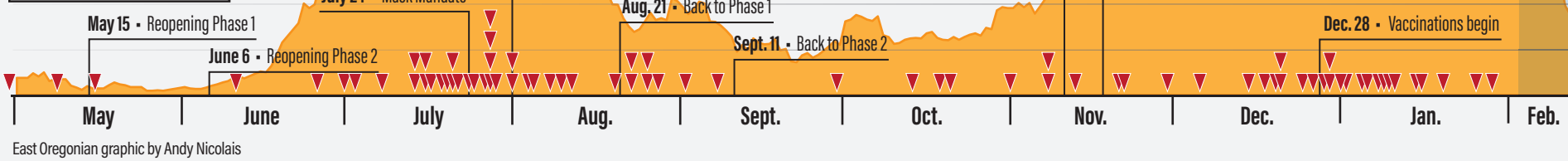


UMATILLA COUNTY COVID-19 TREND - AS OF FEB. 11

Umatilla County cases: **7,420** (113 new cases this week)
 Umatilla County deaths: **76** (0 new deaths reported this week)
 Oregon cases: **149,082** (2,944 new cases this week)
 Oregon deaths: **2,056** (54 new deaths reported this week)

Umatilla County vaccinations: **3,619** in progress, **2,101** complete (as of 12:01 a.m. 2/11/2021)

LEGEND
 7 DAY AVERAGE DEATHS LAST 10 DAYS*
*Cases in this time period may not yet be reported
SOURCES: OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY, UMATILLA COUNTY HEALTH



TEST POSITIVITY RATE

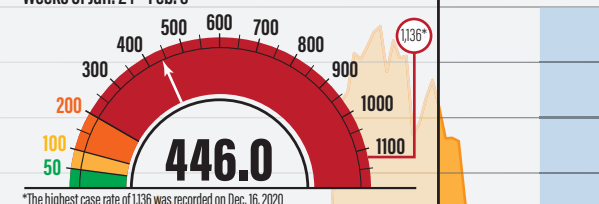
For all K-12 to open for on-site learning, goal is < 5% (Number of positive tests divided by number of people tested)

Time Period	Umatilla County	Oregon
Jan. 24 - Feb. 6	12.6%	4.8%
Jan. 17 - 30	14.2%	5.3%
Jan. 10 - 23	17.0%	5.5%

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

14 DAY CASE RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION

For all K-12 to open for on-site learning, goal is < 50 Weeks of Jan. 24 - Feb. 6



School board opposes bill to end school resource officer program

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — A bill introduced in the Oregon Legislature is seeking to end police contracts with schools, but the Pendleton School Board is taking action to preserve its relationship with the local police department.

The board unanimously voted on Monday, Feb. 8, to send a letter to the Legislature supporting its school resource officer program after hearing a presentation from Police Chief Chuck Byram and Lance Zaugg, the officer assigned to the district. School board chair Debbie McBee said the district and police department have avoided the controver-

sies that have plagued other districts.

“We really have a strong police department with no major tension,” she said.

Zaugg told the board that he prefers a collaborative approach with students, parents and staff. In addition to acting as a law enforcement officer and first responder, Zaugg said he also provides other services like student mentorship and administrative assistance. The position was first established in 1986 as the “youth services officer,” with Zaugg serving as the school



Byram



McBee



Zaugg

resource officer since 2016.

In the wake of the George Floyd protests over summer 2020, student groups in the Portland metro area and Salem pushed their districts to drop school resource officer programs, arguing that police interactions disproportionately impacted students of color and led to incarceration. In June 2020, Portland Public Schools announced it was withdrawing police officers

from its high schools.

“Black students represent 31% of school-related arrests nationwide, according to the American Civil Liberties Union,” the *Salem Statesman-Journal* reported. “They also are three times more likely to be suspended or expelled than their white peers. And students who are suspended or expelled, according to the ACLU, are nearly three times more likely to be in contact with the juvenile justice system the following year.”

But in a follow-up report, Byram said concerns over the discriminatory impact of school resource officers isn’t reflective of the work done by Zaugg.

Byram wrote that during Zaugg’s tenure, he has responded to more than 1,000 calls for service, and only about 1 in 10 resulted in an enforcement action, and in 2018 and 2019, none resulted in a student lodged in juvenile detention.

Across those two years, more than 70% of the students who received citations were white, which is a higher share than the school population. The proportion of Latino students cited was slightly lower than their school population, while American Indian citations were roughly in line with their share of the student body. Of the citations connected to American Indian students, four were given to

the same student in the same school year for marijuana-related offenses.

Six percent of Zaugg’s citations went to Black students in a district where less than 1% of students identify as Black.

“One could make the argument that the number for Black students is disproportionate, but when you look at the actual citations issued (4), that is too small a sample size to be statistically significant,” Byram wrote. “However, one could also make that argument for white students as well.”

Senate Bill 238, the legislation that would effectively ban school contracts with law enforcement, has been referred to the Senate Education Committee.

Health department changes drive-thru site

By **BRYCE DOLE**
East Oregonian

UMATILLA COUNTY — The Umatilla County Health Department announced plans to hold future drive-thru COVID-19 vaccination clinics at a new site in Pendleton as residents over the age of 75 become eligible to receive the vaccine on Monday, Feb. 15.

The health department will be holding its first vaccine clinic at 2260 S.E. Court Ave., the former home of Gilbert Auto, on Friday, Feb. 19. The department has moved all future vaccine clinics from the Pendleton Convention Center to

the new location due to the possibility of future inclement weather, according to health officials.

“Obviously, we don’t know what the weather is going to do,” Joe Fiumara, the county’s public health director, said. “The move in location is to make it so we can better withstand some of this weather. But obviously, road conditions are going to potentially impact future events.”

