

## TODAY

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 26, the 26th day of 2021. There are 339 days left in the year.

## Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 26, 2020, NBA legend Kobe Bryant, his 13-year-old daughter and seven others were killed when their helicopter plunged into a hillside in dense morning fog in Southern California; the former Lakers star was 41.

In 1788, the first European settlers in Australia landed in present-day Sydney.

In 1988, the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical "Phantom of the Opera" opened at Broadway's Majestic Theater.

In 1998, President Bill Clinton forcefully denied having an affair with a former White House intern, telling reporters, "I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky."

In 2009, Nadya Suleman gave birth to six boys and two girls; criticism came after the public learned the unemployed mother had gotten pregnant with the octuplets and six elder children through in vitro fertilization.

**Ten years ago:** President Barack Obama campaigned vigorously for his revamped economic message on his path to reelection.

**Five years ago:** The FBI arrested the leaders of an armed group that was occupying the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon for more than three weeks during a traffic stop that left one man dead.

**One year ago:** Five cases of the new coronavirus were confirmed in the United States; all involved people who had traveled to Wuhan in China.

**Today's Birthdays:** Cartoonist Jules Feiffer is 92. Sportscommentator Bob Uecker is 86. Activist Angela Davis is 77. Talk show host Ellen DeGeneres is 63. Hockey Hall of Famer Wayne Gretzky is 60. Actor Nate Mooney is 49. Actor Jennifer Crystal is 48. Retired NBA player Vince Carter is 44. Actor Sarah Rue is 43.

—Associated Press

## Restrictions

## Continued from A1

Allen said with only the two approved vaccines and the current projected rate of supply coming to the state each week, some Oregonians will not be inoculated until the end of 2021 or beyond.

The state is working through the highest priority group: health care workers, plus residents and staff of nursing homes that have accounted for over half of the deaths in Oregon.

Sen. Tim Knopp, R-Bend, a member of the committee, said he'd heard from constituents upset with Brown's decision to vaccinate about 150,000 educators and school workers next as a step to getting schools reopened this spring.

Those over 65 are the most likely to suffer severe illness or die from COVID-19, with fa-

## Oregon finds third case of contagious virus variant

The Oregon Health Authority said Sunday that a third Oregonian has tested positive for a new, highly contagious variant of the COVID-19 virus.

Sunday's case, in Washington County, comes just a day after the state announced a second Oregon case — in Yamhill County. None of Oregon's three people who have tested positive for the variant have a known travel history, which suggests the virus is likely circulating within the state.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Friday the new variant, known formally as B.1.1.7, has been found in roughly two-dozen states.

The new variant spread rapidly in the United Kingdom, which led health authorities to conclude it is more contagious. Authorities do believe that existing vaccines likely are effective against this mutation.

Oregon identified its first case of the more contagious strain earlier this month, linking it to an employee at the University of Portland.

—The Oregonian

tality rates rising as people get into their 70s, 80s, or 90s. After waiting nearly a year in fear and sometimes isolation, the word that they will have to wait longer because of a desire to reopen

schools is difficult to accept.

"They are very, very unhappy about it," Knopp said.

Allen said that the federal guidelines calling for seniors living outside of nursing homes

as the next priority are "advisory" with each state being able to make its own decisions.

"We had to ask, what are our priorities going to be?" Allen said.

Oregon is the only state that has placed educators above seniors in priority for the vaccine.

Allen defended the decision, saying that Brown and OHA are trying to balance a variety of health needs. Getting educators vaccinated could return children to in-class instruction, which state education experts say will improve their learning, as well as emotional and physical health.

"We are trying to accommodate a lot of different health objectives," Allen said. "We are making progress."

Allen also said the process is slowed somewhat by the effort of the state to ensure that all those in the first priority group get a chance to be vaccinated,

including health caregivers for the elderly in most distant locations in the state.

"There is a tension between go thorough and go fast," Allen said. "If fast is the only things we focus on, we leave some really vulnerable people behind."

Allen also acknowledged that Oregonians will find there is a difference between eligibility and availability.

The state has not finished inoculating the highest priority workers, though it has started vaccinating educators. Even when seniors are eligible, the other two groups will likely still be receiving shots.

"We will have three different population groups open at the same time," Allen said. "That is going to create a demand challenge at the time of a supply challenge. That is going to be hairy."

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## COCC

## Continued from A1

The funding comes as Oregon and the nation are suffering from record job losses due to pandemic lockdowns. Oregon's unemployment rate rose in December to 6.4% from 6% the month before. It was the first time the jobless rate went up since the initial wave of pandemic layoffs in April. The state lost 25,500 nonfarm payroll jobs in just one month.

An upgrade in training facilities at COCC will prepare students for new opportunities that are expected to rev up once the pandemic subsides and businesses resume hiring. Renewable energy and aviation are two areas of growth for Oregon and beyond.

Welding, metal fabrication and machine technology are a few of the skills that students can gain through the COCC programs.

Central Oregon is already home to a number of small and midsized manufacturers. There are three companies building small aircraft and several others that build outdoor gear and apparel.

