

The Bulletin

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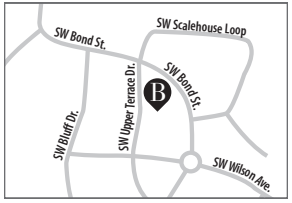
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LOCAL, STATE & REGION

COVID-19 data for Thursday, July 22

Deschutes County cases: 10,335 (28 new cases)
Deschutes County deaths: 87 (zero new deaths)
Crook County cases: 1,366 (3 new cases)
Crook County deaths: 24 (zero new deaths)

Jefferson County cases: 2,446 (6 new cases)
Jefferson County deaths: 42 (zero new deaths)
Oregon cases: 214,263 (539 new cases)
Oregon deaths: 2,834 (1 new death)
COVID-19 patients hospitalized at St. Charles Bend on Thursday: 14 (3 in ICU)

The Bulletin had been tracking the seven-day average case count based on state data since local coronavirus cases were first reported in March of last year. Starting with the July Fourth weekend, the state stopped providing county-level data for weekends or holidays. When data is available, The Bulletin will continue to publish information about the pandemic.

PORTLAND

\$600K OK'd to settle cop's fatal shooting

The Associated Press
The City Council in Portland on Wednesday approved a \$600,000 payment to the family of a 24-year-old shot and killed by police after a foot chase that outside consultants later criticized as a police policy violation.

The payment settles a federal wrongful death lawsuit filed by Terrell Johnson's mother, Alicia Johnson, who said her son was undergoing a mental health crisis when he was killed and had previously been suffering from mental health issues, The Oregonian reported.

He had sought help from medical professionals but received none, the lawsuit said. A Multnomah County grand jury found that Officer Samson Ajir acted lawfully. Two years after the 2017 shooting, an outside consultant highlighted the confrontation

as an example of the Portland Police Review Board's failure to hold officers accountable for policy violations that contribute to deadly encounters. Jeremiah Johnson, Terrell Johnson's uncle, told the City Council that the killing of his nephew has had a "ripple ef-

fect," particularly when the officer was promoted while facing no discipline. Ajir resigned from the Police Bureau on Jan. 3, according to state records, and works as a police officer for the Boise, Idaho, Police Department, according to the Johnson's family lawyer.

Representative from Roseburg dies

BY CARISA CEGAVSKE

The News-Review
State Rep. Gary Leif, R-Roseburg, has died.

Leif served portions of Douglas, Jackson and Josephine counties and was previously a Douglas County commissioner.

A reliable source close to Leif told the Roseburg News-Review his death came at the end of a battle with cancer, but he was very private about it because he wanted to get through this year's legislative session.

Leif was raised in Douglas County and owned a popular photography studio in Roseburg for more than 40 years. He took portraits of many local schoolchildren over the years.

Leif was elected in 2016 to a County Commission seat. In 2018, he left that post to take

a seat in the state Legislature. There, he filled a seat that had been held by Dallas Heard, who is now a senator.

Leif had just completed the 2021 legislative session, during which he helped ensure money for a navigation center to be built in Roseburg.

"I am deeply saddened by the unexpected loss of our friend and colleague Gary Leif," House Republican Leader Christine Drazan said in a statement. "Gary's sense of humor, his commitment to bipartisanship and his love of family and community marked his service in the Oregon Legislature. I am grateful for my time working directly with Gary. His energy and enthusiasm accomplished great work for his district, and he will be sorely missed."



Leif

LOCAL BRIEFING

Bend-La Pine School Board to host listening sessions

The Bend-La Pine School Board announced Thursday it will begin hosting community listening sessions.

The first session is scheduled for July 29 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Silver Rail Elementary School gymnasium in Bend.

Melissa Barnes Dholakia, the chairwoman of the school board, and Marcus LeGrand, the board's vice chair, will host the sessions to give people the chance to connect with the board outside of a regular board meeting.

"July 13 marked our return to in-person board meetings, following more than a year of virtual engagement," Barnes Dholakia said in a statement.

