

▼ DOW 34,599.82 -30.42	▲ NASDAQ 13,924.91 +43.19	▲ S&P 500 4,227.26 +7.4	▼ 30-YR T-BOND 2.21% -0.4	▲ CRUDE OIL \$70.05 +.82	▼ GOLD \$1,892.20 -4.60	▼ SILVER \$27.72 -.28	▼ EURO \$1.2180 -.0015
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BRIEFING

Washington offers 'joints for jobs'

Licensed marijuana stores in Washington state can offer free joints to promote on-site COVID-19 vaccine clinics, officials said Monday.

The state Liquor and Cannabis Board is calling the effort the "Joints for Jobs" program. The board says licensed adult-use marijuana retail shops can give away a single pre-rolled joint to anyone over 21 who gets a shot at an on-site vaccine clinic held by July 12.

The board has already allowed breweries, wineries and restaurants to offer free drinks in exchange for proof of vaccination — though alcohol-serving establishments have not had to host a clinic on-site to give out product.

The board said the marijuana stores must buy any joints they intend to give away from licensed producers or processors and they must keep records of any product given away.

Websites go down after outage

Dozens of websites went down briefly around the globe Tuesday, including CNN, The New York Times and Britain's government home page, after an outage at the cloud computing service Fastly, illustrating how vital a small number of behind-the-scenes companies have become to running the internet.

San Francisco-based Fastly acknowledged a problem just before 6 a.m. Eastern. About an hour later, the company said: "The issue has been identified and a fix has been applied." Most of the sites soon appeared to be back online.

The company said in an emailed statement that it was a "technical issue" and "not related to a cyber attack."

Fastly is a content-delivery network. It provides vital but behind-the-scenes cloud computing "edge servers" to many of the web's popular sites. These servers store, or "cache," content such as images and video in places around the world so that it is closer to users, allowing them to fetch it more quickly and smoothly.

Job openings up to record 9.3 million

U.S. employers posted a record 9.3 million job openings in April with the U.S. economy reopening at break-neck speed.

The number of job openings soared 12% from the 8.3 million counted in March.

But employers hired just 6.1 million, up 1% from March, according to a Labor Department report Tuesday, suggesting that positions are opening faster than companies can fill them.

"More than a year after horrific job losses and wage cuts, job seekers have a strong hand in the labor market again. Demand for workers is surging as the broader economy starts to emerge from the pandemic," said Nick Bunker, director of the Hiring Lab. "At the same time, supply is restrained as workers are slow to find their post-pandemic normal. The result is a labor market that has snapped back quicker than many expected."

— Bulletin wire reports

COVID-19 | Oregon regulations

Four businesses fined for 'willful' violations

PORTLAND — The state of Oregon has fined four more businesses a combined \$44,600 for what the state considers "willful" violations of regulations meant to protect workers from COVID-19.

The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health administration has issued 159 citations to employers for violating

COVID-19 safety requirements since the pandemic began, The Oregonian reported.

Cork Cellars Wine and Bistro in Sisters was fined \$17,800 for willfully allowing indoor dining at a time when it was banned. The restaurant has appealed the fine. Owners Tom and Jeannie Buck told the newspaper they look forward to their day in court.

Last Stop Saloon in The Dalles was issued an \$8,900 fine for willfully allowing indoor dining when it was banned. The bar didn't immediately respond to a request for comment but has appealed.

Country Bakery in Halsey was issued an \$8,900 penalty for failing to ensure that face coverings were worn and not posting a "COVID-19 Hazards

Poster." Country Bakery has not yet appealed and declined to comment.

Portland's Creative Woodworking Northwest Inc. was issued an \$8,900 fine for willfully failing to ensure that face coverings were worn, according to the state. It has hired a lawyer and appealed the fine.

Hope Redmond, executive administrator for Creative

Woodworking Northwest, said some employees cited health concerns related to masks and the business opted to respect those concerns.

Oregon OSHA said Monday that it will lift face covering and distancing rules for businesses and other institutions when 70% of Oregon adults are at least partially vaccinated.

Officials hope to have about 600 units by end of 2022

SCOTT GREENSTONE

The Seattle Times

In an 8,000-square-foot Seattle warehouse, about a dozen volunteers plan to work six days a week to build at least 10 shed-sized homes a month for homeless people.

Sound Foundations NW and other builders are producing 100 tiny houses, expected to hold up to 130 people, this summer. The houses will sit on two sites in North Seattle and potentially double the size of another village.