"Experienced people are in short supply, and we are all competing for these skilled laborers," said Carsten Sundin, chief technical officer for Redmond-based Stratos Aircraft. "It is vital that people without experience are trained so they can replenish the pool."

Roger Lee, executive director of Economic Development for Central Oregon, said prior to the pandemic, there were around 1,500 manufacturing and tech jobs that were going unfilled in the area, often due to a lack of experienced and trained applicants.

"There are opportunities to put people back to work sooner rather than later, and if deployed with industry input, this COCC grant could be part of the solution," said Lee.

Manufacturing employment fell roughly 17% in 2020 in Central Oregon, according to Damon Runberg, the Oregon Employment Department's regional economist.

Despite the fall, Runberg said Central Oregon manufacturing has become more diverse and technically sophisticated.

The area has "3D printing, aviation

and aerospace, beer, kombucha, oatmeal, medical products, etcetera," said Runberg. "We are no longer as reliant on wood product manufacturing as we were prior to the mid-2000s."

Over the next 10 years, Runberg estimates Central Oregon will have 6,600 replacement openings and 700 new jobs in manufacturing.

In October WalletHub ranked Bend the second-fastest growing city in the country after Fort Myers, Florida, and more jobs are expected to follow that trend.

COCC says it will use the award to fund equipment purchases and facility upgrades at the college's Redmond campus. The college will also work with regional manufacturing partners to provide integrated education and training, short-term certifications and hands-on training.

John Pallasch, assistant secretary for the U.S. Department of Labor, called community colleges "critical partners" to train the American workforce and build a pipeline for workers for critical industries. The funds come through the Department of Labor's Strengthening

Community College training grant.

The "grants will play an important role in helping workers to reskill as quickly as possible with industry-recognized credentials and accelerated pathways to degrees," said Pallasch in a statement.

Members of the coalition of Oregon community colleges that applied for the grant are meeting this week to discuss the timing of the funds distribution, said Jennifer Kovitz, director of marketing and public relations for COCC.

"While we have reason to feel confident COCC will begin to receive our allocation of award dollars before the end of the 2020/2021 academic year, we will know more once the coalition meets and discusses this very question," said Kovitz.

The program will partner with Bend-based Cv International, which builds products for aviation, wind energy, utilities and other industries.

"We will offer students exposure to and hands-on time with manufacturing," said Dale Riggs, director of engineering for Cv International. "Qualified trainees will be interviewed as potential employees."

■ Reporter: 541-617-7818, mkohn@bendbulletin.com

## Pot

## Continued from A1

In 2020, the city of Bend earned more than \$1.5 million in tax revenue from marijuana sales, according to city spokesperson Anne Aurand. About \$1.07 million of that total came from Bend's city-imposed 3% sales tax on marijuana, which goes directly into the city's general fund.

The rest of the money comes from the state's 17% sales tax on marijuana. State cannabis tax revenue is pooled together into a pot — which totaled over \$142 million in 2020, according to state data — and distributed to the state school fund, state police, mental health and drug treatment services and cities and counties that have opted to allow marijuana sales.

As of last year, Oregon cities that allowed dispensaries split 10% of the state tax revenue, but that amount will be reduced, due to the recently-passed Measure 110. That measure will divert a big chunk of tax revenue towards addiction treatment, according to Mark Pettinger, spokesperson for Oregon Liquor Control Commission, which regulates cannabis sales in the state.

Evelyn, who was elected to the Redmond City Council in November, said maintaining Redmond's ban on dispensaries showcases an "antiquated state of mind."

Ed Fitch, a fellow new face on the City Council, agreed with Evelyn that the city was losing money by not allowing dispensaries.

He believes the administration of newly elected President Joe Biden, along with a Democrat-controlled U.S. Congress, will likely decriminalize marijuana federally. And even if Biden doesn't, people in Oregon, where the drug is legal, will still use marijuana regardless, Fitch said.

"People are going to use it. They're just going to drive to Bend," Fitch said. "It doesn't make sense that we would give up that revenue when we know it's happening anyway."

Fitch acknowledged that if Redmond allows dispensaries, the city will have to be careful to not open too many, or open them near schools or kid-friendly businesses.

"If we do it smartly, I think it'll be fine," he said.

Jon Bullock, is the third city councilor interested in exploring the possibility of legalizing dispensaries in Redmond. He

wants the city to look into the benefits of allowing dispensaries.

"This isn't a high-priority issue, but it's certainly one that people talk about on a reasonable basis, so it's on the list of things we need to potentially consider," Bullock said. "Dispensaries are a growing business, ... so looking at it is a reasonable thing to do for a city of our size."

Mayor George Endicott said he was willing to discuss dispensaries during Tuesday night's goal-setting City Council workshop.

But Endicott noted that there's a simple reason Red-

mond doesn't allow dispensaries: City code doesn't allow business licenses for any business that violates state or federal law. And marijuana is still illegal at the federal level.

But like Fitch, Endicott believes the Biden administration will soon change federal policy, either decriminalizing marijuana entirely or allowing it to be used as a controlled, medical substance. If that happens, Redmond can have dispensaries, he said.

