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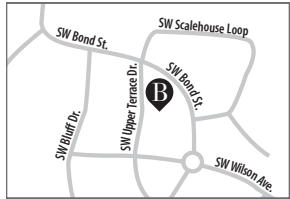
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Lottery results can now be found on the second page of Sports.

LOCAL, STATE & REGION

DESCHUTES COUNTY New COVID-19 cases per day

SOURCES: OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY, DESCHUTES COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES BULLETIN GRAPHIC

Total COVID-19 cases as of Saturday, Jan. 9:

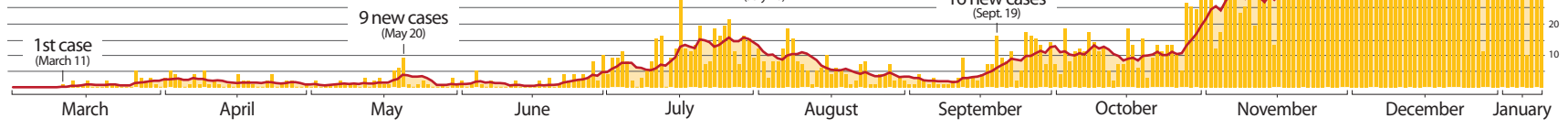
Deschutes County cases: 4,489 (80 new cases)
Deschutes County deaths: 27 (3 new deaths*)

Crook County cases: 530 (18 new cases)
Crook County deaths: 8 (zero new deaths)

Jefferson County cases: 1,592 (8 new cases)
Jefferson County deaths: 20 (zero new deaths)

Oregon cases: 124,490 (1,643 new cases)
Oregon deaths: 1,603 (28 new deaths)

*Oregon's 1,579th COVID-19 death is an 89-year-old man who tested positive Jan. 5 and died Jan. 6. The 1,580th death is a 78-year-old man who tested positive Dec. 31 and died Jan. 5. The 1,581st death is an 80-year-old man who tested positive Dec. 28 and died Jan. 6. All died at home in Deschutes County and had underlying conditions.



What is COVID-19? It's an infection caused by a new coronavirus. Coronaviruses are a group of viruses that can cause a range of symptoms. Some usually cause mild illness. Some, like this one, can cause more severe symptoms and can be fatal. Symptoms include fever, coughing and shortness of breath.

7 ways to help limit its spread: 1. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. 2. Avoid touching your face. 3. Avoid close contact with sick people. 4. Stay home. 5. In public, stay 6 feet from others and wear a cloth face covering or mask. 6. Cover a cough or sneeze with a tissue or cough into your elbow. 7. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

COVID-19 | Who gets vaccines next?

Injustices against minorities highlighted

BY FEDOR ZARKHIN

The Oregonian

A group of Oregonians responsible for recommending who should be next in line for coronavirus inoculations spent much of its first substantive meeting Thursday getting their bearings on the fundamentals of the state's immunization program and outlining how health systems have disadvantaged minorities.

The 27-member Vaccine Advisory Committee is charged with advising the Oregon Health Authority on who should get shots of the coronavirus vaccine once health care workers and senior care residents and staff have been vaccinated, with a particular focus on ensuring historically marginalized groups get shots.

"Systems are created in a way that they totally disconnect from the reality of working with people," said committee member Marin Arreola, principal of a group that helps non-English speakers get access to health care. "And for me, it's really important that we deal with that trauma and making people feel not discounted but valued."

The health authority convened the group as part of its goal of "addressing structural racism and other forms of systemic oppression" to ensure marginalized and hard-hit



Paramedics Jessica Jimerson and Amy Benson take a selfie Dec. 30 after receiving COVID-19 vaccinations at American Medical Response headquarters in Portland.

communities are able to access the vaccine.

Members of those communities, including Latinos, Pacific Islanders, Blacks, and people with disabilities, took turns Thursday voicing doubts their respective groups have about the health care system, including the reluctance among some to be vaccinated.

"This community doesn't have trust in any system that comes from any form of gov-

ernment," said Musse Olo, president of the Somali American Council of Oregon. "And that's the very reason I joined this group."

