

▲ DOW 30,829.40 +437.80	▼ NASDAQ 12,740.79 -78.17	▲ S&P 500 3,748.14 +21.28	▲ 30-YR T-BOND 1.82% +12	▲ CRUDE OIL \$50.63 +70	▼ GOLD \$1,906.90 -45.80	▼ SILVER \$26.97 -60	▲ EURO \$1.2307 +.0004
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BRIEFING

Brown appoints diversity chief

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown said Wednesday she will appoint Sophorn Cheang to run the state's economic development agency after two years leading Oregon's office of diversity, equity and inclusions.

Pending confirmation by the state Senate, Cheang will take over for acting director Chris Cummings, who has led Business Oregon since Chris Harder quit nearly 15 months ago. Harder's tenure was marked by allegations of discrimination and mismanagement; investigators hired by the state found only "low morale" at the agency.

Before 2018, Cheang was director of the Asian Family Center for the Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization. She has a bachelor's degree in finance from Portland State University and an MBA from Willamette University.

"Her combination of experience will serve the agency well as we look to recover Oregon's economy from COVID-19 and make our state a more inclusive place for all people and businesses," Brown said in a written statement.

Amazon to fund affordable housing

Amazon has announced \$2 billion in loans and grants to secure affordable housing in three U.S. cities where it has major operations, including a Seattle suburb where the online retail giant employs at least 5,000 workers.

Amazon said it would give \$185.5 million to the King County Housing Authority to help buy affordable apartments in the region and keep the rents low. The Seattle Times reported Wednesday.

The agency is expected to pair bond funding with the \$161.5 million in loans and \$24 million in grants from Amazon to fund its recent purchase of three apartment buildings, including 470 units in Bellevue, about 10 miles west of Seattle.

In the latest effort by Amazon, money also was directed to Arlington, Virginia, and Nashville, Tennessee, where it has hubs. Company officials projected the \$2 billion would preserve or create 20,000 affordable housing units over the next five years.

Grants aid battle against pests

Four western states have received nearly \$24 million in USDA grants to target pests ranging from Asian giant hornets to potato cyst nematodes.

Overall, the agency gave nearly \$70 million to support 383 projects in 49 states, the District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico.

USDA provides the funding under the Plant Protection Act Section 7721, according to the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

Washington received \$3.5 million, California received \$17.1 million, and Idaho received roughly \$1.57 million.

— Bulletin wire reports

Pacific Power rates drop for irrigation customers

BY GEORGE PLAVERN
Capital Press

PORTLAND — Oregon regulators have approved lower electric rates for Pacific Power customers in 2021, thanks in part to cheaper fuel and tax credits from wind and solar energy, according to the utility.

That comes as welcome

news for irrigators already struggling financially with the coronavirus pandemic and water shortages due to extreme drought.

Most of Pacific Power's 615,000 Oregon customers will see a 5.2% rate reduction, including an estimated 3.5% reduction for agricultural pumping. The utility has 7,984

irrigation customers statewide, about half of whom are in the drought-stricken Klamath Basin.

Ben DuVal, power committee chairman for the Klamath Water Users Association, said the group is pleased with the outcome following months of deliberations.

See Power / A12

Few businesses heed call of mayor of Sandy to defy restrictions

JAMIE HALE
AND JAMIE GOLDBERG
The Oregonian

Sandy Mayor Stan Pulliam has kept busy this winter, playing pied piper to Oregon businesses that want to defy the state's restrictions during the pandemic — but it doesn't appear he has succeeded in sparking broad resistance.

While a handful of vocal objectors have made headlines refusing the state's directives, the vast majority of businesses appear to be complying with Oregon's restrictions and closure orders. And regulators appear to be taking a light touch with most of those who are not.

See Sandy / A12



BOEING IN WASHINGTON STATE

Mike Siegel/
The Seattle Times

One of two 25-by-90-foot autoclaves at Boeing's Advanced Developmental Composites research center in Seattle.

STORIED CENTER FOR MANUFACTURING R&D SET TO CLOSE

BY DOMINIC GATES
The Seattle Times

From outside the Boeing security fence, the giant windowless, boxlike building across the road from the Museum of Flight looks unremarkable, if mysterious.

For decades, drivers passing by have wondered what exactly goes on inside such a large structure. Soon, the answer will be: nothing at all.

In yet another sign of Boeing's shrinking local footprint, managers told affected employees just before Christmas that in the next four to six months the facility, known as the Advanced Developmental Composites center, will be shuttered.

Just 10 years ago, Boeing expanded the facility and portrayed it as a hub of future innovation for in-house manufacturing capabilities.

Though relatively few people work at the facility right at this point, its symbolism will add to worry about the future of the jet maker in this region. This is where for decades Boeing conducted its most important and secretive manufacturing research programs, both military and commercial.

