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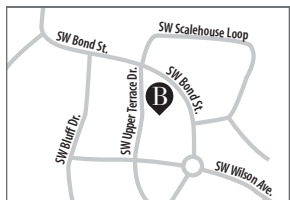
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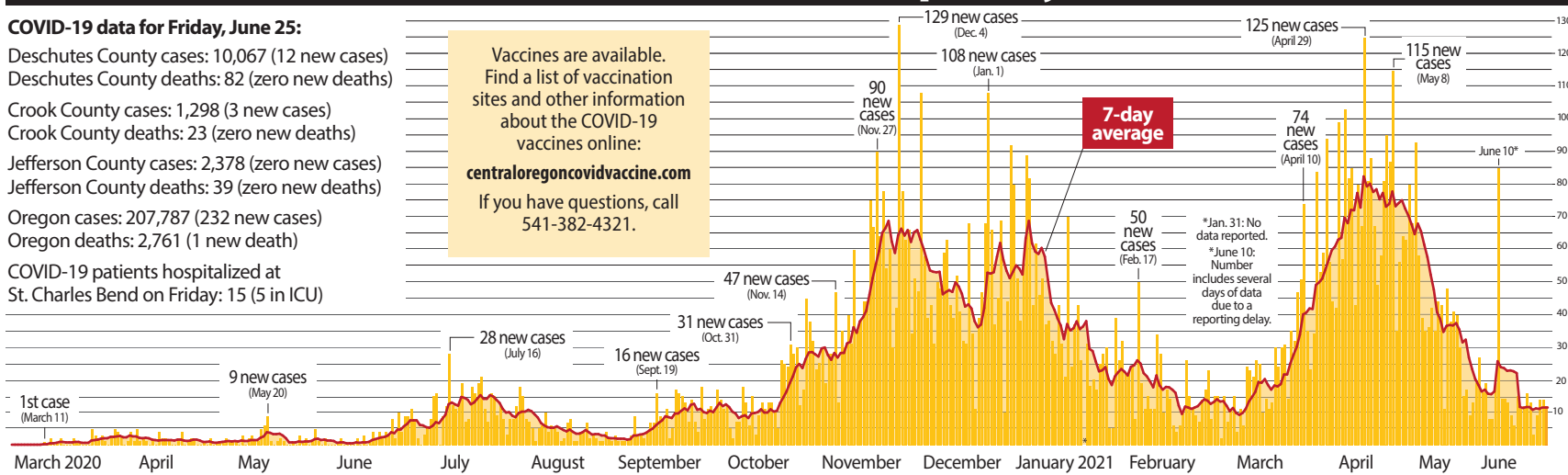
LOCAL, STATE & REGION

DESCHUTES COUNTY New COVID-19 cases per day

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

COVID-19 data for Friday, June 25:
Deschutes County cases: 10,067 (12 new cases)
Deschutes County deaths: 82 (zero new deaths)
Crook County cases: 1,298 (3 new cases)
Crook County deaths: 23 (zero new deaths)
Jefferson County cases: 2,378 (zero new cases)
Jefferson County deaths: 39 (zero new deaths)
Oregon cases: 207,787 (232 new cases)
Oregon deaths: 2,761 (1 new death)
COVID-19 patients hospitalized at St. Charles Bend on Friday: 15 (5 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.



Election-Day postmarked ballots will count

BY PETER WONG

Oregon Capital Bureau
Oregon, the first state to conduct all elections by mail, would join the ranks of states accepting ballots postmarked by Election Day under a bill that is headed to Gov. Kate Brown.
House Bill 3291 was approved by the Oregon Senate without amendment on a 16-13 vote Thursday. The key vote was cast by Sen. Lee Beyer, D-Springfield, who hung back until it was clear his would be the deciding vote.
Beyer said afterward his concern was that in close elections, voters might question the validity of mail ballots counted days after the election

date itself. The bill requires ballots to be received by county elections officials no later than seven days after an election.
Brown, in her state of the state remarks earlier this year, endorsed Election-Day postmarks. She is a former secretary of state.
Seventeen other states — including California, Washington and Nevada — allow ballots to count if postmarked by Election Day. Four others count ballots if postmarked no later than the day before an election. States that allow Election-Day postmarks vary widely, from three to 20 days after an election.
The bill would take effect starting with the 2022 elec-

“This is a common-sense measure that helps decrease voter confusion, continues to safeguard our elections and continues our proud tradition in Oregon of vote by mail.”

