Mostly sunny

Mainly clear

**EAST:** Plenty of

a mild afternoon

Mostly sunny and

**CENTRAL:** Mostly

Clear and cold

milder Thursday.

sunshine today with

air and cold tonight.

even milder Thursday

sunny and mild today.

tonight, then sunny to

partly cloudy and even

WEST: Sunny to partly

cloudy and mild today.

Fair and cool tonight.

and continued mild

**OREGON EXTREMES** 

AccuWeather

Get the new app

Yesterday

Hi/Lo/Prec.

49/42/0.00

62/39/0.00

52/23/0.00

-10s -0s 0s

ther(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-

Increasing clouds

Thursday.

High: 67°

Low: 17

Astoria

NATIONAL

**EXTREMES** 

YESTERDAY (for the

48 contiguous states)

National high: 90°

National low: -15°

at Crested Butte, CO

Precipitation: 1.85

at McComb. MS

T-storms

at Medford

YESTERDAY

at Klamath Falls

LOW

35°

Astoria

· 49/38

Seaside

Tillamook

Lincoln City

52/38

48/39

**Yachats** 

47/39

50/41

Coos Bay

Port Orford

Today

Hi/Lo/W

49/38/pc

51/42/s

51/23/s

58/36/pc 59/27/s 52/25/s

Gold Beach 49/42

50/40

50/40

49/27

Joseph

Ontario

48/31

Baker City

53/27

Jordan Valley 49/26 •

**Burns Junction** 

McDermitt

Hi/Lo/W

59/40/pc

64/29/s

63/37/pc

54/37

Charlotte 63/37

Warm Front

Hi/Lo/W

59/45/pd

63/41/pc

62/45/pc

59/43/sh 61/42/pc 60/39/pc

59/26

Yesterday

Hi/Lo/Prec.

55/38/0.00

62/24/0.00

67/36/0.00

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. @2021

49

**ALMANAC** Bend Municipal Airport through 5 p.m. yest. **TEMPERATURE** Hiah 48° 75° in 1921 25° **PRECIPITATION** 24 hours through 5 p.m. yesterday 0.72" in 1972 0.00" (0.06") Month to date (normal) Year to date (normal) 1.09" (2.68" Barometric pressure at 4 p.m. 29.86 SUN, MOON AND PLANETS Rise/Set Today 6:39am/5:56pm 6:37am/5:58pm Moon 11:39pm/9:10am none/9:41am Mercury 5:34am/3:32pm Venus 6:34am/5:23pm 6:33am/5:25pm 9:35am/12:41am Jupiter 5:40am/3:36pm 5:36am/3:33pm Uranus 8:41am/10:38pm 8:38am/10:34pm Last New First Full

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI **UV INDEX TODAY** 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number

Tonight's sky: Constellation Orion due south

Mar 21

Mar 28

Mar 13

Mar 5

the greater the need for eye and skin protection. **0-2** Low, **3-5** Moderate; **6-7** High; **8-10** Very High; **11+** Extreme. **ROAD CONDITONS** For web cameras of our passes, go to www.bendbulletin.com/webcams I-84 at Cabbage Hill: Partly sunny and milder today. Fair and chilly tonight US 20 at Santiam Pass: Mostly sunny today. Fair and chilly tonight, Mild Thursday US 26 at Gov't Camp: Mostly sunny today Clear to partly cloudy tonight US 26 at Ochoco Divide: Mostly sunny today. Fair tonight. Partly sunny tomorrow ORE 58 at Willamette Pass: Mostly sunny today. Mainly clear tonight. Milder tomorrow with some sun. ORE 138 at Diamond Lake: Mostly sunny today. Fair tonight. Some sunshine Thursday

# SKI REPORT New snow

In inches as of 5 p.m. vesterday Ski resort Base Anthony Lakes Mtn 0-100 Hoodoo Ski Area 0-95 Mt. Ashland 61-66 Mt Bachelor 117-127 Mt. Hood Meadows 0-184 Mt. Hood Ski Bowl 79-104 Timberline Lodge 186-186 Willamette Pass 0-80 Aspen / Snowmass, CO 44-60 Mammoth Mtn. Ski. CA 60-105 Squaw Valley, CA Park City Mountain, U7 58-70 Sun Valley, ID 84-103 Mild with partial sunshine

