

The Bulletin

How to reach us

CIRCULATION
Didn't receive your paper?
Start or stop subscription?
541-385-5800

PHONE HOURS
8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday
7 a.m.-11 a.m. Saturday-Sunday
and holidays

GENERAL INFORMATION
541-382-1811
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

ONLINE
www.bendbulletin.com

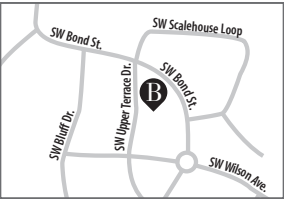
EMAIL
bulletin@bendbulletin.com

AFTER HOURS
Newsroom.....541-383-0348
Circulation.....541-385-5800

NEWSROOM EMAIL
Business.....business@bendbulletin.com
City Desk.....news@bendbulletin.com
Features.....communitylife@bendbulletin.com
Sports.....sports@bendbulletin.com

NEWSROOM FAX
541-385-5804

OUR ADDRESS
Street.....320 SW Upper Terrace Drive
Suite 200
Bend, OR 97702
Mailing.....P.O. Box 6020
Bend, OR 97708



ADMINISTRATION
Publisher
Heidi Wright.....541-383-0341
Editor
Gerry O'Brien.....541-633-2166

DEPARTMENT HEADS
Advertising
Brian Naplachowski.....541-383-0370
Circulation/Operations
Jeremy Feldman.....541-617-7830
Finance
Anthony Georger.....541-383-0324
Human Resources.....541-383-0340

TALK TO AN EDITOR
City Julie Johnson.....541-383-0367
Business, Features, GO! Magazine
Jody Lawrence-Turner.....541-383-0308
Editorials Richard Coe.....541-383-0353
News Tim Doran.....541-383-0360
Photos.....541-383-0366
Sports Mark Morical.....541-383-0318

TALK TO A REPORTER
Bend/Deschutes Government
Brenna Visser.....541-633-2160
Business
Suzanne Roig.....541-633-2117
Calendar.....541-383-0304
Education
Bryce Dole.....541-617-7854
Fine Arts/Features
David Jasper.....541-383-0349
Health
Suzanne Roig.....541-633-2117
La Pine.....541-383-0367
Public Lands/Environment
Michael Kohn.....541-617-7818
Public Safety
Garrett Andrews.....541-383-0325
Redmond.....541-383-0367
Salem/State Government.....541-383-0367
Sisters.....541-383-0367
Sunriver.....541-383-0367

REDMOND BUREAU
Mailing address.....P.O. Box 6020
Bend, OR 97708
Phone.....541-617-7829

CORRECTIONS
The Bulletin's primary concern is that all stories are accurate. If you know of an error in a story, call us at 541-383-0367.

TO SUBSCRIBE
Call us.....541-385-5800
• Home delivery and E-Edition.....\$7 per week
• By mail.....\$9.50 per week
• E-Edition only.....\$4.50 per week

To sign up for our e-Editions, visit
www.bendbulletin.com to register.

TO PLACE AN AD
Classified.....541-385-5809
Advertising fax.....541-385-5802
Other information.....541-382-1811

OBITUARIES
No death notices or obituaries are published Mondays. When submitting, please include your name, address and contact number. Call to ask about deadlines, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Phone.....541-385-5809
Fax.....541-598-3150
Email.....obits@bendbulletin.com

OTHER SERVICES
Back issues.....541-385-5800
Photo reprints.....541-383-0366
Apply for a job.....541-383-0340

All Bulletin payments are accepted at the drop box at City Hall or at The Bulletin, P.O. Box 6020, Bend, OR 97708. Check payments may be converted to an electronic funds transfer. The Bulletin, USPS #552-520, is published daily by Central Oregon Media Group, 320 SW Upper Terrace Drive, Bend, OR 97702. Periodicals postage paid at Bend, OR. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Bulletin circulation department, P.O. Box 6020, Bend, OR 97708. The Bulletin retains ownership and copyright protection of all staff-prepared news copy, advertising copy and news or ad illustrations. They may not be reproduced without explicit prior approval.

