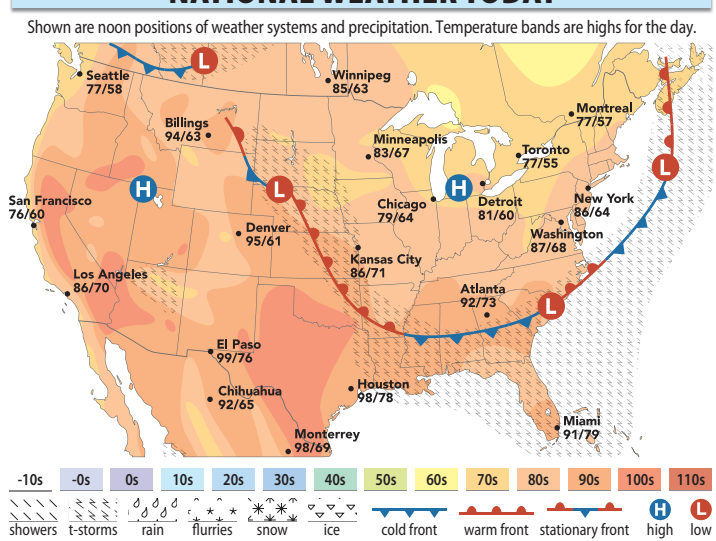
8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

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.

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



National Summary: Steamy air will fuel drenching storms in the Deep South and severe storms in parts of the Plains today. A few storms will dot the deserts while much of the rest of the nation will be free of rain.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
 High 111° in China Lake, Calif. Low 32° in West Yellowstone, Mont.

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today		Thur.		City	Today		Thur.	
	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo		Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
Albuquerque	93	70	96	72	Louisville	86	66	88	70
Atlanta	92	73	96	73	Memphis	92	71	92	75
Baltimore	87	61	86	63	Miami	91	79	92	79
Birmingham	92	69	93	72	Minneapolis	83	67	83	63
Boise	99	63	96	66	Nashville	90	64	91	69
Boston	81	64	78	63	New Orleans	91	79	93	80
Charlotte, SC	89	73	86	71	New York City	86	64	82	68
Charlotte, WV	82	57	87	69	Oklahoma City	98	73	104	80
Chicago	79	64	84	69	Omaha	83	71	91	70
Cleveland	77	59	83	67	Philadelphia	87	62	86	65
Dallas	106	82	107	83	Phoenix	104	87	107	87
Denver	95	61	98	60	Portland, ME	82	58	80	59
Detroit	81	60	83	67	Providence	85	63	83	63
El Paso	99	76	101	77	Raleigh	89	67	88	67
Fairbanks	72	55	70	55	Rapid City	81	63	87	59
Fargo	83	64	76	61	Reno	103	69	101	70
Honolulu	88	77	87	76	Sacramento	102	62	96	64
Houston	98	78	100	78	Salt Lake City	98	73	98	74
Indianapolis	82	62	84	68	San Diego	77	70	79	70
Jacksonville	89	75	87	74	San Francisco	76	60	79	60
Kansas City	86	71	92	71	Seattle	77	58	77	57
Las Vegas	104	87	104	87	Tucson	96	77	98	76
Little Rock	89	73	95	75	Washington, DC	87	68	87	67
Los Angeles	86	70	87	70	Wichita	95	73	100	75

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Petition would link public employee wages to private sector

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE
 Capital Bureau

SALEM — Supporters of a new initiative petition want to amend the state's constitution to require that public employees receive roughly the same pay and benefits as private sector workers in similar jobs.

They claim public employees receive greater total compensation — including retirement, health benefits and leave — than many private sector workers.

The chief petitioners on the measure are Kim Sordyl, an education activist, and Erica Hetfeld, the executive director of Priority Oregon, a self-styled government watchdog group.

Priority Oregon, a 501(c)4 nonprofit formed in early 2017, has been in the headlines before for producing ads critical of Gov. Kate Brown, a Democrat up for reelection this year.

The group contended Tuesday, in announcing an initiative petition that could put the issue before voters in 2020, that current compensation packages prevent limited state resources from going to "classrooms and other essential services."

