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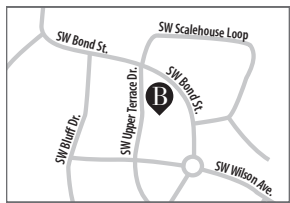
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LOCAL, STATE & REGION

DESCHUTES COUNTY New COVID-19 cases per day

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

COVID-19 data for Tuesday, June 22:

Deschutes County cases: 10,027 (9 new cases)
Deschutes County deaths: 82 (zero new deaths)

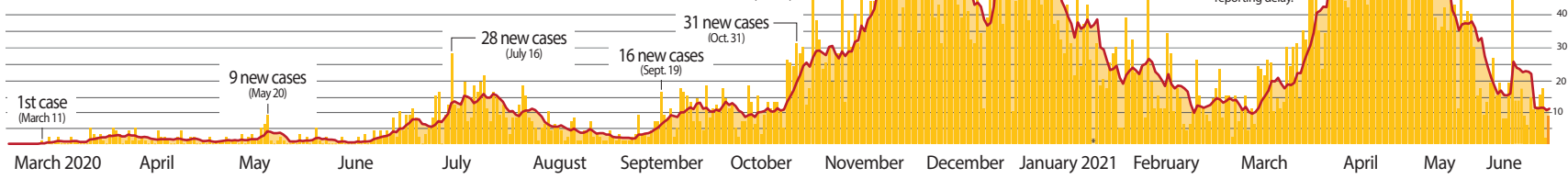
Crook County cases: 1,291 (zero new cases)
Crook County deaths: 23 (zero new deaths)

Jefferson County cases: 2,371 (1 new case)
Jefferson County deaths: 39 (zero new deaths)

Oregon cases: 207,105 (267 new cases)
Oregon deaths: 2,757 (1 new death)

COVID-19 patients hospitalized at St. Charles Bend on Tuesday: 17 (6 in ICU)

Vaccines are available. Find a list of vaccination sites and other information about the COVID-19 vaccines online:
centraloregoncovidvaccine.com
If you have questions, call 541-382-4321.



OREGON'S SIXTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Loretta Smith jumps into race for new seat

BY ZANE SPARLING

Pamplin Media Group

Former Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith is the first to thrust an oar in the water in the race to represent Oregon's unbundled Sixth Congressional District.

Smith, a Democrat, announced her candidacy to the public Tuesday — months ahead of the autumn deadlines for the political process that will actually draw the district onto the map ahead of a ballot in 2022.

In an interview, Smith said ending voter suppression was "the most important thing that we should be doing," while also highlighting the symmetry be-

tween police reforms proposed federally and the policy slate she crafted while running for Portland City Council.

"We need a bigger, larger, more aggressive voice from someone of color who has experience and a track record," she said. "Qualified immunity needs to be taken off the table, ... and police have to be charged like everyone else if they murder people in our community."

After eight years at the county dais, Smith ran unsuccessfully for Portland City Council in a campaign won by Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty in 2018. Smith was bested again by Commissioner Dan Ryan in a nail-biter run-off

election last year.

If elected, she would be the first Black person to represent Oregon on Capitol Hill, and stressed that her legislative priorities would be guided by her experience as a single mother who raised a Black son, Jordan, in Portland, as well as her upbringing in a union family in Michigan and her 2011 health scare involving a brain tumor.

"Had I not had the health care that I did at the county, ... I would have never been able to survive," said Smith, who later drafted a Medicare-For-All proposal. "I thought about all the other people who didn't have the luxury of having that kind of health insurance."

But Smith, 56, also carries baggage from her history in office, including allegations that

she was a bullying boss to certain employees and misused her county credit card, though she later repaid the funds and denied the claims of harassment.

Smith says she has moved on from the issues but tries not to repeat her mistakes.

"I have so much passion in helping the most vulnerable in our community, so sometimes that boils over," she said.

It's still an open question whether Smith will live in the district she hopes to represent.

State lawmakers plan to craft in September the new sixth district map, which was spurred by Oregon's 11% jump in population in the last decade, but if they can't agree, it will go to a special judicial panel that should hammer out

the maps in November, barring no further legal challenges. Candidates have until March to file for office.

But unlike Oregon state lawmakers, there's no district residency requirement for election to the House of Representatives, as the U.S. Constitution only requires living somewhere within the state.

Smith, who lives in northeast Portland, said her two decades of experience working as an aide to current U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden had given her the confidence to jump in the race before anyone else.

