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

prior approval.

# LOCAL, STATE & REGION

#### **New COVID-19 cases per day** 129 new cases COVID-19 data for Sunday, March 21: What is COVID-19? It's an infection caused by a new coronavirus. 108 new cases Deschutes County cases: 6,173 (11 new cases) Symptoms (including fever, coughing and shortness of breath) Deschutes County deaths: 70 (zero new deaths) can be severe. While some cases are mild, the disease can be fatal Crook County cases: 796 (zero new cases) 7 ways to help limit its spread: 1. Wash hands often with soap Crook County deaths: 18 (zero new deaths) 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, Jefferson County cases: 2,002 (1 new case) stay 6 feet from others and wear a cloth face covering or mask. Jefferson County deaths: 31 (zero new deaths) Cover a cough or sneeze with a tissue or cough into your elbow. Oregon cases: 161,531 (224 new cases) Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces. Oregon deaths: 2,363 (1 new death) 16 new cases March 2020 May January 2021

# Scientists opening new fronts in war against murder hornets

**Associated Press** 

Scientists in the U.S. and Canada said Wednesday that the battle to prevent the so-called murder hornets from establishing a foothold in North America is being fought mostly in Whatcom County, Washington, and the nearby Fraser Valley of British Columbia, where the apex predators have been spotted in

"This is not a species we want to tolerate here in the United States," said Sven-Erik Spichiger of the Washington state Department of Agriculture, which eradicated a nest of the Asian giant hornets last year. The Asian giant hornet is not supposed to be here."

We may not get them all, but we will get as many as we can," he said of eradication efforts this year. Paul van Westendorp of the British Columbia Min-

istry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries said the hornets pose threats to human life, to valuable bee populations needed to pollinate crops and to other insects.

"It's an absolutely serious danger to our health and well-being," he said. "These are intimidating insects." One major front will be setting thousands of traps this spring to capture queens that are trying to estab-

and private citizens will set traps, they said. Another effort is underway to determine exactly where in Asia these hornets came from, to try and learn how they are getting across the Pacific Ocean, scientists said. The theory is they are crossing on

lish nests, officials said. Both government agencies



An Asian giant hornet is held on a pin by Sven Spichiger, an entomologist with the Washington state Deptartment of Agriculture, in May. The first confirmed detection of the "murder hornet" in the United States was in December 2019, in far-northern Washington.

cargo ships, Spichiger said.

While hundreds of the hornets were killed when the nest in Whatcom County was destroyed in October, only a handful of the hornets were spotted in British Columbia last year, van Westendorp said.

Whatcom County is about 55 miles south of Vancouver, British Columbia.

# **LOCAL BRIEFING**

# Man arrested after stabbing at Juniper Ridge

A 42-year-old Bend man was arrested Saturday afternoon after allegedly stabbing another man in the neck in the Juniper Ridge area on the north end

Marion A. Douglas was lodged in the Deschutes County jail on suspicion of first-degree assault, unlawful use of a weapon and violating a restraining order.

Just before 3:30 p.m. Saturday, a 38-year-old man called 911 to report he had been stabbed in the neck, according to the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office. Shortly after that call, Douglas called 911 and reported he had stabbed a man who attacked him.

When sheriff's deputies arrived at the scene, they found a man with multiple stab wounds. Their investigation found that Douglas had attacked the man after the victim had arrived at Douglas' camp to drop off property belonging to Douglas, according to a release from the sheriff's office. Douglas is alleged to have attacked the man unprovoked, stabbing him several times, causing life-threatening injuries, according to the sheriff's office. The stabbing victim was taken to St. Charles Bend.

During the investigation, sheriff's deputies learned a woman who had accompanied the stabbing victim had a restraining order protecting her from Douglas, and that Douglas and the woman had been in communication about bringing Douglas' belongings to

- Bulletin staff report

# **PORTLAND**

# Officer fired after failing to pursue suspect, blaming 'Obama administration'

BY MAXINE BERNSTEIN The Oregonian

A Portland police officer who deliberately delayed responding to a welfare check call in 2019 and then let the suspect walk away was fired after he misled internal investigators about what he did, according to bureau records made public this month.

The officer made a bogus remark to witnesses, telling them something like: "Due to the Obama administration," police don't chase known suspects, according to a summary by the Police Review Board.

The firing was one of seven officer misconduct cases five in 2019 and two in 2020 that prompted internal investigations and were summarized in the board's March report. Each of the cases arose from complaints made by other members of the Police Bureau.

The Police Bureau publicly releases the board reports twice a year but doesn't name of any of the officers involved.

In the welfare check case, sources familiar with the investigation said it was Andrew Caspar who was fired.

State records show Caspar was fired Aug. 18 after going on leave in August 2019. He joined the bureau in July 1998. The Portland Police Association is challenging Caspar's termination and has been in arbitration.

The internal review found that police had reasonable suspicion to contact the suspect for the alleged crime, which the report didn't identify.

The officer told investigators that the matter "didn't seem overly pressing" because it involved family members, and police had the name of the person who was walking away, according to the Police Review Board summary.

The board in October 2019 found that the officer violated the bureau's truthfulness directive, acted unprofessionally and failed to perform police duties. This "eroded the trust" of those involved, the summary report said.

The officer was not honest and omitted information about the delay in responding to the call, his statements to victims and witnesses and the reason he didn't contact, detain or arrest the suspect, the board found. "Employee 1 omitted their statements about the Obama administration until they were specifically asked about it," the summary said.

Caspar did not respond to messages seeking comment.

The Police Review Board is made up of peer officers, supervisors, a community member and representative of the city's Independent Police Review oversight division.

In another case, a new trainee complained that a field training officer twice made inappropriate, racially based comments.

The board report also identified three negligent discharges of police guns.

An officer preparing for a shift was doing a "function check" of an AR-15 rifle, which discharged in the precinct armory. The officer didn't use a clearing barrel while doing the check and didn't insert a yellow safety block in the magazine to avoid the discharge, the report said.

The officer relinquished rifle certification and received a one-day suspension without pay in March 2020, according to the report.

Two other officers also received one-day suspensions without pay for negligent discharges of their shotguns, the report said.

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