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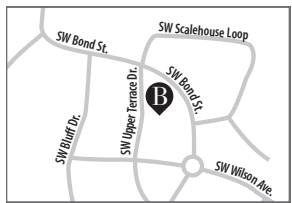
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OUR ADDRESS

Street 320 SW Upper Terrace Drive
Suite 200
Bend, OR 97702
Mailing P.O. Box 6020
Bend, OR 97708



ADMINISTRATION

Publisher
Heidi Wright 541-383-0341
Editor
Gerry O'Brien 541-633-2166

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Advertising
Steve Rosen 541-383-0370
Circulation/Operations
Vitto Kleinschmidt 541-617-7830
Finance
Anthony Georger 541-383-0324
Human Resources 541-383-0340

TALK TO AN EDITOR

City Julie Johnson 541-383-0367
Business, Features, GO! Magazine
Jody Lawrence-Turner 541-383-0308
Editorials Richard Coe 541-383-0353
News Tim Doran 541-383-0360
Photos 541-383-0366
Sports 541-383-0359

TALK TO A REPORTER

Bend/Deschutes Government
Brenna Visser 541-633-2160
Business
Suzanne Roig 541-633-2117
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Crook County 541-617-7829
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Education
Jackson Hogan 541-617-7854
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David Jasper 541-383-0349
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Lottery results can now be found on the second page of Sports.

LOCAL, STATE & REGION

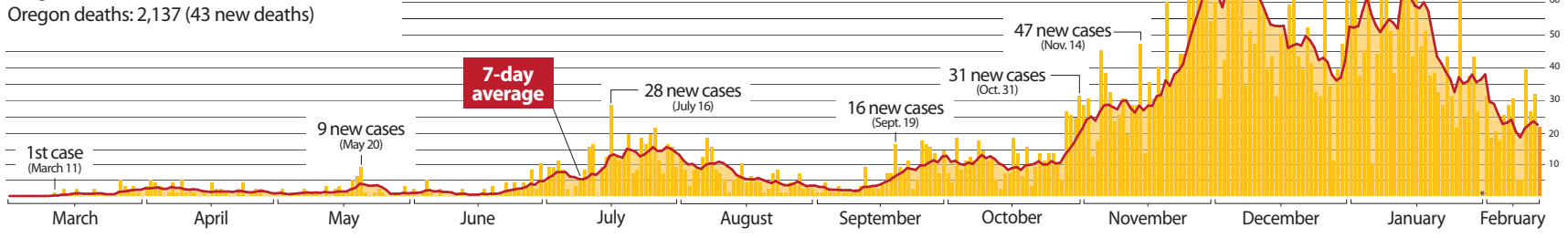
DESCHUTES COUNTY New COVID-19 cases per day

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

COVID-19 data for Saturday, Feb. 13:
Deschutes County cases: 5,692 (22 new cases)
Deschutes County deaths: 56 (4 new deaths)
Crook County cases: 743 (3 new cases)
Crook County deaths: 18 (2 new deaths)
Jefferson County cases: 1,882 (5 new cases)
Jefferson County deaths: 27 (1 new death)
Oregon cases: 150,034 (474 new cases)
Oregon deaths: 2,137 (43 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.



Rep. Hernandez challenges sexual harassment findings in \$1M suit

The Oregonian
Rep. Diego Hernandez, a Portland Democrat who faces an expulsion vote after lawmakers determined he sexually harassed three women, filed a \$1 million lawsuit Friday against the Oregon Legislature, House Speaker Tina Kotek and others.

In his 105-page filing, Hernandez counters the narrative laid out by the two outside investigators who spent months looking into complaints that he sexually harassed or created a hostile workplace for five women whose work brought them to the Capitol at times. Jackie Sandmeyer, the legislature's acting equity officer who oversaw the process, and the Republican and Democratic House members who co-chaired the Conduct Committee charged with deciding the investigation outcome are also named in the lawsuit.

The lawsuit seeks \$1 million in noneconomic damages as well as money to cover any legal fees.

