The Bulletin

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

LOCAL, STATE & REGION

NOTE TO READERS

No COVID-19 case and death information was released Sunday due to maintenance on the state's data management system, the Oregon Health Authority said Sunday. The daily release of information is expected to resume Monday and state health officials caution that those numbers may be slightly higher due to the pause in the release of data.

COVID-19 nationwide numbers

According to data through Jan. 30 from Johns Hopkins University, the seven-day rolling average for daily new deaths in the U.S. did not increase over the past two weeks, going from 3,335.3 on Jan. 16 to 3,141 on Jan. 30.

The average number of daily deaths has risen in the nation's three most populous states, according to the COVID Tracking Project. The seven-day rolling average of daily deaths in California has increased over the past two weeks from about 532 deaths per day on Jan. 16 to nearly 551 daily deaths on Jan. 30.

Over the same period, Texas's rolling average of deaths each day has gone up from about 306 to 315, while Florida's has increased by nearly one additional daily death to 176. Cases have risen the highest over the past seven days in Arizona and South Carolina, where roughly 1 in 200 people in each state have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

In case you missed it

Many states have had trouble distributing the coronavirus vaccine equitably. In North Carolina, Black people account for 22% of the population but 11% of first dose recipients, according to state data. White people, a category in which the state includes both Hispanic and non-Hispanic whites, are 68% of the population and 82% of those vaccinated. An Associated Press analysis shows Black people in several other parts of the U.S. are lagging behind whites in receiving COVID-19 vaccinations.

— Associated Press

Deputies block Vancouver medical center from protesters

JAIMIE DING AND JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN

The Oregonian

Armed protesters tried to force their way into a hospital near Vancouver on Friday night, authorities said. Deputies from the Clark County Sheriff's Office pushed them away, though no arrests were made.

The protesters gathered in response to a social media call that claimed a woman who had refused a COVID-19 test was not allowed to leave the medical facility. However, the sheriff's office determined the patient willingly stayed in the hospital to receive medical treatment.

According to a live stream shared online, protesters said

a woman in her 70s had been hospitalized at Legacy Salmon Creek the previous night with a urinary tract infection and declined to take a coronavirus test. A woman narrating the livestream said hospital employees did not allow her to leave, prompting demonstrators to gather outside.

According to hospital personnel, the patient had refused a COVID-19 test upon admittance to the hospital and was put in quarantine while receiving medical treatment, the Clark County Sheriff's Office said. The woman's daughter was not allowed to see her mother in quarantine because she had refused to wear a mask upon entering the hospital.

Dispatchers received a call at 4:48 p.m. from a woman that reported her mother was being held against her will at the Legacy Salmon Creek Hospital. She said she had medical power of attorney over her mother but was not being allowed inside the facility, according to the sheriff's office.

The responding deputy spoke to the patient at the hospital and determined she was able to make her own decisions. She told the deputy that she wanted to stay in the hospital to receive treatment, the sheriff's office said.

The sheriff's office said Legacy security requested additional support as protesters arrived and a total of 22 deputies responded to the scene.

Videos posted online show a woman who identified herself as the hospital patient's daughter standing at the door without a mask, yelling at officers and demanding to be allowed inside.

Several demonstrators came with firearms and gas masks, the sheriff's office said. At one point, some attempted to force their way into the hospital and had to be pushed back out. A man who tried to assault a deputy in the process was pepper-sprayed in the face, according to the sheriff's office.

The patient asked to be discharged at 7:55 p.m., according to the sheriff's office. She was released around 8:40 p.m. to

the family, and the crowd dissipated shortly after, the sheriff's office said.

The live stream of the demonstration attracted thousands of views, in part because it was posted on the YouTube channel of Ammon Bundy, one of the men who led the armed occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in 2016. Bundy himself was not visible on the livestream, and it's not clear if he was in attendance.

The live stream posted to Bundy's page showed a crowd of about 30 protesters outside the hospital, most of whom weren't wearing masks. Several protesters said they were waiting for the woman to be released.

Cannon Beach is drawing tourists, but business doesn't always follow

BY JAMIE HALE

The Oregonian

The winter sun sank behind Haystack Rock on a Friday in January, turning the horizon a brilliant gold. A crowd of people swarmed in the deep purple shadow, their voices hushed by crashing waves as they took selfies at the rock and dug small fires into the sand.

January is supposed to be the slow season on the north Oregon Coast, but this year despite, or perhaps because of, the ongoing pandemic — Cannon Beach is still bustling with

Locals said the coastal town winter, populated primarily by regional tourists seeking a brief escape to the ocean. That's been a boon for some local businesses in Cannon Beach, but for many the crowds haven't translated into dollars.