Key technologies for building critical pieces of the B2 Stealth bomber and the 787 Dreamliner were devel-

oped here. The facility features two massive high-pressure ovens known as autoclaves, used to bake carbon composite materials to hardness, and robotic equipment for fabricating large composite structural pieces.

Boeing, on a drive to sharply reduce its real estate holdings while it grapples with the drastic downturn in its business due to the pandemic, downplayed the significance of the closure.

"This is one of several steps we're taking to streamline our operations and make more efficient use of our facility space," the company said in a statement, adding that some non-commercial airplane work will continue in the building "for the time being."

With Boeing commercial airplane work at a low point, the number of people directly affected by the closure is relatively small at this point. The Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace union said it has only 29 members currently working at the center.

Yet union spokesman Bill Dugovich said news of the closure is worrisome and the union is seeking more information from the company.

"We are certainly concerned about this, not only for the loss of the existing work, but also for upcoming work on any new future airplanes," he said.

Boeing denied that moving work out of the region is part of the motivation.

Its statement said the development of advanced composites for future products currently completed at the center will continue, but "will transition to other Boeing facilities, mostly in the Puget Sound."

A storied history of secret work

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, Boeing workers inside the Advanced Developmental Composites center fabricated large composite parts of the B-2 Stealth bomber, and in the mid-2000s the wings for the F-22 Raptor jet fighter.

In the early 2000s, it's where engineers perfected the methods used to fabricate the wings of Boeing's last all-new jet, the 787 Dreamliner — and trained visiting engineers and mechanics from Japan and Italy to do the production work.

In 2004, Boeing Vice President Frank Statkus, then head of manufacturing technology on the 787 Dreamliner program, took reporters on a rare tour of the facility — no cameras allowed — to show off the first prototype tooling for that incipient all-composite airplane, at the time known as the 7E7. That day, he declared that "nobody in the world" could match the technology on display.

See Boeing / A12

MIKE HASSON
1954-2020

Founder of Portland's Hasson Co. real estate dies at 66

BY JANET EASTMAN
The Oregonian

Mike Hasson, the son of a Portland grocer and a self-taught salesman who founded one of Oregon's most successful independent real estate companies, died Dec. 31 from mesothelioma, a cancer that affects the lungs. He was 66.

The Lake Oswego resident, civic leader and former CEO and founder of Hasson Company Realtors was diagnosed 10 years ago with a malignant tumor caused by inhaled asbestos fibers, according to his family.

Michael Hasson was born Oct. 16, 1954, in Portland to Bob Hasson, a World War II vet and vegetable seller, and Marilyn Hasson, who would later help manage her son's real estate offices.

Mike Hasson received his real estate license in 1977, and in 1983, Hasson and two partners founded Handel, Hasson & Jones, a residential real estate firm in Lake Oswego.

In 1991, he started Hasson Company Realtors with 12 carefully selected real estate agents and a saying that he didn't know the "magic sauce," except that people and connections mattered.

Mike Hasson never compromised quality over growth, said Steve Studley, whom Hasson named CEO three years ago. And yet it succeeded.

In 2020, the company had \$2.2 billion in sales among 165 agents in offices in Lake Oswego, Northwest and Northeast Portland, Vancouver, Clackamas, Wilsonville, Cannon Beach, Hood River and Bend.

Since its founding, the company has transacted more than \$26 billion in total sales and has ranked in the top 10 real estate companies in the nation and in the top five in the Pacific Northwest, according to Studley.

DOJ, federal court system hit by Russian hack

BY ERIC TUCKER AND
FRANK BAJAK
Associated Press

The Justice Department and the federal court system disclosed on Wednesday that they were among the dozens of U.S. government agencies and private businesses compromised by a massive, months-long cyberespionage campaign that U.S. officials have linked to elite Russia hackers.

The extent of the damage was unclear.

The department said that 3% of its Microsoft Office 365 email accounts were potentially affected, but did not say to whom those accounts belonged. There are no indications that classified systems were affected, the agency said. Office 365 isn't just email but a collaborative computing environment, which means that shared documents were also surely accessed, said Dmitri Alperovitch, former chief technical officer of the cybersecurity firm CrowdStrike.

Separately, the Administrative Office of U.S. Courts informed federal judicial bodies across the nation that the courts' nationwide case management system was breached. That potentially gave the hackers access to sealed court documents, whose contents are highly sensitive.

The Justice Department said that on Dec. 24 it detected "previously unknown malicious activity" linked to the

broader intrusions of federal agencies revealed earlier that month, according to a statement from spokesman Marc Raimondi.

Separately, the court office said on its website that "an apparent compromise" of the U.S. judiciary's case management and electronic case file system was under investigation.

The Department of Homeland Security was scouring the system, it said, and cited a particular risk to sealed court

filings, whose disclosure could jeopardize a lot more than active criminal investigations.

"The potential reach is vast. The actual reach is probably significant," said a federal court official who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to disclose the information. The official confirmed that the scope of the compromise was national but it was not clear how widespread.

See Hack / A12