THE BULLETIN • THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021 bendbulletin.com/business

DOW 34,447.14

**34,447.14** -152.68

NASDAQ 13,911.75 -13.16



30-YR T-BOND 2.17% -.04 CRUDE OIL \$69.96 -.09

GOLD \$1,893.20 +1.00 \$ILVER \$27.99 +.27 **EU** \$1

**EURO \$1.2179** -.0001

#### **BRIEFING**

#### UScellular offers emergency grants

UScellular is offering \$50 off per month to eligible customers through the Federal Communications Commission's Emergency Broadband Benefit Program to help households struggling to afford internet service during the COVID-19

pandemic.
Eligible customers
can received \$50 off per
month or \$75 a month
for those living on tribal
lands. To qualify customers must qualify for a free
or reduced-price lunch
program, receive federal
Pell Grants in the current
year, experience a loss of
income since February.

For more information and to confirm eligibility, visit www.uscellular. com/plans/emergency -broadband-benefit -program.

#### Seattle 1st big city to fully vaccinate

Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan said Wednesday that 70% of city residents ages 12 and up have been fully vaccinated, which she said makes Seattle the first major U.S. city to hit the COVID-19 milestone.

Durkan's office also said 78% of the Seattle population 12 and older has started the vaccination process.

"Seattle is America's most vaccinated major city, and it would not have been possible without our residents' commitment to protecting themselves, their loved ones, and our entire community," Durkan said in a statement. "Now that we have reached community protection, we can lead the nation in safely reopening and recovering in earnest."

She urged Seattleites to support local small businesses, help revive its arts and cultural scene and enjoy the Seattle

summer safely.
Now that it has
reached the 70% fully
vaccinated goal, the city
and its partners will start
launching efforts to reopen Seattle's, Durkan

#### Fire destroys much of Oregon resort

A fire has destroyed much of a resort on the Rogue River in Southern Oregon, authorities said.

The Rural Metro fire department in Josephine County confirmed the fire around 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Galice Resort west of Grants Pass, The Statesman Journal reported.

Local, state and federal agencies responded to put out the blaze. The resort's restaurant, store and boat shed burned, while the lodge may have been less impacted, authorities said.

Oregon forestry officials said the blaze spread to the wildland, igniting five small fires around the property and that helicopters and a plane were used in addition to firefighting on the ground to stop the fire from spreading. Fire officials said no injuries were reported.

Galice Resort has been at the center of Rogue River rafting and outdoor culture. It has a restaurant overlooking the river, cabins for rent, and offers shuttles, river trips and rentals.

— Bulletin wire reports

### OSU to build \$20M dairy processing facility

BY SIERRA DAWN MCCLAIN

Capital Press

CORVALLIS — Oregon
State University announced
Tuesday it will build a new \$20
million dairy processing facility using private investments,
state bonds and university
funding.

The new, 3,000-square-foot dairy plant — three times the size of OSU's existing facilities — will be used as a research laboratory and hands-on classroom for students and faculty, an educational space for the community, an incubator for dairy startups, a space where creameries statewide can test new products and a retail shop selling products such as ice

cream made on site.

"I'm thrilled. It's truly a dream come true," said Lisbeth Goddik, head of OSU's Department of Food Science and Technology. "We've wanted to provide the very best educational opportunities for our students, and this will allow us to do that. I think it'll also have a really broad impact on our industry, because it'll make it faster and cheaper to develop new products."

This year is devoted to planning and design. Construction will likely begin summer 2022 and take about a year.

The facility will be in OSU's Withycombe Hall, which originally housed a dairy in 1952.

Robin Frojen, OSU's current creamery manager, said she's excited to restore the building "back to its creamery glory."

More than a dozen outside groups invested in the renovation. The three lead outside donors were Tillamook County Creamery Association, Northwest Farm Credit Services and the Oregon Dairy Nutrition Council.

Alan Sams, dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences, said about \$3 million comes from private donations, \$3 million from state bonds and the remainder from university funds. Additional fundraising is underway.