The committee's three-hour meeting did not result in any decisions for the appropriate vaccination order. One proposed vote, whether the group should endorse the efficacy of coronavirus vaccines, was tabled until the next meeting so the members could learn more.

Oregon must still vaccinate all 360,000 or so health care workers and senior care residents and staff who are first in line for a shot. About 65,000 Oregonians have received at least one shot of the coronavirus vaccine so far, state data show.

At the governor's request, the state's approximately 75,000 educators will most likely be next, as well as prison inmates, who will be vaccinated to stave

off a prisoner lawsuit, the Oregon Health Authority's public health director said.

"Just wanted to be really up-front and clear about those decision points that have been made," Rachael Banks said, tempering the committee's expectations about the scope of its influence.

The advisory committee has no power to order certain health authority decisions, but will advise the agency on who should get vaccinated after the state's priority groups.

The committee is expected to meet at least once a week for the next five weeks before it issues recommendations.

Patrick Allen, director of the Oregon Health Authority, said his agency would follow the committee's recommendations. "We're going to go with your answers because you represent the communities most directly impacted by the coronavirus," Allen said during the meeting.

Allen's agency created the committee to help ensure some of the groups most in need are not overlooked for early access to the vaccine.

Black Oregonians, for example, have had more than twice as many cases per 100,000 people as whites, according to the health authority, and Hispanics have had four times as many cases per 100,000 as non-Hispanics.

STATE BRIEFING

Jackson County GOP office vandalized

At least two people are believed to have vandalized Jackson County Republican Party offices Thursday morning.

A man and a woman were captured on surveillance video shattering windows at the downtown Medford office and spray-painting anti-fascist graffiti, according to party volunteer Joyce Michelangelo, who called police.

Medford Police Lt. Mike Bureau confirmed that a police report has been filed in the vandalism.

At about 2:15 a.m. Thursday, cameras captured a woman spray-painting the words "No Fascist Coup," while a man spray painted a stenciled black-and-red logo used by people who associate themselves with the political movement known as antifa, which stands for "anti-fascism." Antifa is not a singular organization, but rather a belief system that opposes fascism.

The vandalism was not the

first for the office, particularly as political tensions flared during the Trump administration.

Vandals damaged the Jackson County Republican Party offices twice in the summer of 2019, according to earlier news reports, each costing the party thousands of dollars.

Replacing windows after one of the vandalism incidents cost more than \$3,300, according to an August 2019 report.

Vandal damages village designed for homeless

County officials and police say the opening of a tiny home village for homeless people in North Portland has been delayed after a vandal destroyed nearly every sleeping pod in the shelter.

Officer Melissa Newhard, a Portland Police Bureau spokeswoman, said the vandal entered the St. Johns Village on Dec. 19 and broke out windows in 15 of the shelter's 19 tiny homes. The vandalism caused about \$8,000 damage

in the newly-purchased single-occupancy pods.

Each of the pods, or tiny homes, is about 8 by 12 feet, with electricity, heat systems and a built-in bed. A common building with a kitchen, bathroom and other amenities will

be added to the site.


The pods had only been at the site for about two days before the vandal struck, Joint Office of Homeless Services spokesman Denis Theriault said.

The shelter was originally expected to open at the end

of the December, but the vandalism and other delays have pushed that date until Feb. 1.

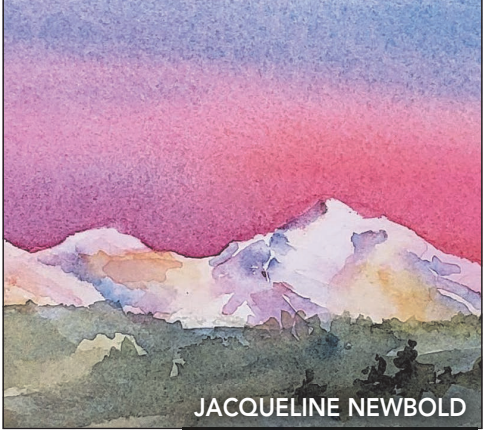
Residents will be allowed to live at the site for up to two years while they seek more permanent housing.

— Bulletin wire reports



Red Chair gallery

"Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life."
- Pablo Picasso



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