Hillsboro Portland

• 57/34

Eugene

La Grande

Medford

30s

Salt Lake City 57/37

Corvallis 57/34

Grove 61/37

Grants

69/37

Hi/Lo/W

52/45/r

55/47/r

63/44/pc 53/34/s 50/32/s

10s 20s

Snow

\*

Showers

Flurries

Breezy in the morning; partly sunny, mild

Redmond

\*Bend 64/35

• La Pine 57/26

•Prineville

53/28

59/25

60/30

Christmas Valley

Thursday

Hi/Lo/W

53/41/s

66/43/s

53/45/r

67/44

Cold Front

Fort Rock

Hi/Lo/W

49/32/pc

66/36/s

48/38/pc

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows

Pendleton 66/34

Day 55/29

Frenchgler

54/27

Portland

Prineville

ms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice, Tr-trace, Yesterday data as of 5 p.m. vesterday

40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100s 110s

**OREGON WEATHER** 

Hood

Camp 51/32

Camp Sherman

Warm Springs 66/31

Sisters 65/29

Sunriver .

55/27

Klamath

Yesterday

Hi/Lo/Prec.

47/31/0.00

67/34/0.00

50/36/0.00

54/37/Tr 53/28/0.00

NATIONAL WEATHER

Some sun, then turning cloudy

A couple of showers possible

Harrisburg Hartford, CT

42/25/0.00 29/13/Tr 52/26/0.00

47/30/s

51/25/pc

# possible

MONDAY

TRAVEL WEATHER													
NATIONAL													
City	Yesterday Hi/Lo/Prec.	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thursday Hi/Lo/W	City	Yesterday Hi/Lo/Prec.	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thursday Hi/Lo/W						
Abilene	63/29/0.00	72/47/s	75/50/pc	Juneau	38/35/0.27	39/30/sf	40/30/pc						
Akron	39/18/0.00	52/29/s	35/21/pc	Kansas City	63/24/0.00	66/37/s	66/42/s						
Albany	24/9/Tr	41/26/pc	33/13/pc	Lansing	39/14/0.00	47/23/s	37/17/s						
Albuguerque	56/22/0.00	64/41/s	56/34/c	Las Vegas	68/40/0.00	68/45/pc	68/46/s						
Anchorage	19/10/0.04	18/6/s	19/15/s	Lexington	47/22/0.00	56/31/s	50/25/s						
Atlanta	49/44/0.04	62/43/pc	68/42/s	Lincoln	64/26/0.00	60/30/s	59/34/s						
Atlantic City	38/27/0.00	50/39/s	44/28/s	Little Rock	51/33/0.00	64/39/s	68/45/s						
Austin	66/44/0.00	69/41/pc	73/53/pc	Los Angeles	76/49/0.00	63/49/sh	66/51/s						
Baltimore	44/29/0.00	58/36/s	49/27/s	Louisville	50/29/0.00	62/35/s	54/31/s						
Billings	56/32/0.00	55/29/s	55/34/s	Madison, WI	37/12/0.00	43/25/pc	37/21/pc						
Birmingham	49/44/0.06	63/38/pc	70/43/s	Memphis	50/40/Tr	62/40/s	68/46/s						
Bismarck	62/21/0.00	61/27/s	59/29/s	Miami	85/70/0.00	87/63/pc	80/63/pc						
Boise	56/30/0.00	55/30/s	58/36/s	Milwaukee	39/16/0.00	44/30/pc	36/26/s						
Boston	28/13/Tr	46/30/s	39/21/s	Minneapolis	47/16/0.00	41/28/pc	42/27/s						
Bridgeport, CT	34/20/0.00	48/34/s	43/24/pc	Nashville	55/35/0.00	62/38/s	64/37/s						