Jim Paino, executive director of the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce, confirmed that this winter has been busier than normal, with hotels and vacation rentals filling up as people visit the Oregon Coast during what the chamber hopefully advertises as "the magic season."

We are getting more people coming to our community to escape and get out of their day-to-day routine," Paino said. However, "I wouldn't quite call it normal tourism."

There's a general attitude that while travel is safe, going inside businesses still feels too risky for many people, he said. And while some businesses have found ways to survive a florist who now works from home, a clothing store that moved online — restaurants are still struggling to get by.

Unlike attraction-centric coastal towns like Newport or Seaside, Cannon Beach is above all else a restaurant town, where high-priced seafood and wine commingle with craft breweries and fried fish, all in the shadow of the iconic Haystack Rock.

It's that high-class tourism that Holly Lorincz-MacGregor and her husband, Chip Mac-Gregor, hoped to tap with their twin businesses, MacGregor's Whiskey Bar in Manzanita and their offshoot bar and restaurant in Cannon Beach, which opened in 2019, and in June expanded into a neighboring space that was previously occupied by Morris' Fireside Restaurant.

Oregon's recent approval of cocktails to-go has been



Jamie Hale/The Oregonian

People flock to Haystack Rock during a winter sunset in Cannon Beach on the north Oregon Coast.

a relief for the whiskey bar. Lorincz-MacGregor said, but the new rule is just the latest twist in what has otherwise been an extraordinarily frustrating year, when even basic planning has been impossible.

Forget knowing what seasons will bring business, she said, their challenge has been knowing what days of the week will be successful.

'There has been consistently no consistency," Lorincz-Mac-Gregor said. "We're always trying to gauge what it is that a tourist community like this wants, if there's even going to be any tourists here, and how best to go about it so we're not losing money."

The biggest challenge for restaurants in Cannon Beach this winter has been the lack of indoor seating — or rather, the lack of consistency in what's been allowed.

Restaurant regulations in Oregon are determined by the COVID-19 risk level for each county, updated with new data every two weeks. This winter, Clatsop County has bounced between "high" and "extreme" risk, straddling the line between indoor dining being allowed at smaller levels, or prohibited entirely. On Jan. 26, the state announced the county

would remain at "extreme risk" through at least Feb. 12.

That's meant two-week stretches of limited indoor dining and two-week stretches of outdoor dining or takeout only — a maddening dance for restaurant managers. Those who only have indoor dining areas are forced to rely on a shaky takeout model to get by, while restaurants with outdoor seating have seen waits of up to two or three hours to get a table.

The Driftwood Restaurant & Lounge, a staple in downtown Cannon Beach, has long been known for its patio seating, which has expanded around the corner during the pandemic. When indoor dining has been closed this winter, people have waited for hours just to get a seat outside.

General manager Jordan Maier said while it's nice to be busy, it's frustrating that the restaurant can't meet the demand. The five tables the restaurant added outside don't make up for what's been lost inside, and the smaller staff sometimes can't keep up with the glut of takeout orders. Now he also needs to train servers on the new rules for to-go cocktails, which at least promise a helpful source of revenue.

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LOCAL BRIEFING



Deschutes County Sheriff's Office

Deschutes County Sheriff's Office rescue personnel transport a 6-year-old Springfield girl who was injured in a sledding mishap Saturday near Paulina Lake Lodge.

Girl injured in sledding mishap near Paulina Lake Lodge

Deschutes County Sheriff's Office rescue personnel transorted a 6-year-old girl from Paulina Lake Lodge to a waiting ambulance after a sledding accident Saturday afternoon.

A lodge employee called 911 about 12:20 p.m. and asked authorities to transport the injured child, who is from Springfield, to Ten Mile Sno-park, according to a release from the sheriff's office.

Sheriff's rescue personnel using snowmobiles and a tracked Polaris side-by-side ATV reached the girl about 2 p.m. She was taken to the sno-park where a La Pine Fire Department ambulance was waiting to take her to St. Charles Bend, the release

The sheriff's office did not release injury information or the child's condition.

Bulletin wire report

NORTHWEST BRIEFING

Teen arrested in death at Clackamas County rest stop

Police arrested a 16-year-old Washington boy in connection with the death of a teen boy whose body was found Tuesday inside a car parked at an Interstate 5 rest stop in Clackamas County. The victim, a 16-year-old boy from Vancouver, Washington,

was found about 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the northbound French

Prairie rest stop near Aurora, Oregon state troopers said. He died from a gunshot wound. According to Oregon State Police, the suspect was an acquaintance of the victim. He was lodged in the Clark County

Juvenile Detention Center on suspicion of murder, assault and unlawful use of a weapon. The Oregon State Police said they worked with the Vancouver Police Department to arrest the suspect. The names of the

suspect and the victim have not been released by state police. — The Oregonian

