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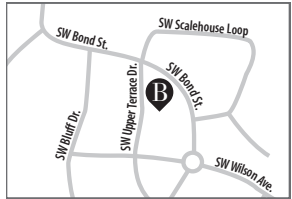
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Lottery results can now be found on the second page of Sports.

LOCAL, REGION & NATION

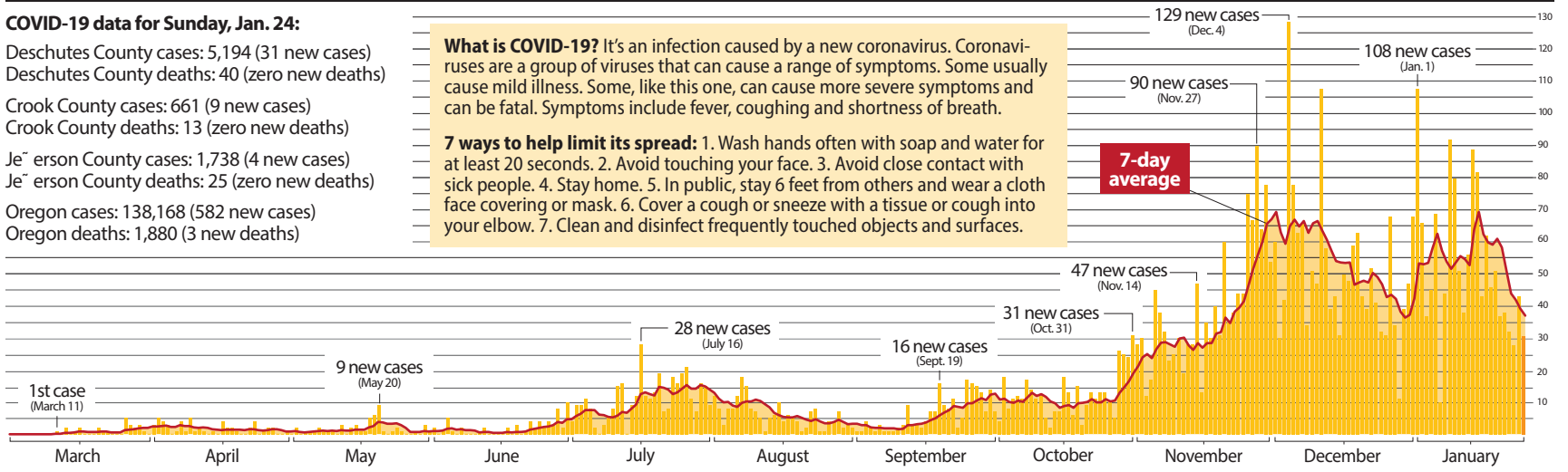
DESCHUTES COUNTY New COVID-19 cases per day

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

COVID-19 data for Sunday, Jan. 24:
Deschutes County cases: 5,194 (31 new cases)
Deschutes County deaths: 40 (zero new deaths)
Crook County cases: 661 (9 new cases)
Crook County deaths: 13 (zero new deaths)
Je'erson County cases: 1,738 (4 new cases)
Je'erson County deaths: 25 (zero new deaths)
Oregon cases: 138,168 (582 new cases)
Oregon deaths: 1,880 (3 new deaths)

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.



RIGHT-WING BACKLASH



The north side of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City was blown off after an explosion that killed 168 people and injured hundreds in 1995. STR/AP file

EXTREMISM EVOLVES

— from isolated areas to the center of power

Security experts unsure where the movement — if there is a movement — might go from here

BY ANDREW SELSKY

The takeover in 2016 by right-wing extremists of a federal bird sanctuary in Oregon. A standoff in 1992 between white separatists and federal agents in Ruby Ridge, Idaho. The 1995 bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City that killed 168 people. Right-wing extremism has previously played out for the most part in isolated pockets of America and in its smaller cities. The deadly assault by rioters on the U.S. Capitol, in contrast, targeted the very heart of government.

And it brought together, in large numbers, members of disparate groups, creating an opportunity for extremists to establish links with each other. That, an expert says, potentially sets the stage for more violent actions. “The events themselves, and participation in them, has a radicalizing effect. And they also have an inspirational effect. The battle of Capitol Hill is now part of the mythology,” said Brian Michael Jenkins, a terrorism expert and senior adviser to the president of the RAND Corporation think tank.

‘All have led to this moment’

Mary McCord, a former acting U.S. assistant attorney general for national security, said the climate for the insurrection had been building throughout the Trump presidency. She cited the 2017 “Unite the Right” white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, that killed one person, aggressive demonstrations at statehouses by armed protesters railing against COVID-19 public health safety orders and mass shootings by people motivated by hate. “All have led to this moment,” McCord, now a visiting law professor at Georgetown University Law Center, said in an email. The Southern Poverty Law Center, which monitors U.S. extremists, has recorded a 55% increase in the number of white nationalist hate groups since 2017.