Buffalo	27/16/Tr	40/25/pc	29/18/pc	New Orleans	51/50/1.09	61/48/pc	67/49/s						
Burlington, VT	21/4/Tr	36/16/sf	26/12/pc	New York City	33/21/0.00	52/36/s	43/24/pc						
Caribou, ME	12/-3/0.07	27/7/pc	21/3/s	Newark, NJ	35/21/0.00	51/36/s	44/24/pc						
Charleston, SC	56/52/0.01	59/41/r	69/43/s	Norfolk, VA	44/40/0.00	56/41/pc	52/34/pc						
Charlotte	48/41/0.00	63/37/r	67/33/s	Oklahoma City	62/29/0.00	67/41/s	68/45/pc						
Chattanooga	55/41/Tr	63/37/s	68/38/s	Omaha	61/26/0.00	57/32/s	57/33/s						
Cheyenne	56/24/0.00	56/27/s	44/27/pc	Orlando	82/63/0.05	76/55/t	75/51/s						
Chicago	43/22/0.00	50/32/s	42/28/pc	Palm Springs	78/46/0.00	66/47/sh	75/52/s						
Cincinnati	46/23/0.00	59/32/s	49/25/s	Peoria	50/20/0.00	55/30/s	51/27/s						
Cleveland	39/19/0.00	49/30/s	34/23/pc	Philadelphia	38/25/0.00	54/37/s	45/26/pc						
Colorado Springs		57/32/s	45/31/sh	Phoenix	79/48/0.00	81/53/pc	69/49/pc						
Columbia, MO	59/28/0.00	63/36/s	61/38/s	Pittsburgh	38/19/0.00	56/29/s	36/19/pc						
Columbia, SC	50/48/Tr	61/37/r	70/38/s	Portland, ME	25/7/0.05	40/23/s	36/17/s						
Columbus, GA	49/44/0.53	64/41/pc	70/43/s	Providence	31/16/Tr	48/31/s	43/21/s						
Columbus, OH	41/21/0.00	58/31/s	42/22/pc	Raleigh	51/37/0.00	61/39/pc	62/34/s						
Concord, NH	24/7/Tr	41/23/pc	34/15/s	Rapid City	59/26/0.00	58/25/s	56/28/s						
Corpus Christi	70/52/Tr	69/53/pc	73/60/pc	Reno	59/27/0.00	58/30/pc	61/32/s						
Dallas	63/39/0.00	68/44/s	70/51/s	Richmond	47/32/0.00	60/38/pc	55/29/pc						
Dayton	43/19/0.00	58/31/s	45/23/s	Rochester, NY	29/11/Tr	42/26/sn	29/15/pc						
Denver	62/27/0.00	60/31/s	40/29/sh	Sacramento	71/41/0.00	70/43/pc	66/40/s						
Des Moines	55/21/0.00	52/29/s	51/30/s	St. Louis	59/27/0.00	64/35/s	57/35/s						
Detroit	38/16/0.00	51/28/s	38/21/pc	Salt Lake City	56/26/0.00	59/37/s	55/35/r						
Duluth	43/13/0.00	38/24/pc	33/22/s	San Antonio	67/43/0.00	69/46/pc	74/56/pc						
El Paso	61/30/0.00	74/52/s	69/42/pc	San Diego	72/44/0.00	63/53/r	66/49/s						
Fairbanks	9/-8/0.04	2/-13/c	8/4/s	San Francisco	65/44/0.00	61/48/pc	63/48/s						
Fargo	50/16/0.00	40/26/pc	42/28/s	San Jose	67/40/0.00	66/44/pc	66/42/s						
Flagstaff	54/12/Tr	52/27/pc	47/22/sf	Santa Fe	56/18/0.00	62/36/s	52/28/c						
Grand Rapids	39/13/0.00	45/23/s	39/18/pc	Savannah	58/55/0.91	61/42/r	71/46/s						
Green Bay	37/17/0.00	43/21/pc	36/17/s	Seattle	50/41/Tr	55/39/pc	57/45/r						
Greensboro	49/35/0.00	62/39/pc	61/32/s	Sioux Falls	55/26/0.00	56/32/s	56/32/s						
Llowichurg	49/33/0.00	02/39/pc	01/32/8	Chaltana	53/20/0.00	50/32/5	50/32/8						

