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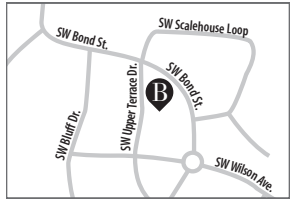
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Lottery results can now be found on the second page of Sports.

LOCAL, STATE & REGION

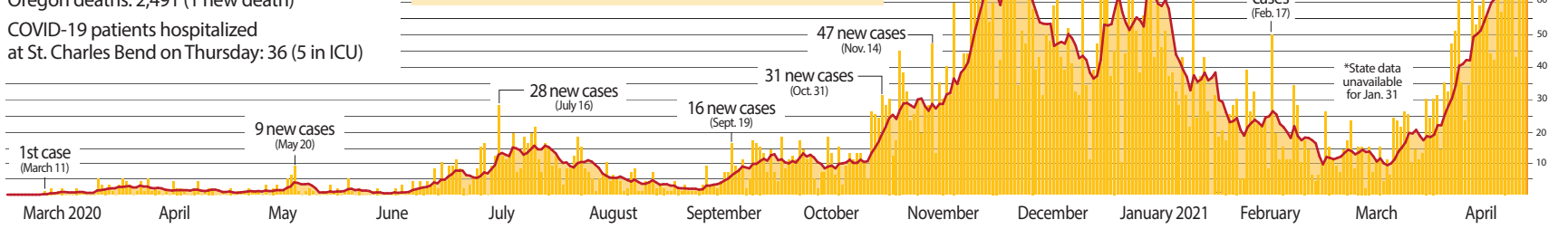
DESCHUTES COUNTY New COVID-19 cases per day

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

COVID-19 data for Thursday, April 29:

Deschutes County cases: 7,949 (125 new cases)
Deschutes County deaths: 73 (zero new deaths)
Crook County cases: 977 (10 new cases)
Crook County deaths: 19 (zero new deaths)
Jefferson County cases: 2,118 (15 new cases)
Jefferson County deaths: 32 (zero new deaths)
Oregon cases: 182,916 (740 new cases)
Oregon deaths: 2,491 (1 new death)
COVID-19 patients hospitalized at St. Charles Bend on Thursday: 36 (5 in ICU)

What is COVID-19? A disease caused by a coronavirus. Symptoms (including fever and shortness of breath) can be severe, even fatal, though some cases are mild.
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 6 feet from others and wear a face covering or mask. 5. Cover a sneeze with a tissue or cough into your elbow. 6. Clean frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Bend man gets 13 years in horrific abuse case

BY GARRETT ANDREWS

The Bulletin
A Bend man will serve 13 years in prison for assaulting his then-girlfriend.

On Thursday in Deschutes County Circuit Court, William Gerald Williams was sentenced to 160 months in prison. Two days earlier, he pleaded guilty to first-degree assault, second-degree assault and attempted first-degree sodomy.

On Dec. 13, Williams' then-girlfriend was admitted to the ICU at St. Charles Bend with life-threatening injuries: a lacerated kidney as well as fractured ribs, a fractured spine, a broken cheekbone and a nose broken in several places, according to court proceedings. The woman told police at the hospital Williams had forced her to go on "pain rides" in his car, in which he

assaulted her with his fists and a long wooden stake.

"He would poke at her and strike at her in a downward motion so there were injuries all over the left side of her body," said Stacy Neil, a prosecutor with the Deschutes County District Attorney's Office, at the sentencing hearing Thursday.

Police learned of the abuse and that it had been going on for many months, Neil said. In addition to the "pain rides," Williams had kicked her with heavy boots on, thrown items at her, split her forehead by striking her with the blunt end of a knife, burned her with a lighter and subjected her to repeated unwanted sexual contact, Neil said.

On one occasion, he tried to force the woman to sexually abuse her dog, Neil said. "She described a very con-

trolling environment where she was restricted with what food she could eat," Neil said. "She was forced to drink the defendant's urine when she wanted something to drink."

