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BRIEFING

Oregon Brewers Festival canceled

The Oregon Brewers Festival has been canceled for the second consecutive year because of

the COVID-19 pandemic. Art Larrance, who founded the festival in 1988, said the decision was made Monday night to skip a second year because, despite virus numbers dropping and vaccines becoming more available, there isn't enough time to get the event organized. Portland's signature gathering of craft breweries has grown to become one of the largest on the West Coast, attracting over 50,000 attendees annually.

"The brewers need time to get their brews lined up, and all the people that help us need to make their schedules," Larrance said. "You've got to plan way out in advance. You just don't go put one together in one day."

The festival had been scheduled for July 28-31 at its venue for decades, downtown's Tom McCall Waterfront Park along the Willamette River.

Intel to pay \$2.18B after losing trial

Intel Corp. was told to pay VLSI Technology LLC \$2.18 billion by a federal jury in Texas after losing a patent-infringement trial over technology related to chip-making, one of the largest patent-damages award in U.S. history.

Intel infringed two patents owned by closely held VLSI, the jury in Waco, Texas, said Tuesday. The jury rejected Intel's denial of infringing either of the patents and its argument that one patent was invalid because it claimed to cover work done by Intel engineers.

The patents had been owned by Dutch chipmaker NXP Semiconductors Inc., which would get a cut of any damage award, Intel lawyer William Lee of WilmerHale told jurors in closing arguments Monday. VLSI, founded four years ago, has no products and its only potential revenue is this lawsuit, he said.

"Intel strongly disagrees with today's jury verdict," the company said in a statement. "We intend to appeal and are confident that we will prevail."

Hackers in China target Microsoft

China-based government hackers have exploited a bug in Microsoft's email server software to target U.S. organizations, the company said Tuesday.

Microsoft said that a "highly skilled and sophisticated" state-sponsored group operating from China has been trying to steal information from a number of American targets, including universities, defense contractors, law firms and infectious-disease researchers.

Microsoft said it has released security upgrades to fix the vulnerabilities to its Exchange Server software, which is used for work email and calendar services, mostly for larger organizations that have their own in-person email servers. It doesn't affect personal email accounts or Microsoft's cloudbased services.

- Bulletin wire report

BEST-PERFORMING CITIES REPORT

Bend falls from No. 1 spot to No. 13

BY MICHAEL KOHN

The Bulletin

When it comes to economic growth, jobs, wages and technological innovation, Bend has lost some of its competitive edge against other small-sized cities.

That's the conclusion of the Milken Institute, which recently published its Best-Per-

forming Cities 2021 report analyzing the economic performance of hundreds of cities across the country.

Bend slipped in the report from a No. 1 rank a year ago in the category of Tier 1 small cities to a rank of 13.

The Best Performing Cities Index uses an outcomes-based set of metrics that includes job creation, output growth and wage gains, especially in hightech sectors, to evaluate the performance of metro areas in the United States.

Cities in the index don't have to be near Silicon Valley to get a good rank; listed cities are found across the country. Ranking first in Tier 1 small cities this year was Idaho Falls, Idaho. The city ranked particularly high in short-term job growth, which reached 4.7%, the highest among cities of similar size. Idaho Falls also ranked high in natural amenities, safety and a low cost of living.

In its tier and city size, Bend scored well in the five-year indicators of jobs, third; wages,

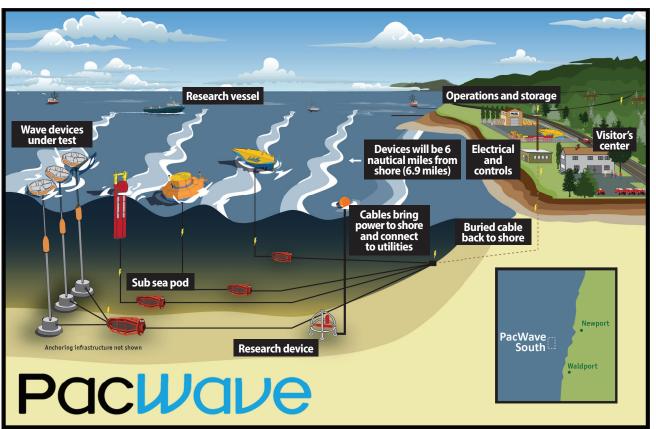
second; and GDP growth, fifth.

