

# Oregon News

REACTION TO WASHINGTON MEASLES OUTBREAK THAT HAS SPREAD TO OREGON

## Gov. Brown urges vaccinations

**The Associated Press**  
SALEM — Oregon Gov. Kate Brown urged residents to get vaccinated Thursday as public health officials in Oregon and Washington reported a combined 56 confirmed cases of measles.

The Oregon Legislature will likely look at ways to tighten the state's immunization rules in the wake of the Pacific Northwest measles outbreak, Brown said, although she didn't point to any specific proposal.

"I think we need to strengthen our legislation,"

she said.

Washington state lawmakers, meanwhile, will hold a public hearing Friday on a bill that would remove the so-called "philosophical" exemption for the combined measles, mumps and rubella vaccine, or MMR.

Advocates on both sides of the childhood vaccines debate are expected to attend.

Clark County, Washington — where the outbreak began Dec. 31 — reported Wednesday that it has identified 13 additional suspected cases, including four in unvaccinat-

ed people who had contact with contagious individuals.

Fifty-one of the confirmed measles cases are in southwest Washington, one is in the Seattle area and four are in the Portland metropolitan area.

Three more possible exposure sites were also identified in Vancouver, Washington, on Wednesday, leading to the possibility of more cases.

"Any time we start getting a little optimistic, something happens. We're hopeful, and any time we see that there

are no new exposure locations, that's helpful," said Marissa Armstrong, spokeswoman for the Clark County Public Health. "But I think we all still know that it's not over yet."

Measles is a highly contagious and potentially dangerous viral illness that is transmitted through coughing and sneezing.

Forty-four of the patients in southwest Washington were not vaccinated against the disease, and one patient had one shot of the two-shot series.

## STATE BRIEFING

### Oregon Governor Kate Brown says Virginia governor should resign

SALEM (AP) — Oregon's Democratic governor has weighed in on the political crisis in Virginia, saying her counterpart there should step down, and attributing the problem of whites wearing racist costumes to lack of awareness and stupidity.

Asked about Virginia during a news conference Thursday, Gov. Kate Brown said the situation in Virginia shows America needs to do more to tackle racial inequality. She said she is appalled by the scandals that have hit Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam, Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax — accused of sexual assault; and Attorney General Mark Herring, who acknowledged he put on blackface once in college.

Brown said that while racial discrimination is more explicit in Virginia, it also exists in Oregon, where it is more subtle.

The Democratic Governors Association on Saturday called for Virginia's governor to step down.

### Declining enrollment could lead to faculty cuts at Linfield College

MCMINVILLE (AP) — Linfield College is preparing to cut faculty positions to save costs, as the small, private college based in McMinnville adjusts to a smaller student body.

Oregon Public Broadcasting reports that Linfield faculty members say up to 25 tenure, or tenure-track faculty positions are at risk as college leaders wrestle with tight finances.

The college wouldn't confirm there are 20-25 positions that could be cut. But that's what members of the Faculty Executive Council emailed out to Linfield professors after a meeting with college leaders, including Linfield President Miles K. Davis.

Administrators declined to offer any financial details. But in an email from Davis addressed to the "Linfield community," the college said it's working through a process of "academic prioritization" to deal with steady enrollment decline.

The college has already cut about 19 nonteaching positions and reduced retirement contributions.

## Bill allowing Oregon to export pot to other states has first public hearing

**By Andrew Selsky**  
Associated Press

SALEM — A bill that would create the possibility of Oregon exporting marijuana to adjacent states where cannabis is also legal had its first public hearing Thursday, where advocates said it would give Oregon a way to relieve its oversupply and grow its brand.

"It puts Oregon in the status of being ready to trade in this legal product."

— Rep. Ken Helm, D-Beaverton

spokeswoman for several pro-marijuana groups, said in testimony to the Senate judiciary committee.

Marks wrote in a Jan. 31 letter to stakeholders.

Marks, the director of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, said the state is "at a crossroads where our state's history with marijuana and the future of cannabis commercialization meet."

Rep. Ken Helm, D-Beaverton, a co-sponsor of the export bill, said experts believe legalization of marijuana could come fairly soon, and that his measure anticipates that.

marijuana producers, processors and retailers, the Oregon Liquor Control Commission in June paused processing of recreational marijuana licenses. Already there are 2,100 licensees.

Another bill, printed by order of Brown, would authorize the Oregon Liquor Control Commission to refuse to issue marijuana production licenses based on market demand and other relevant factors.

Separately, the U.S. attorney for Oregon warned against it.

There is little expectation that Senate Bill 582, if passed by the Legislature, would soon open marijuana commerce between Oregon and California, Nevada and Washington, the three states contiguous to Oregon where it is legal.

But some advocates see it as a way to start laying groundwork for when the federal government either decriminalizes marijuana or decides not to prosecute if pot-legal states export to each other.