Helena	52/26/0.00	51/25/pc	51/31/s	lampa	82/72/Ir	73/56/t	73/54/s
Honolulu	81/70/0.06	80/68/pc	79/68/pc	Tucson	78/51/0.00	81/48/pc	67/44/pc
Houston	65/47/0.35	67/44/s	70/51/s	Tulsa	63/30/0.00	69/41/s	69/47/s
Huntsville	53/39/0.11	60/35/s	67/38/s	Washington, DC	46/31/0.00	58/39/s	51/29/s
Indianapolis	44/22/0.00	59/29/s	49/25/s	Wichita	64/25/0.00	67/36/s	65/47/pc
Jackson, MS	47/42/0.76	62/36/pc	70/43/s	Yakima	60/30/0.00	58/32/s	58/37/pc
Jacksonville	59/57/0.61	61/45/t	72/43/s	Yuma	79/44/0.00	73/46/pc	72/47/s
			INTERN	ATIONAL			
Amsterdam	55/34/0.00	54/38/pc	45/32/r	Mecca	88/61/0.00	86/64/pc	85/63/s
Athens	55/46/0.00	63/44/s	63/47/s	Mexico City	82/55/0.00	79/55/s	80/55/s
Auckland	75/63/0.28	73/64/sh	72/60/t	Montreal	16/0/Tr	33/10/pc	22/8/pc
Baghdad	75/47/0.00	78/58/s	79/53/pc	Moscow	39/30/0.10	37/33/c	36/20/sn
Bangkok	95/81/0.00	88/78/t	92/78/t	Nairobi	82/62/0.00	81/58/s	79/59/pc
Beijing	43/24/0.00	48/27/s	59/31/s	Nassau	82/65/0.00	83/70/pc	78/67/t
Beirut	64/55/0.00	63/53/sh	59/55/t	New Delhi	83/55/0.00	88/60/pc	90/59/pc
Berlin	53/29/0.00	56/37/pc	42/28/c	Osaka	48/47/0.38	49/36/pc	60/48/pc
Bogota	66/50/0.01	65/49/sh	63/48/sh	Oslo	48/34/0.00	42/25/pc	37/22/s
Budapest	57/23/0.00	59/30/pc	61/39/pc	Ottawa	19/0/Tr	35/10/c	21/5/s
Buenos Aires	82/75/0.00	81/73/pc	80/68/pc	Paris	63/36/0.00	63/44/pc	54/37/c
Cabo San Lucas	82/57/0.00	83/60/pc	83/58/pc	Rio de Janeiro	84/74/0.04	87/75/pc	87/76/pc
Cairo	68/54/0.00	64/49/pc	69/50/pc	Rome	62/39/0.00	61/39/s	60/44/pc
Calgary	43/27/Tr	44/25/s	48/29/pc	Santiago	82/59/0.00	86/60/s	91/58/s
Cancun	84/75/0.11	86/71/s	83/72/sh	Sao Paulo	86/68/0.02	84/67/t	83/68/t
Dublin	47/27/0.00	46/37/c	43/38/c	Sapporo	28/23/0.53	27/11/sn	37/34/pc
Edinburgh	39/37/0.00	40/36/c	42/31/sh	Seoul	43/32/0.00	48/32/s	52/33/c
Geneva	55/30/0.00	61/38/s	59/40/sh	Shanghai	51/34/0.00	54/48/c	62/46/sh
Harare	72/57/0.04	75/58/c	76/60/t	Singapore	91/77/0.00	91/77/c	90/78/pc
Hong Kong	73/65/0.04	71/66/c	74/69/pc	Stockholm	46/37/0.00	46/26/s	35/23/s
Istanbul	47/41/0.18	50/38/pc	50/42/s	Sydney	73/67/0.01	69/62/pc	77/64/s
Jerusalem	56/44/0.00	51/40/pc	49/42/t	Taipei City	62/58/0.34	67/59/pc	77/63/s
Johannesburg	73/53/0.00	77/59/s	79/61/s	Tel Aviv	64/52/0.04	62/50/sh	61/51/t
Lima	83/71/0.00	78/69/pc	78/69/c	Tokyo	65/55/0.47	51/40/s	54/47/pc
Lisbon	64/48/0.00	67/53/pc	59/50/sh	Toronto	30/9/0.00	43/22/pc	29/16/s
London	47/39/0.00	52/41/c	44/36/c	Vancouver	46/36/Tr	49/38/c	52/44/r
Madrid	57/45/0.00	63/40/pc	62/38/s	Vienna	50/23/0.00	54/32/pc	59/40/pc
Manila	91/77/0.01	92/78/s	91/77/pc	Warsaw	50/36/0.00	50/37/pc	45/28/pc