Two of the women, who were not named in legislative proceedings, said they feared Hernandez might use his political position to hurt their careers if they rebuffed his unwanted advances. The committee concluded Hernandez pressured them to restart romantic relationships and subjected a long-term partner to controlling



Beth Nakamura/The Oregonian file

Rep. Diego Hernandez, D-Portland, who was elected in 2018, is shown at the Oregon State Capitol in Salem.

and abusive treatment. Hernandez, who was elected in 2018, argues in the lawsuit that the legislature's conduct committee process was flawed in numerous ways, including that deadlines were extended to benefit the women, he was not informed of most of the women's complaints in a timely fashion and he did not receive a copy of the investigator's report in the appropriate time period.

Hernandez contends that Conduct Committee members, who voted to recommend the House expel him, never saw his most important evidence, captured in contemporaneous emails, texts and Facebook posts: that the women in question reached out to him and actively pur-

sued relationships with him. Sandmeyer, in preparing Hernandez's statement for committee members to review, entirely blacked out all texts, emails and social media exchanges between Hernandez and the women. Last Friday, the four-person conduct committee unanimously determined that Hernandez took 18 specific actions that constituted sexual harassment or created a hostile workplace. The full House is now expected to vote as early as Feb. 16 on Hernandez's case. It would take a two-thirds vote, or 40 House lawmakers, to expel a member.

Danny Moran, spokesman for House Speaker Tina Kotek, would not comment on the lawsuit.

PORTLAND

Cops not meeting federal use of force requirements

The Associated Press
PORTLAND — U.S. Department of Justice lawyers say police in Portland no longer meet several key reforms required under a settlement agreement adopted after federal investigators found officers used excessive force against people with mental illness.

They cited inappropriate use and management of force last year during protests, inadequate training, subpar police oversight and a failure to adequately share an annual Police Bureau report with the public as required, The Oregonian reported.

Police used force during 2020 mass protests that violated bureau policy, with officers conflating active versus passive resistance as the basis for firing rubber bullets and other impact munitions considered to be less lethal, according to a Justice Department review filed Wednesday in federal court.

Supervisors frequently failed to probe or analyze officers' use of force, gave blanket approval of force and often "cut-and-paste" identical or similar language into their reviews, the

Supervisors frequently failed to probe or analyze officers' use of force, gave blanket approval of force and often "cut-and-paste" identical or similar language into their reviews, the report said.

report said. The Portland Police Bureau "repeatedly has asserted that certain impactful events — COVID 19, national political turmoil, and a wildfire season — were beyond its control. True though that may be, those events do not eliminate the City's obligations under this Agreement and the Constitution," the 78-page report said.

The next court hearing on the settlement status is set for Aug. 26 before U.S. District Judge Michael H. Simon. Police Chief Chuck Lovell said of the report's findings, "We will use the valuable feedback to continue to improve and grow as an agency."

Limited COVID-19 vaccinations arrive at retail pharmacies

BY ERIN ROSS

Oregon Public Broadcasting
Oregon Health Authority Director Patrick Allen said Friday that over 127 pharmacies — including Walgreens, Costco, Albertsons-Safeway and Health Mart-affiliated retailers — had each received 100 doses of the vaccine that morning. Those pharmacies will start taking appointments soon.

The pharmacies are in 27 of Oregon's 36 counties. The locations were chosen using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's COVID-19 vulnerability index.

The news comes as OHA officials announced that the state's COVID-19 vaccination program has administered first-dose vaccines to over 466,000 Oregonians as of Friday. That's almost 10% of the state, a big milestone.

There is no list available of all pharmacies taking appointments.

People will need to call their local pharmacies, use the Google tool "Get Vaccinated Oregon" to register for alerts or reach out to local public health authorities.

Stephen Certo, Director of Pharmacy Operations at Albertsons-Safety for Oregon and Washington said over a hundred Oregon stores will have the vaccine.

Albertsons-Safeway will set up an online tool people can use to book COVID-19 vaccinations at local pharmacies. Safeway's can be found at safeway.com/pharmacy, and Albertsons' at albertsons.com/pharmacy/covid-19.html. Users can input their ZIP code and check availability.

That tool can also be used to make appointments. The

tool will screen potential recipients for eligibility and automatically schedule them.

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