LOCAL, STATE & REGION

COVID-19 data for Jan. 7

Deschutes County cases: 29,044 (940 new cases)
Deschutes County deaths: 221 (6 new deaths)
Crook County cases: 3,843 (35 new cases)
Crook County deaths: 60 (zero new deaths)

Jefferson County cases: 4,727 (63 new cases)
Jefferson County deaths: 69 (6 new deaths)
Oregon cases: 459,700 (10,451 new cases)
Oregon deaths: 5,761 (33 new deaths)
COVID-19 patients hospitalized at St. Charles Bend on Friday: 36 (3 in ICU).

The Bulletin had been tracking the seven-day average case count based on state data since local cases were first reported, until 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 METRO | COLUMBIA RIVER

Planning funds for bridge OK'd

JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN
The Oregonian

The Portland-area Metro Council voted Thursday to funnel \$36 million of state money toward the planning of a new Interstate Bridge over the Columbia River.

Five of the six councilors for the regional governing body voted in favor of releasing funds that will allow the project to move forward, reviving efforts to build a new Interstate 5 bridge following the 2014 failure of the Columbia River Crossing project.

Even as project managers characterized the vote as a formality, several councilors expressed hesitation about allowing the project to move forward without more information about the capacity of the proposed bridge or what they characterized as adequate attention to climate and equity issues.

Nonetheless, the elected council members said they felt the pressure to approve the funds in order to conduct more research on the proposed bridge, and to focus on other regional transportation projects.

The council also voted to adopt a “Values, Outcomes and Actions” motion, which lays out specific goals that the Interstate Bridge Replace-



The Glenn L. Jackson Memorial Bridge on Interstate 205 crosses the Columbia River.

ment Project must follow to win Metro’s support for future funding and approvals. That document was shaped in part by demands from climate activists and land use planning groups.

They include that the Interstate Bridge project team must conduct an analysis of how to reduce the number of vehicle

miles traveled through measures like rush-hour tolling and high-capacity transit.

And it must also conduct a health impact analysis of air quality of the corridor between downtown Portland and Vancouver.

It must also conduct an “investment-grade” traffic analysis ahead of any decisions about

the bridge design, which would allow for a clearer sense of how big the bridge should be.

Mary Nolan, the only councilor to vote against allocating the \$36 million, asked Johnson directly if he would commit to conducting studies and looking at alternatives that meet the council’s expectations.

Johnson initially hesitated to

make the commitment.

“We are once again trying to find what is the best solution to create a multi-modal corridor to convert single occupancy trips into transit, bike, walk and roller trips,” he said. “Those are the things we are looking at to make this footprint as small as possible. But if you’re asking us to go out and build something that is going to fail, that is not a success story for anyone trying to build any project.”

Nolan took issue with that characterization.

“I’m not even asking you to do a less significant project,” Nolan said. “I’m asking you to commit to including modifications that dramatically switch the modal split, reduce greenhouse gases. I’m asking whether, essentially, everything we’ve done today has struck a chord with you.”

A few speakers also supported funding the project, including a coalition of more than 20 Portland-area business associations, chambers of commerce and land development companies such as the Portland Business Alliance, the Greater Vancouver and Washington County chambers of commerce and Travel Portland.

COVID-19 relief

Man who defrauded programs gets 4 years in prison

Andrew Aaron Lloyd bought Tesla stock, rental properties valued at a combined \$18M

BY ZANE SPARLING
The Oregonian

An Oregon man who created several hundred employees out of thin air and then fraudulently obtained \$3.4 million in COVID-19 relief funds has been sentenced to four years in prison.

Andrew Aaron Lloyd invested his ill-gotten gains and won big — eventually purchasing more than 15,000 shares of Tesla stock and 25 rental properties in Oregon and California, valued at a combined \$18 million.

Lloyd, a 51-year-old Lebanon resident, has been ordered to pay \$4 million in restitution, give up the real estate assets and forfeit his stock in the electric car manufacturer.

