

▼ DOW 33,874.24 -71.34	▲ NASDAQ 14,271.73 +18.46	▼ S&P 500 4,241.84 -4.60	▲ 30-YR T-BOND 2.11% +0.1	▲ CRUDE OIL \$73.08 +23	▲ GOLD \$1,782.30 +6.00	▲ SILVER \$26.11 +26	▼ EURO \$1.1929 -0.007
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BRIEFING

Owner of topless bar arrested

The manager and owner of a bar north of Roseburg in Drain with topless dancing are facing misdemeanor charges after deputies say they violated liquor regulations.

Top of the Bowl had been serving alcohol without a liquor license from the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, the Douglas County Sheriff's Office said in a news release on Monday.

The license was surrendered in March after COVID-19 violations and a suspension.

Manager Rik Marin and owner and bartender Jamie Hennricks were arrested early Saturday and told deputies alcohol was being served for tips and donations, but with a suggested amount, according to the news release.

Marin and Hennricks face charges of mixing, storing or serving liquor without a license. It wasn't immediately known if they have lawyers to comment.

Intel's new CEO restructures

New Intel CEO Pat Gelsinger moved Tuesday to put his mark on the company, parting with the head of its vital data center business, promoting other executives and adding a chief technology officer from outside the organization. Gelsinger split Intel's data group in two, dividing the data center business from its networking products. Intel Vice President Sandra Rivera will take over the data operations while Nick McKeown, who joined Intel two years ago through an acquisition, will take over the network platforms business.

Intel also announced two new business units, a software group and one for high-performance computing.

Additionally Tuesday, Intel hired VMware executive Greg Lavender and named him chief technology officer. Gelsinger ran VMware before becoming Intel's CEO last winter, and earlier in his career Gelsinger was the first Intel executive to hold the CTO title.

New home sales drop 5.9%

Sales of new homes fell unexpectedly in May, and the 5.9% retreat was the second consecutive monthly decline even as the median price hit an all-time high.

The May sales decline pushed sales to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 769,000, the Commerce Department reported Wednesday. That followed a 7.8% sales decline in April, a figure that was revised lower from what was initially thought to be a drop of only 5.9%.

The median price of a new home sold in May jumped to \$374,400, up 18.1% from a year ago when the median price stood at \$317,100.

A shortage of homes on the market and rising costs for materials like lumber, and also labor, is fueling the upward momentum.

The surge in lumber prices has started to unwind. That could help slow surging housing costs, but the shortage of homes to buy is still creating a very high bar for potential buyers.

— Bulletin wire reports

POWER STRUGGLE

Competition between agriculture and solar energy facilities is heating up

BY MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI

Capital Press

BONANZA — Nobody is against solar energy — at least, not in theory. Solar power is often cast in a positive light until a specific site is chosen for a facility.

At that point, the proposed development can seem like a dark force to neighbors who fear the unsightly transformation of their familiar landscape.

"What's it going to do to my property values when I'm right next to it?" asked Greg Thomas, whose farm abuts a proposed 2,733-acre solar project near Bonanza in Klamath County.

"All our property values are going to go in the toilet. Nobody wants to live next to a power plant," answered Tonya Pinckney, another neighbor opposed to the facility planned by developer Hecate Energy.

Local hostility

Local hostility to solar facilities isn't just a knee-jerk "not in my backyard" sentiment in Oregon, a



Photos by Mateusz Perkowski/Capital Press

Alyssa Andrew, an Oregon State University graduate student, visits with sheep resting beneath solar panels at a campus facility in Corvallis.

state known for its rigorous protections against converting farmland to other uses.

Opponents of solar facilities are often strongly motivated by concern for the agricultural economy,

which can permanently suffer if irrigated acres such as those within the Bonanza project are developed.

"Why do we have zoning laws?" Pinckney asked. "If it's zoned for ag, how can they just take it out?"



◀ Dave Noble, left, and Greg Thomas look out onto a neighboring field where a 2,700-acre solar facility is proposed near Bonanza in Klamath County. Neighbors oppose the project because it will take irrigated farmland out of production.

House panel targets Big Tech's power

BY MARCY GORDON

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A House panel pushed ahead Wednesday with ambitious legislation that could curb the market power of tech giants Facebook, Google, Amazon and Apple and force them to sever their dominant platforms from their other lines of business.

Conservative Republican lawmakers haggled over legislative language and pushed concerns of perceived anti-conservative bias in online platforms but couldn't halt the bipartisan momentum behind the package.

The drafting session and votes by the House Judiciary Committee are initial steps in what promises to be a strenuous slog through Congress. Many Republican lawmakers denounce the market dominance of Big Tech but don't support a wholesale revamp of the antitrust laws.

The Democratic-majority committee made quick work of arguably the least controversial bills in the package, which were approved over Republican objections. A measure that would increase the budget of the Federal Trade Commission drew Republican conservatives' ire as an avenue toward amplified power for the agency.

See **Big Tech** / A12



Bing Guan/Bloomberg

Customers are seated at a table at a restaurant in San Diego in April.

Restaurants boost menu prices to recoup costs

BY OLIVIA ROCKEMAN, LESLIE PATTON AND MICHAEL SASSO

Bloomberg

U.S. restaurants, faced with higher food and labor costs, are raising menu prices at a much faster pace than historical rates, insistent on preserving profits after an arduous year.

From local restaurants to national chains like Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc., owners have boosted prices by as much as 5% in the past few weeks alone. Even at fast-food companies that were locked in price wars just a couple of years ago to win over cost-conscious consumers, increases aren't taboo anymore.

"We are going to be paying higher prices in restaurants," said David Henkes, senior principal at industry researcher Technomic. "Part of the calculus right now is there's probably some appetite of consumers to pay whatever because they haven't been out for a while."

Across the nation, prices for food away from home rose 4% in May from a year earlier, the biggest jump since May 2009. It's one example of a surge in overall inflation that's left policy makers at the Federal Reserve debating how long the cost pressures will last as the economy bounces back from the pandemic.

See **Restaurants** / A12

Federal jury awards \$2.4M to fired sales manager

Former AstraZeneca employee alleged retaliation

BY MAXINE BERNSTEIN

The Oregonian

A federal jury in Portland on Tuesday awarded \$2.4 million in damages to a woman who said she was fired from AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals for complaining about alleged misleading marketing tactics.

Suzanne Ivie had worked at AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals for 19 years, most recently in Salt Lake City as an executive district sales manager within its respiratory products division. Her district covered Eastern Oregon, Idaho and Utah. She was fired on June 6, 2019, from her job, where she made \$223,000 per year.

AstraZeneca is a global, biopharmaceutical business headquartered in Cambridge, England, and is one of the manufacturers of a COVID-19 vaccine.

The jury awarded damages after finding the company violated the Oregon whistleblower protection law, finding Ivie was fired after she made a "good faith report" of alleged company misconduct.

See **AstraZeneca** / A12