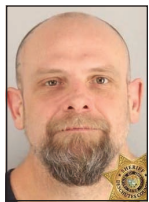
Williams was arrested that month and charged with 25 criminal counts, including the Measure 11 offenses of first-degree assault and first-degree kidnapping. The maximum he could have served in prison was 40 years.

On Thursday, Williams appeared by video from the Deschutes County jail. He declined to address the court when given the chance.

"Mr. Williams is taking responsibility for his actions," said his lawyer, Leslie Nitcher. "He does acknowledge that his behavior was not appropriate."

Judge Alison Emerson further assigned Williams seven years post-prison supervision.

Reporter: 541-383-0325, gandrews@bendbulletin.com



Williams

COVID-19

Gov. Brown extends Oregon emergency as virus cases spike

Associated Press
SALEM — Gov. Kate Brown on Thursday extended Oregon's state of emergency for COVID-19 until June 28, saying a fourth surge of the pandemic is being driven by variants of the disease and causing increased cases and hospitalizations.

The declaration allows Brown to issue executive orders restricting activity and helps the state utilize federal COVID-relief funds, the governor's office said.

Brown is putting 15 counties that encompass the state's

biggest cities into the state's extreme risk category starting Friday, imposing restrictions that include banning indoor restaurant dining.

The restaurant sector has objected to Brown's action, with the Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association declaring that the state lost more than 1,000 food service businesses in 2020 and that 200 more closed permanently so far this year.

Brown says her actions are temporary. "I intend to fully reopen our economy by the end of

June, and the day is approaching when my emergency orders can eventually be lifted," Brown said in a statement. "How quickly we get there is up to each and every one of us doing our part."

Brown said more than 1.2 million people in the state have been fully vaccinated, but the "overwhelming majority" of new cases are from younger, unvaccinated residents. Oregon's population is more than 4.2 million.

She said hospitalizations nearly doubled in the last two weeks, to more than 300.

OREGON LEGISLATURE

House OKs gun storage combined with partial ban on public places

BY PETER WONG

Oregon Capital Bureau

The Oregon House, on a largely party-line vote, approved a bill that combines storage requirements for firearms with a narrower ban on guns in some public places.

The 34-24 vote on Thursday sends the revamped Senate Bill 554 back to the Senate, which can vote to accept the changes — and send it to Gov. Kate Brown — or reject it and force a joint panel to negotiate the differences.

Support came exclusively from Democrats. Three of the 37 Democrats voted no: Paul Evans of Monmouth, David Gombert of Otis and Mark Meek of Oregon City. No Republicans voted for it. Two Republicans were excused.

The vote took place after close to three hours of debate.

The bill does not have an emergency clause, which means that if it becomes law, opponents have 90 days from the close of the 2021 session to obtain 74,680 voter signatures to force a statewide election.

Part of the revamped bill proposes requirements for firearms locks and storage already written into a separate House bill, which the House sent back to committee.

Under the revamped bill, guns must have trigger or cable locks, be stored in a

locked container or in a gun room. An offense is a Class C violation, which carries a maximum fine of \$500, unless someone under age 18 obtains access, in which case it is a Class A violation with a maximum fine of \$2,000. No jail time is imposed for violations.

The bill also requires prompt reporting of stolen firearms. Its first sections are named in honor of Cindy Vuille and Steve Forsyth, who died on Dec. 11, 2012, in the Clackamas Town Center shootings. The assault-style weapon used to kill them was found to have been stolen.

The other part of the revamped bill narrows the scope of a firearms ban included in the original SB 554, which passed the Senate on March 25.

The changes would still bar the estimated 300,000 holders of Oregon concealed-handgun licenses from bringing firearms into some public places. State courts, which often are in buildings maintained by counties, already are off-limits to firearms.

But the scope of the ban would be narrower under the House version.

Licenses would be barred from bringing firearms into the Capitol, though not from other state buildings as originally proposed in the Senate.

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