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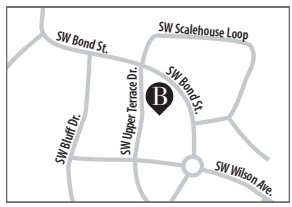
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LOCAL, STATE & REGION

DESCHUTES COUNTY New COVID-19 cases per day

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

COVID-19 data for Thursday, July 1:

Deschutes County cases: 10,112 (12 new cases)
Deschutes County deaths: 82 (zero new deaths)

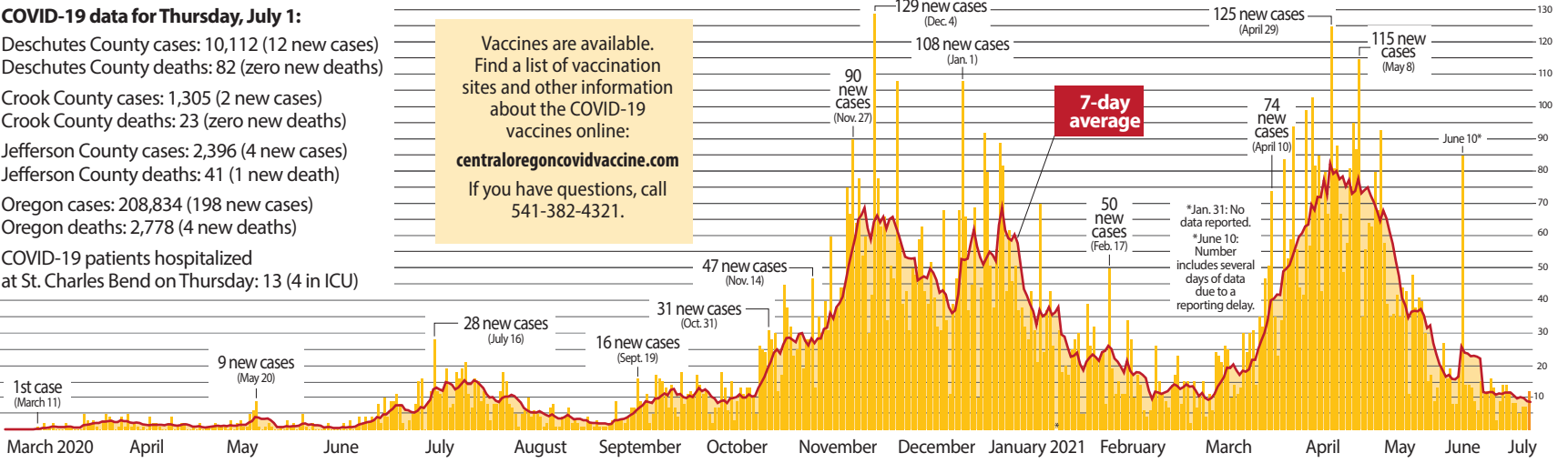
Crook County cases: 1,305 (2 new cases)
Crook County deaths: 23 (zero new deaths)

Jefferson County cases: 2,396 (4 new cases)
Jefferson County deaths: 41 (1 new death)

Oregon cases: 208,834 (198 new cases)
Oregon deaths: 2,778 (4 new deaths)

COVID-19 patients hospitalized at St. Charles Bend on Thursday: 13 (4 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.



Bend vet's plan to rename Highway 30 hits a detour

BY KEVIN HARDEN

Oregon Capital Bureau
Efforts by Bend's Dick Tobiason to rename U.S. Highway 30 for Oregon military veterans hit a speed bump in the just-completed 2021 legislative session.

Members of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Management tabled Senate Bill 790, a bill proposed on Tobiason's behalf to rename the road from Astoria to the Idaho border

The Oregon Veterans Memorial Highway. The committee asked Oregon's Department of Transportation to clarify that the proposed name would not conflict with other highways honoring veterans.

Tobiason's legislation could be reintroduced in the short 2022 legislative session, which begins Feb. 1. This was the first time in a dozen years of legislative efforts to rename Oregon highways for veterans that Tobiason had been turned away by lawmakers.

"The Legislature bungled it," Tobiason said. "Now I have the job of telling veterans that they won't get it this session, but it will probably come up next session."

Never lost a vote

Tobiason is a retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel who founded the one-man non-profit Bend Heroes Foundation. He asked state Sen. Tim Knopp, a Bend Republican, to introduce SB 790 to rename one of the national highways that extends from Oregon to the East Coast. Oregon's 477-mile section of the highway has so far not been named to honor any veterans. SB 790 The bill stalled in the House

Committee on Veterans and Emergency Management. That committee tabled SB 790 in favor of House Bill 2700, which expanded the state's 2011 roadside memorial sign rules for veterans killed in action to include those who were formerly designated as unaccounted for or prisoners of war.