Arizona rancher LaVoy Finicum holds a gun as he guards the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge near Burns in January 2016. Finicum, one of the leaders of the armed takeover of the refuge, was later shot dead by Oregon State Police officers after he fled an attempted police stop.



Randy Weaver holds the door of his cabin, showing holes from bullets fired during the 1992 siege of his Ruby Ridge, Idaho, home during testimony before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Subcommittee in 1995. The standoff in the remote mountains of northern Idaho left a 14-year-old boy, his mother and a federal agent dead and sparked the expansion of radical right-wing groups across the country.

Among those who participated in the Jan. 6 assault on the U.S. Capitol were members of the Oath Keepers, which often recruits current and former military, police or other first responders; the Proud Boys neo-fascist group; followers of QAnon, which spreads bizarre conspiracy theories; racists and anti-Semites; and others with nearly blind devotion to then-President Donald Trump. “Jan. 6 was kind of a Woodstock of the angry right,” Jenkins said in an interview. “The mere fact those groups were coming together, mingling, sharing this anger, displaying this passion — it is going to have effects.” But what happens next? Will Jan. 6 be a high-water mark for

right-wing extremists, or lead to other attacks on America’s democracy? Right now, the movement — if it can be called that — seems to be on pause. Supposedly planned armed protests at all 50 state capitals and Washington this past week that the FBI issued a nationwide warning about drew virtually no one. That could indicate the groups are demoralized, at least temporarily. **Turning on Trump** Trump is no longer president, and his social media reach has been severely curtailed, with Twitter banning him. The extremists had come together in Washington on Jan. 6 because of their fervent belief in Trump’s

lies that the presidential election had been stolen, and in response to Trump’s tweeted declaration that the protest in Washington “will be wild.” Now, some are clearly angry that Trump disassociated himself with the very insurrection that he stoked. They’re upset he failed to come to the rescue of rioters who were arrested while he was still president and are still being detained and charged. Online, some people associated with the Proud Boys, which adored Trump, appear to have dumped him. “No pardons for middle class whites who risked their livelihoods by going to ‘war’ for Trump,” a Telegram channel associated with the group said after Trump issued many pardons, but none for the insurrectionists. Another posting on the channel said: “I cannot wait to watch the GOP completely collapse. Out of the ashes, a true nationalist movement will arise.” Believers in QAnon are also reeling after Trump left office without fulfilling their baseless belief that he would vanquish a supposed cabal of Satan-worshipping cannibals, including top Democrats, operating a child sex trafficking ring. Among them was Ron Watkins, who helps run an online messaging board about QAnon conspiracy theories. “We gave it our all. Now we need to keep our chins up and go back to our lives as best we are able,” Watkins wrote on Telegram after President

Domestic extremism in the spotlight in D.C.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki said Friday that President Joe Biden had tasked the director of national intelligence, in coordination with the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security, with compiling a comprehensive threat assessment on violent domestic extremism. The White House will also have its National Security Council review policy to determine whether the government can better share information or take other steps to mitigate the threat. Long before the abortive insurrection of Jan. 6, the FBI had warned that domestic extremism and white supremacy represented a rising and troubling threat, and vowed to take aggressive steps in response. But, some critics say, ever since the 9/11 terrorist attacks two decades ago, the FBI has been far more primed culturally to investigate terrorism that is directed or inspired overseas.

Some people at riot may not be charged

Federal law enforcement officials are privately debating whether they should decline to charge some of the individuals who stormed the U.S. Capitol this month — a politically loaded proposition but one alert to the practical concern that hundreds of such cases could swamp the local courthouse. The internal discussions are in their early stages, and no decisions have been reached about whether to forgo charging some of those who illegally entered the Capitol on Jan. 6, according to multiple people familiar with the discussions. Due to the wide variety of behavior, some federal officials have argued internally that those people who are known only to have committed unlawful entry — and were not engaged in violent, threatening or destructive behavior — should not be charged, according to people familiar with the discussions. Other agents and prosecutors have pushed back against that suggestion. — The Washington Post

Joe Biden was sworn in and Trump flew off to Florida. Jenkins said the next phase for the extremist groups and people who saw Trump as a savior could transform into a broader national movement in which factions coordinate and combine their assets. Or the widespread condemnation of the insurrection could cause the movement to shrink, leaving more determined elements to strike out on their own and launch attacks. Jenkins recalled the 1970s, when some anti-Vietnam War militants hardened into the Weather Underground, which launched a bombing campaign. Among places targeted were the U.S. Capitol and the Pentagon, but the only people who died were three militants who accidentally blew themselves up. “I think given the events of this past year, and especially what we’ve seen in the last couple of months, this puts us into new territory,” Jenkins said “And you don’t put this back in the box that easily.”