45/25/pc 39/18/pc

51/31/9

Spokane

Springfield, MO Tampa

52/36/0.00

57/26/0.00

54/29/pc

64/35/s 73/56/t

56/38/pc

73/54/s

#### Bend

### **Continued from A11**

"Clearly our ranking slipped due to short-term job growth, high-tech GDP growth and housing affordability," said Damon Runberg, regional economist for the Oregon Employment Department. "Short-term job growth is not surprising since we were hit hard by COVID layoffs due to our high-than-average concentration of jobs in leisure and hospitality."

Roger Lee, executive director for Economic Development for Central Oregon, agreed that the drop in tour-ism during COVID-19 lockdowns took a significant toll on Bend's economy, which makes up 16% of local employment.

But Lee admits that rank drop in high-tech GDP growth is "perplexing" as the number of companies continued to grow during the vear.

"There has been labor force availability constraints for some time that has not allowed employment (not GDP) to expand as quickly as our local tech companies would like," said Lee in an email. "That said, my gut feel is that it only takes a few of our growing software companies to cancel out that

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

### **Pendleton**

#### **Continued from A11**

The community has been really supportive," said Joe Meda, the owner of Joe's Fiesta Mexican Restaurant. "Saying anything less than that would be ungrateful on my part."

Shown are today's noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

Throughout the pandemic, Meda has been adding on to nis business, creating a Day of the Dead-themed cantina next door. The high-ceilinged bar, colored predominantly in red and gold, is decorated with dozens of multicolored skulls over glossy countertops of reddish-brown wood. Empty wooden frames adorn the walls, waiting to be filled with tall canvas paintings, Meda said.

There was some uncertainty in making sure I was good to go ahead and be able to make this and keep the business going," Meda said of the new addition to his business. "Business expansion has to do with projected sales. When your projected sales are not coming, your investment becomes: 'Should I do this?"

With the limited reopening effective Friday, Meda said he is pushing to open his new establishment in the next two months. Across the street, Burt is undergoing a similar effort. He plans to open a new grilled cheese restaurant in April nearby called "Toasted."

"Now that there's a little light at the end of the tunnel, now I can start training people and



Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian

Joe Meda, owner of Joe's Fiesta Mexican Restaurant in Pendleton, explains the challenges of opening a new business venture in the midst of a pandemic during a Feb. 26 tour of his new cantina.

see about opening this when we're at least 50 or 75%," Meda said, simultaneously reaching above him to knock on a wooden frame overhead.

#### 'It feels really good to feel a little more stable than we did

before' With some of the highest coronavirus infection rates in Oregon, Umatilla County has been caught firmly in the extreme risk category for months. However, with a steady recent decline in cases, the governor's office announced on Feb. 23 that the county was eligible for high risk, permitting indoor dining at 25% capacity.

The change also allows indoor and outdoor recreation, entertainment, and shopping and retail establishments to reopen at limited capacity, as well as faith institutions, funeral

homes, mortuaries and cemeteries. It allows indoor and outdoor visitation at long-term care facilities and only recommends, rather than requires, that office work be done re-

motely. When speaking of future business, Meda and Burt couldn't help but follow each prediction or aspiration by mentioning the uncertainty that has consumed local businesses throughout the pandemic. But on Friday, watching the familiar faces of loyal customers walk through the door and taking countless phone calls brought with it a sense of hope that things were inching back to normal.