"The volume of interest by our stakeholders to share their thoughts, concerns, and kudos — in person — is remarkable. It is our hope that this listening session, which includes a large venue, evening start and opportunity for conversation, will be convenient for potential participants and provide an environment for us to learn more from our parents, staff, students and community members."

More than 100 residents showed up to the July 13 board meeting, most expressing frustration with mask-wearing guidelines at schools.

For more information and to sign up to speak, visit the board's webpage or call 541-355-1017.

Man charged for allegedly shooting neighbor's dog

A Redmond man has been charged with felony animal abuse for allegedly shooting his neighbor's dog with a shotgun because it was on his property.

Vernon Ethial Poppe, 76, was cited at his home in April by a Deschutes County Sheriff's Office deputy and later charged by an indictment.

The state alleges that on April 21, Poppe shot a dog owned by his neighbor, Anthony Lindelli, an 11-year-old lab named Layla. Poppe had allegedly warned neighbors he would shoot dogs on his property, though prosecutors say Layla wasn't chasing anything at the time she was shot.

Layla's injuries to her back legs, tail, and ear were serious and she has been having a difficult recovery, Deschutes County District Attorney John Hummel told The Bulletin.

In Oregon, it's legal to shoot a dog if it injures a person's livestock, though not for merely chasing livestock. It's also legal for a person to shoot a dog if the person reasonably believes the dog is about to attack someone.

Poppe was arraigned Thursday morning in Deschutes County Circuit Court on one count of first-degree animal abuse and one of first-degree criminal mischief.

He's next due in court Aug. 28, when he's scheduled to enter a plea.

A message left with him was not returned. — Bulletin staff reports

Patient at mental hospital assaults Guard member

BY RACHEL ALEXANDER

Salem Reporter

A National Guard member required medical care after being punched in the head repeatedly by an Oregon State Hospital patient while working on July 11.

It's the first assault by a patient on a National Guard member the hospital has recorded since 30 National Guard members began working on June 24 to help stem a staffing shortage, hospital spokeswoman Rebeka Gipson-King said.

An incident report the hospital provided to Salem Reporter said the guard member was doing rounds around 10 p.m. near the doors to the Butterfly unit, which houses geriatric patients.

The report said it was the

patient's seventh assault in six days. The patient was pulled off and escorted to a seclusion room.

Gipson-King said the National Guard member was seen by a doctor and his injuries were recorded as "major soreness, cuts or large bruises." He was not admitted to the hospital and was back at work the next day, she said. His injuries were classified as moderate in the hospital's system, which records assaults as mild, moderate or severe.

She said the patient's treatment team is putting together a safety plan to address the repeated assaults.

"Every time we have a patient who is acting in an aggressive manner on a regular basis we will put a treatment plan in place," she said.

Oregon Appeals Court rules garbage pits can't be burglarized

BY JACK FORREST

The Oregonian

The Oregon Court of Appeals last month reversed the conviction of a Coos Bay man convicted of burglary for stealing from a garbage pit, ruling that such pits can't be burglarized under state law because they're not buildings.

John Sjogren, 41, will have his conviction lowered from second-degree burglary, a felony, to second-degree criminal trespassing, a misdemeanor. He served 18 months on probation and was lodged in jail for 10 days after his initial conviction.

Sjogren entered a garbage pit at the Beaver Hill Disposal Site in Coos Bay in July 2019 and took refuse worth \$100 or less, according to

court documents. The Coos County District Attorney's Office brought charges of burglary and theft, contending the pit was a "building" under the state burglary statute, the documents show.

Sjogren was convicted of burglary, though not of theft, by a jury in an 11-1 decision. He appealed the conviction, arguing the court didn't appropriately consider his defense that the pit didn't qualify as a building.

The Oregon Court of Appeals agreed. The Coos Bay pit is 15 to 20 feet deep and covered with a sheet metal roof that's supported by several pillars. It does not meet the definition of a building, according to the court's decision.

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