

Employers still report trouble filling vacancies

Oregon's private employers reported 58,000 job vacancies at any given time last year.

The majority were identified by businesses as jobs that were difficult to fill.

The results of a survey and findings by the Oregon Employment Department were published in the report, "Oregon's Current Workforce Gaps: Hiring Challenges for Unfilled Job Vacancies."

In a long economic expansion with unemployment rates at or near record lows in Oregon for two years, a lack of applicants posed the greatest challenge to employers. In 2018, nearly one-third of all difficult-to-fill job vacancies had too few applicants, or none at all.

The second most-common reason businesses cited for difficulty filling vacancies was unfavorable working conditions. These included challenges finding workers for part-time, on-call, overnight, or inconsistent work shifts.

Employers faced challenges filling job vacancies across a variety of jobs.

Occupations with the largest number of difficult-to-fill

job vacancies included personal care aides, truck drivers, food preparation workers, roofers, restaurant cooks, and landscaping and groundskeeping workers.

Although difficult-to-fill vacancy totals were smaller, employers reported challenges filling essentially all job vacancies for forest and conservation workers, plumbers, construction supervisors, printing-press operators, and intercity and transit bus drivers.

By industry, health care and social assistance reported the largest number of difficult-to-fill job vacancies.

Construction had the second-largest number of challenging job vacancies, which also represented the highest share of hard-to-fill vacancies by sector.

Construction grew the fastest of any industry in Oregon between early 2016 and 2018.

Businesses reported difficulty filling the majority of job vacancies in every region of the state.

For the full report and more details on recent Oregon job vacancies, visit the "publications" tab on QualityInfo.org.

College news

Abby Mathews of Warrenton recently graduated from Eastern Oregon University with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

The campus in La Grande awarded 740 degrees during the school year. Mathews graduated with cum laude honors, which means she kept a grand-point average of 3.5 or higher.

Charlene Harber of Astoria was named to the spring 2019 dean's list at Palmer College of Chiropractic in San Jose, Calif.

Palmer College of Chiropractic was founded in 1897 by D.D. Palmer, known as the discovery of chiropractic. It is the first and largest college within the chiropractic profession.

Man arrested for tampering with witness

The Columbia Press

A man was arrested on suspicion of domestic violence and tampering with a witness after a woman reported he'd bullied her into writing a letter to drop charges against him in a criminal case, according to a police report.

Tybre Jakobe Snell, 21, who is living at a rehab facility in Astoria, was booked at Clatsop County Jail for tampering with a witness, fourth-degree assault and violation of a release agreement.

Police were called to the woman's home in the 1500 block of South Main Avenue

at 11:10 p.m. July 24. Although she is a protected person in a court order, she admitted allowing him inside the residence, according to a probable cause declaration filed with the courts.

She told police that Snell wanted her to write a letter to his attorney so charges against him would not be pursued in court, Officer Alfonso Fontana wrote in the declaration.

Initially, the woman told Snell she'd sent the letter by email because she was afraid



Snell

of him, Fontana wrote. But when he checked with his attorney's office, he learned it wasn't true.

At one point, he "grabbed her by both arms in the upper-arm area and moved her from the door and he then left," according to the document.

While the officer was interviewing her, the woman received a message from a friend that the man was at Warrenton Mini Mart. He was arrested there a short time later.

Man raises ruckus in store, causes hit-and-run

The Columbia Press

A man who was trespassed from Rite Aid for creating a disturbance in the store was

cited a short time later for causing a hit-and-run collision in the parking lot, according to police reports.

Store employees called police about 2 p.m. Monday, July 29, to report the man and request police trespass him from the location. Donald Oscar Lansdown, 41, of Astoria complied, but as he was leaving the parking lot,

he sideswiped a vehicle driven by a 53-year-old Kent, Wash., woman, according to a crash report.

Lansdown's red Nissan pickup was located a short time later and he was cited for criminal failure to perform the duties of a driver, driving without an operator's license, careless driving and driving without insurance.

CMH offers art therapy class

A class in art therapy for those living with cancer or chronic illnesses is held 1:45 to 3:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the CMH-OHSU Knight Cancer Collaborative, 1905 Exchange St., Astoria.

The class is led by credentialed art therapists Meagan Sokol and Sheryl Redburn. Registration is recommended, but drop-ins are welcome. For more information, call 503-338-4520.

It is free for patients of the collaborative.



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