The petition would change the state's constitution to require public employee compensation to be between 95 to 105 percent of compensation for comparable jobs in the private sector.

In cases where a job — such as a police officer — doesn't have a suitable equivalent in the private sector, the amendment would direct the state to set compensation based on similar jobs in neighboring states.

The initiative petition comes weeks after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that public employee unions couldn't require non-members to pay fees to cover col-

lective bargaining costs.

The outcome of the case, Janus v. AFSCME, is likely to diminish the financial and political power of public sector unions.

Hetfeld said the petition was not influenced by the Janus decision.

"If Gov. Brown isn't going to take the appropriate steps to make government employee compensation equal to that of similar jobs in the private sector, the people should decide that issue," Hetfeld said.

Detractors, including some of the state's largest public employee unions, expressed skepticism about the petition Tuesday.

"This does not appear to be well thought out," said John Larson, a Hermiston teacher and president of the Oregon Education Association, in a prepared statement.

"When considering education and experience, professional educators already earn 20 percent less than the private sector ... if you followed (Priority) Oregon's logic, you would actually see dramatic increases in pay for educators across the state."

Priority Oregon, as Larson acknowledged elsewhere in his statement, is targeting not only wages, but benefits and other compensation such as paid leave.

Melissa Unger, executive director of SEIU 503, dismissed Priority Oregon's efforts Tuesday as an attempt to stir up publicity ahead of this year's election.

Brown's main rival in her reelection bid is State Rep. Knute Buehler, R-Bend, whose platform includes pension and spending reforms.

"This is not about 2020," Unger said. "This is about 2018, and making teachers and firefighters and so many other people the enemy during the election cycle."

The state, cities, coun-

ties and school districts continue to struggle with escalating public pension costs, a dilemma that prompted Brown to convene a task force to find ways to reduce the unfunded liability of the pension system last year.

Petition supporters touched on that problem as well.

"The average Oregon government employee receives benefits that most people can only dream about and it's draining money from our schools," Sordyl said in a prepared statement.

Meanwhile, state government is facing a wave of impending retirements, which are poised to create succession planning and recruiting challenges, particularly in a strong economy with a historically low unemployment rate, top officials say.

Judge throws out 2 charges against FBI agent indicted in Finicum shooting

PORTLAND (AP) — A federal judge has thrown out two of the five charges against an FBI agent who allegedly lied about firing two rifle shots at the pickup of an Oregon refuge occupation spokesman at a roadblock in January 2016.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reports U.S. District Judge Robert E. Jones on Monday struck one count of making a false statement and one count of obstruction of justice against W. Joseph Astarita.

In a trial set to start next week, Astarita still faces two counts of making a false statement and one count of obstruction of justice in the incident in which he allegedly fired two errant shots at the truck driven by Robert "LaVoy" Finicum.

Astarita has pleaded not guilty.

Finicum was a spokesman for the Ammon Bundy-led group that took over the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. The disputed gunshots came as he emerged from his pickup as police moved in to arrest the leaders of the armed occupation.

Astarita, a member of the FBI's elite Hostage Rescue Team, is accused of falsely denying he fired one bullet that went through the pickup's roof and another that went astray.

Moments later, two state troopers fatally shot Finicum.

Prosecutors say forensic evidence, as well as audio and video recordings, will prove that Astarita fired the errant shots and then lied to FBI supervisors and state police investigators.

Astarita's lawyers counter that the government's case is based on weak evidence.

"The government has no eyewitness who will testify that they saw Special Agent Astarita shoot. The government has no video recordings showing that Astarita shot. And the government has no ballistics evidence matching a bullet to Special Agent Astarita's firearm," defense lawyers wrote in their trial brief.

The judge dismissed a count that alleged Astarita made a false statement by giving a snide response at the shooting scene to a FBI supervisory special agent.

The judge also dismissed an allegation stemming from a group interview of FBI agents who had been at the shooting scene. When asked by state police if any of the agents had fired shots, a supervisory FBI special agent responded that none of them had.

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.

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 Sawyer Brown

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 Skid Row

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 Grupo Fatal - 8:00PM • La Nobleza De Aguililla - 9:15PM
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