"I've been exposed to issues around the state, and if the congressional line is drawn anywhere in Oregon, I know a little bit about it," she said.

Reporter Peter Wong contributed.

Man charged with kidnapping woman

A California man faces felony charges after allegedly kidnapping and sexually assaulting his former girlfriend, a 19-year-old woman from Terrebonne, police said.

Jeffrey D. Waller, 27, of Vallejo, California, was arrested Sunday in Redmond and faces six charges: kidnapping, first-degree rape, first-degree sodomy, coercion, menacing and fourth-degree assault, according to Sgt. Ron Brown in a press release from the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office. He appeared in Deschutes County Circuit Court on Monday.

Detectives determined that Waller and the victim were previously in a relationship. Waller suspected the victim was dating someone new and drove to the victim's residence early in the morning on June 15, Brown said.

"Waller convinced the victim to get in his vehicle by threatening harm to her family members," Brown wrote in the press release. "After Waller drove off with the victim, she quickly noticed Waller had disabled the inside door handle preventing her from getting out of the car."

Waller then allegedly assaulted the victim before driving her to his residence in California, roughly 450 miles south of Terrebonne, Brown said.

After a few days, the victim was able to convince Waller to drive her back home. Waller dropped her off early Sunday morning. The victim called authorities about 2 p.m. Sunday. Detectives were able to determine Waller's location: a hotel in Redmond. He was later contacted and arrested without incident.

"I don't have statistics on how many times kidnapping victims are taken back home," sheriff's Sgt. Jayson Janes wrote in an email. "I don't know (Waller's) criminal history, and I don't believe we release that information."

Park district looks for teen volunteers for summer

The Bend Park & Recreation District has volunteer opportunities for teenagers interested in becoming junior lifeguards, swim instructor aides and youth day camp helpers.

"Volunteering with BPRD programs is a great way for teens to gain some work-related experience and get involved with their community,"

LOCAL & STATE BRIEFING

said Kim Johnson, community engagement supervisor for the park district, in a press release. "Teen volunteers provide fantastic support to recreation programs and serve as great role models for younger participants."

Swim volunteers ages 12 to 15 can become junior lifeguards or swim instructor aides at both Juniper Swim and Fitness Center and Larkspur Community Center.

Camp volunteers 14 and over can become youth day camp helpers at the Art Station and Cougar Camp in Shevlin Park. Volunteers can find details and sign up for opportunities online at <https://register.bendparksandrec.org/>.

Arson a possibility in Warm Springs wildfire

A brushfire that burned 45 acres near the Warm Springs Fish Hatchery Monday night is being investigated as a possible arson.

The fire was reported around 9 p.m. near milepost 12 of Highway 3, which is east of U.S. Highway 26. Firefighters with Warm Springs Fire & Safety and

the Bureau of Indian Affairs were able to quickly contain it, Warm Springs Police Chief Bill Elliott told The Bulletin.

A Warm Springs Police detective and fire investigators are looking into the possibility the fire was started intentionally, and the FBI has been notified, Elliott said.

"I can't say much more other than it's an active investigation," he said.

"The crime of arson in Indian Country is a federal offense, and due to the adverse fire conditions, we will do everything needed to arrest people intentionally starting fires," Elliott wrote in a release Tuesday.

The Lionshead Fire of 2020, which burned 200,000 acres and began on the Warm Springs Reservation, was caused by lightning.

Man who swiped flag, set it on fire, gets probation

A man who took the American flag from outside Gus J. Solomon U.S. Courthouse in Portland and then set it on fire in front of the police bureau's Central Precinct was sentenced Monday to a year of probation.

Jeffrey Richard Singer, 33, had pleaded guilty to theft of government property. The Oregonian/OregonLive reported.

The theft happened Sept. 19, when Singer stole the flag and marched with it in a crowd to the Central Precinct during a nightly protest after the May 25 killing of George Floyd, a Black man who died when a Minneapolis police officer knelt on his neck, according to prosecutors.

U.S. District Judge Anna J. Brown additionally ordered Singer to repay the government \$218.50 in restitution for the destroyed flag.

Singer was indicted in October and charged with theft of government property and civil disorder. Singer is the third defendant sentenced and one of four who have pleaded guilty in federal court in a protest-related prosecution.

Of 99 federal protest-related prosecutions in the past year, 50 have been dismissed. Thirty-two cases are pending with trial dates scheduled. Fourteen others are nearing resolution, according to Kevin Sonoff, a spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's Office.

— Bulletin staff and wire reports

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