In addition, local Safeways in Pendleton, Hermiston and Milton-Freewater are now offering the vaccine after receiving shipments from the federal government’s Federal Pharmacy Partnership on Thurs-

day, Feb. 11, according to Fiumara.

Each Safeway has received from the federal government a box with 100 doses of the vaccine, Fiumara said, effectively doubling the county’s expected allocation.

Fiumara said the county is expecting that 100 doses will be provided to local Safeways from the federal government each week.

“Again, 600 is not nearly enough, but it’s a lot better than 300, which is all we had received,” he said.

At the drive-thru clinic, health officials will be vaccinating people who received their first dose of Moderna COVID-19 vaccine on or before Jan. 22. Officials will

also be vaccinating people with first doses, though supply will be limited.

“We’re only going to have a couple hundred (first) doses to give,” Fiumara said. “Most of what happens at the drive-thru is going to be second doses from four weeks ago.”

People who are eligible to receive the vaccine are encouraged to select an arrival window online at bit.ly/ucohealthcovidvaccine. Fiumara said the new online tool is intended to prevent delays and speed up vaccinations.

Residents who wish to be vaccinated at Safeway can schedule appointments at www.safeway.com/COVID-19.



Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian

Pendleton Right to Life poster contest winners, from left to right, Gabriel Lawn, 8, Anna DeSomber, 15, Gabrielle Kennedy, 12, and Rosemary LeGore, 7, pose for a photo at The Yogurt Shoppe in Pendleton on Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2021.

Pendleton Right to Life announces the winners of 2021 poster contest

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — After a brief hiatus last year, Pendleton Right to Life named its 2021 billboard poster contest winners on Tuesday, Feb. 10.

Rosemary LeGore, 7, and Gabriel Lawn, 8, placed first in the elementary school categories, each taking home a \$25 prize, while Gabrielle Kennedy, 12, and Anna DeSomber, 15, won the middle and high school competitions, respectively.

For the first-place finishes, Kennedy and DeSomber each took home a \$50 prize and will have their posters featured on Pendleton Right to Life’s billboard space along Southgate in Pendleton.

This year’s competition saw 16 total submissions across all the age groups.

Both Kennedy and DeSomber said they put several days into working on their posters and it was rewarding to be recognized for their work.

DeSomber’s poster features multiple generations of an extended family and the tagline “All Life is Precious.”

“I wanted to make sure I got all the different age generations in it,” said DeSomber.

Kennedy’s design features a pair of hand-

prints with a smaller hand-print stacked together, and features the tagline “Life is Precious.”

“It just came to my head and I went with it,” said Kennedy of her poster.

Peggy Wallis has been a member of Pendleton Right to Life for many years and said she enjoys seeing what children come up with each year.

“It’s always fun to see the children’s artwork,” she said. “We have some amazing pictures submitted every year.”

Hermiston police arrest armed man

HERMISTON — Hermiston police arrested a man they believe was “on a mission to cause incredible harm” to the occupants of a Hermiston home on Wednesday, Feb. 10.



Califf

Howard Califf, 46, of Hermiston, was detained after officers arrived at the 250 block of East Gladys Avenue at about 9:40 a.m. on Feb. 10 after receiving a report of a man with a gun, according to a news release from Hermiston Police Department.

Califf had previously lived at the residence in question, but was no longer allowed there after a court order issued in December 2020. According to police, Califf allegedly fired “several rounds” inside the residence at a 47-year-old male relative of the residents, who was doing repairs inside the home at the time. A dog belonging to the relative was shot multiple times while protecting its owner, the news release stated, but is expected to make a full recovery.

Califf was lodged at the Umatilla County Jail on charges, including attempted murder, animal abuse, first degree burglary, menacing, two counts of unlawful use of a weapon,

House Fire



Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian

Fire crews respond to a house fire on the 200 block of Southeast Third Street in Pendleton on Friday, Feb. 12, 2021. Pendleton Fire Chief Jim Critchley said it was a two-story structure fire where the fire had penetrated the walls. He said six people were evacuated from the house and none received medical treatment. Fire officials have yet to determine a cause. The Pendleton Fire Department was assisted by the Umatilla Tribal Fire Department, the Pilot Rock Rural Fire Protection District and East Umatilla Fire and Rescue.

unlawful possession of a firearm, reckless endangerment, interfering with a peace officer, and resisting arrest. His bail is listed at \$340,000.

“It is our belief based on statements and evidence collected, Mr. Califf was on a mission to cause incredible harm to all tenants of the house,” Police Chief Jason Edmiston wrote. “Fortunately, the tenants were not home and the protective actions of the dog coupled with quick decisions by the victim along with a city of Hermiston employee, who happened to be in the area at the time, thwarted the plan.”

Umatilla County reports 18 new COVID-19 cases

UMATILLA COUNTY — Umatilla County Public Health announced 18 new cases of COVID-19 for Friday, Feb. 12, according to the Region 9 COVID-19 Dashboard.

The Feb. 12 total comes after the county announced 27 new cases on Feb. 11.

The new cases put the county at 7,438 known cases since the pandemic began last year. The county also reported one new death, bringing the county’s

total to 77.

Umatilla County’s 77th death with COVID-19 is a 71-year-old male who tested positive on Jan. 19 and died on Jan. 21 while incarcerated, according to a Umatilla County Public Health press release. This individual had underlying medical conditions.

Morrow County reported four new cases on Feb. 12 and six cases on Feb. 11, raising its total at 1,011 cases since the pandemic started. The county did not report any new deaths from the pandemic, leaving its total at 13.

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