His sentencing marks Oregon’s larg-

est closed case of COVID-19 relief fraud, according to a U.S. Attorney’s Office spokesperson. West Linn dentist Salwan W. Adjaj was charged with bilking nearly \$8 million in December, per court records, and remains in custody on a pretrial release violation.

In a sentencing memo calling for a harsher 65-month sentence, federal prosecutors called Lloyd an “opportunistic fraudster” who got lucky as a day trader.

“The seriousness of the offense is not diminished by sheer dumb luck,” Assistant U.S. Attorney Gavin W. Bruce wrote. “Lloyd did not return these funds voluntarily; law enforcement recovered the funds before he could spend them or lose them.”

Court records show Lloyd transferred a \$1.8 million slice of his Paycheck Protection Program funds to a brokerage account, which grew to \$13 million as Tesla stock soared. Lloyd also obtained a fraudulent \$160,000 Economic Injury Disaster loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Over 60 days, Lloyd submitted more than a dozen phony applications for home care, shopping and construction businesses, often duplicating the same list of 56 “fictitious” employees while claiming millions of dollars in phony payroll expenses, court documents say.

He closely tracked the various rounds of Paycheck Protection Program funding, at one point assuring an accomplice that the ruse would work because Con-

gress would add “another [\$]300 billion very soon,” the documents say.

Lloyd was indicted last January and pleaded guilty in June to charges of bank fraud, money laundering and wire fraud. He was sentenced this week.

His accomplice, Russell Anthony Schort, submitted another fake application crafted by Lloyd in exchange for a \$295,000 cut of the proceeds, according to prosecutors.

But Schort, 39, of Myrtle Creek, was “not the mastermind” of the plot, prosecutors said. He served 14 days in prison and was sentenced in November to time served, as well as restitution of the cash and three years of probation. Schort and Lloyd are among the 10 total people who have faced federal charges for perpetrating or participating in COVID-relief fraud schemes, according to the U.S. Attorney’s Office spokesperson.

Shortages caused by surge shut down 3 Portland schools

COURTNEY VAUGHN
Pamplin Media Group

At least three Portland schools announced closures Friday due to staffing shortages and student absences as another surge of COVID-19 infections took hold.

On Thursday, Parkrose School District announced Prescott Elementary would close Friday, citing “excessive staff and student absences and

not enough substitutes available.”

In a Jan. 3 message to families from Parkrose Superintendent Michael Lopes Serrao, Serrao warned of likely staffing shortages due to illness and absences.

“Due to the rapid rate of infections, we anticipate that Parkrose staffing and support will be impacted,” Serrao stated, noting an uptick in student

cases during the weeks prior.

“However, in an emergency situation where we cannot safely provide service to students, we may have to announce an emergency closure due to the spread of the virus. We will only do this as a last resort, but please be prepared this winter for announcements regarding the status of COVID-19 in our community.”

Hours after that announce-

ment, Portland Public Schools announced Leodis V. McDaniel and Cleveland high schools would also close Friday and temporarily transition to distance learning starting Monday until at least Friday.

Portland schools cited “a significant increase in the number of COVID-related absences for

both students and staff.”

“After closely monitoring the data over the past few days, the district is seeing a significant increase in the number of COVID-related absences for both students and staff,” Margaret Calvert, regional superintendent of secondary schools, said in an announcement Thursday.



WHISPERING WINDS
Distinctive Retirement Lifestyles

CHECK OUT OUR COTTAGES!

All the Amenities & Conveniences of Home & So Much More.

541-312-9690
2920 NE Conners Ave.
Bend, OR 97701

Call to See Today!

Comfortable living space to feel at home.



Warm up your Winter!

STOVES
Fireplaces
& Inserts

SAVINGS ON IN-STOCK MODELS!

Great selection of Wood, Gas and Pellet

Emerald
HEARTH, SPA & PATIO

62929 N. Hwy 97
541-383-3011
emeraldpool.com