At the same time, the committee asked ODOT to make sure Tobiason's proposed name for Highway 30 would not conflict with any of the dozen names on other Oregon highways honoring veterans from several wars and conflicts. Possible conflicts could include the long stretch from Portland to the Idaho border where Highway 30 overlaps with Interstate 84. The inter-

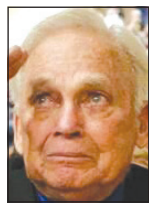
state is already designated the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway. It also is part of six major roads designed Blue Star Memorial Highways. Two decades ago, Portland's Interstate 205 was designated the Veterans Memorial Highway.

Long stretch of highway

U.S. Highway 30 extends 3,073 miles to Atlantic City, New Jersey. It is the only major highway in Oregon not designated to honor veterans. It crosses 11 states and is the nation's third longest coast-to-coast highway.

Oregon's section of the highway that winds along the Columbia River from the Astoria-Megler Bridge through Scappoose and Portland before heading east as part of Interstate 84, is the beginning of Tobiason's plans for the road. He's working with veterans groups and lawmakers in other states to get the same designation.

Tobiason's Bend Heroes Foundation has also asked Congress to designate the 3,365-mile U.S. Highway 20, which begins at Newport on the Oregon Coast and heads east to Boston, the National Medal of Honor Highway. Oregon's section of Highway 20 is already known as the Medal of Honor Highway.



Tobiason

LOCAL BRIEFING

Massage parlor owner arrested for sex abuse

A Bend man was arrested Wednesday night following an accusation he sexually abused a female customer at the spa he owns, where he allegedly gave illegal massages, according to the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies arrested Michael Patrick Boyle, 60, on suspicion

of third-degree sex abuse and harassment. He was also arrested on suspicion of three counts of performing massages without a valid state license, according to the sheriff's office.

Boyle owns Hop in the Spa on W. Cascade Avenue in Sisters. Calls to Boyle and Hop in



Boyle

the Spa were not returned Thursday. Boyle has yet to be charged in circuit court, and no future court dates are listed in the state criminal justice database.

The sheriff's office asks anyone with information about Hop in the Spa to call deputy Michael Hudson at 541-693-6911 in reference to case 21-30013.

—Bulletin staff report

WILDFIRE BRIEFING

Regional firefighters respond to 21 new starts

Firefighters in Central Oregon responded to 21 new fires that erupted Wednesday amid hot weather and hundreds of lightning strikes.

Kassidy Kern, a spokesperson for the U.S. Forest Service, said firefighters were responding to multiple starts, most of them ranging in size from 1 to 15 acres.

One of the fires was burning near the town of Mitchell. The Wheeler County Sheriff's Office issued some evacuations for that fire, said Kern. The other fires were located in remote, uninhabited areas.

The largest of the new fires is the Wrentham Market Fire estimated at 10,000 acres east of Duffur in Wasco County, according to a release from Central Oregon Fire Info. The fire is mostly burning through wheat and brush and Wednesday was moving toward the Lower Deschutes River.

Closer to Bend, the Rattlesnake Fire burned around 100 acres on the Warm Springs Reservation before jumping the Deschutes River where it grew to an estimated 4,700 acres.

Other fires include the Ryegrass Fire and Incident 460. Ryegrass is located on 1,000 acres east of the Maury Mountains and south of the Paulina Highway. Incident 460, near Pringle Falls Campground northwest of La Pine on the Deschutes National Forest, was contained at half an acre.

Roughly 23 new fires in Northeast Oregon

Passing thunderstorms Wednesday ignited a flurry of new fires in Northeast Oregon.

Approximately 23 fires have been confirmed out of more than 40 incidents reported as of 11 a.m. July 1 to the Blue Mountain and John Day interagency dispatch centers, according to a press release.

Initial attack resources have been busy responding to these incidents with support from aerial resources.

Of the new fires, the largest is the Lewis Rock fire 4½ miles south of Mitchell at 75 acres. Other new fires were reported about 12 miles east of Prairie City, 20 miles east of Seneca, 7½ miles south of Lonerock, about 11 miles north of Spray, 5 miles south of Ukiah, 10 miles north of Ukiah, 19 miles southeast of Ukiah and 18 miles northeast of Prairie City. Most were less than an acre.

The largest fire remains the Lovlett Corral fire 10.8 miles northwest of Monument, which was reported Tuesday. Burning in grass and timber, the fire is 100% lined, and the cause of the fire is under investigation. The High Desert Interagency Type 3 Incident Management Team took command of the fire at 6 a.m. Thursday. Fire behavior is creeping and smoldering with larger fuels burning in the interior. Current resources assigned include 13 engines, six crews, two dozers, six water tenders and one helicopter.

—Bulletin staff and wire reports

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