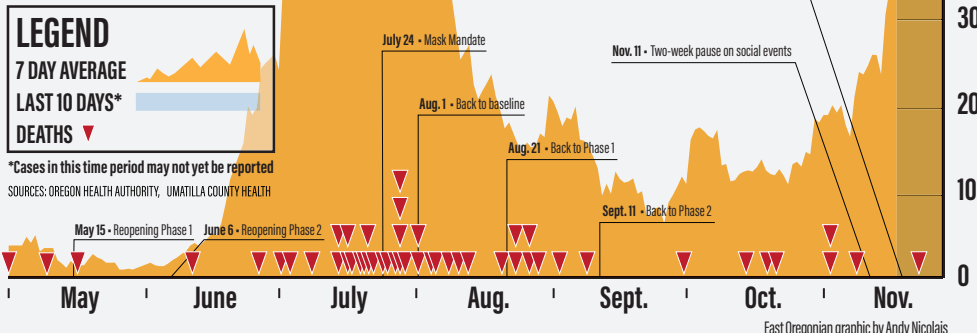


## UMATILLA COUNTY COVID-19 TREND

### TOTALS AS OF FRIDAY, NOV. 27

Umatilla County cases: **4,301** (288 new cases this week)  
 Umatilla County deaths: **49** (1 new death reported this week)  
 Oregon cases: **70,832** (8,657 new cases this week)  
 Oregon deaths: **885** (73 new deaths reported this week)



## SCHOOL OPENING METRICS

### For Umatilla County elementary students to return for in-person instruction:

- the county must have < 100 cases per 100,000 population during a 14-day span, AND
- the county must have a test positivity rate < 8% during same 14-day span.

### For all schools in the county to reopen for in-person instruction:

- the county must have < 50 cases per 100,000 population during a 14-day span AND
- the county must have a test positivity rate < 5% during same 14-day span.

### TEST POSITIVITY RATE • Goal is ≤ 5%

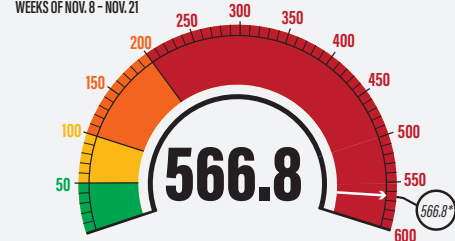
(Number of positive tests divided by number of people tested)

Time Period	Umatilla County	Oregon
Nov. 8-21	12.2%	7.0%
Nov. 1-14	11.9%	6.4%
Oct. 25-Nov. 7	9.0%	5.1%

Source: Oregon Health Authority. Percentages may change week to week as data is updated.

### 14 DAY CASE RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION

WEEKS OF NOV. 8 - NOV. 21



\*566.8 was the county's highest case rate, the weeks of Nov. 8 - Nov. 21.

## Christmas parade to bring cheer to residents

Athena Mainstreet Association is sponsoring 'Winter Lights Parade' next month

By SHEILA HAGAR  
*Walla Walla Union-Bulletin*

ATHENA — While the COVID-19 pandemic has darkened many venues and events, a new light will shine here due to the limitations of 2020.

Lots of new lights, if things go according to plan.

The Athena Mainstreet Association is sponsoring its first "Winter Lights Parade" on Sunday, Dec. 6, starting at 5 p.m., according to President April Vorhauer-Flatt.

The organization, which promotes the town's business community, was established in 2013.

Since then, it has had some big accomplishments, such as buying the large Main Street building in 2017 that once housed Pendleton Grain Growers.

PGG shuttered its retail division in 2014, closing its stores in Pendleton, Hermiston, Athena and Milton-Freewater, before members decided to dissolve the



Athena Mainstreet Association/Contributed Photo

In this 2019 photo, residents joined in creating Christmas decor in an event sponsored by Athena Mainstreet Association. While such gatherings have been canceled this year, the organization is planning to sponsor a lighted parade in December.

farmers' co-op entirely in 2016, the *East Oregonian* reported.

The structure in Athena has been renamed The Historic Stahl Building and is undergoing massive renovations for future use, Vorhauer-Flatt said.