"I've always been a proponent of the feds changing their policy," Endicott said. "If they legalize it, we'll legalize it."

At least one local canna-

bis grower hopes Redmond changes its stance on dispensaries.

Lindsey Pate — CEO of craft cannabis company Glass House Grown and president of the Cascade Cannabis Association advocacy group — owns a small marijuana farm just north of Redmond.

She said that Redmond's insistence in not allowing dispensaries results in locals spending their money elsewhere. And that isn't limited

to just buying marijuana — if Redmond residents drive to Bend to visit a dispensary, they might stop and get dinner in Bend, too, or visit Costco.

"In a time of COVID, where businesses are already having struggles, the last thing Redmond small-business owners need is people who live in Redmond to drive to Bend and spend their money elsewhere," Pate said.

■ Reporter: 541-617-7854, jhogan@bendbulletin.com

## DEATH NOTICES

**Owen Ulam**  
of Prineville, OR  
March 20, 1940 -  
January 17, 2021

**Arrangements:**  
Prineville Funeral Home  
**Services:**  
A Memorial service will be held Jan 31, 2021 at 1:00 PM at Prineville Funeral Home. Please see the Funeral Home website for more information as it comes in.

**Patricia Spires**  
of Gilchrist, OR  
February 18, 1942 -  
January 15, 2021

**Arrangements:**  
Baird Memorial Chapel of La Pine is honored to serve the Spires family. Please visit our website, www.bairdfh.com, to share condolences and sign the online guestbook.

**Roland I. Steffy**  
of Redmond, OR  
November 11, 1944 -  
January 8, 2021

**Arrangements:**  
Autumn Funerals, Redmond  
541-504-9485  
www.autumnfunerals.net  
**Services:**  
Services will be held at a later date.

**Steven Micheal Murray**  
of La Pine, OR  
September 22, 1959 -  
January 18, 2021

**Arrangements:**  
Baird Memorial Chapel of La Pine is honored to serve the Murray family. Please visit our website, www.bairdfh.com, to share condolences and sign the online guestbook.

**Leroy Rhodes**  
of Las Cruces, NM  
(Formerly of Central OR)  
December 12, 1925 -  
January 18, 2021

**Arrangements:**  
Autumn Funerals of Redmond is honored to serve the family. 541-504-9485  
Memories and condolences may be expressed to the family on our website at www.autumnfunerals.net  
**Services:**  
No services will be held at this time.  
**Contributions may be made to:**  
Memorial contributions may be made to St. Charles Hospice 2500 NE Neff Rd., Bend, OR 97701

**Leon E. Devereaux Jr.**  
of Bend, OR  
August 26, 1923 -  
January 21, 2021

**Arrangements:**  
Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. 541-382-2471  
Please visit the online registry for the family at www.niswonger-reynolds.com  
**Services:**  
A memorial gathering of family & friends will be held at a later date  
**Contributions may be made to:**  
A veterans organization of your choice or the Bend Elks Lodge #1371, 63120 Boyd Acres Rd Bend, OR 97701-8516

## OBITUARY DEADLINE

Call to ask about our deadlines  
541-385-5809  
Monday-Friday 10am-3pm  
Email: obits@bendbulletin.com



## Eddie "Ed" H. Anderson

June 4, 1943 -  
January 5, 2021



Eddie "Ed" H. Anderson, age 77, of Redmond, Oregon passed away in Parker, Arizona on January 5th, 2021 due to complications from COVID-19.

Ed was born in Stockton, California on June 4th, 1943 to his late parents Hubert Anderson and

Margaret Louise Skeen-Bocking. He spent most of his childhood in San Diego, California before moving to Madras, Oregon as a young teenager. After graduating from Madras Senior High School in 1961, Ed trained with his father to become a highly skilled auto body technician. He owned Anderson Auto Body in Madras for many years.

Ed enjoyed restoring classic cars, golfing, traveling, hosting get-togethers for friends and family and spending time outdoors. He was a fun-loving, lighthearted soul who loved nothing more than making his friends and family laugh and doing his best to embarrass his daughters, a task in which he often exceeded.

Ed is survived by four daughters, Angela Anderson of Vancouver, Washington, Michelle & son-in-law Daryl Hersch of Rockwall, Texas, Tara Edwards of Seattle, Washington and Madison Anderson of Marsing, Idaho, along with three grandchildren, Margaret, Drew and Jalen, and older sister Marjorie Troyer.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date, pending COVID-19 related safety and restrictions. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society in Ed's honor.

## HOW HAVE YOUR PLANS CHANGED?

Help local businesses...

COVID-19 is impacting our community and local business in many ways. The business uncertainty over the next few months is one of many challenges. The economy and how we shop has changed, yet we do not know by how much or how long.

To help with some of the uncertainty, please take the time to start a survey about your current shopping needs.

This information will help local business and this newspaper get a better understanding of your needs and plans.

\$1,000 will be awarded by Pulse Research to one respondent.

Thank You!

Please start the survey here:  
[www.pulsepoll.com](http://www.pulsepoll.com)