But Bend fell in one-year high-tech GDP growth -158th in 2021 compared to 10th last year — and short-term job growth — 145th in 2021 vs. 16th last year. Bend also lost ground in high-tech GDP concentration, from fifth to 31st.

See Bend /A12

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

Wave energy testing project moves forward



This illustration shows the layout and approximate location of the project to test the feasibility of generating energy from ocean waves.

"It's huge. It's the first license of its type to be issued in the United States."

- Burke Hales, chief scientist of the Oregon State University PacWave South project

The Associated Press

PORTLAND ederal energy regulators
have given Oregon State University initial approval for a groundbreaking wave energy testing facility off the coast.

The PacWave South project is designed to facilitate and accelerate the development of wave energy technology, which harnesses the motion of the ocean to generate electricity, Ore-

gon Public Broadcasting reported.

Oregon is considered to have a high potential for wave energy generation — higher by coastal area than Washington or California.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission issued a license to the project on Monday, but another review period must pass before OSU gets final approval.

See Energy / A12

Pendleton restaurants happy to see loosened restrictions

BY BRYCE DOLE

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Ever since local businesses shut down in the state-mandated freeze in November, Rodney Burt, the co-owner of OMG Burgers & Brew in Pendleton, estimates that heating his outdoor seating area has cost about \$40 in propane each day. That's about \$1,200 each month.

'You're not raising any prices, cutting any labor," he said. "It's just another thing right out of your pocket."

Burt, who runs the restaurant with his wife, Kimberly, said that he had to lav off eight of his 20 employees when the freeze began. It was the second time during the pandemic he had to do so.

"It's hard because they're part of your family, and you know they're struggling too," he said, adding that several of the employees laid off in March 2020 didn't receive their unemployment relief checks until August. "But you do what you gotta do so you can keep it going."

Last week, when Umatilla County was lowered from Gov. Kate Brown's extreme risk category to high risk, allowing indoor dining at limited capacity, Burt was able to rehire his employees and prepare for a weekend he said was sure to be packed with eager customers, who immediately came calling as restaurants throughout downtown Pendleton reopened on

"Hopefully, things will stay open, just like they were a year and a half ago — summer of 2019," he said. "Rockin' and rollin' making lots of money, all the staff's making lots of money. Everybody will be happy. It's going to be like that, I hope.

Community support

Some Pendleton businesses said they were able to get by steadily throughout the most recent threemonth lockdown due to a steady stream of takeout orders, financial support from groups like the chamber of commerce, and the support and encouragement in the tight-knit community of Main Street businesses

See Pendleton / A12

A sign

Rent relief program to open for Oregon small businesses

BY JAMIE GOLDBERG

The Oregonian

Oregon small-business owners who have struggled to pay their rent during the coronavirus pandemic can apply for help from the state beginning Monday.

Small-business owners with 100 or fewer employees will be able to apply together with their landlords for money to cover outstanding rent through the state's new \$100 million commercial rent relief pro-

Landlords must complete the initial application, but both the businesses and property owners need to participate in the application process and sign the grant agreement in order to qualify for funding.

Business Oregon, the state's economic development agency, is administering the program.

It will award grants of up to \$100,000 per business tenant for a maximum of \$3 million going to each landlord.

The grants must bring the business owners current on their rent payments. Landlords will also be required to sign an agreement forgiving any outstanding penalties or interest and ensuring that their tenants won't be evicted.

See Rent / A12



shows guidelines for shoppers May 18. Small businesses that have struggled with rent under Oregon lockdowns will soon be able to apply for assistance.

Carl Juste/ Miami Herald