See OSU dairy / A12



Oregon State University via Capital Press

Oregon State University students make cheese in this photo supplied by the university. The upcoming \$20 million facility will provide opportunities for students, Oregon's dairy industry and the broader community.



Skiers enjoy opening day of the ski season in Aspen, Colorado, in November. Skier visits to U.S. resorts totaled 59 million this winter season, the fifth best on record, according to the Colorado-based National Ski Areas Association. A visit is considered the use of a lift ticket for any part of the day. Kelsey Brunner/The Aspen Times via AP file

BY THOMAS PEIPERT

Associated Press

ENVER — Ski areas across the
United States experienced a strong
rebound this winter despite public health restrictions put in place
amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Skier visits to U.S. resorts totaled 59 million for the season, the fifth best on record, according to the Colorado-based National Ski Areas Association.

"What a year it has been," said Kelly Pawlak, association president and CEO. "From utter uncertainty to a top-10 season in terms of participation, it shows the wide spectrum that our industry bridged this year." The Pacific Northwest region, comprised of Oregon and Washington, experienced a record season for skier visits, the association said, and the Rocky Mountain region had its second best.

Resorts across the country were forced to close in spring 2020, and many mountain communities were disproportionately affected by COVID-19 early in the pandemic.

The U.S. ski industry lost at least \$2 billion that winter, and skier visits fell 14% compared with the 2018-2019 season. U.S. ski areas tallied about 51.1 million visits in the shortened season. A visit is considered the use of a lift ticket for any part of the day.

use of a lift ticket for any part of the day. But about seven months later, chairlifts started turning again, and guests embraced a

new normal while skiing and snowboarding. They wore masks, rode lifts only with their groups, and stood 6 feet apart in lines, or about the length of a typical ski. There was no dine-in service and no large gatherings for apres-ski drinks.

Vail Resorts, which owns 34 resorts in the United States and Canada, went a step further by requiring reservations.

But even with the restrictions, skiers and snowboarders weren't deterred, and 78% of ski area operators said this season exceeded their expectations, according to a National Ski Areas Association survey.

See Ski/A12

## Throwback handheld video game system Playdate going on sale soon

BY MIKE ROGOWAY

The Oregonian

A highly anticipated video game system from a Portland technology company will be available for preorder next month, more than a year late after pandemic-related delays.

The \$179 Playdate video game system is a handheld gadget with a black-and-white screen, a small controller and a crank on the side. Boutique Portland software developer Panic announced the product two years ago, anticipating a launch early in 2020.

The retro gadget triggered enormous interest in the tech and video game communities, but the Playdate endured a protracted delay amid a shutdown at the Malaysian factory making the device in the early days of the pandemic.

ne pandemic. See **Playdate** / A12



Mike Rogoway/The Oregonian

The Playdate video game system being developed by Portland company Panic. "Of course there's some degree of nostalgia out front," said the company's CEO, Cabel Sasser.

# Curbside glass recycler fined \$1 million for air quality violations

Associated Press

PORTLAND — The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has fined the state's largest glass container recycler over \$1 million for repeated air quality violations.

The agency said last week it had issued a \$1.03 million fine to Owens-Brockway, a subsidiary of glass manufacturing giant O-I Glass Inc., The Oregonian reported. The state said the fine was issued after the company repeatedly failed to adhere to the emissions standards required under its permit.

"O-I is aware of the announcement and is currently reviewing the scope but cannot provide comment on pending regulatory or legal matters," O-I Glass spokesperson Jim Woods told the newspaper in an email.

This is the ninth time that Owens-Brockway has been fined by the state for air quality violations since 2004. While the state could revoke the company's permit for ongoing violations, Oregon depends heavily on Owens-Brockway to be able to recycle glass containers.

Owens-Brockway's Portland plant is the only large glass container manufacturing plant in Oregon, according to Harry Esteve, a spokesperson for the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

anty. See **Recycler** / A12