One advocate suggested going even further, since several countries, including Canada and Uruguay, have legalized marijuana.

"I would like to see an amendment that would allow international agreements in this bill, if federal law allows, so Oregon can cash in immediately without having to wait for the next legislative session," Sarah Duff,

U.S. Attorney Billy J. Williams told The Associated Press on Thursday that the bill does not change the fact that transporting marijuana across state lines is a federal crime.

"This bill is an attempt to remedy the rampant overproduction and trafficking of marijuana outside of Oregon," Williams said in an emailed statement. He complained about the negative impacts of the marijuana industry on public health, minors and the environment.

But Steve Marks, director of Oregon's recreational marijuana regulatory agency, said Oregon farmers have produced "copious amounts of cannabis" for generations and that the illegal export of pot has been taking place "for decades."

"Oregon is not creating a new industry, it is converting an illegal cannabis production economy, and a loosely-regulated medical program, into a well-regulated legal market,"

"It puts Oregon in the status of being ready to trade in this legal product," Helm told the judiciary committee.

Gov. Kate Brown said Thursday she also sees the bill as a way to position Oregon for that possible future period of legalized weed.

"I think folks are trying to make sure that Oregon is well placed in terms of the industry if and when — I would say when — the federal government moves forward," Brown said. She told reporters the first priority should be making sure the marijuana industry has access to the federal banking system.

Growers harvested more than 2.5 million pounds of cannabis in October. Prices for marijuana in Oregon have dropped by half since December 2016, a symptom of the oversupply in inventories in the legal, regulated system.

Amid a backlog of thousands of applications for

**GRUMPY'S Repair Inc.** "You'll love the work we do. I guarantee it!" - JR

REPAIR TRUCKS 541-523-3200

225 H Street • East of I-84 • 541-523-3200 • grumpysrepair.com

## DREAM HOME

## Intel's planned new factory in Hillsboro to employ 1,750

PORTLAND (AP) — Permitting documents submitted to city planners show that Intel forecasts its new Hillsboro factory will grow the company's Oregon workforce by about 9 percent, 1,750 more jobs in total.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reports the additional jobs would bring its Oregon workforce near 22,000. The chipmaker is already the state's largest corporate employer.

Intel has declined to discuss details of its project but confirmed its plans last week to

its Hillsboro neighbors. The new facility will adjoin two existing factories known collectively as D1X.

Documents show that Mod3, as it's called, will be 1.5 million square feet.

That's slightly larger than each of the first two phases and will increase D1X by 60 percent altogether, to just under 4 million square feet. Intel said it also plans a six-story, 1 million square foot support structure with utility services and 2,200 parking spaces.

**Electrical By:**  
**Eastern Oregon Electric, Inc.**  
Brent Joseph, owner  
CCB 151441  
541-523-9176

**1**

**Insurance from**  
**State Farm**  
Gregg Hinrichsen  
1722 Campbell  
541-523-7778

**2**

**Lumber by:**  
**Miller's Lumber & Truss**  
Lighting & Cabinets  
3815 Pochontas  
541-523-6404

**3**

**ATVs From:**  
**Cliff's Saws & Cycles**  
2619 10th St.,  
Baker City  
541-523-2412

**4**

**Vinyl Windows by:**  
**NeHi Enterprises**  
2122 10th Street  
541-523-6008  
ccb# 155399

**5**

**Paper Delivered by**  
Baker City Herald  
1915 First Street  
541-523-3673  
Call to have your home related business added to this ad monthly

**6**

**Friends of the Baker Heritage Museum's**  
**10th Annual Fundraiser**  
**"A Night at Old Auburn"**

Saturday, February 23th  
6 pm—10 pm

Tickets \$30.00  
after Feb. 17th \$38.00

Dinner, Door Prizes,  
Casino style gaming, BINGO  
"Paint Your Wagon"  
Costume Contest  
Visa Card Raffle

Sponsored By:  
Triple C Redi-Mix, INC. CCB#90220  
Oregon Cultural Coalition, Baker City.  
Baker City Herald  
Baker Garage, Clarke & Clarke Ins. ;  
Community Bank, Ash Grove Cement Inc.;  
Marvin Wood Products,  
Oregon Trail Electric Coop

Let's make history! Deal me in!  
541-523-9308  
www.BakerHeritageMuseum.com

**Garage Door by:**  
**NeHi Enterprises**  
2122 10th Street  
541-523-6008  
ccb# 155399

**7**

**Storage Building from**  
Countryside Sheds  
www.countrysidesheds.com  
Shop Display:  
10102 S. McAlister Rd., Island City  
800-682-0589 • 541-663-0246  
(across from D&B Supply)

**8**

**Roof By:**  
**D&H Roofing & Construction Inc.**  
Locally owned & operated  
Baker City • 541-524-9594  
CCB 192854

**9**

**Do you have a business to help our readers build or maintain a "dream" home? Call 541-523-3673 to ask about advertising in this space!**