— Rob Wagner, Senate majority leader

Johnson of Scappoose joined the 11 Senate Republicans and the Senate's lone independent to oppose it. One Democrat was excused.
Senate Majority Leader Rob Wagner said the change makes sense.
“I think it is a sad commentary on our civic life when efforts like this that make it potentially easier for people to participate in our democracy somehow become a partisan issue,” Wagner, a Democrat from Lake Oswego, said.
“This is a common-sense measure that helps decrease voter confusion, continues to safeguard our elections and continues our proud tradition in Oregon of vote by mail!”

Republicans said they did not object to Election-Day postmarks, but sought other changes, such as a ban on third-party collection of ballots and disqualification of ballots where postmarks are unclear. The bill says a ballot would count even if the postmark is unclear.
“This is about cleaning up the bill,” Senate Minority Leader Fred Girod of Lyons said. “If the bill is not cleaned up, it’s going to be an invitation to fraud.”
The measure also allows elections officials to start ballot tallies, not just preparation of ballots for tallies election night. Current law bars any release of such information until after 8 p.m. election night.

Warm Springs treaty turns 166

BY EMILY CURETON

Oregon Public Broadcasting
PORTLAND — June 25 marks a milestone.
On June 25, 1855, a treaty paved the way for what would become the state of Oregon, and land ownership as it exists today.
“This was the real story of the West,” Louie Pitt Jr., director of government affairs and planning for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, told Oregon Public Broadcasting.
Throughout history, the United States has signed hundreds of treaties with tribal nations across North America.
The Treaty of 1855 created the Warm Springs Reservation on a small fraction of the tribes’ original 10 million-acre territory. Oregon became a state in 1859, in part, by using that land.
“You watch on TV, the wild West, where you’ve got the black hat guys and the white hat guys having a showdown at high noon. ... No. The story of the West is very boring. It’s land.



A group of wild horses, with Mount Hood in the background, roam on the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs reservation in 2009. Bulletin file

And the cutting up of land. The owners of 10 million acres here were the Warm Springs and Wasco tribes,” Pitt said.
In 1855, tribal leaders moved to the reservation, while retaining rights to fish, hunt and gather plants at their

“usual and accustomed stations.” Pitt said that 166 years later, the provision remains an important legal tool to protect a way of life, and natural resources.
“Some species of salmon are at the lowest point they’ve ever

been. Development all around us has taken up the root areas, the berry areas. ... Recreation is always something that really adversely affects our right to get to places,” he said.
On the anniversary of the 1855 treaty, Pitt said, remem-

bering the tribes’ history in the now state of Oregon is essential.
“Don’t forget. We gave them 10 million acres, 13 different counties, one sixth of Oregon,” Pitt said. “Isn’t that worth something?”

LOCAL BRIEFING

Wildfire near Warm Springs contained

A wildfire burning on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation near the old sawmill grew in size Thursday evening before being contained by fire crews.
Danny Martinez, the tribe’s emergency manager, said the fire “jumped” the Deschutes River and was burning on the hillside behind Rainbow Market, west of U.S. Highway 26. Martinez estimated the fire topped out around 90 acres.
Fire crews from Warm Springs, Jefferson

County, and the Bureau of Land Management were on hand to help extinguish the blaze, said Martinez, and mop-up operations were being conducted Friday morning.
The fire started behind the sawmill in debris and sawdust, which flared up in the warm weather. Martinez said the retired industrial area has experienced spontaneous combustion during hot spells. The fire forced a temporary closure of Highway 26 in both directions while crews worked to extinguish the blaze.
— Bulletin staff report

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