"I'm also really proud of partnering with other organizations to do things for the town," including absorbing the tasks of the now-disbanded Athena Chamber of

Commerce, she said.

To support this kind of work, the association has traditionally hosted farmers' markets and done other fundraisers.

This time of year, the all-volunteer crew sponsors the town's annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony and a holiday bazaar, Vorhauer-Flatt noted.

All these traditions were crossed off by the challenges of 2020. On the sur-

face it looks grim, but it also allowed creativity to blossom.

What about a parade, with as many as 20 floats and entries, that brings the lights of the season to the residents?

"A parade that travels throughout the town so families can stay home but still have some holiday spirit," Vorhauer-Flatt said.

And raise some money to boot, through a \$10 participation fee. The event will also be a competition under several categories, judged by former Athena Citizens of the Year.

Athena Mainstreet Association is seeking people and organizations who want to part of the traveling happiness, Vorhauer-Flatt said.

"This is a way to get involved. This is going to become a tradition for Athena," she said.

This year put at least one unexpected gift in Santa's bag for the association, Vorhauer-Flatt pointed out.

"It allowed us to step back and catch up, to reassess," she said. "We can prioritize which events to keep."

For more information call Vorhauer-Flatt at 541-969-4810.

## Umatilla County commissioner-elect arraigned in DUI case

By SHEILA HAGAR  
*Walla Walla Union-Bulletin*

PENDLETON — Umatilla County Commissioner-elect Dan Dorrان was arraigned on a drunken driving charge on Monday, Nov. 23.

Dorrان, 65, was arrested Sept. 26 for driving while under the influence of intoxicants in the city of Umatilla after a collision with another vehicle.

In Oregon, the charge is a criminal misdemeanor unless there have been three or more prior DUI convictions in the past 10 years. It is punishable by up to a year in jail and a fine of \$6,250, according to state law.

Dorrان pleaded not guilty in Umatilla County Circuit Court.

A Republican, Dorrان was elected to the nonpar-

tisan Board of Commissioners, Position 3, on Nov. 3, winning with 45% of the vote. He is to be sworn in Jan. 2, 2021, to a four-year term.

In a public statement after his arrest was being investigated by the *Walla Walla Union-Bulletin*, Dorrان said he should not have driven after drinking alcohol at a golf event and that he took full responsibility for his actions.

In Umatilla County, a defendant can plead guilty, not guilty or no contest to a charge. If the defendant pleads guilty or no contest, no trial is set and the defendant can be sentenced immediately or at a later date.

If the defendant pleads not guilty, a trial date is set.

A not guilty plea is a routine step in criminal matters and allows more time for both sides to continue investigating the case.

Dorrان's next court appearance is scheduled for Dec. 29.



Dorrان

## LOCAL BRIEFING

### Parks and Rec to rip out old trees at Til Taylor Park

PENDLETON — The city of Pendleton will be installing several new features at Til Taylor Park as a part of a \$575,000 renovation project, but one of its first steps will be to rip some old features out.

According to a Pendleton Parks and Recreation press release, work crews will begin removing trees that have become safety hazards within the next few weeks.

"Pretty much every time the wind blows hard, we find big limbs down in the park," Todd Kligel, a parks supervisor, said in a state-

ment. "It really worries me from a safety perspective."

In the press release, Parks and Recreation Director Liam Hughes said the Pendleton Tree Commission recently met at the park to look at the trees more closely and determined that seven trees were dangerous and four were a part of an invasive species.

The Til Taylor project, known as "Til Taylor 101," is meant to commemorate the 101st anniversary of former Umatilla County Sheriff Til Taylor's death with a six-figure renovation. In addition to tree replacement, the city intends to install a splash pad, playground equipment and a fenced dog park.

Hughes said work on the other aspects of the project will begin early next year.

### Umatilla County reports new COVID-19 death

UMATILLA COUNTY — Umatilla County Public Health announced the county's 49th COVID-19 death on Wednesday, Nov. 25.

The patient was a 72-year-old woman who tested positive Nov. 16 and died Nov. 22 at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston, according to the news release.

She had underlying medical conditions.

— EO Media Group



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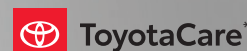


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