Collin Taber, a 19-year-old employee at Moe Pho Noodles & Ĉafe in the same block as Joe's Fiesta, said he showed up at work on Friday at noon to

find seven full tables, a sight he described as both "scary" and "exciting." After three months of solely takeout orders, he and his co-workers were rusty, but over a 21/2-hour rush, they got back in the swing of things.

"It was nice to see familiar faces, too," said Taber, a student at Mount Hood Community College. "When I came in I noticed that the people I saw before were back, which was really cool, and then I had something to talk to them about, about being back. And they were really excited, which made us really excited."

Customers who came to get their daily dose of pho were happier than usual, said Taber and his co-worker, Alexi Brehaut. Customers were eager to know how the business was doing and to show support by coming in. They knew how much other businesses had been struggling.

"It's just us getting some breathing room," Brehaut, a 20-year-old student at Eastern Oregon University, said. "Being able to take a deep breath and finally get something that's not supposed to mean that much to someone, but it does mean

that much to people."
Taber added that the latest reopening has brought with it a sense of stability after months of uncertainty.

"With all the uncertainty that we had, it feels really good to feel a little more stable than we did before," Taber said.

# **Energy**

#### **Continued from A11** "It's huge. It's the first li-

cense of its type to be issued in the United States," said OSU's Burke Hales, chief scientist on the project.

Oregon State's project would offer a prepermitted area offshore of Newport, where wave energy developers could anchor and plug in their devices to the grid.

The array would spread over about 8 square miles of ocean and include four testing "berths" with undersea

cables to carry energy produced back to shore southeast of Seal Rock. The energy developers would pay Oregon State University for use of the testing facility.

"We hope to be moving this summer with groundbreaking for building our shoreside facility," Burke said, adding that the underground and under-ocean boring work needed to run the transmission lines offshore would start this year as well.

The goal is to install the offshore components of the test facility in 2022.

## Rent

**Continued from A11** "This new funding comes at a critical time to bring small businesses out of accumulated debt caused by the pandemic," said Chris Cummings, Business Oregon interim director, in a statement. "With improving COVID-19 numbers and us all doing our part to curb the spread, we can get businesses operating again. This program lets them get going with a little less weight on their shoulders."

The Oregon Legislature's Emergency Board voted to seed the fund in January. At the

time, Business Oregon hoped to launch the program in February, but it took the agency longer than anticipated to work

out the details of the new fund. That has left small-business owners who have struggled to keep up on their rent payments

in a state of uncertainty. Oregon lawmakers voted in December to extend the state's residential eviction moratorium through June for renters experiencing hardships, but the state has not had a commercial eviction ban in place

since the end of September. Businesses have until March 31 to pay back their outstanding rent, which may have

prevented an onslaught of commercial evictions in the months since the moratorium expired. But business owners who are unable to access help through the new commercial rent relief program could begin facing evictions in April.

It is unlikely that the \$100 million in commercial assistance will be enough to meet the needs of businesses that have struggled to keep up with their rent during the pandemic.

Many Oregon businesses have been struggling for their survival since March 2020. Certain businesses, including gyms, restaurants and bars, have been shut down or

required to limit operations multiple times throughout the pandemic as the state has announced revolving coronavirus restrictions.

The state has loosened those restrictions recently in many Oregon counties due to declining COVID-19 cases, but businesses that are open are still operating with enhanced safety requirements and limited capacity rules.

Business Oregon and other local government agencies across the state have launched numerous grant programs over the last year to help small businesses impacted by the pandemic, while the federal

government has offered some relief through the Paycheck Protection Program and other **Small Business Administration** grants and loans.

Oregon's emergency small-business grant program helped 7,500 small businesses last year with \$43 million in grants.

However, many of those grant programs, especially those at the local and state level, have been extremely competitive and many businesses have missed out on funding.

The new commercial rent relief program is the first statewide fund that specifically offers rent relief to small-business owners and their landlords.

Business Oregon will keep the application process open for two weeks. The agency will distribute \$50 million during the first round of funding before opening the application process for a second round in late April. Eligible applicants who don't receive funding during the first round will automatically be considered with any new applicants during the second round.

Oregon is aiming to ensure that grants are distributed equitably across the state. Grantees in each area will be chosen through a lottery system.