

Graduation

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Prairie City Superintendent Casey Hallgarth said graduation for Prairie City High School will be at 6 p.m. May 28 on the football field. They will have 14 seniors graduating.

Hallgarth said the plan is to follow whatever guid-

ance they are currently under, and they will have chairs and bleachers for families.

"Prairie City School District would like to thank all the staff for their commitment to the students through the difficult year," Hallgarth said. "They truly had the best interest of the students."

Dayville Superintendent Kathryn Hedrick said graduation is at 2 p.m. June 4 on the

football field. They have five seniors graduating.

She said they will ask that social distancing practices be followed; family units can maintain less distance.

"...With the help of senior advisor Mrs. Sydney Thompson, it has been a difficult year, but our seniors have worked well together to get a new version of Dayville graduation together," Hed-

rick said.

Monument Superintendent Laura Thomas said graduation is at 2 p.m. June 5 outside at the school. Seven seniors will be graduating from Monument High School this year.

"Graduation this year will look similar to last year but with a few expansions from last year," Thomas said. "Graduates and eighth grad-

ers participating in eighth grade promotion will have an allotted number of seats on the grass for their family in front of the gym and the rest of the community is encouraged to park across the street to view the graduation."

Long Creek Office Manager Jennifer Garinger said their graduation ceremony is at 2 p.m. May 22 at the city park. Long Creek High

School has five seniors graduating this year.

"It is nice this year to have more of a normal — still not completely normal because we're not holding it indoors — graduation ceremony when we have many graduates this year," Garinger said. "I'm excited that they can have more of normal graduation with such a large class for Long Creek."

Guns

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Lyons took issue not only with the restrictions but also the process that allowed the House to merge its safe-storage bill with the original Senate version, which dealt with firearms in public places.

"This is an example of how bad this building can get," he said. "We were locked out of the process in this bill."

But like his counterpart in the House, Republican Leader Christine Drazen of Canby, Girod also took issue with the way some gun rights advocates lobbied in opposition to it. The Senate's March 25 vote on the original version prompted threats against some Republican senators, and a recall effort aimed at Girod, because they did not walk out to call a halt to Senate business.

"There is a fringe group out there that is sure not welcome in my office," Girod said. "It is not OK to threaten people's lives, their staff. It's not an appropriate way to lobby."

Three senators from districts east of the Cascades, all Republicans, voted against the bill.

"It clearly infringed on the right to people's self-defense," Sen. Tim Knopp of Bend said after the vote. "I voted to support women and minorities in my district who want the opportunity for self-defense for themselves and their families as the Oregon Constitution allows for."

Sen. Lynn Findley of Vale spoke at length against it.

"This bill is not about gun violence, but about a fear of guns," he said.

Sen. Bill Hansell of Athena did not speak during floor debate but said afterward he agreed with the sentiments expressed by the others.

Key provisions of the revised Senate Bill 554:

- Guns must have trigger or cable locks, be stored in a locked container or in a gun room. An offense is a Class C violation, which carries a maximum fine of \$500, unless someone under age 18 obtains access, in which case it is a Class A violation with a maximum fine of \$2,000. No jail time is imposed for violations.



PMG file photo

The Oregon Senate voted May 5 to accept the House version of a bill that combines requirements for locks and safe storage of firearms with a narrowed ban on concealed-handgun license holders bring firearms into some public places, notably the Capitol and the Portland airport.

- Stolen firearms must be reported to police, generally within 72 hours.

- Initial filing fees for concealed-handgun licenses are increased from \$50 to \$100, and for renewals, from \$50 to \$75.

- The Oregon Capitol and the Portland airport passenger terminal are off-limits to all firearms, including those borne by holders of concealed-handgun licenses, except for law enforcement. (The bill specifies airport terminals with annual passenger counts of 1 million; Eugene and Medford were at those thresholds in 2019 prior to the coronavirus pandemic. Sponsors say that the ban applies only to Portland.)

Violations are considered Class A misdemeanors with maximum punishments of one year in jail and a fine of \$6,250.

- Firearms bans for license holders are optional at the discretion of the governing boards of Oregon's 197 school districts, 17 community colleges, seven state universities and Oregon Health & Science University. Notices must be posted online, and at entrances to buildings and grounds.

- The final version removes optional bans by cities, counties and special districts. Firearms bans already apply to state courts, which often are in buildings maintained by counties.



EOMG file photo

A cable gun lock. A bill headed to Gov. Kate Brown for signature mandates gun storage requirements.

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