Seattle included these villages as part of its record \$167 million 2021 homelessness budget. The materials for each house normally cost around \$2,500, although they're \$4,500 right now because of a national lumber shortage, according to Josh Castle, advocacy and community engagement director for the Low-Income Housing Institute, the city's main contractor for village operations. It costs an average of \$600,000 a year to run each village, with case management and food, Castle said.

The city is capitalizing on an infusion of federal money to relieve the growing frustration among community members and business owners around visible homelessness. While shelters that hold many people together in one space were considered the most cost-effective option, data from nonprofit outreach providers has found that people living outdoors would usually rather go to a tiny house than an emergency shelter.

The villages being assembled this summer are just the beginning of a broader shelter push. There are 298 houses in eight villages across the city. Barb Oliver, director of operations and volunteer coordinator at Sound Foundations NW, and other boosters hope to double that number by the end of 2022, using philanthropy and state and federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act.

Said city Councilor Andrew Lewis, "I'd like to do more than that, but that's as fast as the overstretched [Human Services Department] team can do." Lewis, runs the council's committee on homelessness and launched a campaign earlier this year to get businesses to donate startup costs for villages. He dubbed the campaign "It Takes a Village."

Seattle is leaning more on the tiny house village model than perhaps any other city, though Los Angeles County hopes by the end of the year to have 425 portable, prefabricated composite plastic pods, which are made in Everett, Washington, that can be set up in minutes.

Seattle is building tiny house villages for homeless



A portrait of Barb Oliver, director of operations with Sound Foundations NW, is taken in one of their tiny homes in Seattle Thursday. Erika Schultz/The Seattle Times

Oregon requires COVID-19 vaccines for farmed mink

BY GEORGE PAVLEN

Capital Press

SALEM — Oregon's campaign to vaccinate the public against COVID-19 is extending to the animal kingdom.

The state Department of Agriculture has filed an emergency temporary rule requiring coronavirus vaccines for as many as 212,700 farmed mink to reduce the risk of new infections, virus mutations and possible animal-to-human transmission, the agency announced recently.

Mink farmers have until Aug. 31 to vaccinate their current animals. Any mink born or imported after that date must be vaccinated within 120 days of birth, or within 60 days of being brought into Oregon.

Farms must also agree to participate in additional sur-

veillance testing per ODA and U.S. Department of Agriculture guidelines.

"ODA is taking the necessary precautions to reduce the risk of infection in captive mink, as well as reduce the risk of potential mutation of the virus and the potential for virus transmission back to humans," said Ryan Scholz, state veterinarian for ODA. "It is critical that owner-operators vaccinate their mink against the virus."

The rule comes after one mink farm in Oregon was placed under quarantine for more than two months between late November and early February after multiple animals tested positive for the virus. Scholz said the mink had likely contracted the virus from workers at the farm.

ODA did not identify the

farm for security reasons. The positive tests prompted concern about the possibility of a "viral reservoir" among captive mink spilling into the wild and infecting related species like river otters, fishers and martens.

After two consecutive rounds of follow-up testing at the farm revealed no new cases, the quarantine was lifted on Feb. 11.

Michael Whelan, executive director of Fur Commission USA, said mink farmers were already working toward vaccinating their animals even before the Oregon rule was announced.

"Oregon was quicker to make an emergency rule because of the outbreak, but all mink in the country will be vaccinated before the end of July," Whelan said.

Lake Oswego biotech executive sentenced for insider trading

BY MIKE ROGOWAY

The Oregonian

Former Oregon biotech executive Mark Ahn faces six months in prison and an additional six months of home detention after pleading guilty to two counts of securities fraud.

In 2017, Ahn had been working as a biotech consultant for a company in New York, advising it in its efforts to buy a Massachusetts firm called Dimension Therapeutics. Prosecutors say Ahn learned that Dimension would be acquired by a different company and bought Dimension stock based on insider information.

When Dimension announced its sale, its stock jumped 262% in one day. Ahn, 58, continues to live

in Lake Oswego. He pleaded guilty in March to two charges connected to the stock purchase.

In addition to Ahn's prison sentence, U.S. District Court Judge Richard Stearns on Monday ordered Ahn to forfeit \$49,421 — the approximate value of his profits from the stock — pay a \$5,500 fine and make additional restitution to be determined later. He also faces two years of supervised release.

Under a separate deal with federal securities regulators reached in April, Ahn is prohibited from serving as a board member or executive with publicly traded companies. Ahn was previously CEO of Galena Biopharma, a Lake Oswego company.